



# EMPOWERING PARENTS AS TEAM PLAYERS IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Meherrin Elementary School  
28600 Grays Shop Road  
Newsoms, Virginia 23874-2904

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# School Facts

Meherrin Elementary School is located in rural Southampton County, Virginia. This school serves pre-k through fifth grade students with an enrollment of 310 students. This school serves students from several districts, Boykins, Branchville, Newsoms, Courtland, Capron and Franklin. There are several mobile home parks and a public housing apartment complex. Adequate housing continues to be one of the communities' major concerns. Most of the families live in single-family dwelling.

Meherrin Elementary is a Title I school that has 62% of its school population receiving free and reduced meals. This school does provide a breakfast program. Minorities account for the 58% of the schools population.

# Staff Characteristics

- Staff of highly qualified teachers
- All classes incorporate special ed. Inclusion in Pre-K –5
- Teachers in grades 3-5 teach in content areas of strength
- Math resource teacher for students in grades 3-5
- Title 1 school with 2 full-time reading specialists that serves all students in grades K-5 (school-wide)

# Assessments

- Students in grades 1-5 are administered benchmark tests each grading period
- Flanagan Checkpoint tests are given throughout the year to check for mastery of objectives
- State Released tests are administered to students in grades 3-5 prior to State testing in the spring
- Standards of Learning Tests (SOL) are administered each spring to students in grades 3-5 in core content areas

# •WHAT ARE S.O.L.S ?

- VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING

- ✓ An end of year assessment

- ✓ Required by the state

- ✓ Review of what has been taught

- ✓ Takes strategy

SUCCESS OF LEARNERS

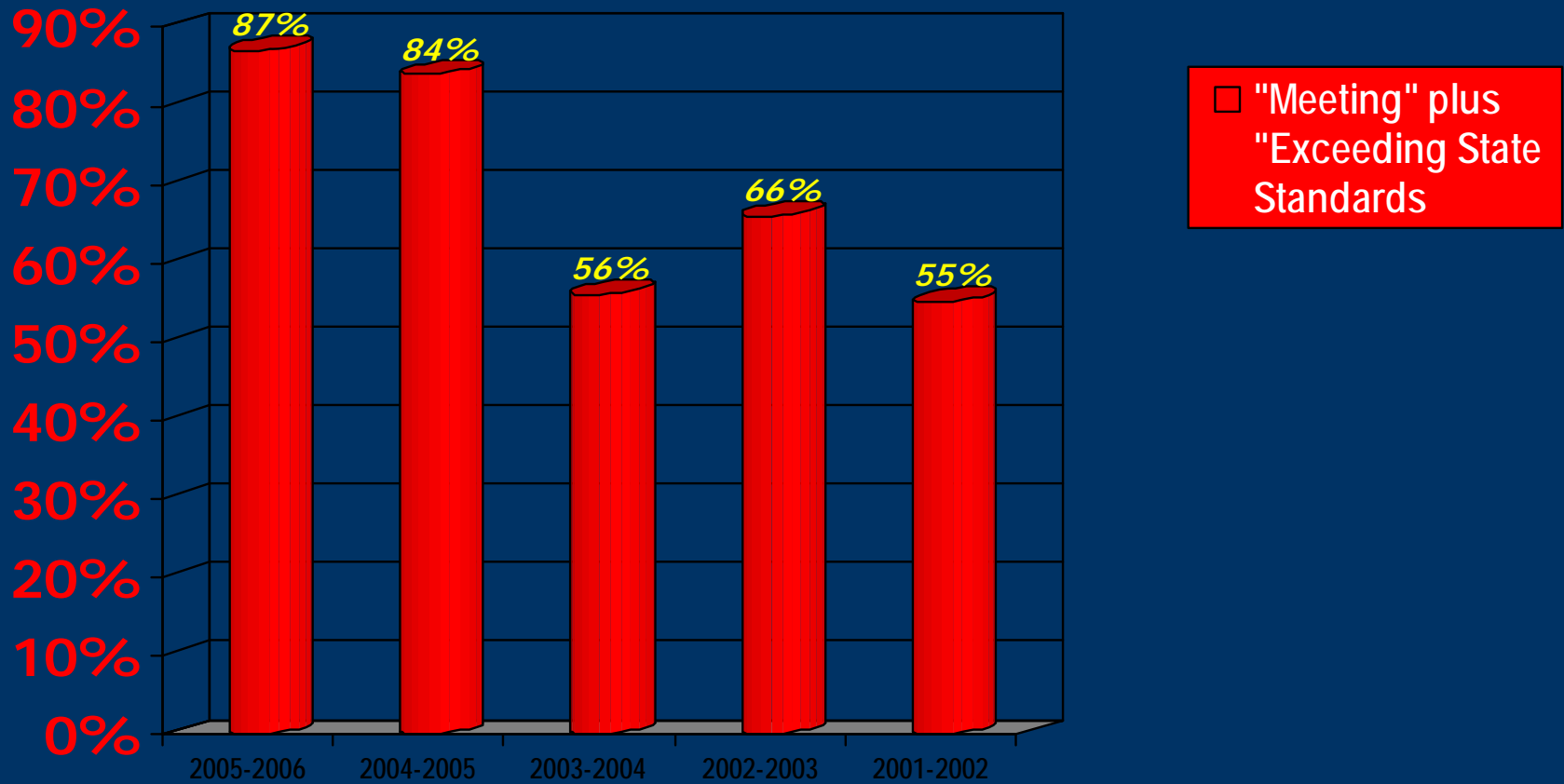
# Using Assessments Results:

- Drives the instruction
- Differentiate instruction
- Align our district's curriculum and assessment practices
- Reports sent to parents
- Results used to assist in School Improvement Plan

# SOL EXTRAVAGANZA

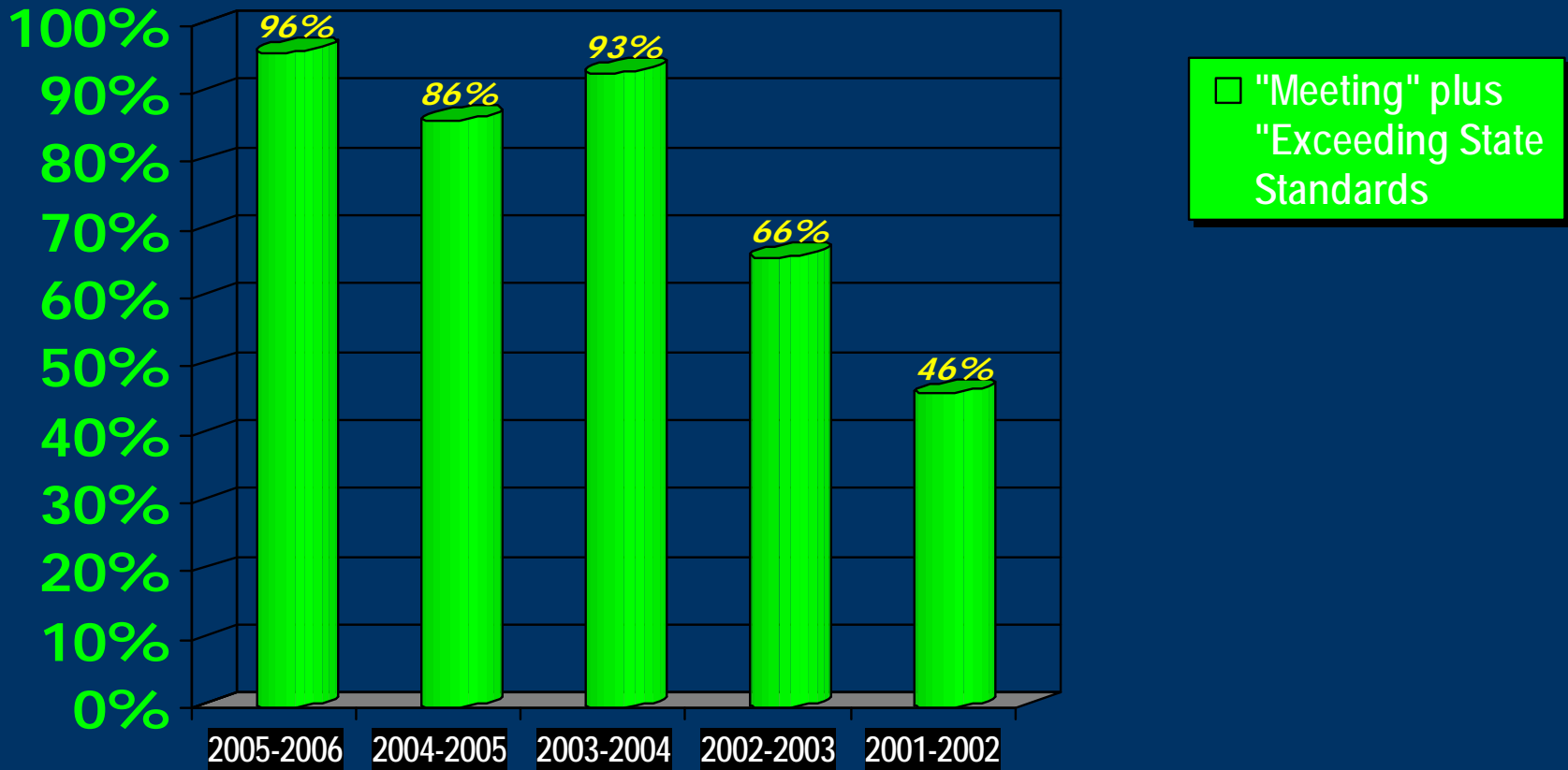
- First one held in 2004 to get more parental involvement
- Parents and students from grades 3-5, school board members, Title 1 Parent Liaison, school staff
- Parents received packet of information
- Powerpoint of test-taking strategies
- Skit by students
- Virginia Dept. of Ed. Website
- Door Prizes
- Dinner

# Grade 3 - Reading

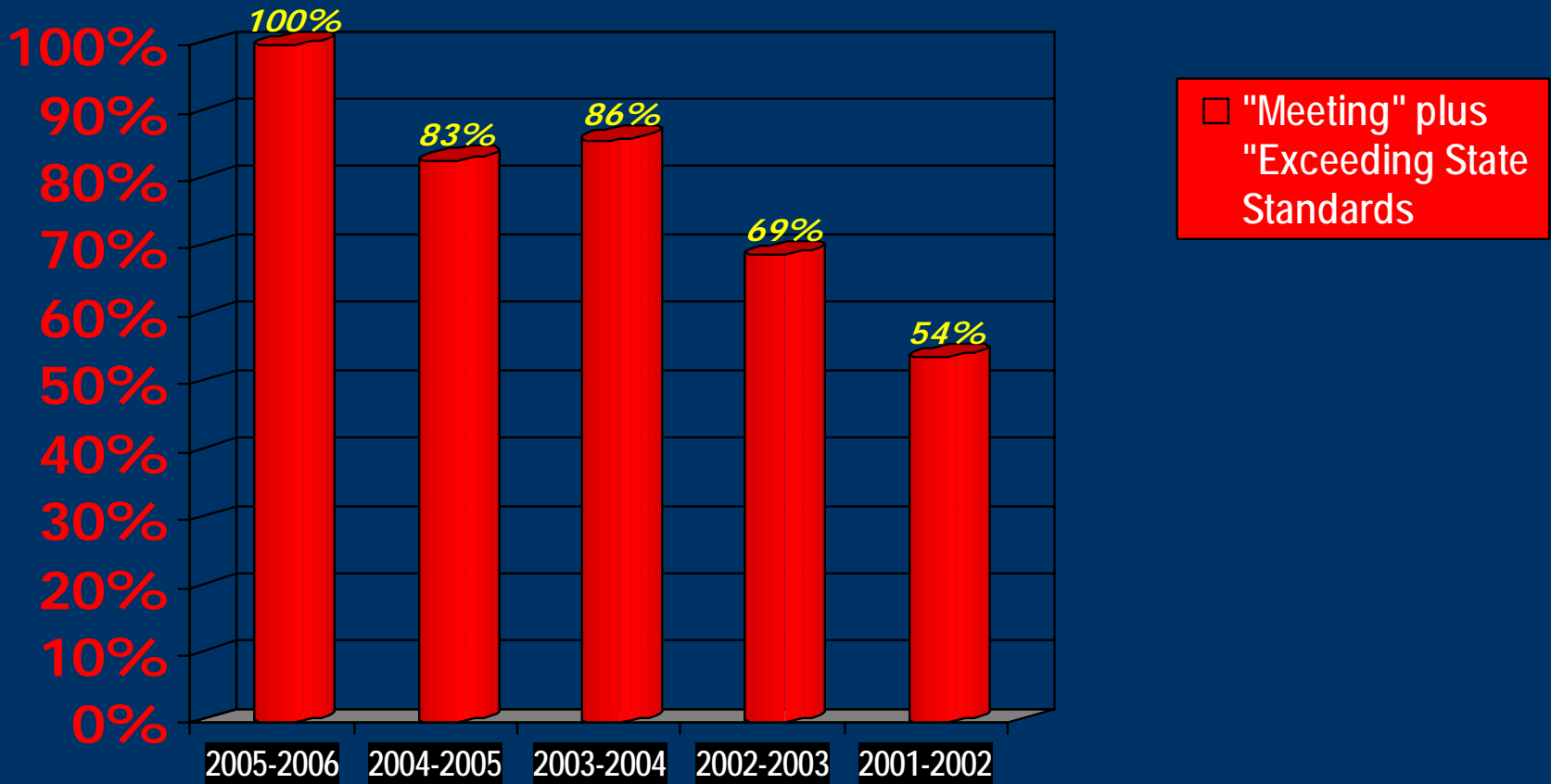




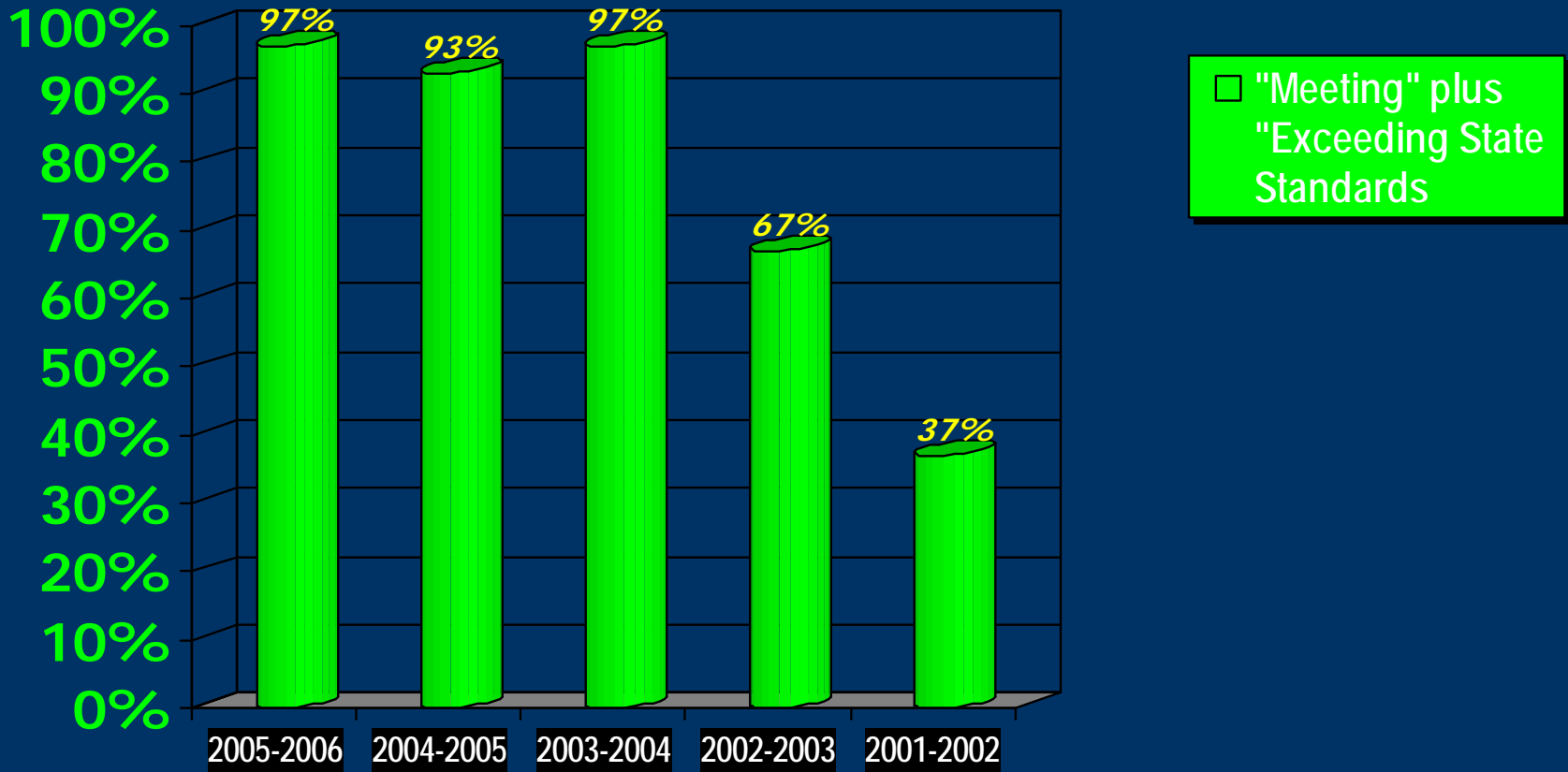
# Grade 3 - Math



# Grade 5 - Reading



# Grade 5 - Math



# School Photos



# Summary Points

- Must make parents a part of the school team
- Make sure that parents understand testing process and feel comfortable working at home with students
- Make sure that ALL parents receive packets
- Keep lines of communication open with parents through weekly newsletters, papers sent home
- Celebrate success!!

## ➤ CHALLENGES STILL AHEAD

Even though we have performed very well in recent years on our state standards, as well as having met national standards, we continue to strive toward exceeding the set standards and improve instruction for our students. As the “bar” rises each year to reach the ultimate goal of 100% success for all students, keeping all of the team players actively involved in the process will be the biggest challenge.