

Sarasota County Schools

2014-2015 Charter Renewal Application Renewal Analysis Summary

Imagine School at North Port

Imagine School North Port (ISNP) opened in 2008-09 as a K-8 school. In 2011, the ISNP high school was founded, and a new charter combining the K-8 and 9-12 schools was established that same year. The current term of the charter ends June 30, 2015. As a state designated high performing charter school, ISNP is seeking a 15 year charter extension.

The charter renewal process consists of a program review of the following areas of accountability: business operations and fiscal management, student performance, compliance with federal and state requirements and adherence to the terms of the charter contract. A summary of the review findings is presented below.

ISNP's K – 12 student population of 1,028 is comprised of approximately 23% minority students and 49% low income (on free/reduced lunch). English Language Learners (ELL) and Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students represent 3% and 9% of the school population, respectively. The student enrollment history and projected enrollment is provided in Attachment A.

The Imagine School North Port Governing Board has an established agreement with Imagine Schools Non-Profit Inc., for the provision of operating services including educational services, financial management, payroll and accounting, and leasing of facilities. Imagine Schools Non-Profit Inc. also provides support for the implementation of educational programs and professional development through the *Imagine Schools Academic Excellence Framework*. The Framework references best practices to assist schools, including North Port, in becoming schools of excellence and the organization provides access to instructional resources, materials and professional development. Although the Imagine Schools Framework utilizes a global vision encompassing all Imagine Schools across the United States, each school develops its own site specific vision and mission to meet the needs of its own community.

Financial and Enrollment Summary

The school opened in August of 2008 with a full time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment of 514 in grades kindergarten through 8. The school expanded to be a kindergarten through grade 12 school effective July 1, 2011, and has a current student FTE of 1,028. The school has always been timely in the submission of their monthly and quarterly unaudited financial statements and the required year end audit with the exception of the audit for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. With the exception of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the school's financial operations have always ended with a surplus. The school experienced financial difficulties during the 2013-2014 fiscal year due to a decrease in student FTE from the prior year of 89 students; a cost of living adjustment to all staff in the amount of 4.7%; and unanticipated costs in the construction of a new

gymnasium. These were the main reasons the school had to borrow funds from the Management Company in the amount of \$921,100. The \$921,100 loan has an interest rate of 3.25% to be repaid in 120 monthly installments beginning in January 1, 2015.

Charter school statutes require that any deteriorating financial condition must be identified in the independent annual audit. There were no disclosures in the notes to the financial statements regarding a deteriorating financial condition in the independent audit report dated November 24, 2014. Based upon preliminary unaudited June 30, 2014 financial information, the budget submitted for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, and the loan from the Management Company to the school for the second year in a row, the District requested a financial plan to address the deficit without continued reliance on Management Company funds to balance the school's budget. On October 7, 2014, the school submitted a financial recovery plan that is referenced in the charter school renewal application.

Interim Unaudited Financial Information for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015

ISNP is ranked an "A" school and because the State of Florida designated it as a high performing charter school, the school is required to submit interim financial statements on a quarterly basis. The latest data available is through December 31, 2014. The school's revenues are based upon a student population of 1,028 students. This is 139 students below the original budget projection of 1,167 students. The reported unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2014 is \$302,469.12. Effective for the 2014-2015 school year, all staff salaries were reduced by five percent. Implementation of the financial recovery plan, referenced in the renewal application, appears to be reducing expenditures. However, with actual student FTE lower than projected, there is a concern that the school again will need to borrow from the Management Company in order to maintain a positive unassigned fund balance.

Student Achievement and Accountability

ISNP is rated by the Florida Department of Education as an "A" school and is designated as a *High Performing Charter School*. As a combination-grade school, ISNP earned 609 out of 900 possible points on Florida's School Grades scoring criteria to receive the "A" rating. A charter must earn at least two school grades of "A" and no grade below "B" over the previous three years to earn the high performing designation.

In addition to state accountability ratings, the Charter Review Committee (CRC) also reviewed the school's 5-year achievement trends, the degree to which the school attained the goals set forth in the charter, and the school's success in meeting the annual School Improvement Plan (SIP) goals. The achievement data referenced in this section is provided in Attachment B. The ISNP renewal application also provides detailed achievement data, by grade level, over a five-year period.

The achievement goals in the current charter set targets for student proficiency rates to meet or exceed those of the district. In reading, ISNP's proficiency rates for grades 3-5 and 6-8 are lower than the district's from 2010 – 2013. However, this past

year school-wide reading proficiency improved by 10 percentage points and is above the district's rate at the elementary level and the same as the district at grades 6-8. Achievement in mathematics, with the exception of 2013, has been relatively low and the overall trend from 2010 to 2014 shows that the school performs below the district average. As with traditional schools, science scores have fluctuated over the years and remain an area of focus on the school's SIP. High school students at ISNP achieve higher scores comparable to district students on the state's Algebra End-of-Course exam (EOC) and outperform district students on the Biology and US History EOC exams.

The ISNP Governing Board and school administration have put measures in place to address the areas of weakness reflected in the achievement data. Additional resources have been allocated to support teachers, such as two new instructional coaches, enhanced technology and digital resources, and increased professional development training. Strategies to support student learning include increased tutoring and after-school programming and access to accelerated courses and programs of study. The school's leadership team and teachers worked together this year to increase alignment of classroom instruction with the instructional focus guides and a more in-depth analysis of student benchmark data to closely monitor learning and target instruction.

Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and English Language Learners (ELL) Services

Procedures are in place and implemented to determine eligibility and placement in the least restrictive environment and the provision of special education and related services to ESE students as set forth in the IDEA guidelines. ESE education and related services are being delivered as indicated on student IEPs. Service delivery models implemented at the school align with the level of service indicated in the application.

Historically, the school's ESOL program follows the district plan and, in general, has met all requirements to ensure compliance with the federal requirements. During the recent monitoring protocol district staff found cases in which the school is out of compliance with teacher qualifications. Several teachers do not have an ESOL endorsement or ESOL certification. The school will take immediate action to develop a process which ensures ESOL students are not placed with teachers who are out of compliance for ESOL and will monitor teachers' progress in meeting the ESOL certification requisites.

School-Parent Communications and other Student Support Services

The school has well-developed policies and guidelines, published in parent-friendly formats, which keep parents informed of their student's progress and school-related programs and events. Health services are managed appropriately at the school site. The school follows the district's Code of Student Conduct and provided evidence that the school adheres to these guidelines.

Human Resources

Instructional staff meets the teacher certification and/or the highly qualified requirements, with the exception noted above for ESOL endorsed teachers. According to the *2014-15 Opening of School Checklist*, a complete list of ISNP employees is on file and all employees have been fingerprinted and have background screenings on record.

Business Operations

The school has met all the transportation regulations and is in full compliance with food services requirements prescribed by local regulations, the county health department and the USDA.

Evidence of fire, safety and health inspections are on file and meet facility requirements. The school is not planning to expand or make any changes to the current instructional facilities. Insurance policies are on file documenting active coverage for all of the required areas of insurance.

Contract Compliance

The school has routinely submitted all required annual documents, manuals, and handbooks as listed on the Opening of School Checklist and all state-required reports in a timely fashion. The school has not been consistent in notifying the district of changes to the charter, such as programmatic changes to the educational program or amendments to contract agreements, as required to officially amend or modify the charter. The current leadership and the Imagine Schools management are cognizant of this oversight and will ensure adherence in future.

The School Board of Sarasota County, Florida

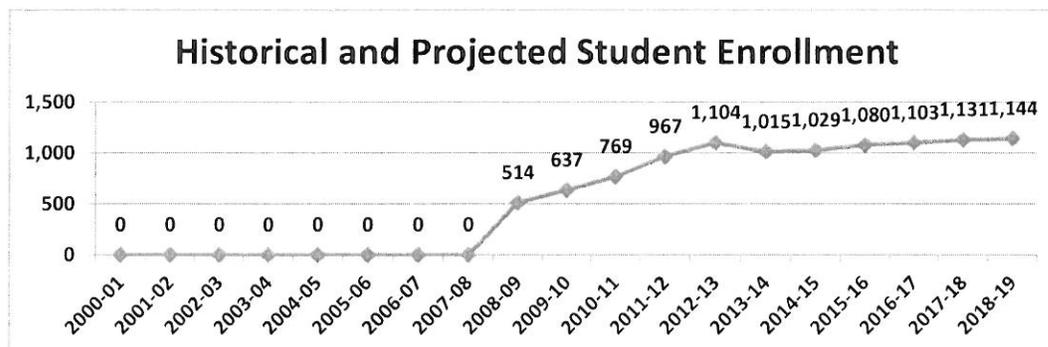
Student Enrollment for the Period 2013-2014 through 2018-2019

Historical Student enrollment by Grade level information (Based upon October of each school year)

Imagine Charter School at NorthPort

School Principal: Year School Opened 2008
 School Address: Buildings are leased
 School Phone: Free / Reduced Lunch Percentage 49.39%
 School Web Site: Title One School No

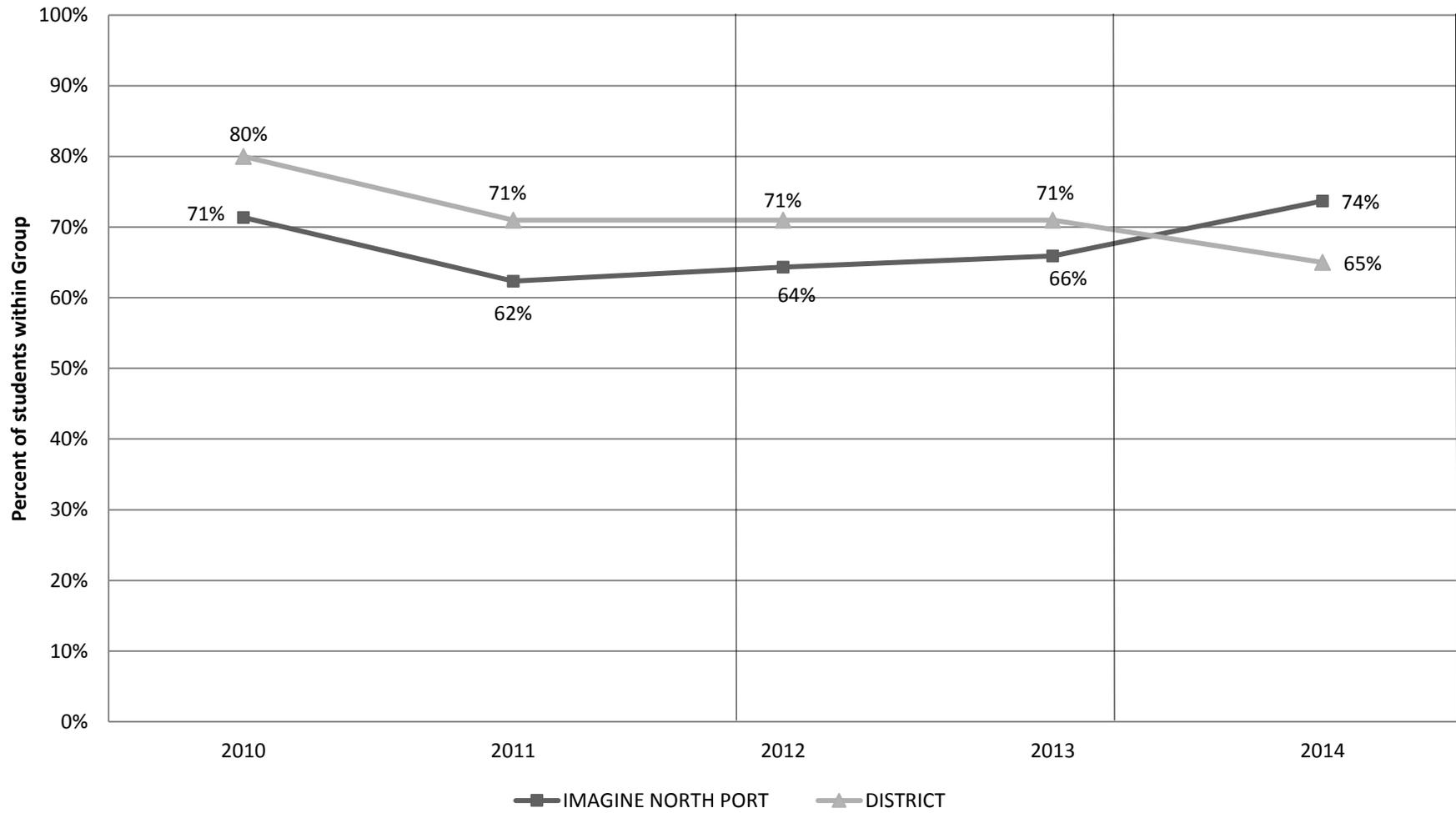
Student Enrollment by Grade Level						
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
PreKindergarten	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kindergarten	76	86	81	81	81	81
First	82	87	86	81	81	81
Second	76	75	87	86	81	81
Third	78	76	75	87	86	81
Fourth	89	81	76	75	87	86
Fifth	92	88	81	76	75	87
Sixth	103	117	88	81	76	75
Seventh	109	100	117	88	81	76
Eighth	109	101	100	117	88	81
Ninth	60	68	111	100	117	88
Tenth	71	52	68	111	100	117
Eleventh	70	58	52	68	111	100
Twelfth	0	40	58	52	68	111
Total by Grade	1,015	1,029	1,080	1,103	1,131	1,144
Students by Program funded through the Florida Education Finance Program						
Basic Education	896	901	945	965	990	1,001
E.S.O.L.	17	19	20	21	21	21
Students with Disabilities k-3	22	19	20	21	21	22
Students with Disabilities 4-8	40	37	38	39	40	41
Students with Disabilities 9-12	13	18	19	20	20	20
ESE Level 4	0	0	0	0	0	0
ESE Level 5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Career Education	5	7	7	8	8	8
Total Students by Program	993	1,001	1,051	1,073	1,101	1,113



Office of Research Assessment Evaluation and School Improvement

**IMAGINE SCHOOL AT NORTH PORT
FCAT 1.0 and 2.0 READING
Percent of Students Level 3 and Above
Grades 3-5
2010 - 2014**

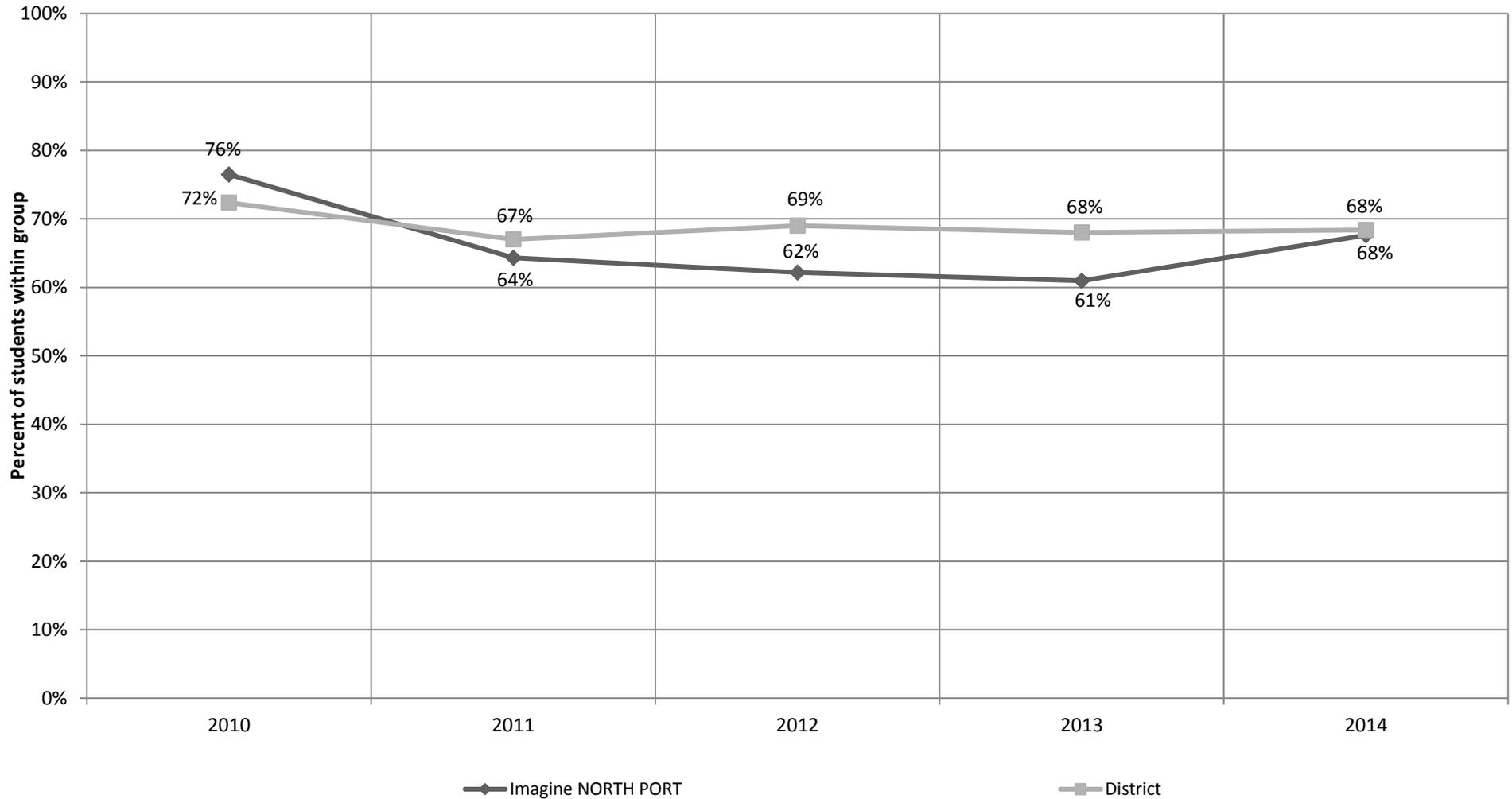
FCAT 2.0



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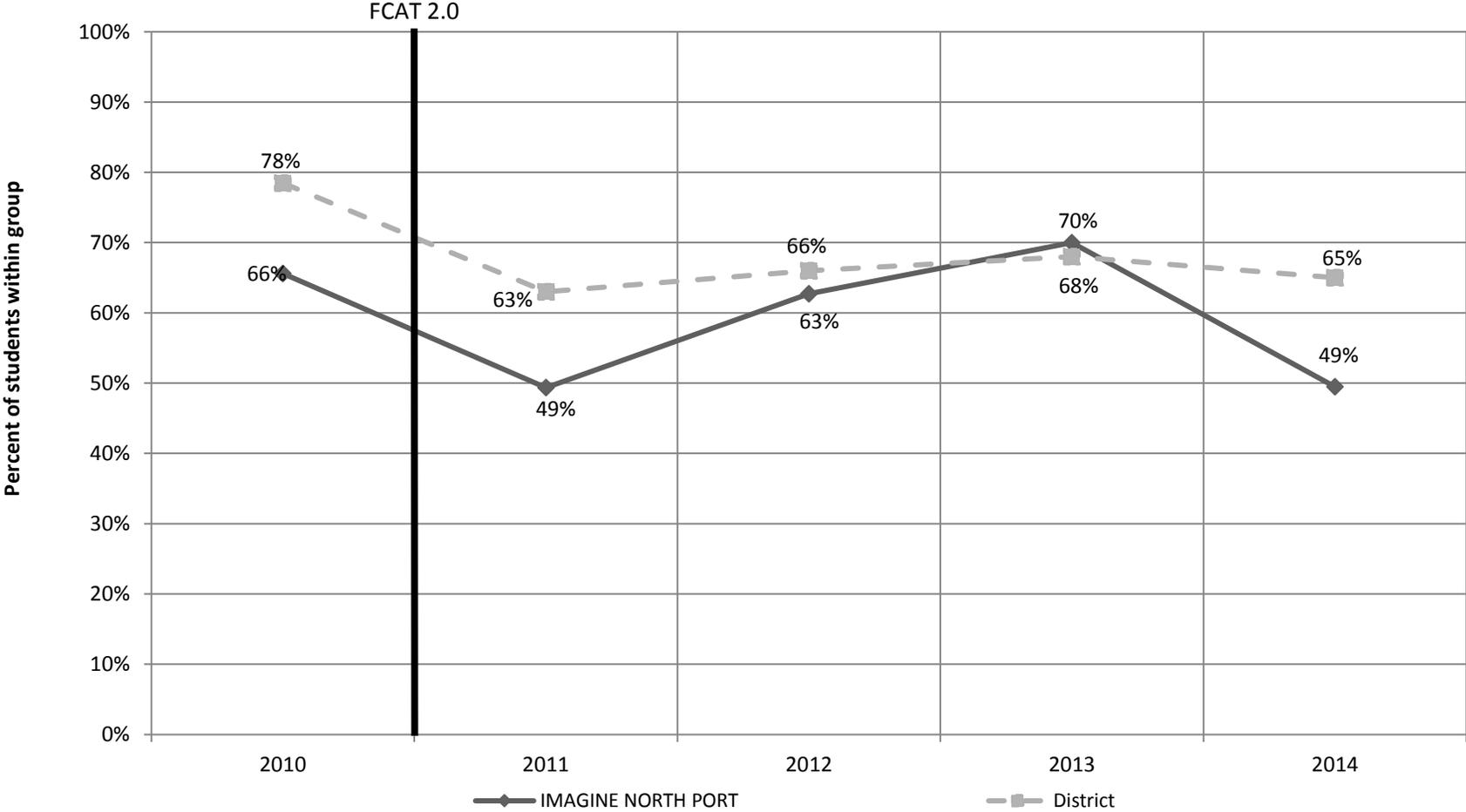
IMAGINE SCHOOL at NORT PORT FCAT 1.0 and 2.0 READING Percent of Students Level 3 and Above Grades 6-8 2010 - 2014

FCAT 2.0



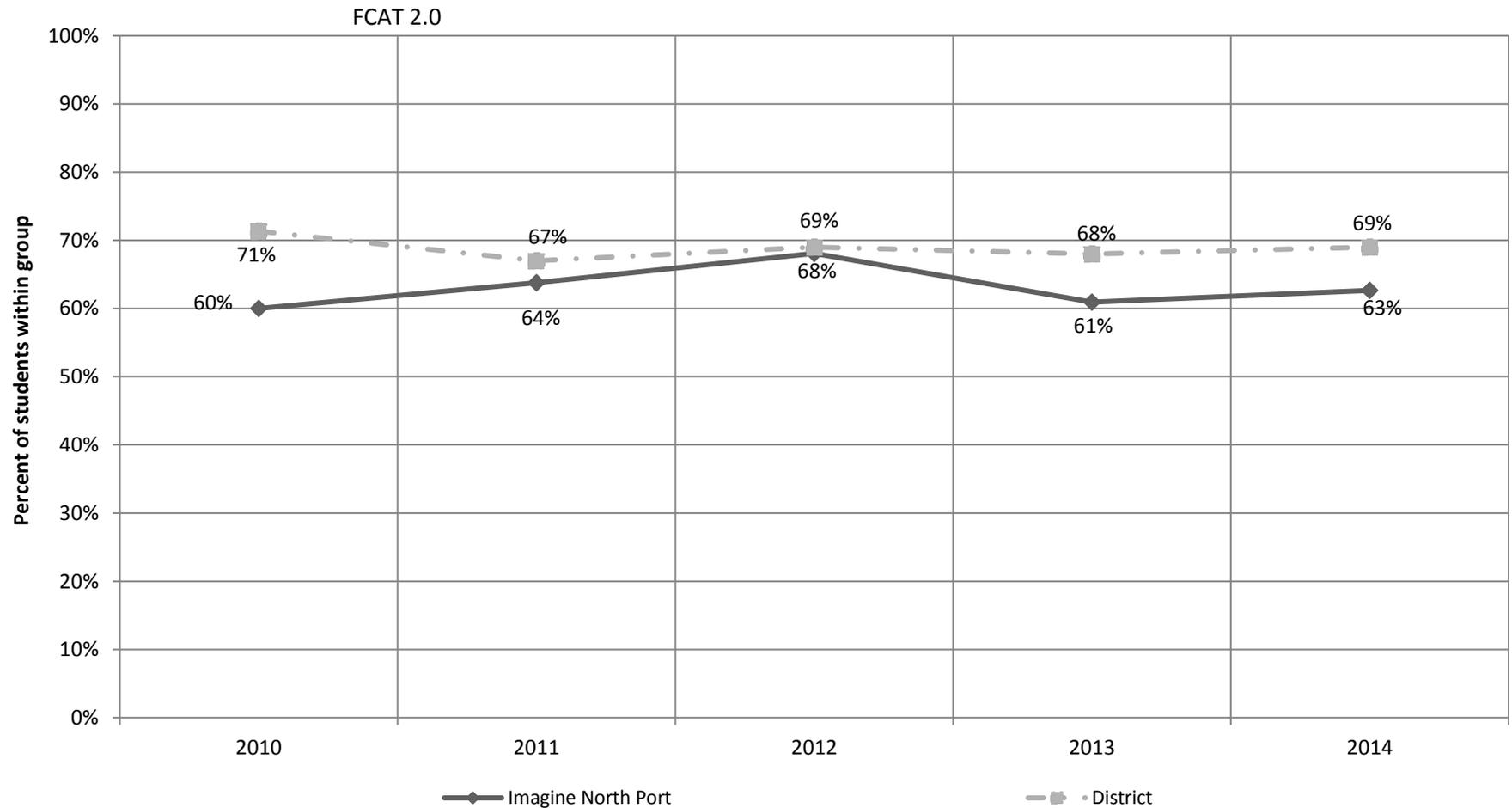
Office of Research, Assessment, Evaluation and School Improvement

IMAGINE SCHOOL AT NORTH PORT FCAT 1.0 and 2.0 MATHEMATICS Percent of Students Level 3 and Above Grades 3-5 2010 - 2014



Office of Research Assessment Evaluation and School Improvement

IMAGINE SCHOOL at NORTH PORT FCAT 1.0 and 2.0 MATHEMATICS Percent of Students Level 3 and Above Grades 6-8 2010 - 2014



Office of Research Assessment Evaluation and School Improvement

FCAT SCIENCE								
GRADE 5								
SY2013 AND SY 2014								
Grade	School #	SCHOOL	Test Scores 2013			Test Scores 2014		
			# Students	Mean Scale Score	Percent Ach Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Scale Score	Percent Ach Level 3 & Above
05		State	195,131	201	53	195,645	201	54
05		District	2,977	208	56	3,160	208	66
05	0103	Imagine NP	93	205	67	90	199	48

FCAT SCIENCE								
GRADE 8								
SY2013 AND SY 2014								
Grade	School #	SCHOOL	Test Scores 2013			Test Scores 2014		
			# Students	Mean Scale Score	Percent Ach Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Scale Score	Percent Ach Level 3 & Above
08		State	195,685	200	47	197,210	201	49
08		District	3,164	206	59	3,154	206	59
08	0103	Imagine NP	109	200	47	103	199	47

Office of Research Assessment Evaluation and School Improvement

Algebra I EOC First Time Takers Spring Results 2013 & 2014							
		Algebra I EOC 2013			Algebra I EOC 2014		
School #	School Name	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above
	State	207147	406	64	207642	408	66
	District	3335	414	73	2943	419	78
103	Imagine NP	120	400	55	60	415	78

Geometry EOC First Time Takers Spring Results 2013 & 2014							
		Geometry EOC 2013			Geometry EOC 2014		
School #	School Name	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above
	State	171,677	403	64	176,778	403	64
	District	2,746	411	73	3,044	409	72
103	Imagine NP	67	410	78	70	407	69

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CIVICS EOC						
SY 2014						
School #	School Name	#Students	Average T-Score	Percent Lower Third	Percent Middle	Percent Upper Third
	State	200,429	50	33	32	35
	District	2,719	52	23	35	42
103	Imagine NP	108	51	25	37	38

US HISTORY EOC First Time Takers Spring Results 2013 & 2014							
		US History EOC 2013			US History EOC 2014		
School #	School Name	# Students	Average T-Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above
	State	133,329	49	na	156,964	406	65
	District	2,048	53	na	2,062	412	74
103	Imagine NP	na	na	na	59	415	85

Biology EOC First Time Takers Spring Results 2013 & 2014							
		Biology EOC 2013			Biology EOC 2014		
School #	School Name	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above	# Students	Mean Developmental Scale Score	Percent Achievement Level 3 & Above
	State	181,498	404	67	187,887	405	68
	District	2,874	409	73	3,215	411	77
103	Imagine NP	93	406	77	58	415	86