

2017-2018 School Year in Review

The 2017-18 school year has been successful on many fronts. We have created new learning opportunities for students and leadership opportunities for teachers, including, but not limited to, project based learning, flipped classrooms, visible learning strategies and vertical articulation. We have cultivated corporate partnerships, secured grants to improve our facilities and put valuable resources in the hands of students. We continue to keep the main thing the main thing - students. As a result, student engagement and achievement continue to climb.

I am pleased to share a summary of the District's major accomplishments, none of which would have been achieved were it not for the collaborative efforts of The Board of Education, Administrators, Teachers, Staff members, the support of Stakeholders and the Hillside Community at large.



Student Achievement:

- 85% of students in Algebra I at WOK met/exceeded proficiency on the PARCC assessment
- Kindergarten and First Grade students at AP Morris achieved 85% DRA Benchmark and are reading on grade level (Exceeded goal of 80%)
- Improved student achievement in grade levels Pre-K through 8
- Hillside High School was named to the 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll for expanding opportunities and improving performance for Advanced Placement students
- A record number of students were inducted into the National Honor Society (52 students inducted)
- George Washington School implemented the First National Elementary Honor Society Induction. (44 students inducted)

Facility Enhancements:

- Complete installation of air-conditioning at Hillside High School
- Athletic Field enhancement (Turf installation at Woodfield Stadium)
- Roof repairs at Hillside High School and Calvin Coolidge
- New flooring installed at Hurden Looker and Hillside High School
- New gymnasium floor installed at WOK Middle School
- Completed addition to George Washington School including new gymnasium
- Installation of Playground equipment and Rubberized surface at AP Morris

Curriculum and Instruction:

- Development and implementation of Standards Based Report Cards for grades Pre-K through 6
- Implementation of Augmented Virtual Reality at Hurden Looker and George Washington
- Purchased new Language Arts and Math textbooks
- Implemented Project Based Learning - a shift in the instructional design from teacher-centered classrooms to student-centered classrooms
- Instituted Departmentalization - designed to improve student achievement by allowing instruction in specialty areas for Math and Language Arts
- Established a Vertical Articulation Team - this concept refers to the continuity of the instructional program across grade levels. (Teachers have begun to develop a structured Math program which will be shared with Math teachers at all levels)
- Expanded the Pre-K program at Little Bears Day Care Center - Additional funding will allow expansion to AP Morris School (Will service a total of 30 Pre-K 3 students)
- KULA expansion - provides after care/homework assistance and activities for students in grades 6-8
- Before and After Care Program expanded to all schools (Stepping Stones)
- Teachers Academy - provides Professional Development at Hurden Looker
- Hosted a Summer Reading kickoff in partnership with Scholastic Reading

Partnerships/Sponsorships:

- New Jersey Devils
- Route 22 Honda
- Lowes
- Investors Bank
- Barnes & Noble

School Innovations:

- Recipient of a \$300,000.00 NJIT STEAM Grant
- First Innovation Learning Lab developed at Hurden Looker School - "The H. I. L. L."
- Maker spaces at AP Morris - provide hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering and tinkering
- Implemented the Ernst & Young Mentoring Program and the FBI Junior Academy at Hillside High School
- First Annual Color Run Fundraiser at Hillside High School
- Engineering/Robotics Club participated in the Pumpkin Throwing Challenge at Picatinny Arsenal
- Recipient of two County Grant Programs
 - School Gardens
 - Recycling
- Local Government Energy Audit Program
- **Hillside High Football Team named 2017 State Champions** - We congratulate our team for completing a memorable championship ride and winning its first state title since 1985

Community Engagement:

- Implementation of **Ask the Superintendent Saturday Sessions** - a platform by which members of the Educational community as well as community members were given the opportunity to meet with the Superintendent to express concerns, ask questions and make suggestions for improvement on any matter pertaining to the school district
- Community-wide programs:
 - PARCC for Parents
 - ESL for Parents
 - Family Fun Night - Envision Math

Safety Initiatives:

- Installation of Security cameras at each school
- Busses equipped with Security cameras
- Hillside Police Department provided greater presence at AP Morris, and George Washington
- “Hidden In Plain Sight & Drug Trends” – presented in collaboration with Hillside Township Municipal Alliance at Hillside High School
- “See Something, Say Something” campaign in support of Sandy Hook Promise initiative
- School Safety Grant in the amount of \$11,684.96 from New Jersey Schools Insurance Group

Math Met/Exceeded

0.8
0.7
0.6
0.5
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

Algebra 1 WOK

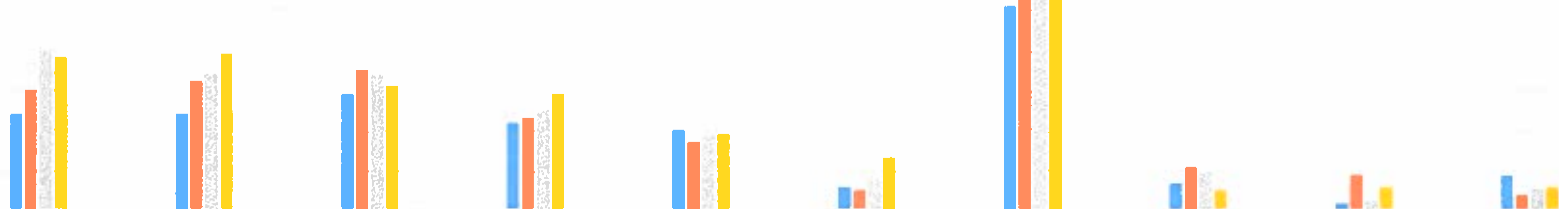
Algebra 1 HS

Algebra 2

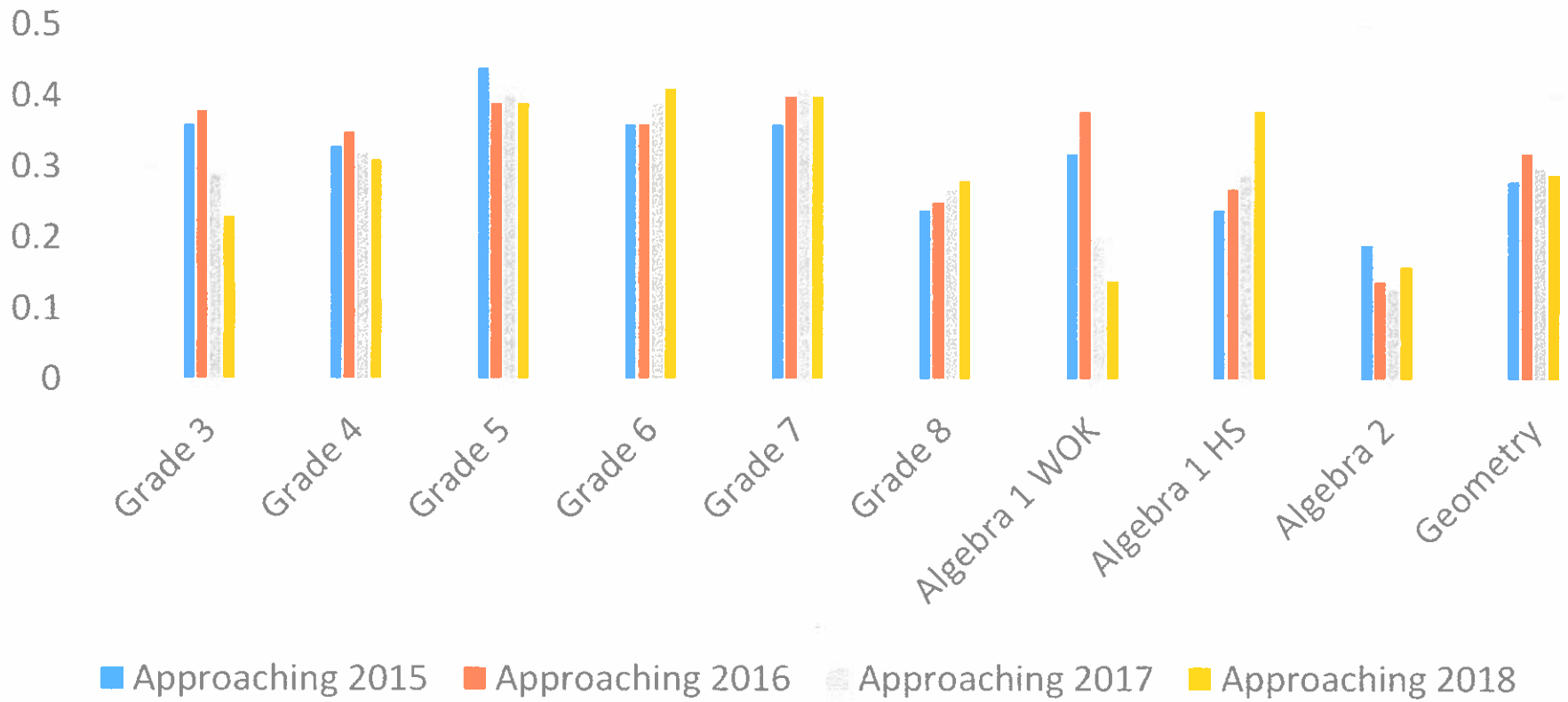
Geometry

Met/Exceeded 2015 Met/Exceeded 2016

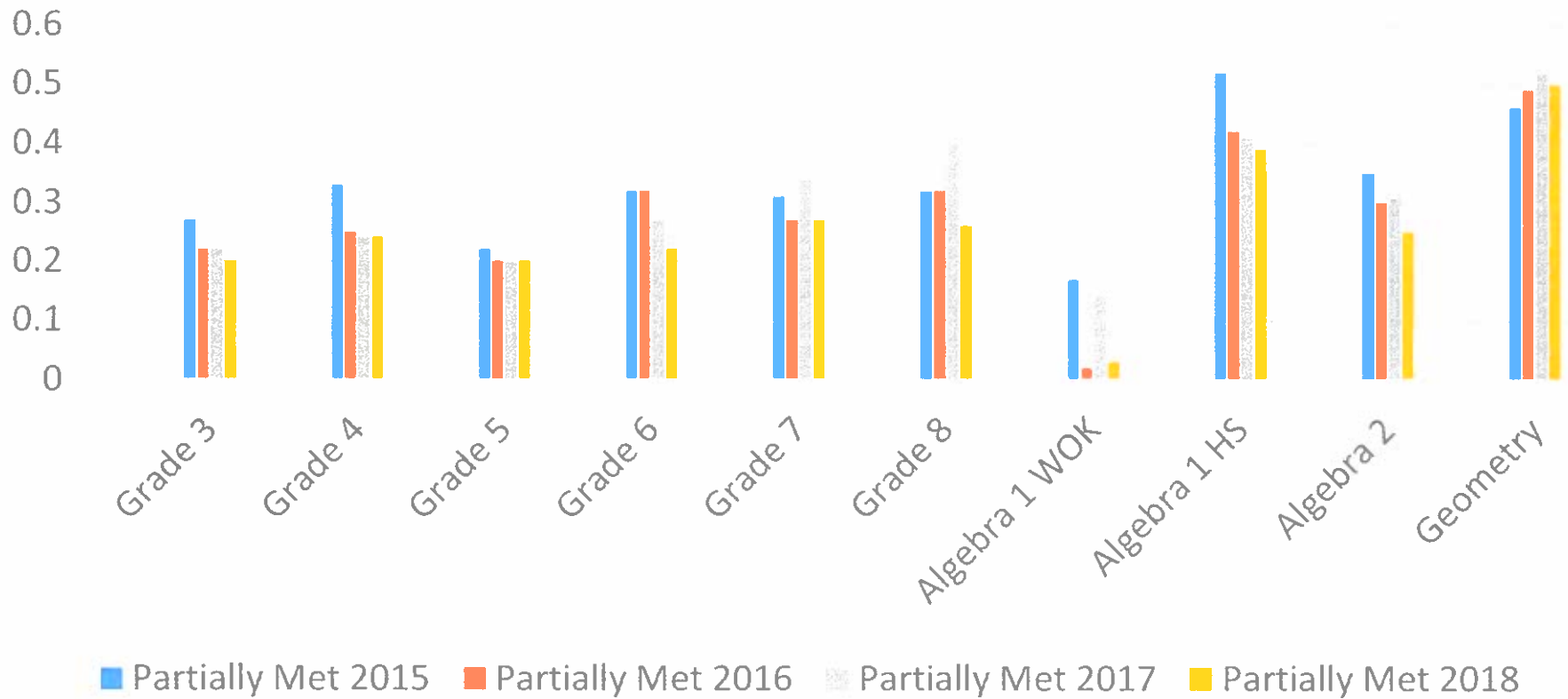
Met/Exceeded 2017 Met/Exceeded 2018



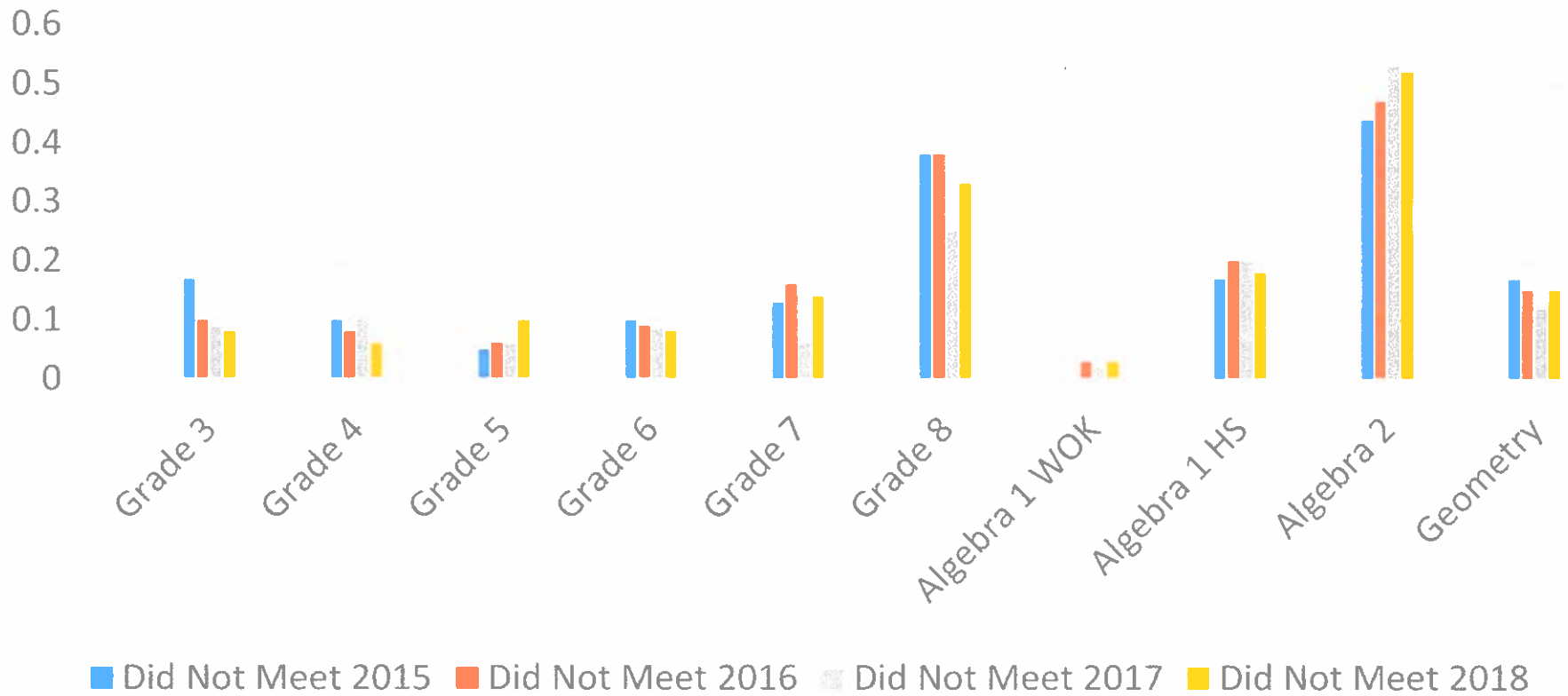
Math Approaching



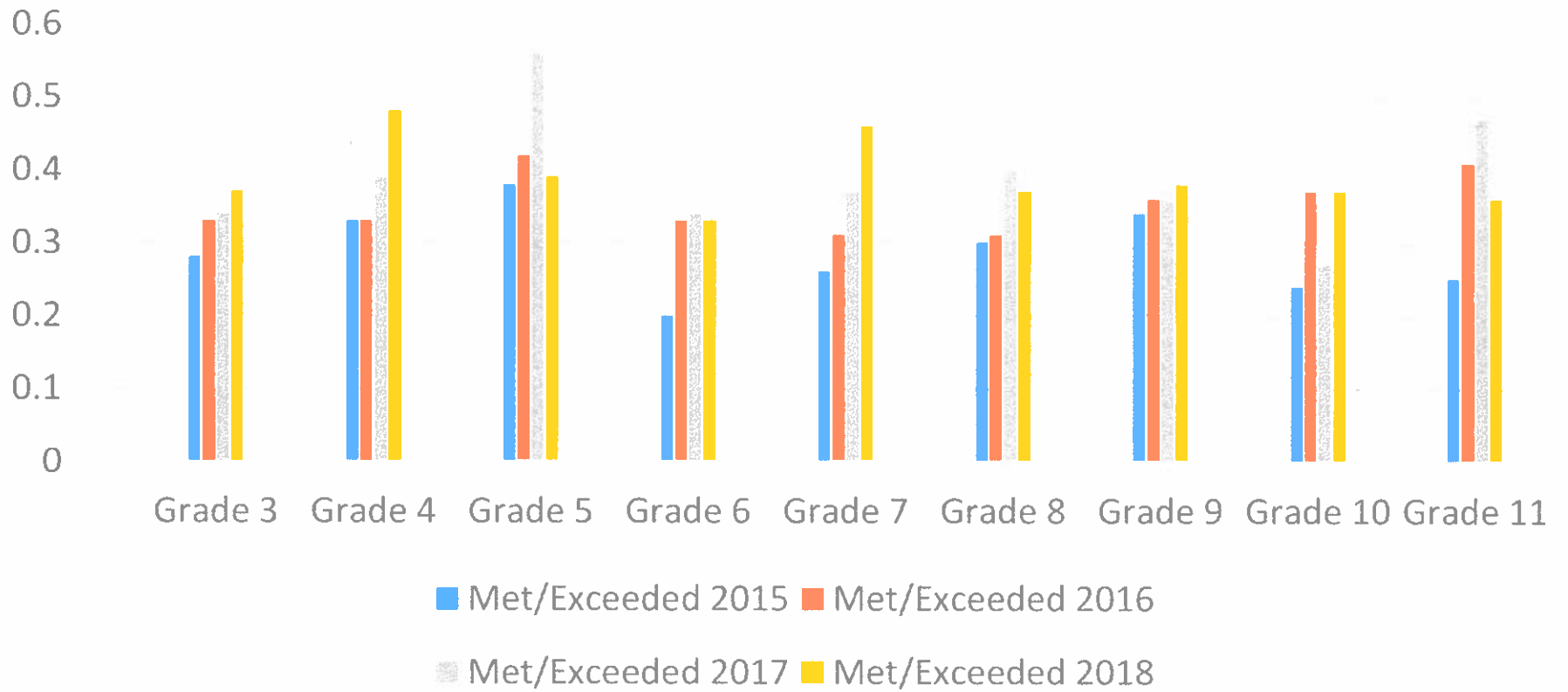
Math Partially Met



Math Did Not Meet

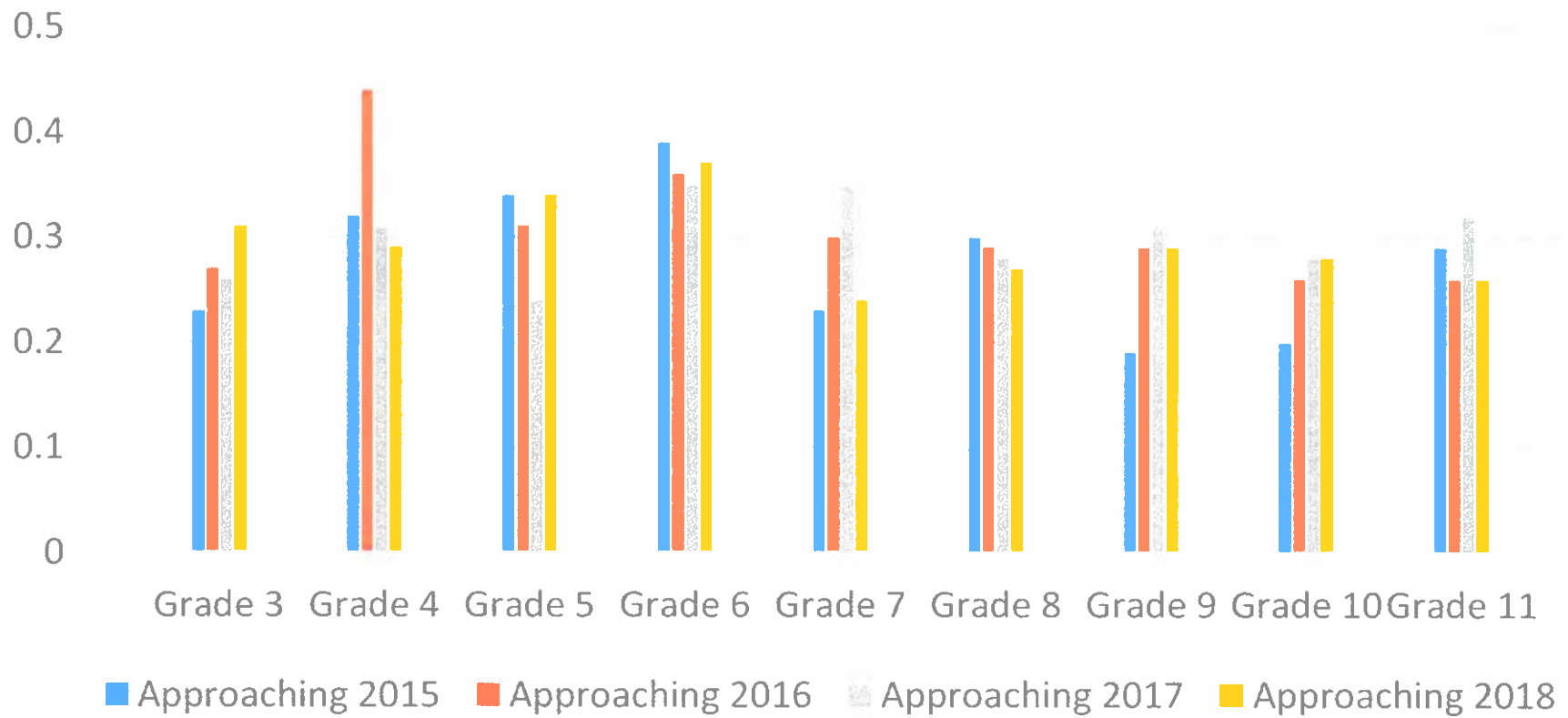


LAL Met/Exceeded

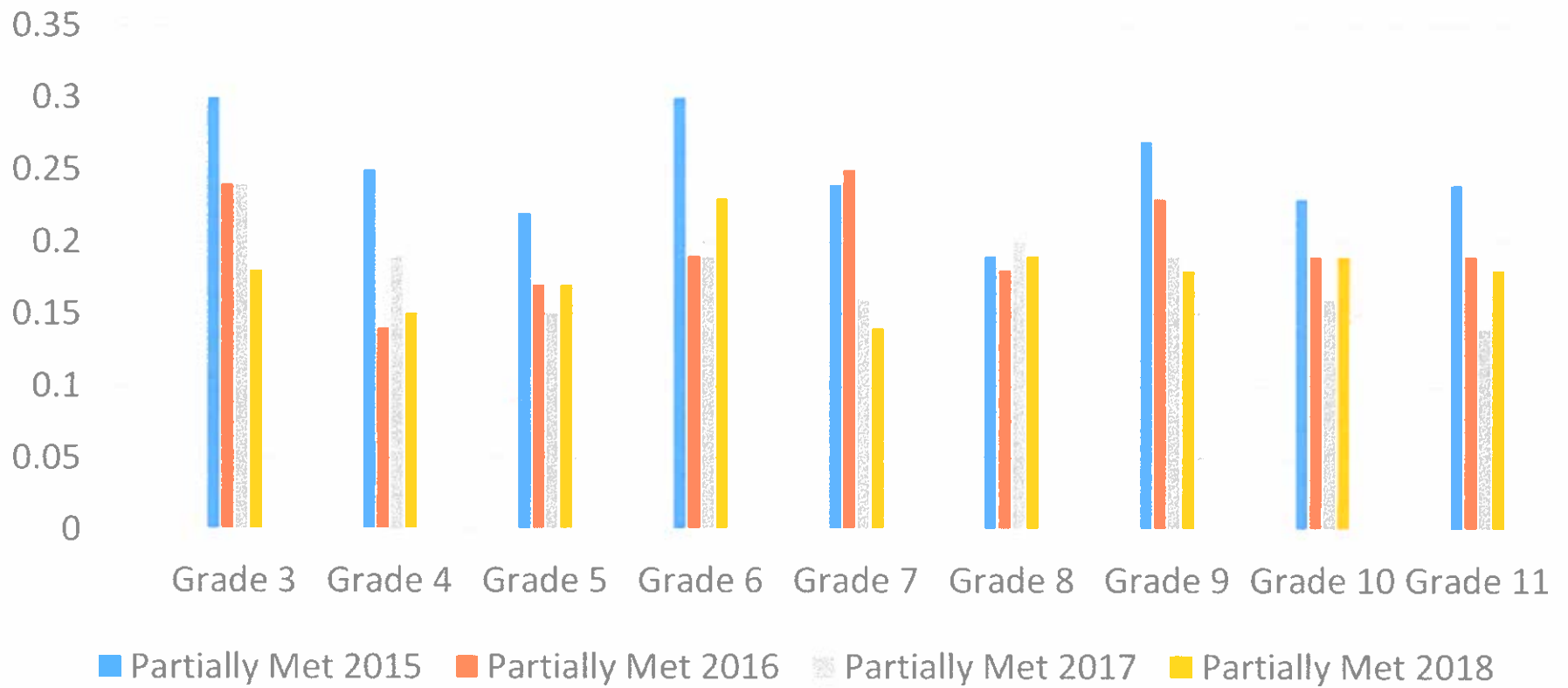


LAL

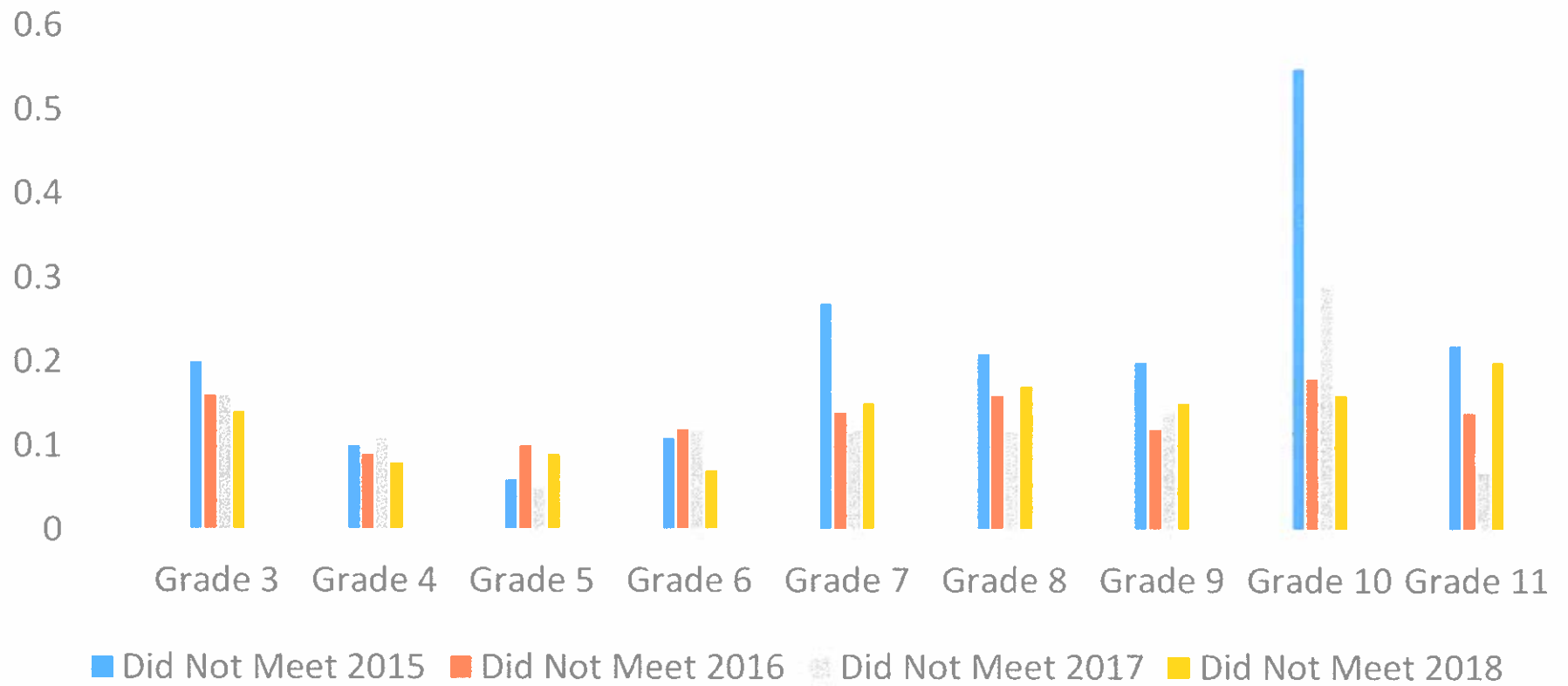
Approaching



LAL Partially Met



LAL Did Not Meet



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Hillside Public Schools is to ensure that all students at all grade levels achieve the Common Core Standards and make connections to real-world success. We are committed to strong parent-community-school partnerships, providing a safe, engaging, and effective learning environment, and supporting a comprehensive system of academic and developmental support that meets the unique needs of each individual.

In conclusion, the success of our School district depends largely upon the collaborative efforts of school and community. These accomplishments reflect the diligence of the administration and the entire staff of Hillside Public Schools. We will continue to improve upon our philosophy of “Aspire to Inspire.”

We welcome ideas aimed at celebrating the diversity of each child in a safe, nurturing learning environment where preparing them for a successful future is paramount.