

# School Profile 2005-2006



OTTAWA-CARLETON  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Lisgar Collegiate Institute

Grades 9 to 12 (semestered)



29 Lisgar St.  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K2P 0B9

Phone: 239-2696  
Fax: 235-7497

School hours:  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[www.lisgar.ca](http://www.lisgar.ca)

*Principal*  
Karen Gledhill

*Vice Principals*  
Mark Goebel  
Susan Smith

*Office Administrator*  
Neil Petrie

*Chief Custodian*  
George Banton

*School Council Chairs*  
Sylvie Couture  
Robert Irvine

*Superintendent of  
Instruction*  
Cathy Nevins

*School Trustee*  
Joan Spice

*Chair of the Board*  
Lynn Graham

*Director of Education/  
Secretary of the Board*  
Lorne M. Rachlis

*General Board  
Information*  
(613) 721-1820

[www.ocdsb.ca](http://www.ocdsb.ca)

### Our School

In 1874, the Ottawa Collegiate Institute, successor to the Dalhousie District Grammar School founded in 1843, moved to Lisgar Street. In 1928, the name Lisgar Collegiate Institute was adopted in honour of Sir John Young, Lord Lisgar. As articulated in our vision statement, we are uniquely situated in the downtown community and welcome students from across the region. We thrive on the cultural diversity of our students and our international outlook. Because of our central location, we are ideally positioned to integrate our students' learning with the resources available in the nation's capital. Lisgar Collegiate Institute offers a variety of courses across a full range of programs at the university, college, academic and applied levels. Consistent with Lisgar's long tradition of excellence in academics, the arts and athletics, students pursue their full potential as responsible individuals.

- **Academics:** We offer a variety of courses in all disciplines, including Classical Studies and International Languages, the International Advanced Placement Program and the Gifted Program established at LCI as the first program of its kind in Ontario in 1957. The International Advanced Placement Program is available to all Lisgar students who wish to take university-level courses and receive equivalent credits for first year university courses from universities in Canada, the United States and many other countries. We continue to develop innovative learning approaches to challenge students in a changing world. New opportunities include interdisciplinary studies and project-based learning.
- **Arts:** In our Music Program, we offer both Band and String Music with opportunities for students to participate in numerous musical groups including Orchestra, String, Band and Jazz Ensembles. In addition, we have a vibrant Drama and Visual Arts Program. We offer a wide range of enriching opportunities for learning and enjoyment beyond the traditional classroom milieu with our participation in such things as the Improv Games and the Sears Drama Festival.
- **Athletics:** Our Physical Education curriculum, Intra-mural and Inter-scholastic Programs, and Outdoor Education studies foster a balanced healthy life style in our students.

### Our Students

- Every person at Lisgar contributes to our community and benefits from the synergy of the learning experience. Our student body of 983 reflects a wide mix of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds and represents many of the countries around the globe.

### Our Staff

- Our teachers bring diverse backgrounds, scholarship, excellent knowledge of their subject areas and enthusiasm to their classes. Our mandate is to help each student achieve his/her potential. Many of our staff, recognized for their teaching expertise, are called upon to serve as members of provincial and board curricula writing teams and to present at national and international conferences.

*The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board challenges all students to achieve personal excellence in learning and responsible citizenship within a safe, equitable, diverse and caring environment.*

# Our Community

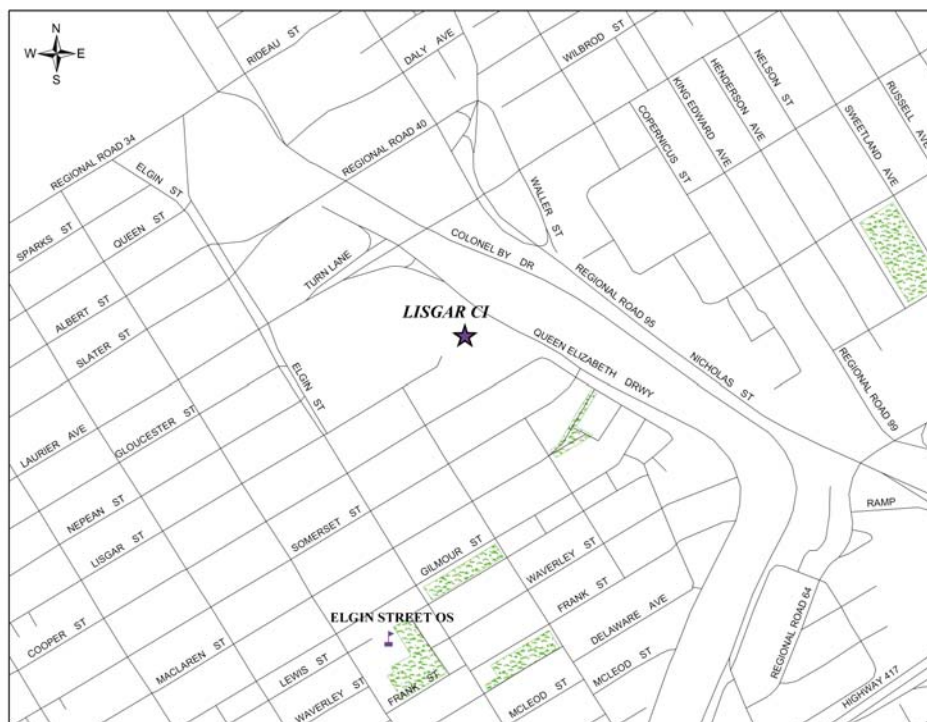
## Parents and Community

- Our parents and alumni regularly volunteer their time and expertise in all areas of our school life. For a second year, one of our parents is working with science classes as part of the Engineers in Residence program.
- Our School Council meets on the third Tuesday of most months at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. All parents are welcome to attend and participate in the evening's discussions.



### **Comments from some of our students:**

Lots of Clubs and Activities.  
Fun night events!  
Interesting variety of classes.  
Friendly & supportive staff.  
Awesome place to be!



# Programs and Services

## Academic Programs

- Specialized Gifted classes in grades 9 -12
- Extended French program package in grades 9-12
- International Advanced Placement Program in Chemistry, European History, French Language, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Music Theory and Statistics allow students to earn university equivalency credits
- Third languages: Spanish, Latin
- Music (Strings, Band, Vocal), Visual Arts, Drama
- Co-operative Education and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program
- Outdoor Education
- Interdisciplinary Studies course combining 3D Graphic Arts and an analysis of past and future civilizations to create a virtual civilization

## Classroom Organization

- Lisgar Collegiate is a semestered high school serving students in the Rockcliffe Park, New Edinburgh, Sandy Hill, Centretown and Hintonburg areas. As well, our Gifted Program draws students from a larger area designated by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board. The Gifted and Extended French Programs are delivered as program packages.

## Special Education and ESL Programs

Our Special Education Resource Teachers offer:

- Remedial help in our resource centre as well as monitoring, and educational support for students with individual education plans
- Assessments for students with learning exceptionalities
- Specialized Gifted classes in English, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Sciences



Heritage Windows

## Facilities and Resources

- Five computer labs, six science labs and five mathematics classrooms with SMART Board
- Two music department rooms with individual practice spaces, vocal and ensemble rehearsal space, digital recording facilities; drama and visual arts-studios
- Double gymnasium with balconies and weight room
- Library with seating capacity for 75 students and computer research facility
- Alumni Auditorium with 670 seats
- Proximity to many downtown facilities such as Parliament, National Gallery, Museums – enrichment learning opportunities

## Safe Schools Initiatives

- Peer Support Group (VOICES)/Peer Mediation
- Safe School Information Assemblies at the beginning of each school year
- Local chapter of the Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving (OSAID)
- Self defense training in junior Physical Education classes
- Provincial and school Codes of Behaviour clearly outlined in the student agenda
- Anti-Harassment Awareness Program
- Fire and lock-down drills throughout the year
- Close contact with our School Resource Officer and our OCDSB Multicultural Liaison Officer
- Lisgar Environmental Action Force in conjunction with EarthCARE

## Clubs and Activities

- Strong intramural sports program with five intramural houses: Lions, Ospreys, Ravens, Dragons and Shamrocks
- Numerous music ensembles from Classical music to Jazz that frequently perform in the school, at elementary schools and in the community
- Space Simulation Club running annual space simulation missions to the far reaches of the galaxy and providing elementary schools with an introduction to space science
- A Student Council which provides leadership camps, supports the community with fundraisers such as the annual United Way Pancake Breakfast
- Yearly international trips during the March Break
- A wide range of clubs and activities to meet all interests and to complement our curriculum, eg. Anime club, cultural cooking, the Lisgarwrite school newspaper
- Vox Lycei, the school yearbook, dating back to 1886
- Annual events such as the Lisgar Loppett and Winter Activity Day



# Achievement and School Improvement Planning

## Measures of Student Achievement and Success

Our school follows the guidelines set out in the OCDSB Policy and Procedures for Student Evaluation, available on the Board's web site ([www.ocdsb.ca](http://www.ocdsb.ca)).

- Of the 178 graduates of 2004-2005, 105 were Ontario Scholars, 86 received the Lisgar Academic Achievement Award (80% average and over), and 35 received the OCDSB Silver medal (90% average and over).
- Lisgar's results in the provincial Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test are consistently amongst the best in the city.
- Every year, Lisgar students excel in a wide variety of national and international science competitions. We never fail to have several students place in the top 5th percentile in each of the Avogadro and Chem 13 News Chemistry Contests, the University of Toronto National Biology Exam, the U. of T. Leonardo da Vinci Engineering Competition and the OAPT and Sir Isaac Newton Physics Contests. In recent years, Lisgar teams have placed first in Canada in the Biology and Sir Isaac Newton Contests and individuals often place in the top five in the country. Lisgar students have represented Canada at both the International Chemistry and Physics Olympiads.
- About one fifth of our school population at Lisgar competed in 11 different Math Contests last year, with exemplary results. Our school ranked first in our Zone (Ottawa-Carleton Region) in the Pascal Contest (Grade 9) and tied for first place in the Cayley (Grade 10). We ranked second in our Zone in the Euclid (Grade 12), and fourth in the Fermat (Grade 11). About three quarters of the students who wrote the Pascal, and two thirds who wrote the Cayley, Fermat, and Euclid, were in the top 25% in Canada. About one third of the 26 students who wrote the AMC 12 were invited to write the American Invitational Mathematics Competition, and two of these students were awarded Honour Roll Pins for ranking in the top 1% of all students who wrote the AMC 12. For the second consecutive year, our school champion in the Canadian Open Math Challenge was also the Provincial Champion in the Ontario East Division. She was subsequently invited to write the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad and the Asia-Pacific Mathematical Olympiad. In the Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia Contests, Lisgar students were awarded two Gold Certificates, three Silver Certificates, and one Bronze Certificate.
- The College Board recognizes students who receive grades of three or higher on three or more International Advanced Placement exams. Four Lisgar scholars were identified in 2005. Lisgar's School AP Grade Average is 4.08!
- Thirteen music ensembles participated very successfully at the Ottawa Kiwanis Music Festival. The Improv Team reached the Nationals. The Visual Art Show, which was held in June, the Spring Drama production, "Our Town" and the Fall's Musical "Guys and Dolls", were extremely successful.
- Lisgar students are consistently provincial finalist in the Great Canadian Geography Challenge and our Reach for the Top team is the current Regional Champion.
- A Lisgar Student took 1st place in the grade 9 & 10 Core French category at the Concours d'art oratoire de L'Ontario.

- Two senior students were recipients of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Our interscholastic teams continue to bring home the medals. Lisgar won the NCSSAA Championships in Midget Boys' and Junior Boys' Track and Field; NCSSAA "AAA" Champions in Senior Boys' Volleyball and recipient of the OFSAA Sportsmanship Award; and NCSSAA East Champions in Junior Girls' and Senior Boys' Cross Country Running. Lisgar continues to host the annual Lisgar Open Cross Country Running Race (over 30 schools compete) and the Ottawa Collegiate Relays. Lisgar had a total of 31 athletes compete at the provincial OFSAA Championships.

## School Improvement Plans and Initiatives

- Staff is pleased with the results on the 4U English exam. Our English department continues to work on the English skills continuum from grade 9-12. This includes such areas as various forms of writing, reading, grammatical and presentation skills. This has been shared with students, parents and the school staff in order to focus on the appropriate skill development necessary for each grade.
- Lisgar began a cross-curricular approach to the preparation of our students in grades 9 and 10 for the kind of content and skills required for the EQAO Test of Reading and Writing.
- Students exceeded the board average on the 3U/3M mathematics exams. Staff will continue to address a number of factors in an effort to maintain those results. The areas to be addressed include pacing of the course, exam technique preparation, student expectation of and approach to the exam and evaluation procedures.
- The members of the Mathematics department have established remedial procedures necessary to improve student achievement in the areas identified in the September 2005 diagnostic test of grade 9 Mathematics students. This included a detailed breakdown by topic, which was shared with the feeder schools.
- To improve student learning and use available technology to greater advantage, the Mathematics teachers are now using SMART Board in their classrooms. This technology, combined with dynamic mathematics software, allows for a greater range in the presentation and understanding of the curriculum.
- While we are very pleased with our excellent pass rate, we will not be happy until every student is successful. Staff are working with students who were unsuccessful in their Literacy Test, as well as determining strategies to identify and work with students in grade 9 who are experiencing difficulties prior to taking the test.

# Leadership Recognition

**"Leadership in the OCDSB is the demonstration of personal initiative to achieve a positive outcome."**

## **Students:**

In 2004-05, the Lisgar Interact (International Action) Club held a "Kiss The Fish" fundraiser and earned enough money to buy four wheelchairs for people in third world countries. This club also ran bake sales to buy polio vaccine for a village in Africa and a "winterwear" project to support Ottawa's Snowsuit Fund.

Otesha is a non-government organization that promotes sustainable living to youth through fun skits and orchestrated slide shows. With the support of the Ottawa Otesha team, Lisgar's Leaf members have formed a student branch. These students spread their positive environmental message, not only to LCI students, but to students in nearby elementary schools and community groups.

## **Staff:**

With the goal of increasing student learning through available technology, the Mathematics Department has undertaken the Smart Math Initiative. This initiative involves the combination of interactive SMART Board and dynamic mathematics software into our five math classrooms. Each member of the department has committed to being trained to use this hardware and software and to incorporate it into their daily lessons. To further their Professional Development, the teachers in the Math department have also undertaken to present at local and provincial workshops. This initiative has promoted more collaborative teaching within the department and furthered the excitement of the subject area for the teachers. In the classroom, it has allowed teachers to create more interactive, creative and dynamic lessons where students have a greater ability to explore the curriculum. The realization of this initiative has required commitment and leadership within the department, the school and the mathematics education community.

## **Parents/Guardians/Volunteers:**

Derrick Oswald is a professional engineer currently employed at Autodesk Canada, a software firm located in Ottawa. Derrick, a member of the Professional Engineers of Ontario, approached the school through a program called the Engineers in Residence.

During the 2004/2005 school year, he volunteered countless hours per week to help the students of a grade ten Gifted Science class develop a weather station. This weather station recorded weather conditions and sent data streams to the classroom computer via radio frequency signals. Derrick was also responsible for developing a page on the Lisgar.net website dedicated to this project. The project has been well received by parents, administration and students alike. To view information concerning the weather station project please visit <http://www.lisgar.net/weatherstation/>

Derrick also led the construction of a medieval trebuchet for the grade 12 College preparation Chemistry course during that year. Plans are also available at the above-mentioned web site.

This year, 2005/2006, Derrick has led the construction of simple electric motors for the grade 9 Applied Science class. It was a tremendous success. Students enjoyed his lesson and claimed that they wished every class was this much fun! The students look forward to a future project on the construction of rockets.

## **Community:**

Elementary Education Programs (EEPs) are half-day workshops where an elementary school class visits the Space Sim facilities at 440 Albert Street and participates in activities covering a variety of space-related science subjects, such as: astronomy, life in space, Newton's laws of motion, rocketry, electrostatics, satellite design and space flight using shuttle simulators and tours of the mission facilities. Each activity is taught by two Lisgar Space Sim club members. The elementary class is broken into groups. These groups rotate through each of the stations in turn. Stations consist mostly of demonstrations and hands-on activities for the elementary students, such as simulating asteroid impacts and using tools while on a hovercraft. The workshop ends with a planetarium presentation to the whole class. Lisgar Space Sim student members prepare the presentations and materials, give the presentations, and handle the bookings.

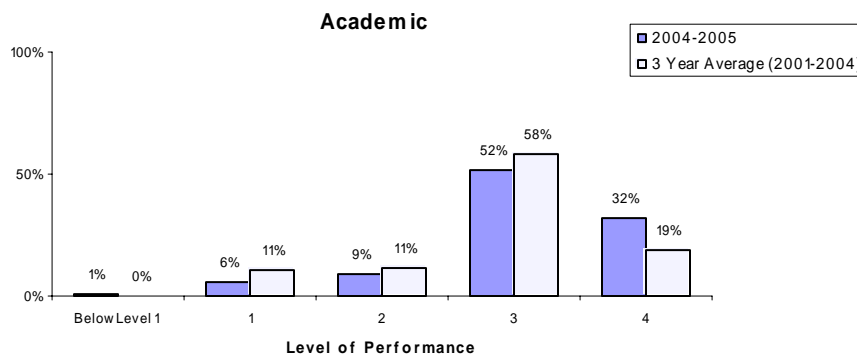
# Results of EQAO Grade 9 Assessment

Each year, students participate in the province-wide assessment of mathematics. This assessment by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is given at the end of the academic and applied courses in January and/or June, depending on whether or not a school is semestered. The assessment is only one of the many ways that teachers measure student performance. Results on this assessment may not reflect a student's achievement during the entire school year. The same is true for the school-level results reported below; they should be interpreted in the context of other information, some of which is available in the school profile.

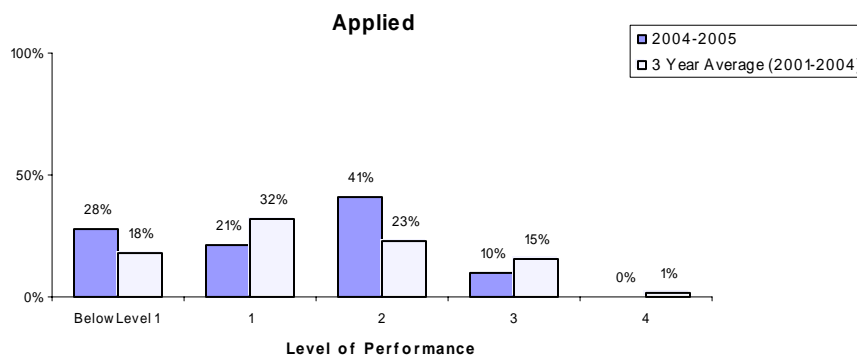
The following table describes grade 9 students in this school for 2004-2005 testing:

	Number of Students	Exempt	No data	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	ESL	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Academic	249	0%	1%	4%	<1%	21%	17%
Applied	37	0%	22%	24%	0%	14%	21%

Please note that year-to-year comparisons of results should be treated with caution, since for example, the students participating are different. In small schools, the achievement of a few students can have a large effect on the percentages reported for each level of performance. Results for participating students are shown below:



The percentages of grade 9 students achieving at Levels 3 and 4 were; *Board* 75% *Province* 69%



The percentages of grade 9 students achieving at Levels 3 and 4 were; *Board* 28% *Province* 29%

# Results of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

## About the Test

The Ontario Ministry of Education has mandated that the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) be given to Grade 10 students province-wide to determine if they can successfully demonstrate the reading and writing skills that apply to all subject areas in the provincial curriculum up to the end of Grade 9.

The OSSLT is developed by the Education Quality and Accountability Office. It includes texts, questions, and tasks that vary in level of difficulty. In the reading section, students read a number of short passages and respond to questions involving multiple-choice, short-answer, and short-answer with explanation. In the writing section, students write a summary, a paragraph, a short report, and a series of paragraphs supporting an opinion. Up to and including the 2004 administration, the test has taken place over two days (2.5 hours per day) in October; effective next year, the OSSLT will be moved to the spring, and will be condensed to take place on a single day (2.5 hours in total).

Receiving a secondary school diploma depends on passing the OSSLT—i.e., this is a “credentialling test.” Exemptions and deferrals are given only under certain circumstances. Students who are not successful on the test are able to attempt it again, in a future administration, or enroll in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC).

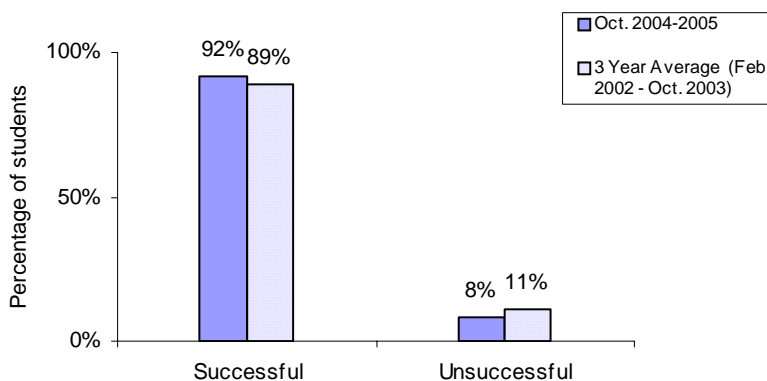
## The Results

EQAO reports results only in terms of whether or not the student passed/was successful on the test, rather than levels of student performance. Students are considered to have completed the test successfully only if they have passed both the reading and writing sections. The results for this school, compared to the board (OCDSB) and the province, are shown below for the 2004-2005 academic year.

**Method 1:** All first-time eligible students (i.e., not exempt) are included in the results.

	Number of first-time eligible students	% Deferred	% Absent	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	ESL/ELD	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Lisgar CI	331	0%	4%	7%	0%	17%	24%

**Method 2:** Only those first-time eligible students who *fully participated* in the testing (i.e., not deferred or absent) are included.



Percentages of grade 10 students who were *Successful*: Board % 87 Province % 82

## Next Steps

Students who do not complete the test successfully will be provided with appropriate remedial help. Such remediation will be guided by individual student diagnostic feedback provided by EQAO. Each school will continue with its own school improvement plans concerning literacy.

The Board and schools will be providing a variety of strategies to assist in supporting students, including:

- Reaching Higher – Supports for Student Achievement in Literacy (workshops and resources for grade 6,7,8 and 9 teachers to help students with low literacy skills)
- Academy of Reading – Computer-Based Skills Course
- English Literacy Skills – Grade 11 Open Course
- Workshops for teachers to promote best practices in reading and writing instruction, balanced literacy, and literacy across the curriculum
- Sage Youth (volunteers to assist students with reading)
- Workshops for teachers of grades 7, 8, and 9 to introduce the requirements of the OSSLT

# Results of District-wide Assessments

In 2004-2005, all schools fully participated in testing for the ENG4U, ENG4C, MCR3U and MCF3M District-wide evaluation projects.

These projects aim to create consistent evaluation of student performance by providing:

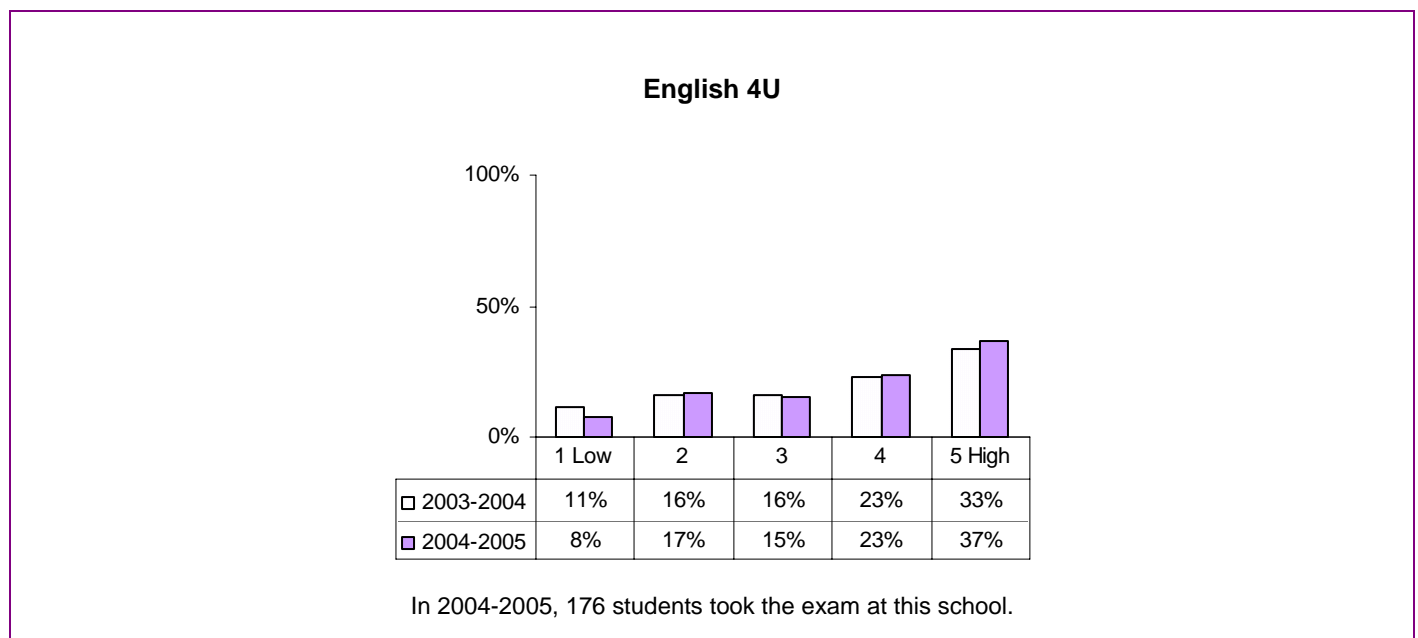
- a common examination;
- a detailed marking scheme for the examination;
- conference marking;
- exemplar booklets to show students and teachers the criteria for, and examples of, successful performance;
- workshops for teachers; and
- reports of school and Board results.

Quintiles divide the marks of all students who took an examination into five equal groups. This means that one-fifth (20%) of all students who took an examination scored in each quintile. For semestered schools, results in the January and June exams have been combined for reporting purposes.

The following charts show the percentages of our participating students whose marks fall within each of the five quintiles. The closer to 20% of students a school has in each quintile, the closer the school's results are to the results for all students in the Board. Please note that in small schools, the achievement of a few students can have a large effect on the percentages reported in each quintile.

Heads of English and Mathematics would be pleased to discuss examination preparation, procedures, and marking with those who are interested. Please contact the school for further information.

Results by quintiles for participating students are shown below:

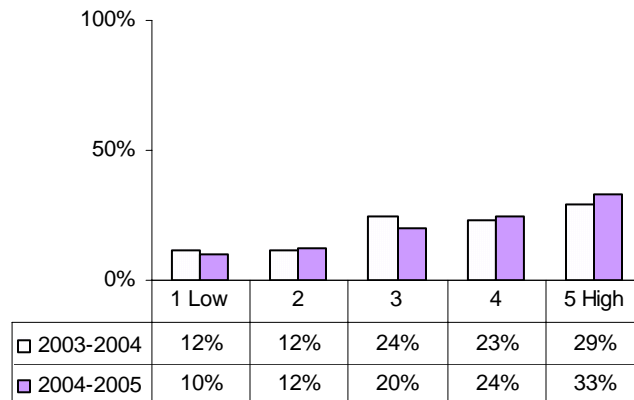




## English 4C

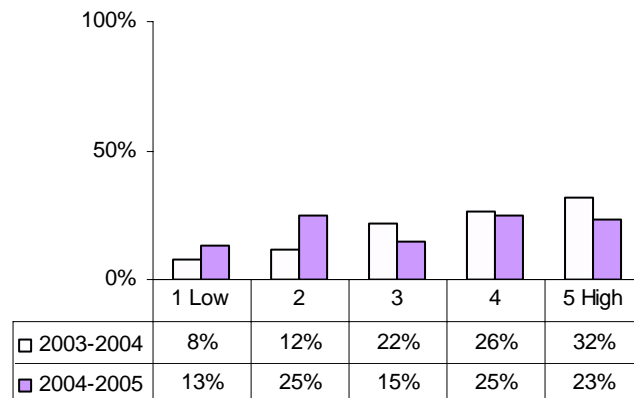
In 2004-2005, less than 15 students took the exam at this school. Therefore, results have not been reported

## Mathematics MCR3U



In 2004-2005, 90 students took the exam at this school.

## Mathematics MCF3M



In 2004-2005, 61 students took the exam at this school.