



LAKE WALES' WRITING REPORT 2024-2025



This effectiveness study analyzes student performance data on Literacy Geeks' Common Writing Assessments across three Performance Measures to quantify growth and identify areas of success. The data demonstrates positive overall growth, with over half of all students (57.1%) showing improvement. A significant number of students achieved the highest level of growth, with 29 students improving their score by more than 2 proficiency levels between Progress Monitoring 1 and Progress Monitoring 3.



STUDENTS

756



WRITING GROWTH

Progress Monitoring 2
PM 1 - PM 2

+ 57%

Progress Monitoring 3
PM 2 - PM 3

+ 37%

49.9% of Lake Wales' students grew between Progress Monitoring 1 and Progress Monitoring 3.

ENHANCING WRITING INSTRUCTION AND PROGRESS MONITORING AT LAKE WALES HIGH SCHOOL

For the 2024–2025 school year, Lake Wales High School partnered with Literacy Geeks to enhance writing instruction and monitoring in grades 9 and 10 English Language Arts (ELA). Teachers implemented Literacy Chops as a core tool to support instruction and track essential writing skills in alignment with Florida's writing assessments and the state's broader progress-monitoring requirements, which emphasize multiple assessments throughout the year to inform instruction and document student growth. Over the course of the year, all 756 high school students completed three systematic writing assessments—mirroring the state's emphasis on triannual progress monitoring—and engaged in targeted lessons designed to build competence in argument, expository, and narrative forms of writing. Lake Wales' primary goals were to increase students' confidence as writers and improve overall writing performance, providing timely performance data to both teachers and students that informed instruction, feedback, and ongoing support.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING GROWTH

This table provides a look at the average score gains and the results of the specific cohort analysis.

Metric	Results
Average Growth (Progress Monitoring 1 to 2)	57% .32 points 
Average Growth (Progress Monitoring 1 to 3)	49% .16 points 
Average Growth (Progress Monitoring 2 to 3)	37% .21 points 
Students with Significant Growth	29 2+ Levels



WRITING: A NATIONAL CHALLENGE AND THE LITERACY GEEKS SOLUTION

Writing proficiency remains a significant challenge for students across the United States. National data consistently show that the majority of students perform at basic or below basic levels in writing, even by the end of high school. For example, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reports that only about one-quarter of students demonstrate competent writing ability, leaving three out of four learners struggling to organize ideas, develop arguments, and apply advanced language structures. Research also indicates that writing performance often lags behind other literacy skills, and progress without explicit instruction is limited.

These findings underscore the importance of structured, evidence-based writing instruction. It is not enough for students to simply write more; they need targeted guidance that connects reading and writing, immediate feedback to reinforce learning, and opportunities to practice and revise.

Literacy Geeks addresses these challenges by providing:

- Critical reading instruction that teaches students to read like a writer, deconstructing complex texts to internalize effective structures and rhetorical strategies.
- Real-time writing data and instant feedback, ensuring that students receive actionable guidance the same day they complete an assignment.
- Teacher-facing analytics that allow educators to monitor progress, identify gaps, and tailor instruction to meet each student's needs.
- Direct instruction in writing skills, giving students explicit strategies for planning, drafting, and revising high-quality work.

The impact of this approach is measurable. Early program results show that students achieve rapid growth from initial assessments, with more than half demonstrating positive gains within just the first evaluation cycle. By combining research-backed instruction with immediate feedback and robust data, Literacy Geeks equips students to become not only confident writers but analytical thinkers who can succeed across all academic domains.