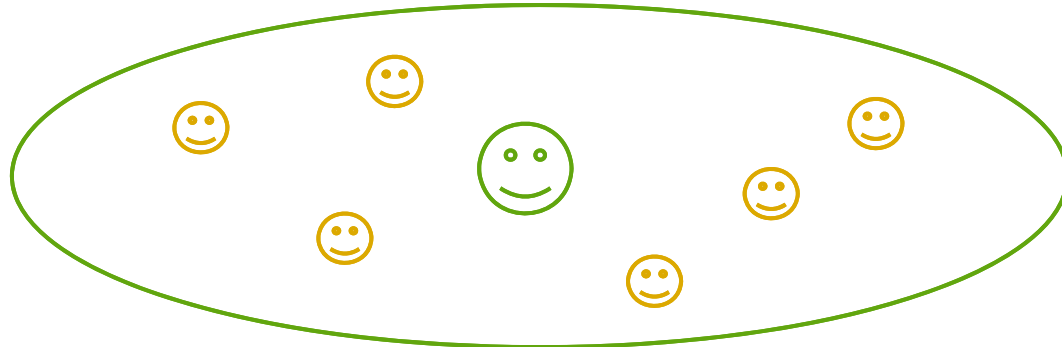# Comparative Growth Methodology

**Step 1:** Sort students into district comparison groups, or cohorts, using previous year test scores.
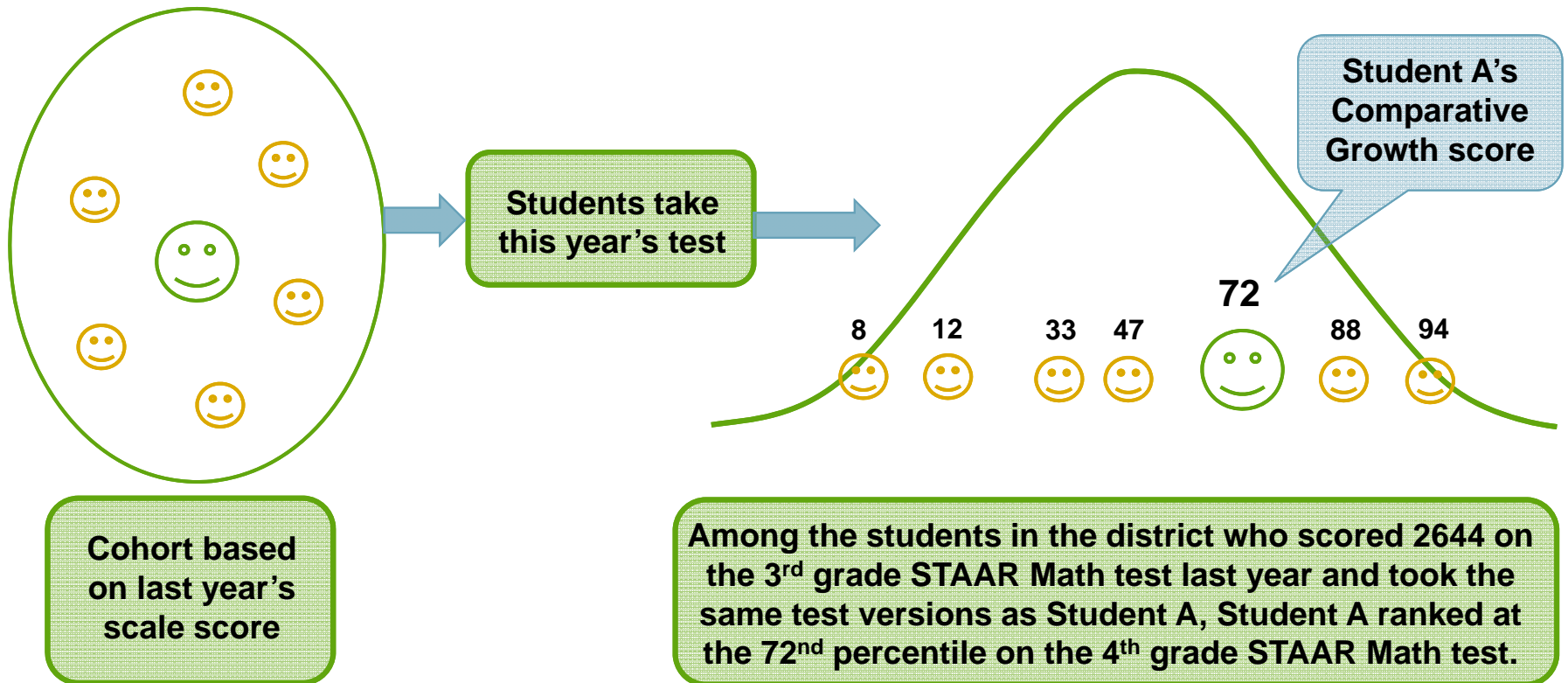
**Example:**

Student A took the STAAR Math test last year as a 3rd grader and this year as a 4th grader. He scored a scale score of 2644 on the 3rd grade STAAR Math test. Below, Student A is represented as a member of his cohort with other students in the district who took the same test both years and scored the same scale score last year.

District-wide cohort based on scale score

# Comparative Growth Methodology

**Step 2:** Percentile rank students' current year test scores within each cohort to determine students' Comparative Growth scores.

Students take this year's test

Cohort based on last year's scale score

Student A's Comparative Growth score

72

8    12    33    47    88    94

Among the students in the district who scored 2644 on the 3rd grade STAAR Math test last year and took the same test versions as Student A, Student A ranked at the 72nd percentile on the 4th grade STAAR Math test.

# Comparative Growth Methodology

**Step 3:** Calculate the median of a teacher's students' Comparative Growth scores to determine the teacher's Comparative Growth score.

☺ = 11
☺ = 19
☺ = 23
☺ = 36
☺ = 47
☺ = 55

☺ = 63
☺ = 67
☺ = 72
☺ = 81
☺ = 93

☺ **55**

**Comparative Growth scores of the students in Student A's math class**

→

**A teacher's Comparative Growth score is calculated by taking the median of his/her students' Comparative Growth scores.**

# Comparative Growth Summary

- Measures the progress of a teacher's students within HISD who start at the same test score level

- Measures growth, not attainment

- Relies on two years of data from assessments

- Identifies teachers' impact on student learning relative to other teachers whose students performed similarly the previous year

- Is straightforward, is currently calculated using the TELPAS, and does not require additional training

- Calculated in house