

# AGENDA

## Committee of the Whole Meeting



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Wednesday, April 12, 2017

6:00 pm

**Board Chambers  
33 Spectacle Lake Drive  
Dartmouth, NS**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on Mi'kmaw territory.*

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

March 8, 2017

**5. AWARDS / PRESENTATIONS**

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

6.1 [Report #2017-03-13 – Focus on Learning: Provincial Assessment Results for Grades 3, 4 and 6](#), Alison King, Director, Program.

6.2 [Report #2017-04-16 – Eastern Consolidated Elementary and Sheet Harbor Consolidated Elementary School Closures](#), Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services

**7. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Policy Development and Review Committee – April 19, 2017

Regular Governing Board Meeting – April 26, 2017

Committee of the Whole – May 10, 2017

Special Board Meeting – May 3, 2017 - TBC

**9. IN-CAMERA**

9.1 Approval of February 8, 2017 In-Camera minutes

9.2 Budget 2017-18

**10. ADJOURNMENT**



**HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES  
March 8, 2017  
6:00 p.m.**

- PRESENT:**
- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Archy Beals      | Bridget Boutilier |
| Suzy Hansen      | Nancy Jakeman     |
| Cindy Littlefair | Linda MacKay      |
| Jennifer Raven   | Jessica Rose      |
| Dave Wright      | Gin Yee           |
- Samantha Graham, Student Advisor
- REGRETS:**
- Lance Bullock, Senior Staff Advisor  
Doug Hadley, Coordinator, Communications  
Denise Bell, Regional Education Officer
- STAFF:**
- Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent  
Selena Henderson, Corporate Secretary  
Terri Thompson, Director, Financial Services  
Tracy O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resource Services  
Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services  
Alison King, Director, Program  
Marlene Ruck Simmonds, Senior Diversity Advisor  
Susan Tomie, Director, School Administration  
Kelly Connors, Communications Officer  
Trevor Baker, Manager, VoIP & Network Structure  
Athena Leclair, Administrative Assistant to the Corporate Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

## **2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Let the record show that all Board Members are in attendance.

## **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was moved and seconded (Wright/Yee) that the Governing Board approve the agenda.**

**(CARRIED)**

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**It was moved and seconded (Yee/Boutilier) that the Governing Board approve the February 8, 2017 minutes.**

**(CARRIED)**

## **5. AWARDS / PRESENTATIONS**

## **6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

6.1 Report #2017-03-11 – Focus on Learning: Improving the Achievement Results of African Nova Scotia Learners, Marlene Ruck-Simmonds, Senior Diversity Advisor.

**Marlene Ruck Simmonds, Senior Diversity Advisor, presented the report and responded to questions from Board Members.**

6.2 Report #2017-03-10 – Occupational Health & Safety – Update, July 1 to December 31, 2016 Tracy O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resource Services and John Swales, Manager, Occupational Health & Safety.

**Tracy O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resource Services, and John Swales, Manager, Occupational Health and Safety, presented the report and responded to questions from Board Members.**

6.3 Report #2017-01-01 – Focus on Learning: Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Support, Alison King, Director, Program.

**Alison King, Director, Program, and Paula Evans, Facilitator, Literacy Implementation P-3, Program presented the report and responded to questions from Board Members.**

## **7. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**8. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Regular Governing Board Meeting – March 22, 2017

Audit Committee – April 5, 2017

Committee of the Whole – April 12, 2017

Policy Development and Review Committee – April 19, 2017

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved and seconded (Wright/Hansen) that the meeting be adjourned.**  
**(CARRIED)**

Meeting adjourned by the Governing Board at 7:51 p.m.

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Cindy Littlefair  
Chair  
Halifax Regional School Board

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Selena Henderson  
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by Athena Leclair  
Administrative Assistant to the Corporate  
Secretary

## **Halifax Regional School Board**

### **Focus on Learning: Provincial Assessment Results for Grades 3, 4 and 6**

#### **Purpose**

To provide the Governing Board members with an analysis of grade 3, 4 and 6 2016-2017 provincial assessment results in Mathematics and Literacy.

#### **Background**

Nova Scotia Assessments are administered to elementary students in the fall of each school year.

Program assessments are developed and administered to determine the effectiveness of curriculum delivery and to assist students in achieving the outcomes. They provide government and school boards with student achievement information for education decision making.

Nova Scotia teachers worked with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) to build these assessments and to set the assessment expectations, which is what students should know and be able to do on their own at key stages.

#### **Content**

##### **The following provincial assessment results will be shared:**

- Reading and Writing in Grade 3
- Mathematics in Grade 4
- Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Grade 6

Overall results in reading and writing for students in grade 3 indicate that the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) performed above the provincial result on all areas assessed. In relation to trends over time, both reading and writing results for HRSB in grade 3 have remained consistent with 69 percent of students scoring at the expectation in reading and 75 percent and 60 percent scoring at or above the expectation for the writing categories of ideas and organization respectively.

When examining the data by Ancestry, there remains a significant gap in results for students of African Ancestry compared to the board overall result with 47 percent of students scoring at or above the expectation. Results in reading have been consistent over the last three years, however there were small improvements in the writing categories of ideas (3 percent improvement) and organization (4 percent improvement).

Results for students of Aboriginal Identity in grade 3 reading are almost the same as the HRSB overall result with 68 percent of students scoring at the expectation. This represents a notable improvement of 9 percent more students scoring at the expectation compared to the previous year. There were also 7 percent fewer students who performed at the lowest level on the assessment this year. Results for the writing categories of ideas and organization show a 2 percent increase and 5 percent increase respectively in the percentage of students at or above the expectation.

Results for the Grade 4 Mathematics assessment show that HRSB has improved over the last three years. The percentage of students performing at the lowest level of the assessment has decreased to 6 percent this year while the percentage of students performing at or above the expectation has increased over the last three years to 79 percent. HRSB grade 4 students also performed above the provincial result on this assessment.

When examining the data by Ancestry, results show that 21 percent fewer students of African Ancestry performed at or above the expectation than the HRSB overall. Although this represents a 3 percent increase in the percentage of students meeting, this continues to represent a significant gap compared to the HRSB overall result. Eight percent fewer students of Aboriginal Identity were at or above the expectation compared to the HRSB overall result in the Grade 4 Mathematics assessment. The results also show that 5 percent fewer students of Aboriginal Identity performed at the lowest level of the assessment over the last three years.

Overall results in reading, writing and mathematics for students in grade 6 indicate that HRSB performed above the provincial result in all areas assessed. In relation to trends over time, both the reading and writing results have remained quite consistent with 75 percent of students scoring at or above the expectation in reading and 76 percent and 61 percent scoring at or above the expectation for the writing categories of ideas and organization respectively. Overall mathematics results show that 74 percent of students scored at or above the expectation which represents a 2 percent improvement from the previous year.

Results for students of African Ancestry at the grade 6 level continue to show a significant gap compared to the board overall results. Results in reading have been consistent over the last three years with 60 percent of students performing at or above the expectation. However, 4 percent fewer students performed at the lowest level on the assessment compared to last year. Results for the writing categories of ideas and organization shows 63 percent and 46 percent of students scored at or above the expectation respectively. Mathematics results for students of African Ancestry show a modest improvement of 2 percent compared to last year. When examining the results for the last three years we see the gap is beginning to close with an almost 10 percent improvement over this period.

Results for grade 6 students of Aboriginal Identity are much closer to the board overall results. In reading there were 6 percent fewer students performing at or above the expectation compared to the board overall result. For the writing categories of ideas and organization, 70 percent and 52 percent of students scored at or above the expectation respectively. Similar to the board overall result and the results for students of African Ancestry, this was a decrease compared to the previous year. Mathematics results for students of Aboriginal Identity also showed an increase this year with 69 percent of students performing at or above the expectation which is a 7 percent improvement compared to last year.

### **Funding Details**

N/A

### **Timeline**

N/A

### **Appendices**

Appendix A: Provincial Elementary Assessment Results 2016-2017

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Governing Board members receive the report for information.

### **Communications**

<b>AUDIENCE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
<b>Committee of the Whole</b>	<b>Alison King</b>	<b>April 12, 2017</b>

### **Contact**

For further information please contact Alison King, Director of Program and Student Services  
[aking@hrsb.ca](mailto:aking@hrsb.ca) 902-464-2000 ext 2567

# Appendix A

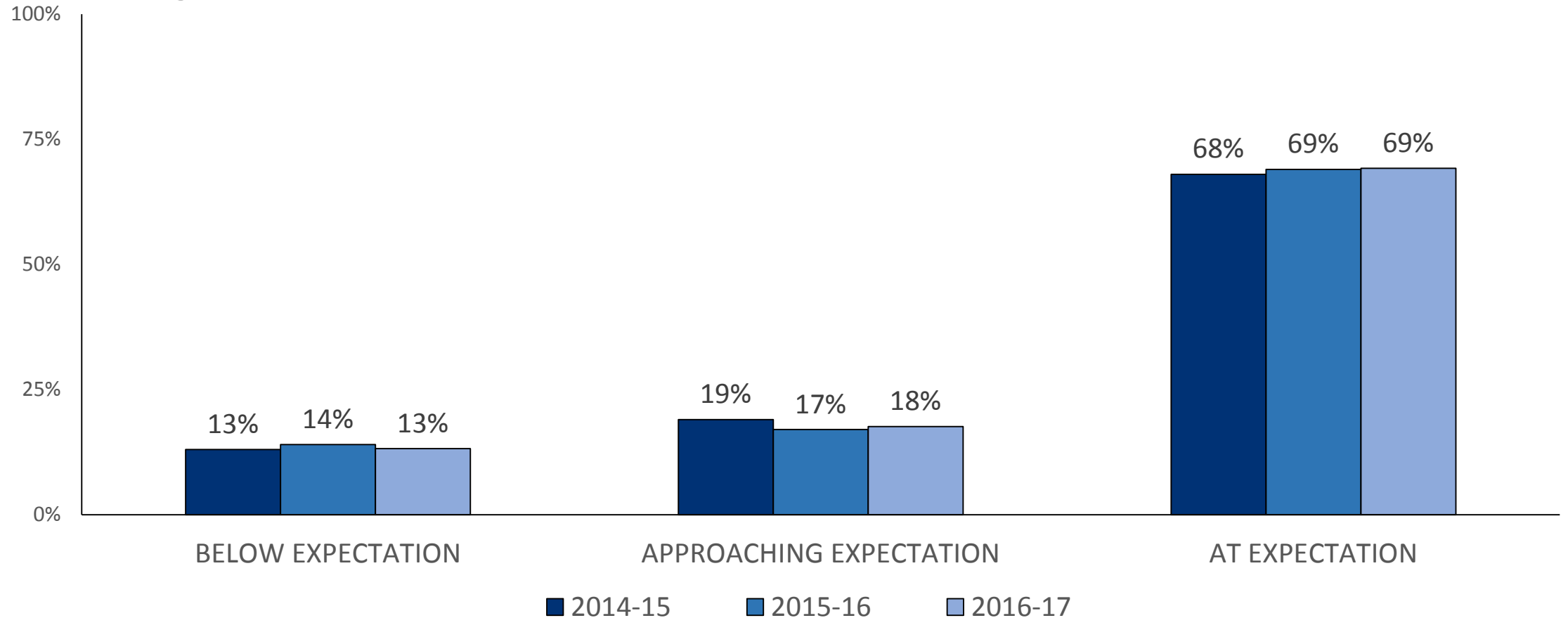
## Provincial Elementary Assessment Results

### 2016-17



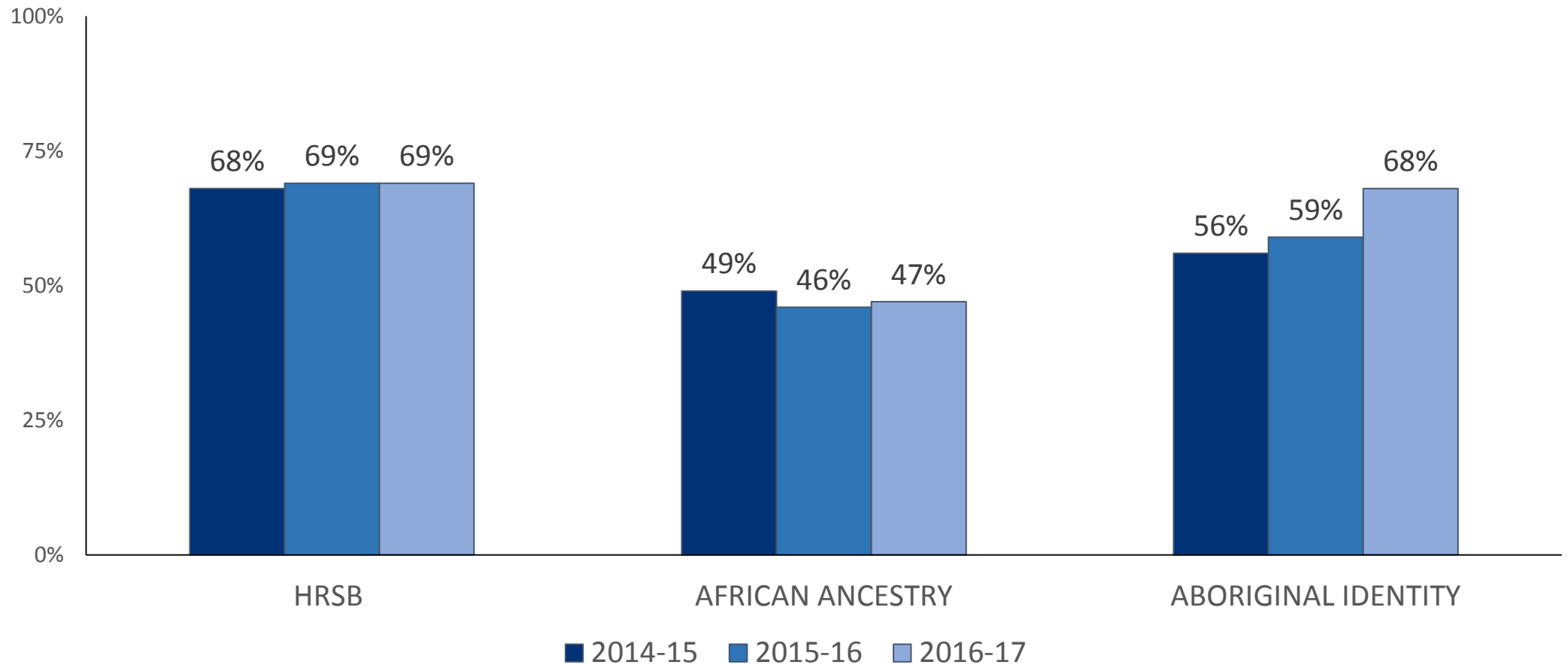
# Gr. 3 READING COMPREHENSION

## Percentage of Students



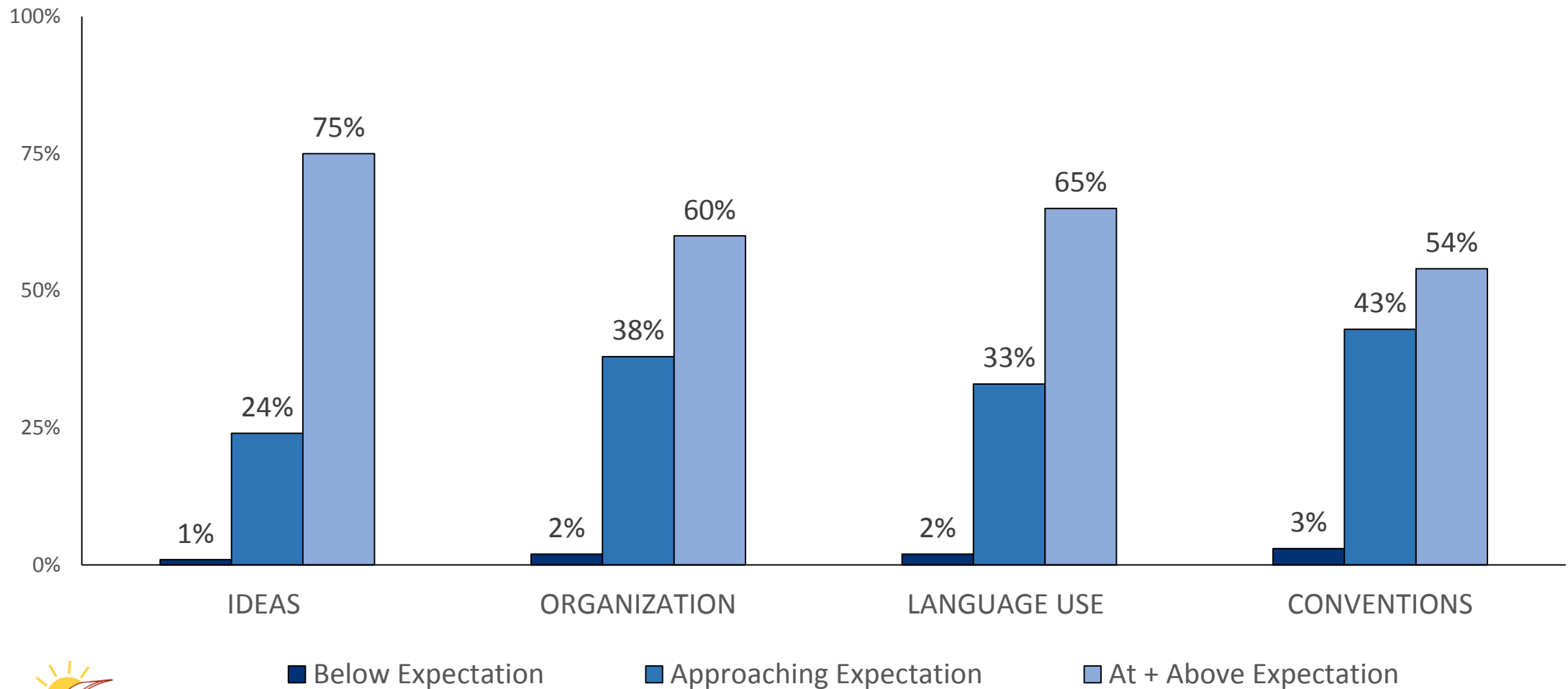
# Gr. 3 READING COMPREHENSION

## Students At Expectation



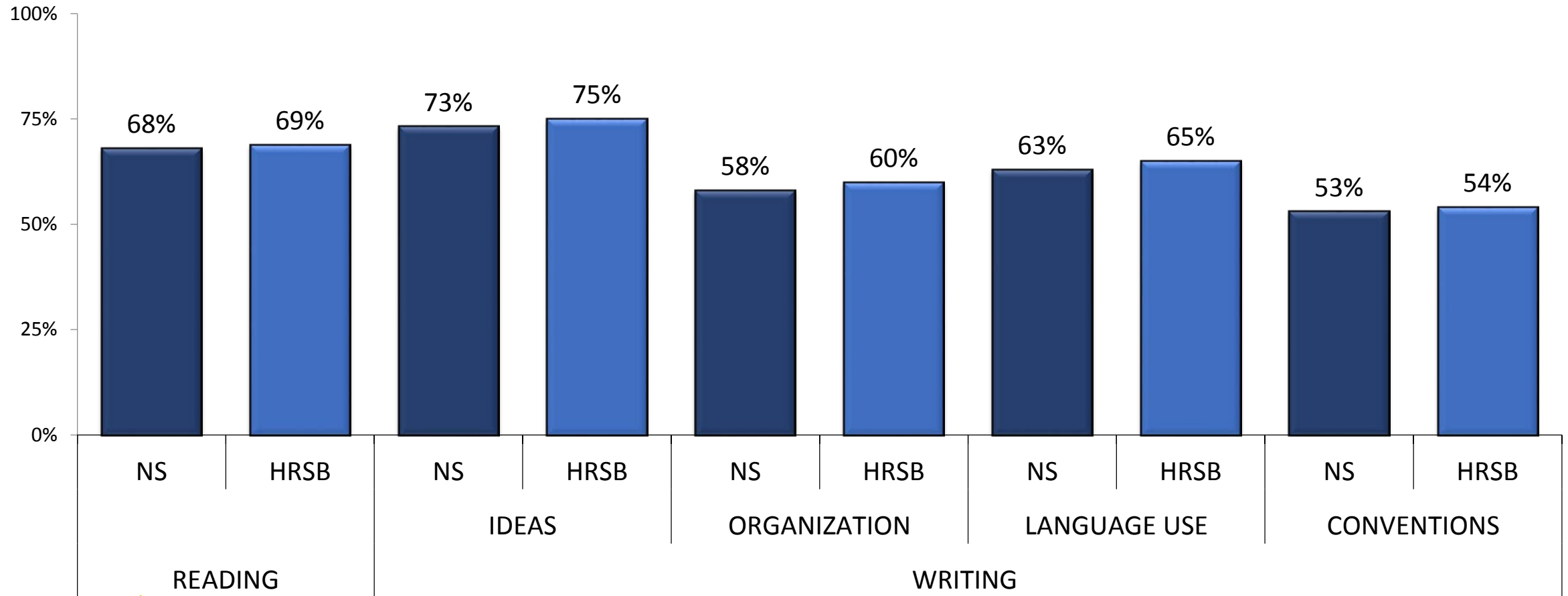
# Gr. 3 WRITING 2016-17

## Percentage of Students



# Gr. 3 READING & WRITING 2016-17

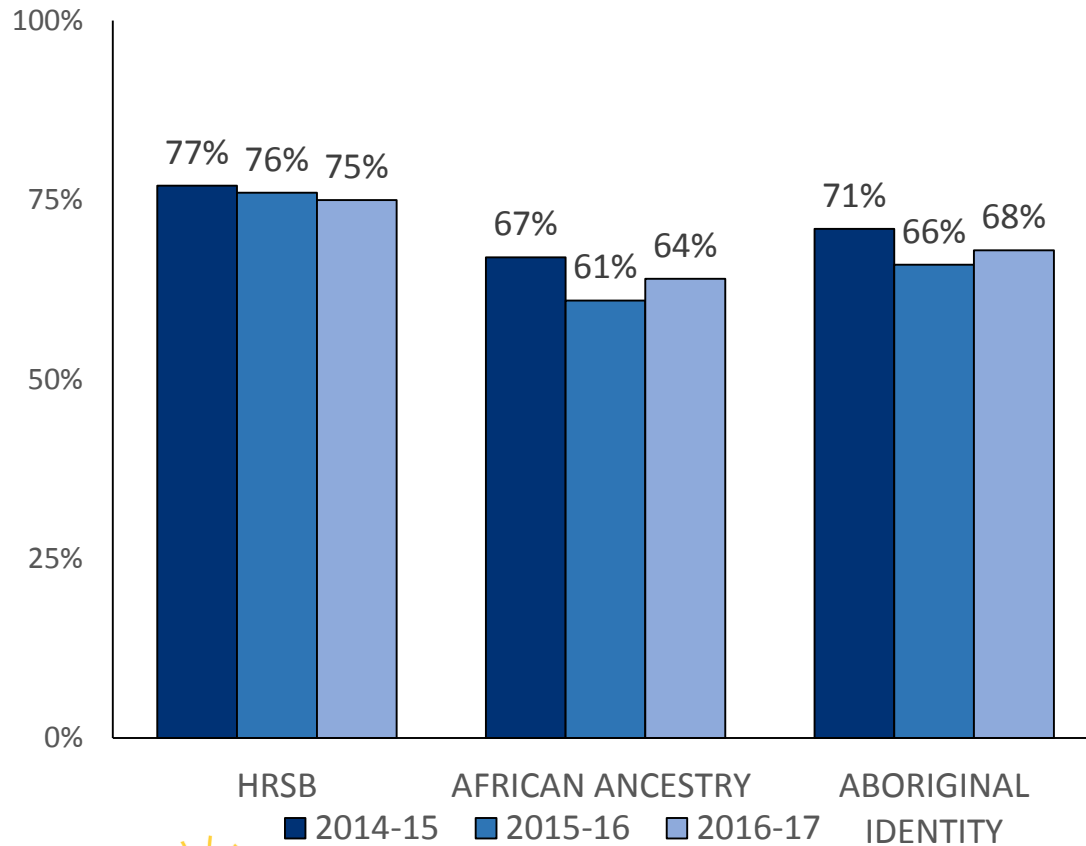
## Students Scoring At and Above Expectation



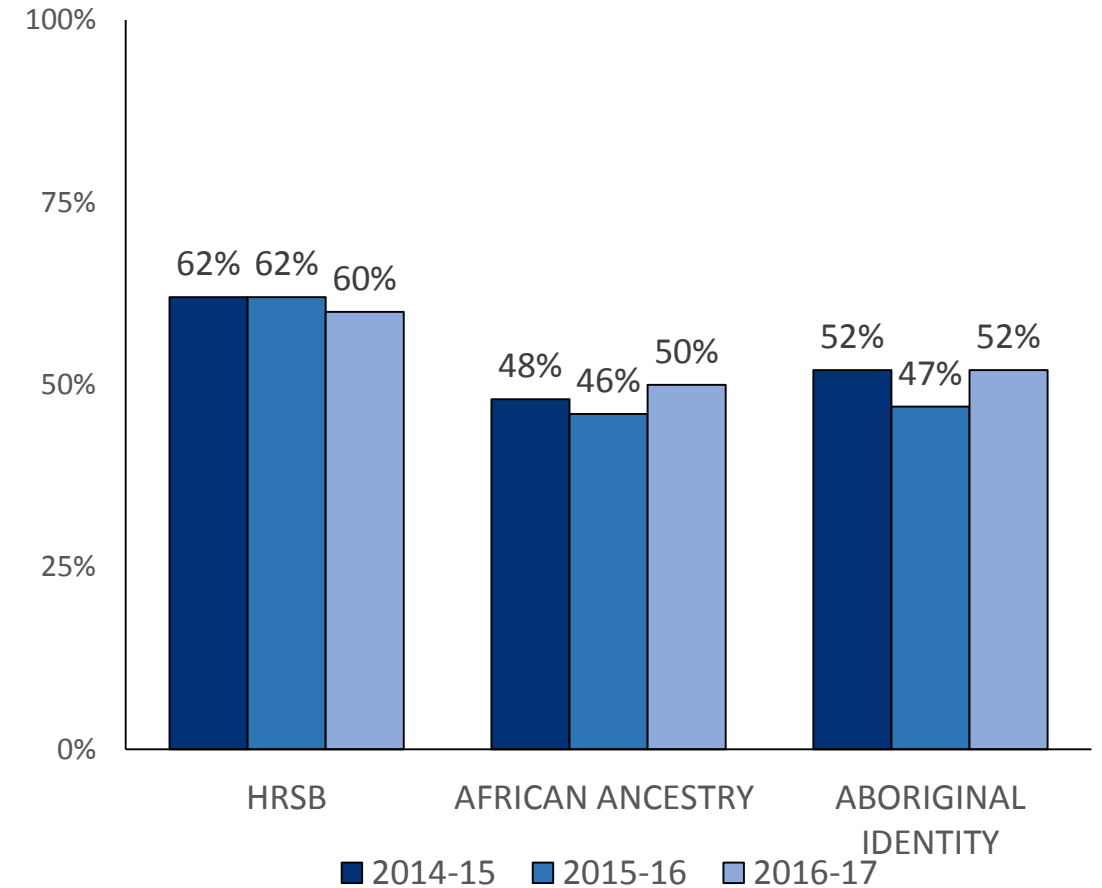
# Gr. 3 WRITING

## Students At and Above Expectation

### IDEAS



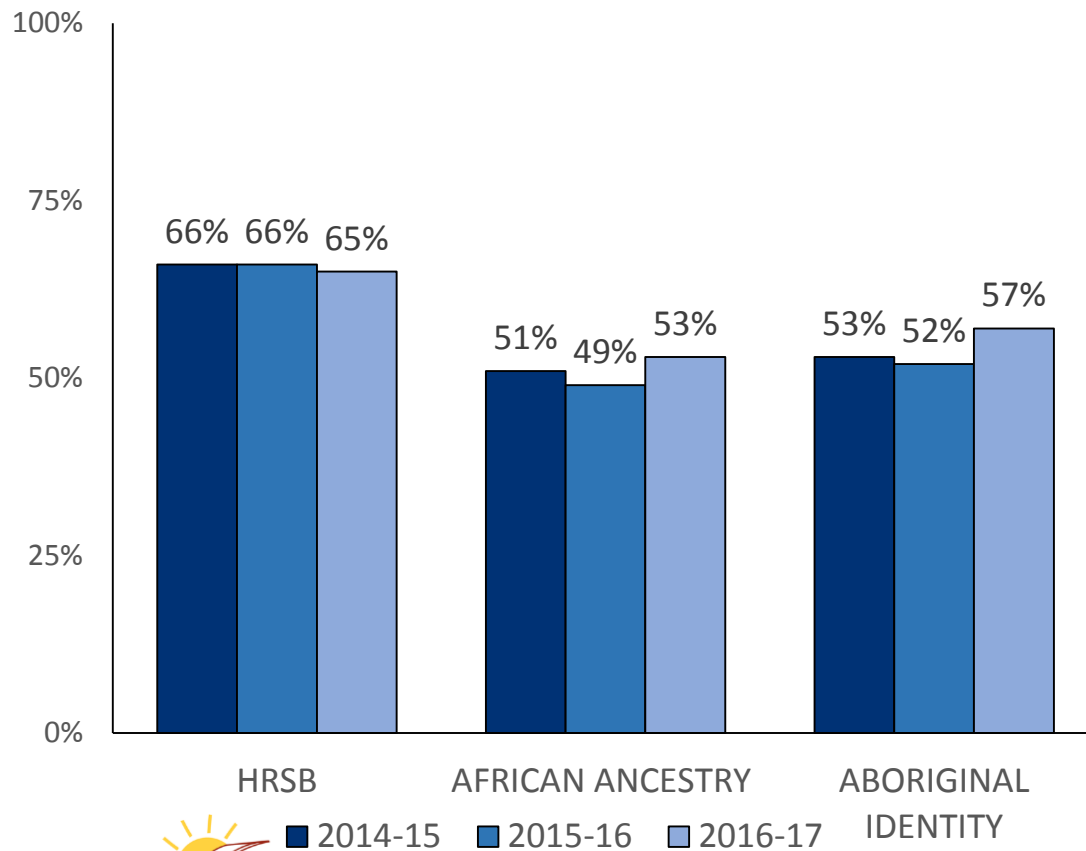
### ORGANIZATION



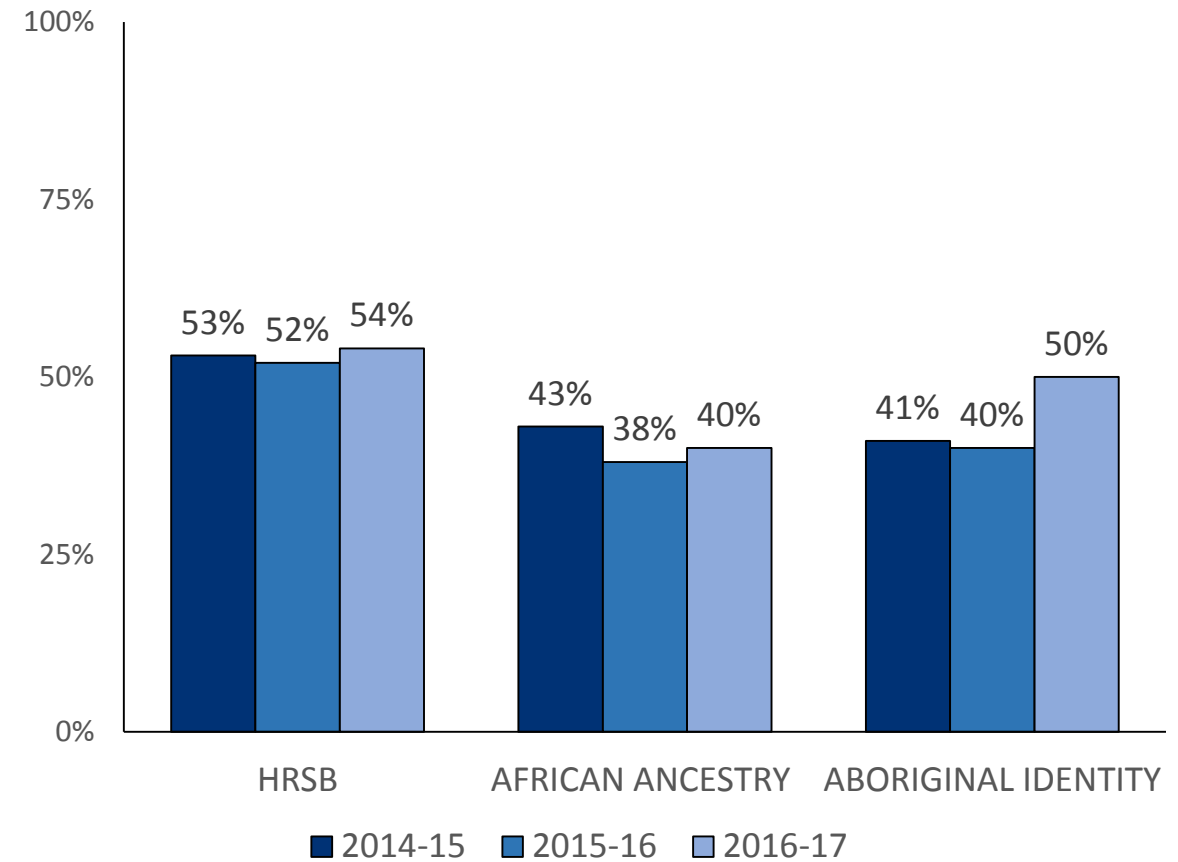
# Gr. 3 WRITING

## Students At and Above Expectation

### LANGUAGE USE

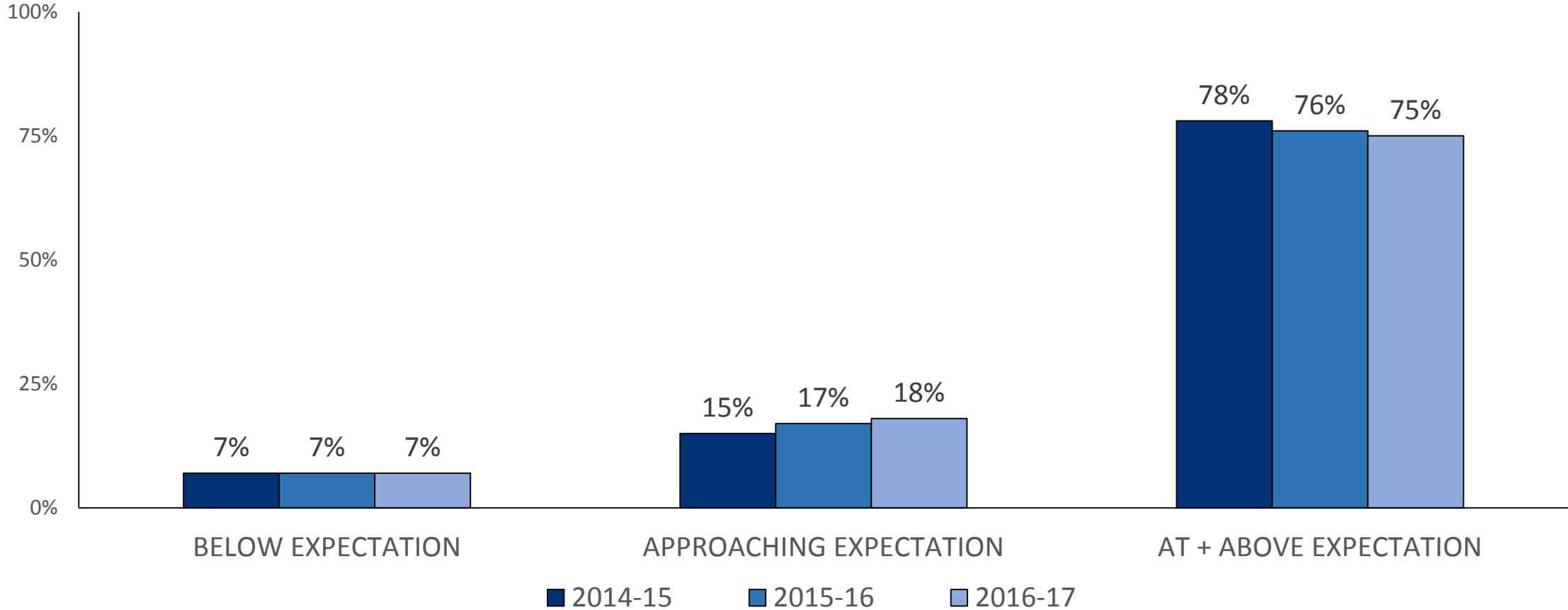


### CONVENTIONS



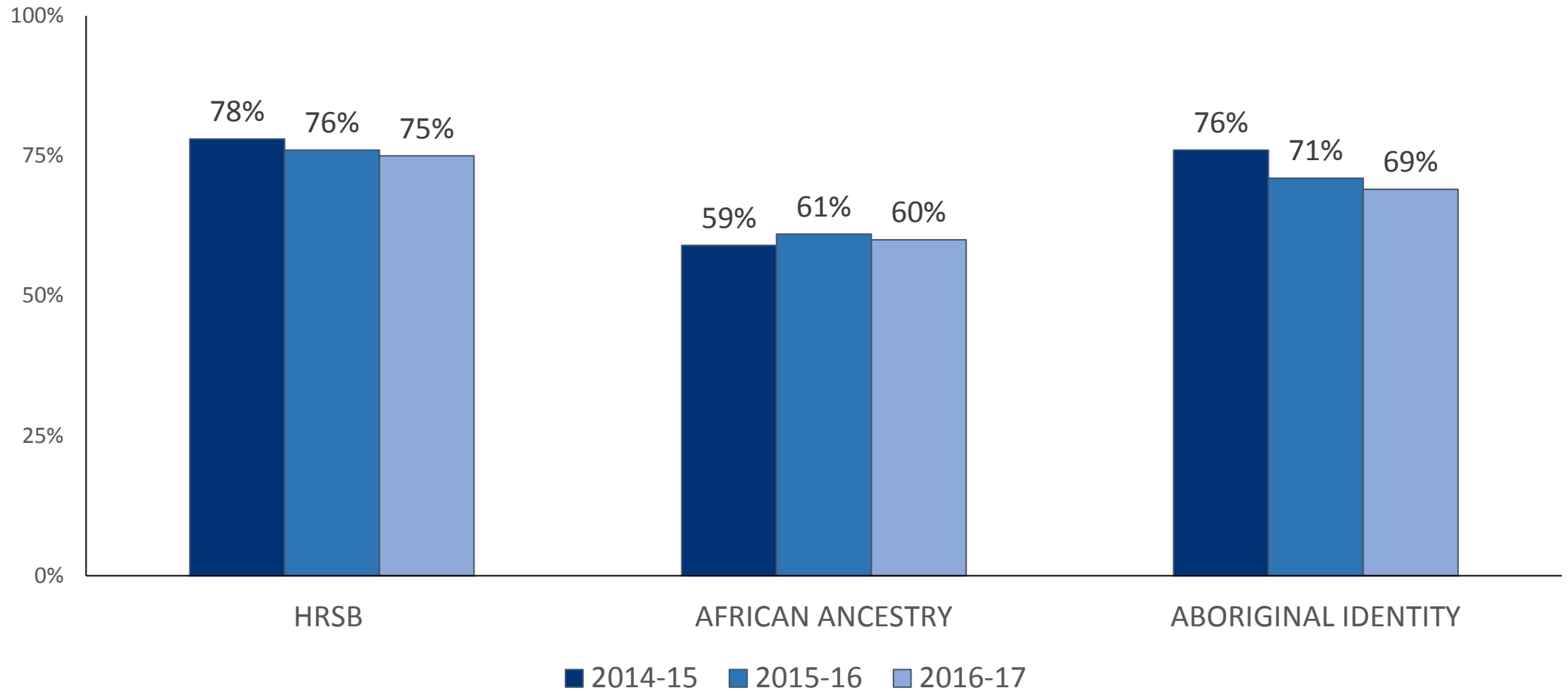
# Gr. 6 READING COMPREHENSION

## Percentage of Students



# Gr. 6 READING COMPREHENSION

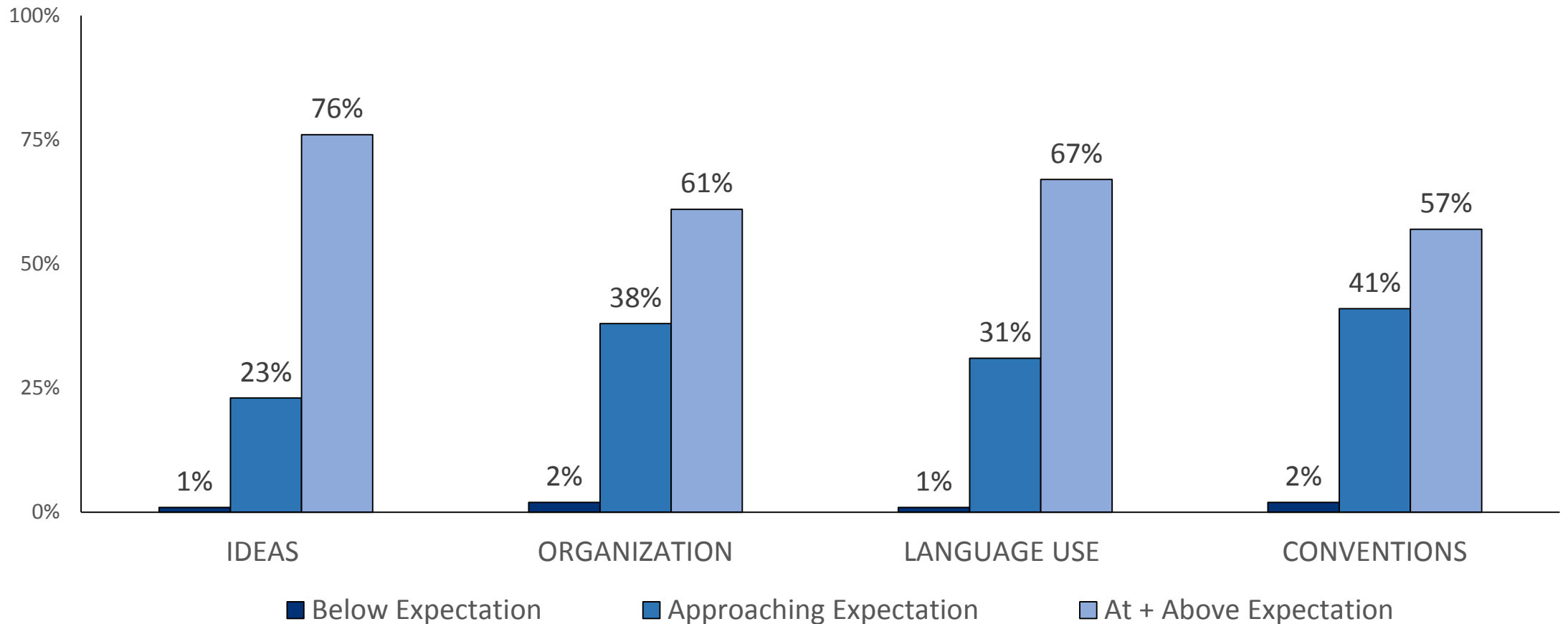
## Students At and Above Expectation





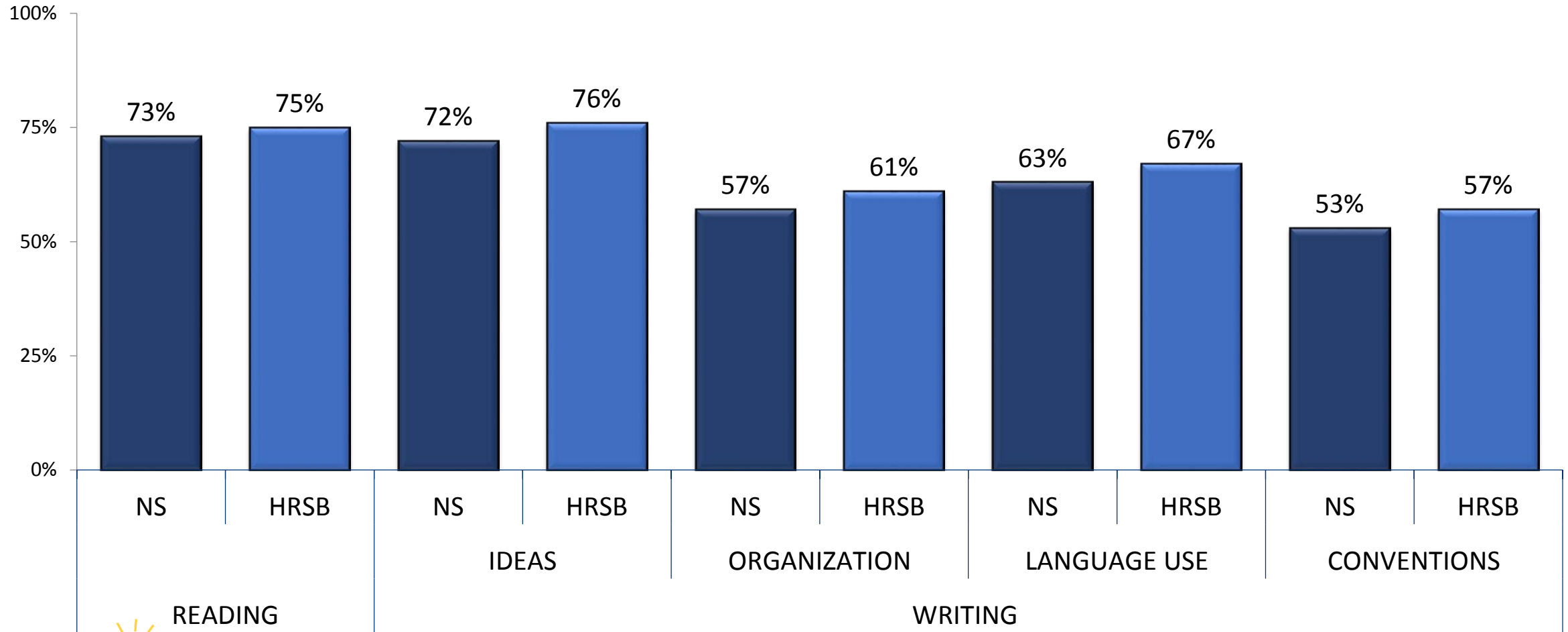
# Gr. 6 WRITING 2016-17

## Percentage of Students



# Gr. 6 READING & WRITING 2016-17

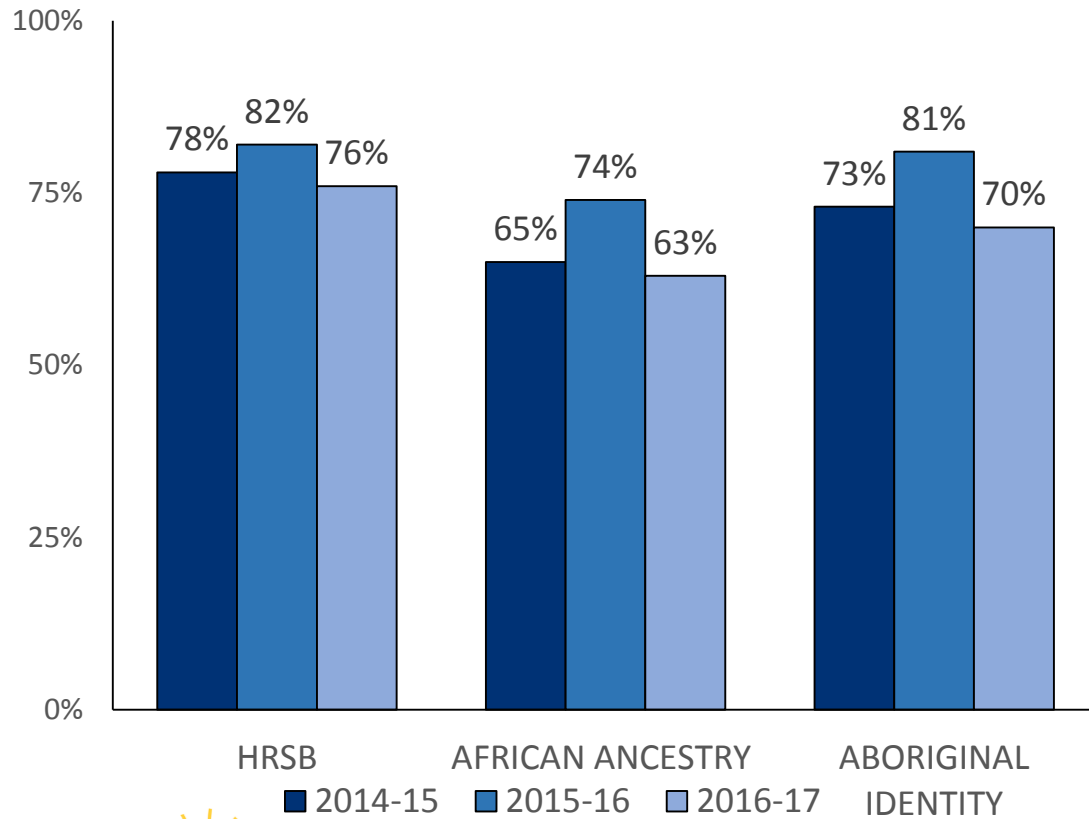
## Students Scoring At and Above Expectation



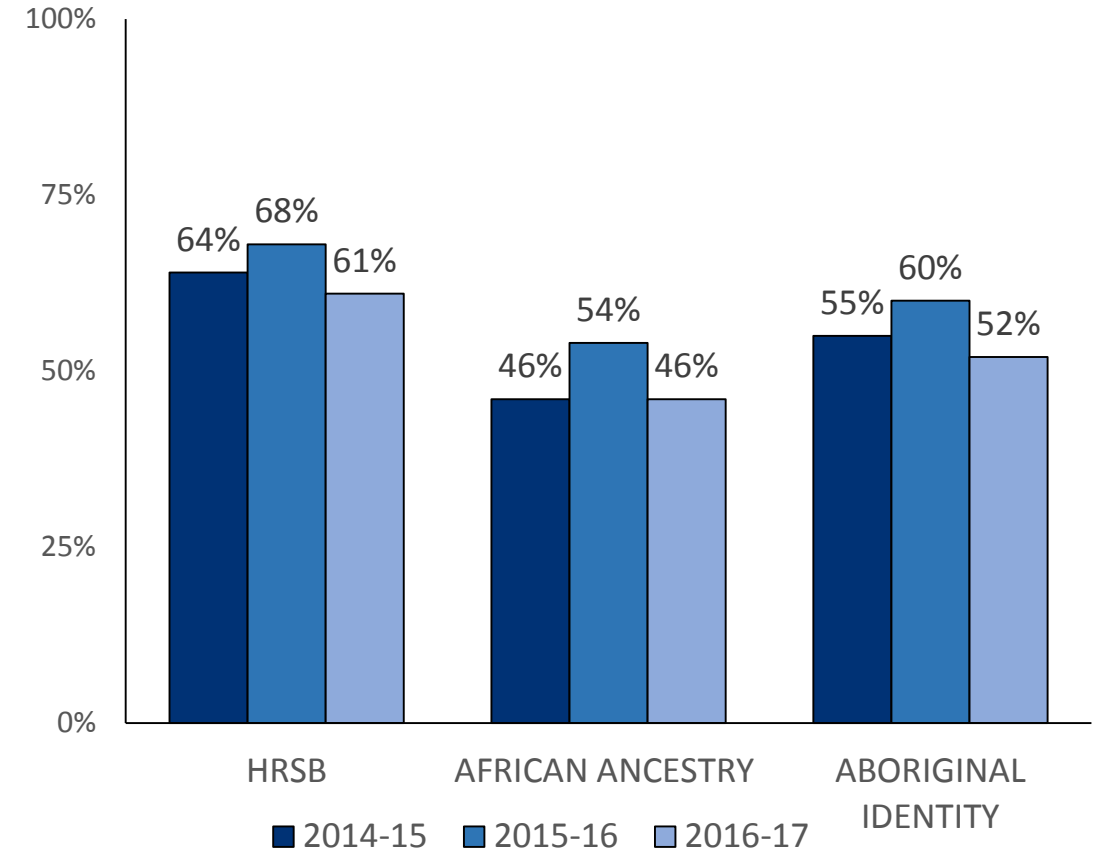
# Gr. 6 WRITING

## Students At and Above Expectation

### IDEAS



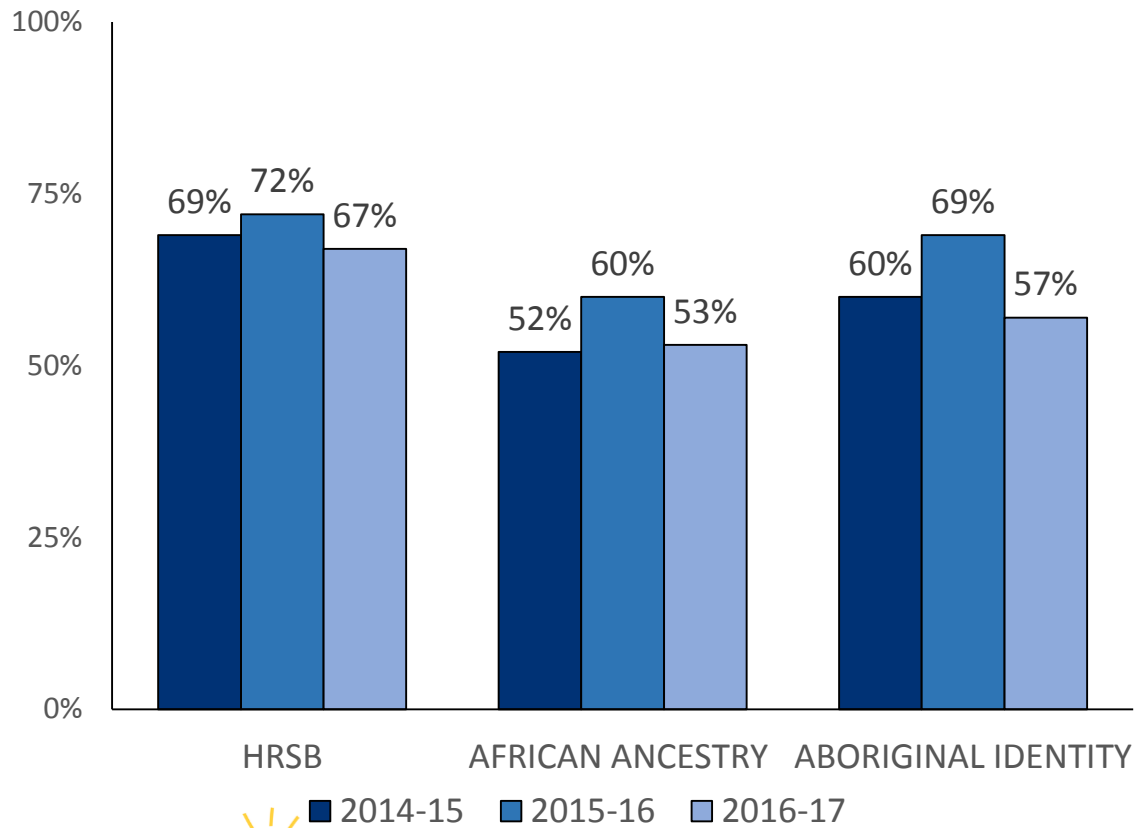
### ORGANIZATION



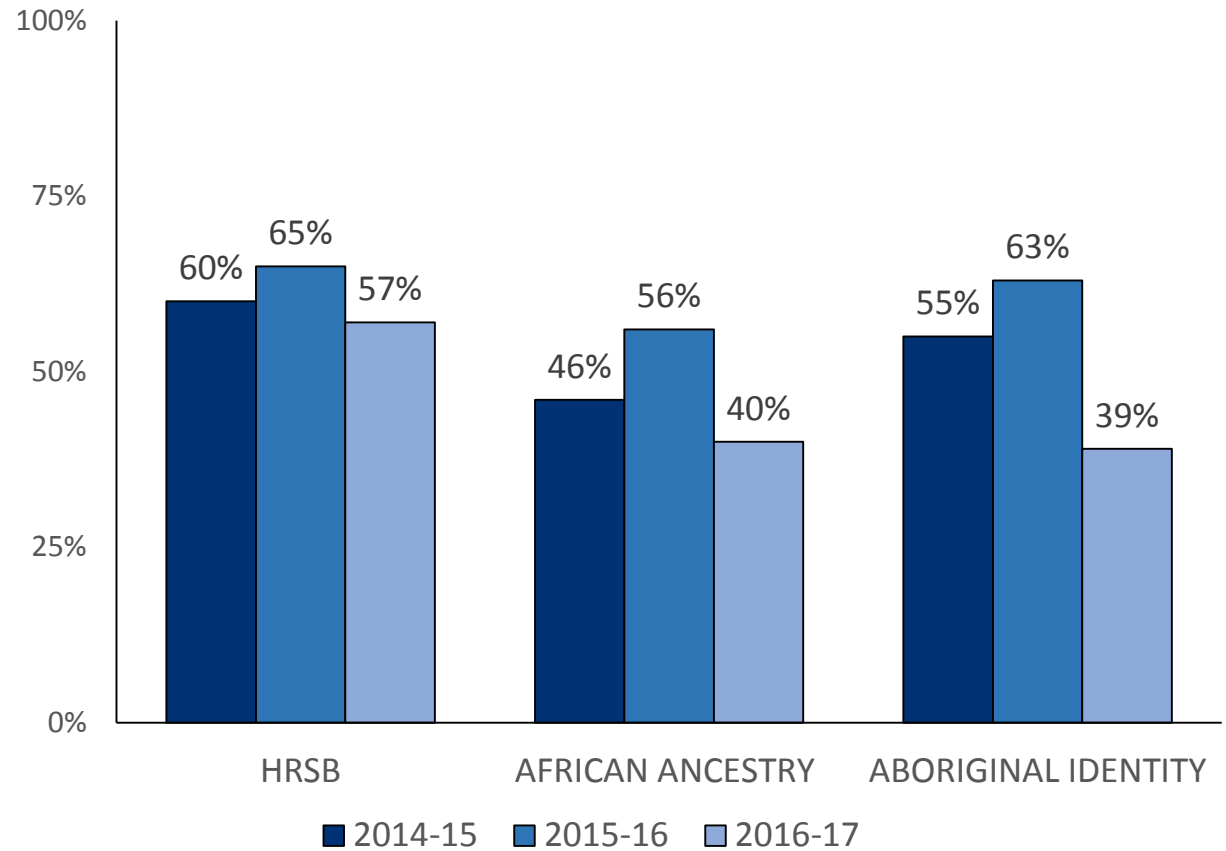
# Gr. 6 WRITING

## Students At and Above Expectation

### LANGUAGE USE

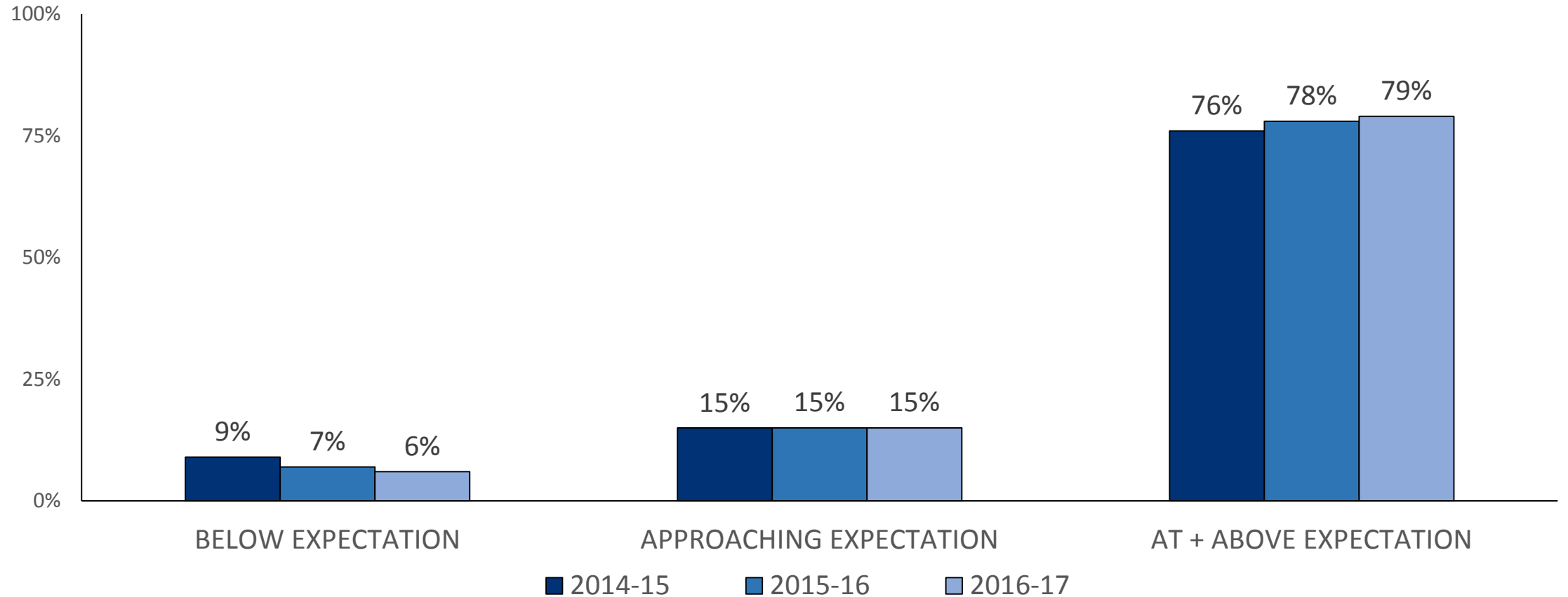


### CONVENTIONS



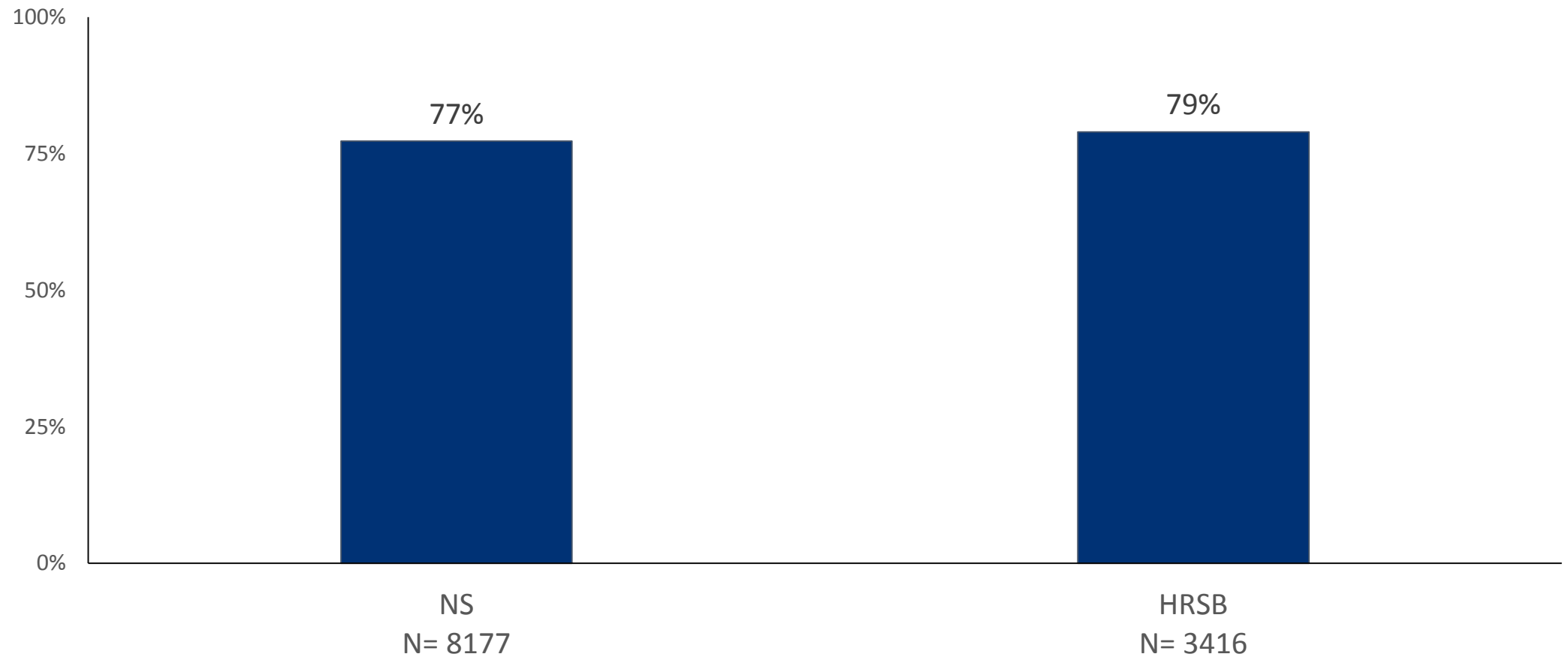
# Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS

## Percentage of Students



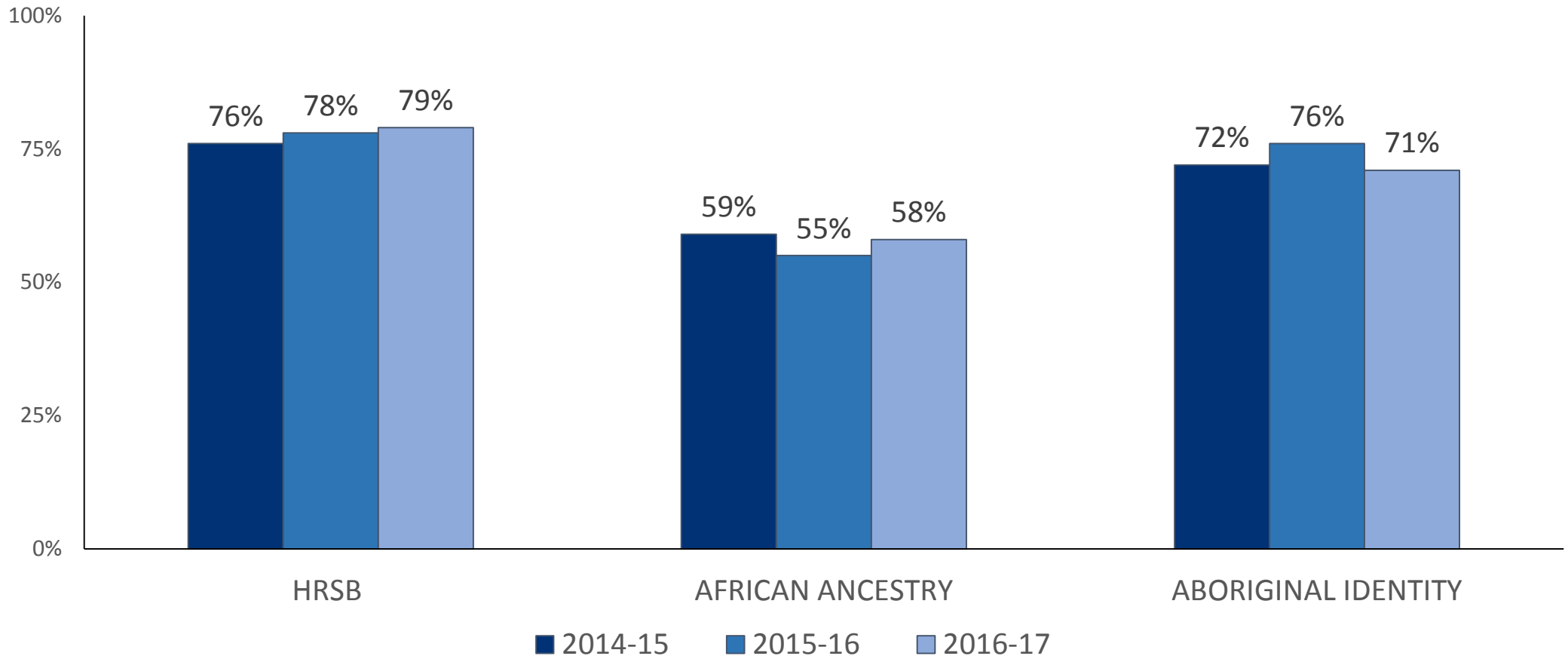
# Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS 2016-17

## Students At and Above Expectation



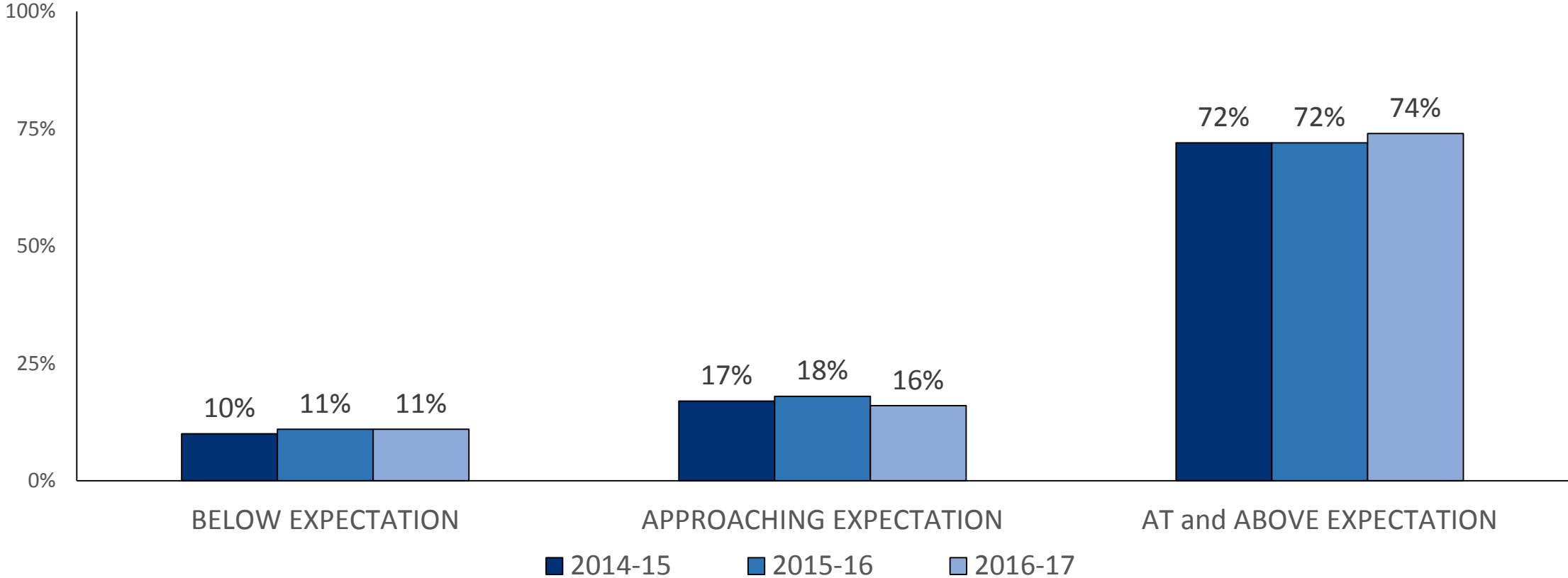
# Gr. 4 MATHEMATICS

## Students At and Above Expectation



# Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS

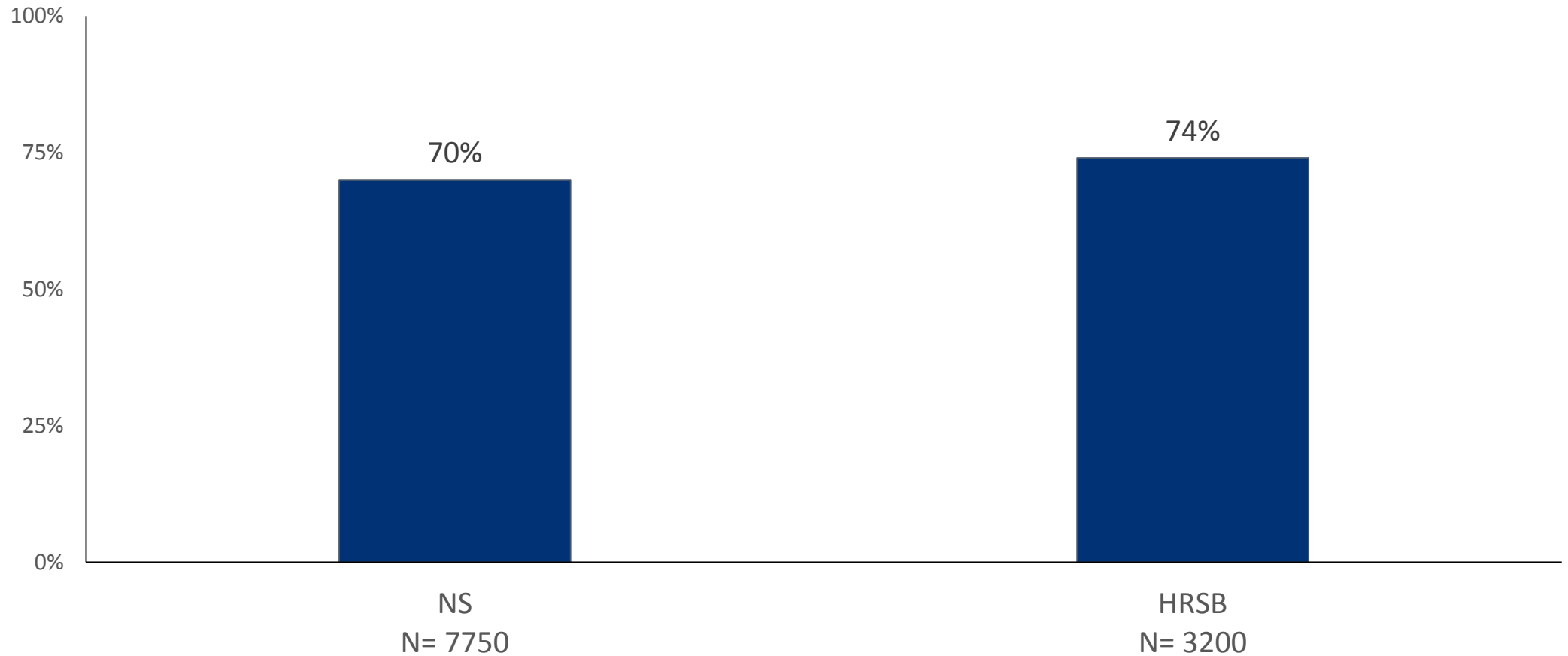
## Percentage of Students





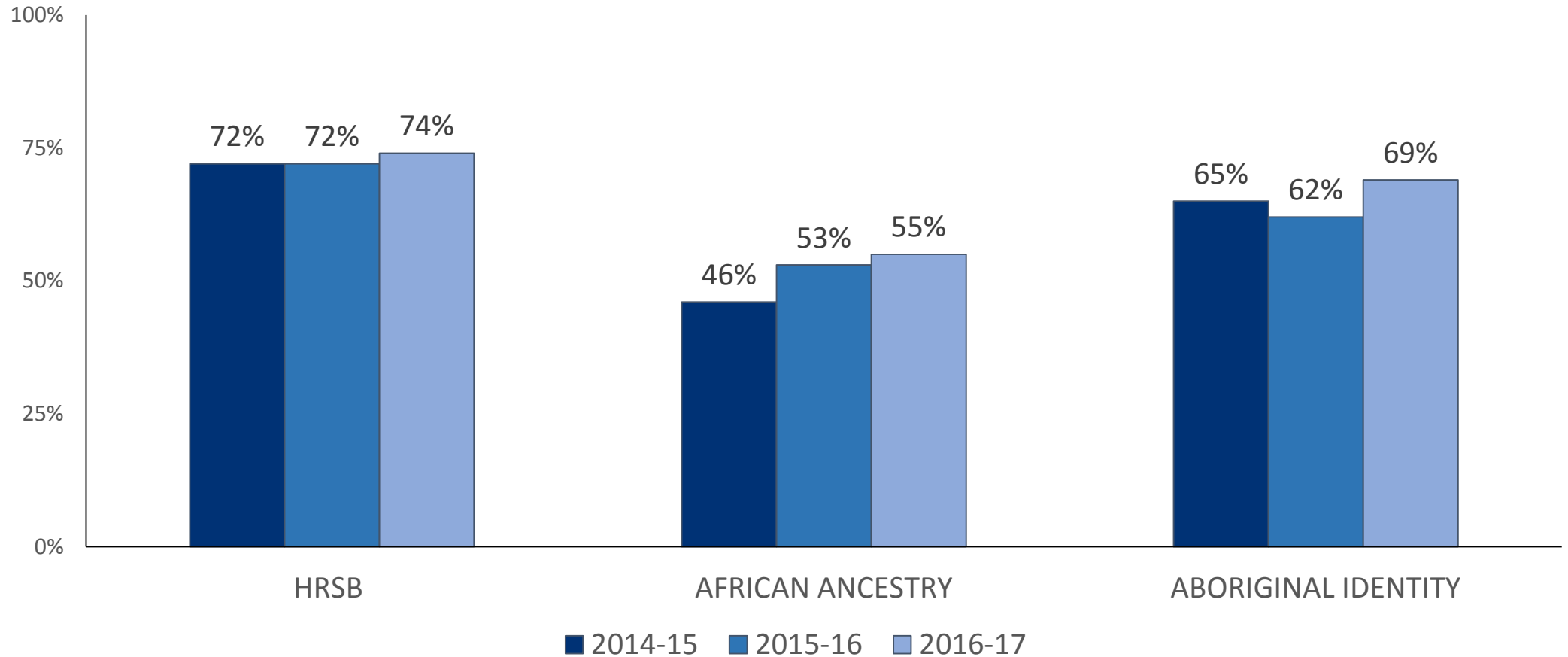
# Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS 2016-17

## Students At and Above Expectation



# Gr. 6 MATHEMATICS

## Student At and Above Expectation



## **Halifax Regional School Board Eastern Consolidated Elementary and Sheet Harbor Consolidated Elementary School Closures**

### **Purpose**

To provide information to the Governing Board regarding the permanent closure of Eastern Consolidated Elementary and Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary Schools.

### **Background**

Eastern Consolidated Elementary School is located in Moser River and Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary school is located in Sheet Harbour. Both schools are feeder schools within the Duncan MacMillan High Family of Schools.

At its regular meeting on March 27, 2013 the Governing Board approved a recommendation from the School Review Committee (*Information Report presented to the Governing Board at a special board meeting on February 6, 2013*), to close Eastern Consolidated Elementary School and Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary School.

*It was moved and seconded (Boutilier/Blumenthal-Harrison) that the Governing Board close Eastern Consolidated School but not until the new school is completed. (CARRIED)*

*It was moved and seconded (Boutilier/Daye) that the Governing Board close Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary only after a new school is built for primary to grade twelve students. (CARRIED)*

In December 2013 the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) approved a new Eastern District P-12 school to be constructed as a replacement school for Eastern Consolidated Elementary, Lakefront Consolidated Elementary, Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary and Duncan MacMillan High schools.

On April 26, 2016, the Minister of EECD announced the existing school property on Church Point Road in Sheet Harbour was approved as the location for the new P-12 school. Planning and design for the new school is in progress and it is anticipated the school will be completed in 2019.

### **Content**

Eastern Consolidated Elementary School has been vacant since July 2015 and will continue to be unoccupied for the upcoming 2017-18 school year.

According to Section 89A of the Education Act a school is permanently closed if no students are attending the school. Therefore, the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) staff considers this school as surplus to its needs for program delivery. On March 9, 2017 a letter was submitted to the Director Facilities Management at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD), seeking confirmation whether they have a need to retain this school for other educational purpose.

If the EECD response confirms there is no further educational requirement for this school building, HRSB will submit notice of turnover of Eastern Consolidated Elementary to the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary school is a P-6 school that is located on Church Street in close proximity to the approved location for the new Eastern District P-12 School.

The construction of the new school is scheduled to begin during the 2017-18 school year. Given the need to isolate the construction site and possibly directly impact the existing school, a decision was made to relocate

the Grades P-6 students from Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary to Duncan MacMillan High School, effective September 2017. This decision was communicated to the school community through letters from the Superintendent on October 4, 2016 and March 7, 2017.

The decisions regarding the discontinued operation of both schools has resulted in closure of the schools for valid reasons. But the closures will occur prior to the timeline intended by the Governing Board motions on March 27, 2013.

### **Funding Details**

The Board will achieve some savings by not having to maintain these buildings, including heating them, and these savings would be incorporated into the Operations Services operating budget for 2017-18.

### **Timeline**

It is anticipated that the turnover of the Eastern Consolidated Elementary School will be completed within 6 months of notice from HRSB to the Halifax Regional Municipality, and that Sheet Harbour Consolidated Elementary will be turned over to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (DTIR) during the 2017-18 school year.

### **Appendices**

N/A

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Governing Board receive this report for information.

### **Communications**

<b>AUDIENCE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Duncan MacMillan High Family of Schools Principals	Director School Administration	Prior to notice to HRM

### **Contact**

For further information, please contact:

Ron Heiman, Director-Operations Services by email ([rheiman@hrsbc.ca](mailto:rheiman@hrsbc.ca)) or 902-464-2000 ext. 2144.