

# Overview of Gary Community Schools' Distressed Status

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INDIANA DISTRESSED UNIT APPEAL BOARD

MAY 18, 2022

A solid orange horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide.

# Overview

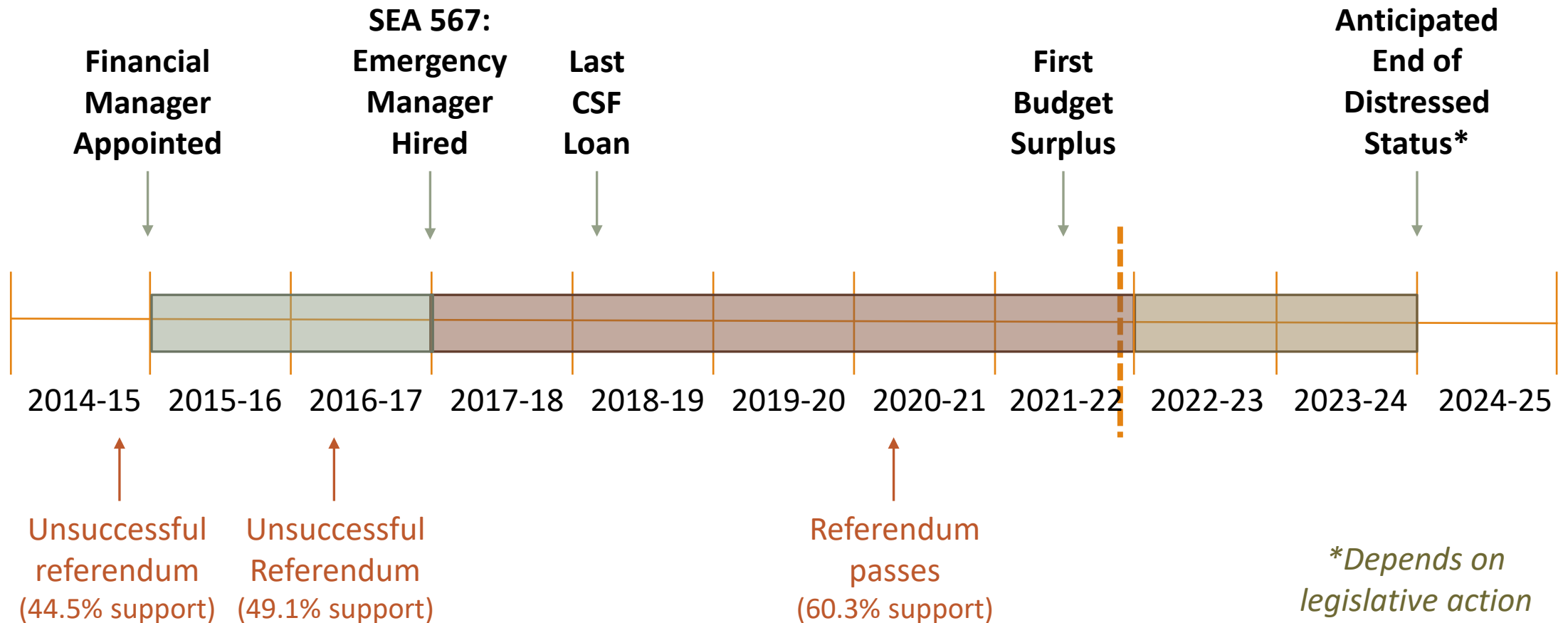
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- 1) How We Got Where We Are
- 2) Progress Made to Date
- 3) Work Left to Do

# How We Got Where We Are

- **Timeline**
- **Remaining Steps to End State Oversight**

# Timeline



# Remaining Steps to End State Oversight\*

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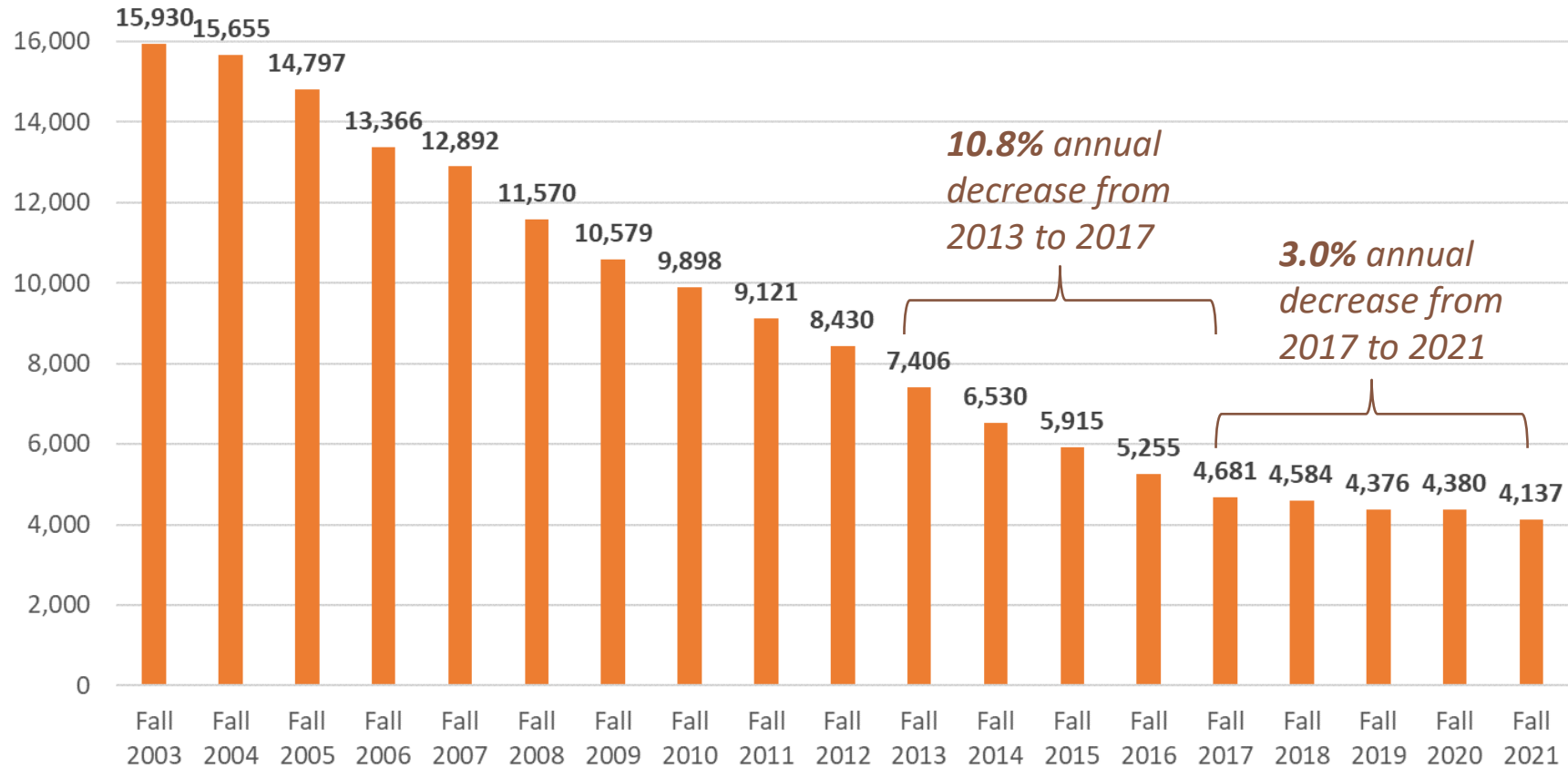
- Winter/Spring 2023
  - Need legislative action to end distressed status
  - Determine governing body and selection process
- Summer/Fall 2023
  - Select governing body
- Winter/Spring 2024
  - New governing body identifies new superintendent
- Summer 2024
  - Transition

*\*Depends on legislative action*

## Progress Made to Date

- **Stabilized Enrollment**
- **Eliminated Deficit**
- **Reduced Debt**
- **Invested in School Buildings**
- **Building Foundation for Academics**

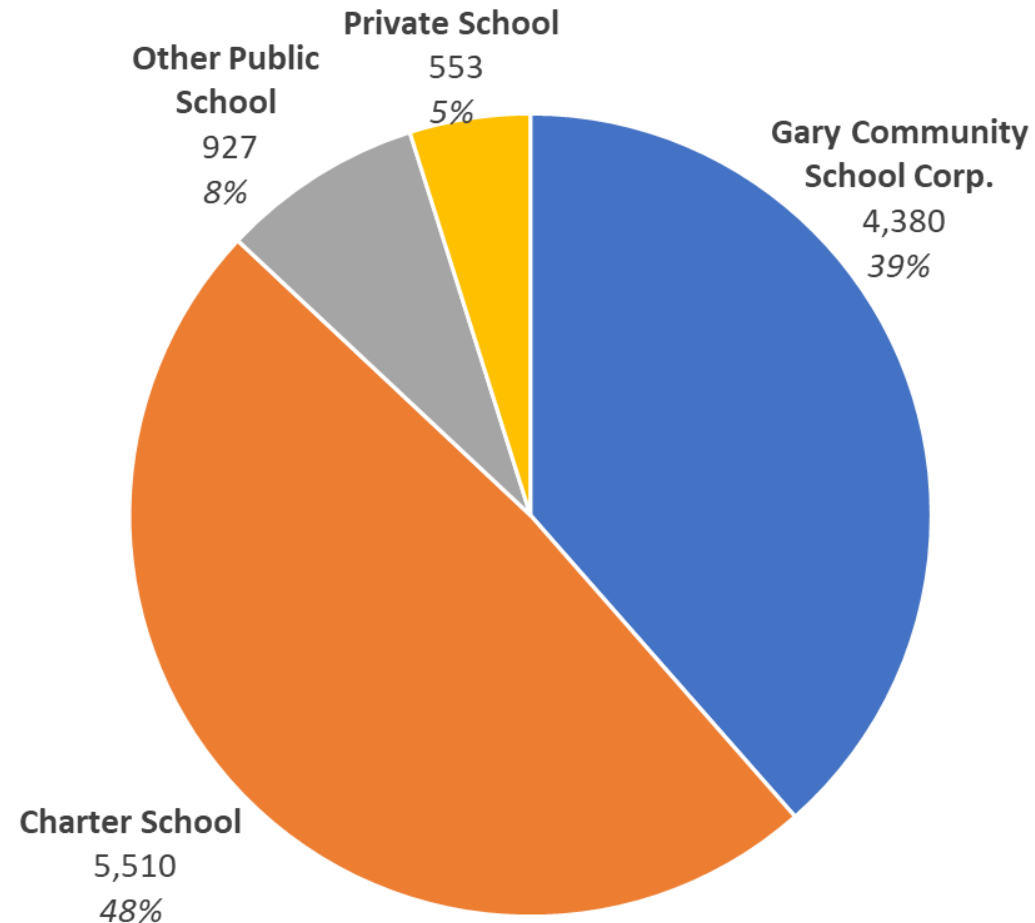
# Stabilized Enrollment



# Competitive Environment: Parents & Students Have Choices

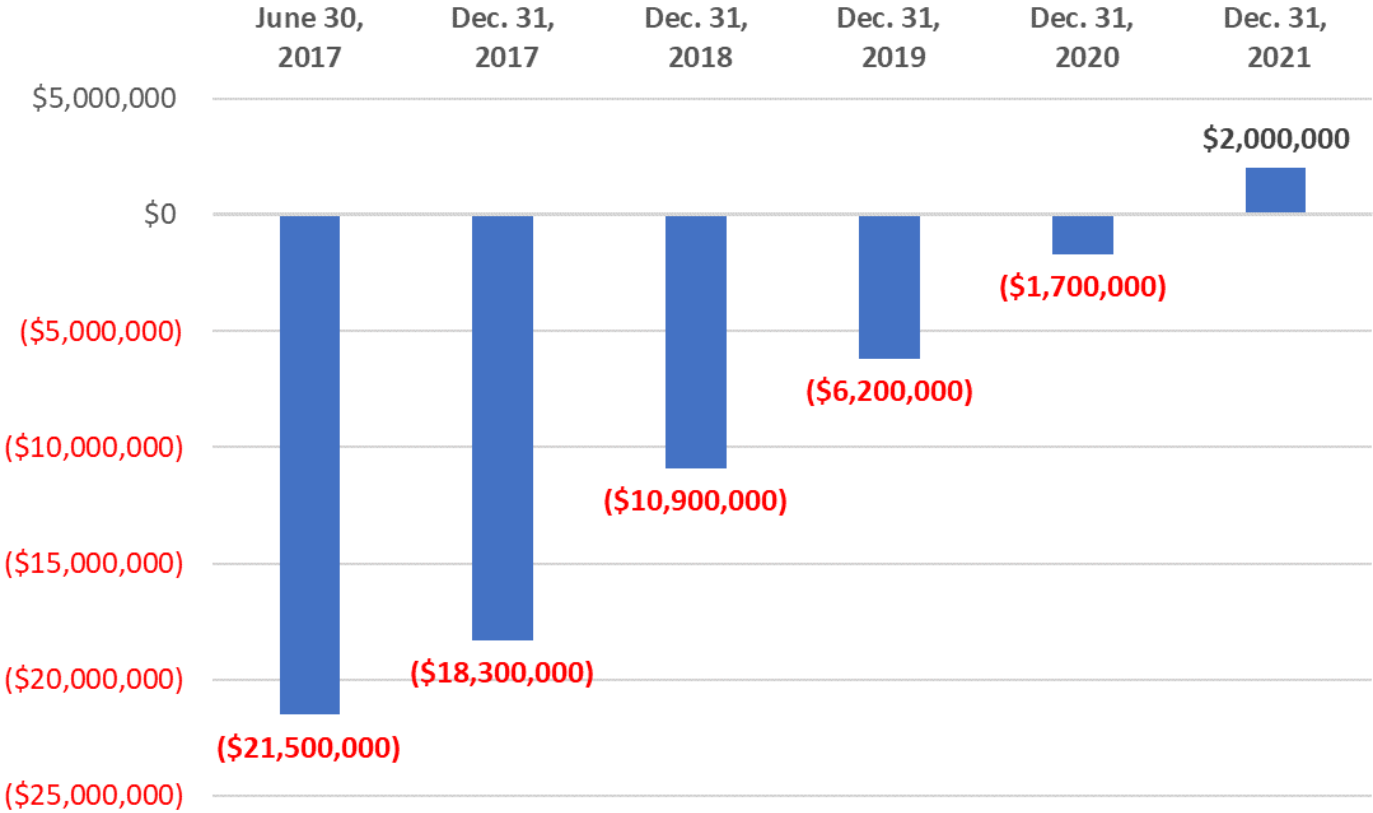
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*As of Fall 2020:*

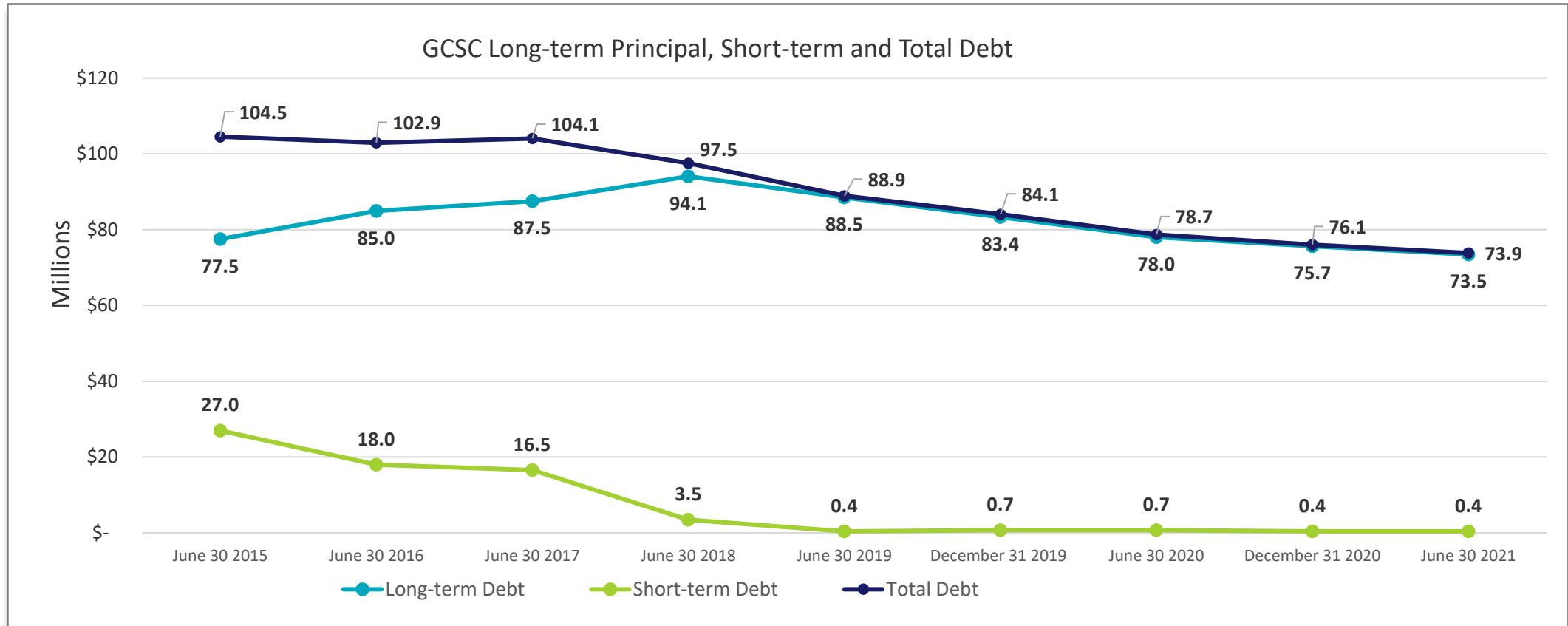




# Eliminated Operating Deficit



# Reduced Debt to Manageable Level



# Major Renovations and Improvements to School Facilities (2021-25)

Building	Improvements
Roofing	\$14,514,734
Abatement and Demolition	\$6,500,000
Plumbing	\$4,300,000
Library Renovation	\$3,000,000
Athletic Fields and Courts	\$2,168,000
Bethune Air Condition	\$2,000,000
Windows	\$1,441,349
Pavement Parking Lots	\$1,400,000
Building/Classroom Lock Refit	\$1,000,000
Energy Efficiency	\$930,650
Boiler	\$831,000
Chiller	\$800,000
All Other Capital Projects	\$4,085,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,970,983</b>

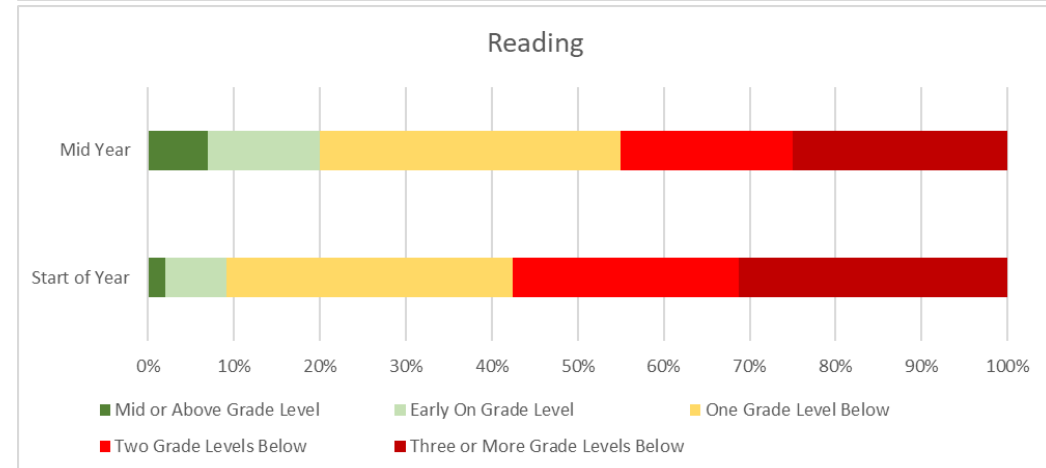
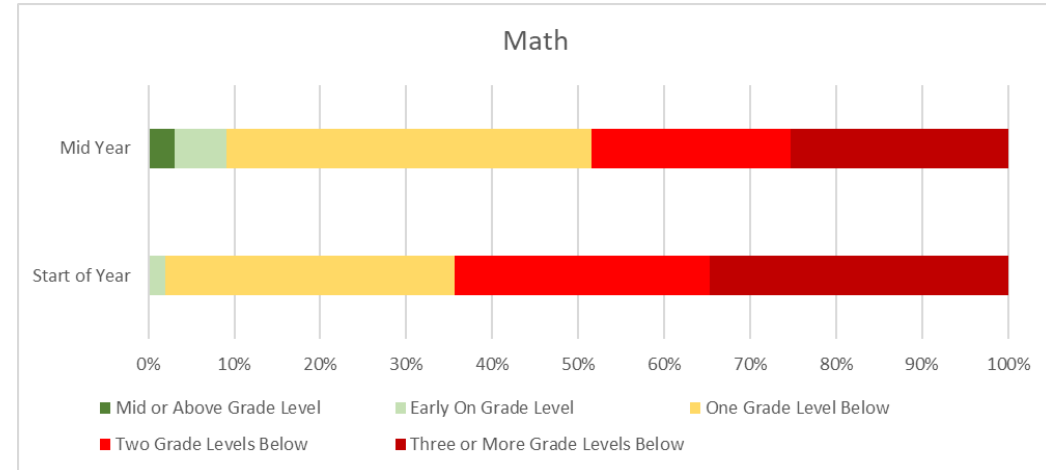
# Building Foundation for Academic Growth

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- Lengthened school day by one hour
  - Additional two years of instruction from kindergarten to graduation
- 1:1 Computing
  - Laptop with Internet access for every student (first time ever)
- Updated/aligned curriculum
  - Replaced outdated material (over a decade) in several core areas
- Intervention tutoring and after school programming
  - Received DOE 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant for the first time
- New career and technical education pathways
  - New licensure and credentialing
- Added dual credit courses
  - Pursuing early college high school status
- Implemented district-wide assessment system
  - Can now track individual student progress over time
- Teacher compensation
  - First increases in over ten years
  - 5.3% base salary increase in January 2021
  - 3.0% base salary increase in January 2022
  - Additional stipends (Title I, TAG, performance)
- Partnerships with higher education (e.g., IUN)
  - 50 teachers added to pipeline
- Additional extra-curricular opportunities

# Positive early results from i-Ready

- Recovery from COVID learning loss will take multiple years, but large jump in students on grade level (green) in just one semester



# Work Left to Do

- **Finish What We Started**
- **Accelerate Academics**
- **Smooth Transition**

# Finish What We Started

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- Maintain budget surplus
- Build adequate cash reserves
- Standardize operating procedures
- Strengthen district management team
- Complete capital projects
- Expend federal dollars

# Accelerate Academics

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- Make up COVID learning loss
- Increase career & college readiness
- Substantially increase reading proficiency (at all levels)
- Substantially increase math proficiency (at all levels)



# Smooth Transition

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- Identify next steps in partnership with legislature
- Establish governing authority and identify new district leadership
- Knowledge transfer