The PVAAS scatterplots visually display the relationship between growth and achievement data from the statewide results for SY2013-14.

**Entering Achievement or Vertical Axis:**

- In the PSSA subject areas of Reading and Math, the entering achievement level is represented in Normal Curve Equivalents (NCE units), where an NCE of 50 equals the state average.
- In the PSSA subject area of Science and the Keystone content areas of Algebra I, Literature, and Biology, the entering achievement level is represented in scale score points.
- In the PSSA subject areas of Reading, Math, and Science, the Average Growth Index represents the growth in that grade level and subject area in SY13-14.
- In the three Keystone content areas, the Average Growth Index represents the growth of the students in SY13-14.

**Additional information:**

- **Average Growth Index** – A measure of student progress across the tested grade levels in a school. This index is a value based on the average growth across grade levels and its relationship to the standard error so that comparison among schools is meaningful. It indicates the growth the students have made over time.
- The Average Growth Index is similar to the Consumer Price Index, a common scale used to provide comparisons. If the standard error is not accounted for, users might get a skewed picture of the relative effectiveness of different schools.
- **Average Growth Index (AGI):**
  - If the AGI is equal to or near zero, this means the students met the standard for PA Academic Growth.
  - If the AGI is greater than zero, this means the students exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth. The greater the AGI, the more confident we are that the group of students exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth.
  - If the AGI is less than zero, this means the students did not meet the standard for PA Academic Growth. The further the AGI is below zero, the more confident we are that the group of students did not meet the standard for PA Academic Growth.
- Each dot in the scatterplot represents a school.
Grade 4 Mathematics Statewide

Grade 5 Mathematics Statewide

Grade 6 Mathematics Statewide
Grade 7 Mathematics Statewide

Grade 8 Mathematics Statewide
Grade 5 Reading Statewide

Grade 6 Reading Statewide
Keystone Literature Statewide
Keystone Biology Statewide

[Scatter plot showing correlation between entering achievement and average growth index.]