

Chisago Lakes Area Public Schools
13750 Lake Blvd Lindstrom, MN 55044
Contact: Lolene Borsheim, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
651-213-2005 lborsheim@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us

Re: District 2144 making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in ALL areas of student achievement, for all sites and as a district.

Chisago Lakes Area Public Schools Adequate Yearly Progress Status

The Minnesota Department of Education notified school districts this week that Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) data will be released to the public on September 30, 2011. Chisago Lakes Public Schools is proud to announce that the district is making AYP in all No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Categories. Not only is the district making AYP in all categories, but each individual site is also making adequate yearly progress.

Under current NCLB legislation, school districts have to reach 100% proficiency in each category by the year 2014. As each year progresses closer to 2014, proficiency targets get higher- making it more difficult to reach adequate yearly progress. NCLB categories include the categories of: All students, five ethnic groups, limited-English proficiency, socio-economic status (measured by free-reduced lunch), and special education. Prior to this year, the district and three sites were cited for not making adequate yearly progress in either special education math, special education, free-reduced reading and/or free-reduced math.

Commissioner of Education, Brenda Cassellius, Ed.D., has released a letter to parents explaining the status of AYP in our state. To access her letter, [click here](#).

Chisago Lakes Area Public Schools State Assessment Results

After a delayed release of data due to the government shut down, MDE is announcing the results of the MCA-III Math for students in grades 3-8 (MCA-II for grade 11), MCA-II Reading for students in grades 3-8 and 10, and GRAD Math (grade 11), GRAD Reading (grade 10) and GRAD Writing (grade 9).

Overall, the students enrolled in Chisago Lakes Area Public Schools continue to demonstrate a high level of proficiency, meeting or exceeding grade level expectations in reading and math, and performing above statewide proficiency.

MCA's are the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments and are based on state standards – the math assessment has been revised to meet new standards (with the exception of grade 11) thus MCA-III in Math and MCA-II in Reading. The GRAD (Graduation Required Assessments for Diploma) are required exams for high school graduation and are built into the MCA tests.

The district's 2011 MCA results reflect the performance of students in grades 3-8 and 10 in reading and students in grades 3-8 and 11 in mathematics. Currently –68.82% of students enrolled in our district demonstrate proficiency on the revised math standards compared to the state average of 57.7%. In reading, –82% of students enrolled in Chisago Lakes Area Public Schools are proficient compared to 75% at the State level.

When the state standards change and recalibration of assessments occurs, it resets the benchmarks for reporting. This is the case with the state's MCA-III Math results for students in grades 3-8. The state experienced a 9% decrease in grades 3-8 in proficiency as a result of the new assessment given to students in the spring of 2011. While the district also experienced slight decreases, its relative standing to the state actually increased or stayed the same in all grades. Results in overall special education performance in math exceeded state proficiency rates and increased (despite state decreases) 9% from the year before.

Reading highlights include growth increasing at all grade levels and categories. In some instances, scores were significantly above state proficiency rates. And as a district, Chisago Lakes special education students participating in the MCA II Reading increased proficiency rates by 16% from 36.7% in 2010 to 53% in 2011. State special education proficiency rates in 2011 were 40%. Special education students who took the tenth grade MCAII/GRAD exam went from below state levels in 2010 to significantly exceeding state levels. These students had some of the most significant increases in proficiency in the state from 25% proficient in 2010 to 63.6% in 2011.

Math highlights include a 19% increase in proficiency rates on MCAII grade 11 math assessment. Chisago Lakes High School students increased 19% in proficiency rates on the MCAII Math assessment from 43% proficient in 2010 to 62% proficient in 2011. This rate was significantly above the states increase of 5%.

GRAD RESULTS SUMMARY

The GRAD (Graduation Required Assessments for Diploma) tests are embedded within the MCAIIs and are more rigorous tests required for students to graduate from the local high school. It is important to note that students have multiple opportunities to participate in retakes of these high stake tests.

Grade 10 Reading results show 79% of students across the State in the class of 2014 are diploma eligible. In District 2144, 91.4% of the class of 2014 passed the required test on their first attempt.

In math, 73% of the district's students (graduating in the class of 2013) passed the GRAD Math test (up 14% from last year's results), while 59% of the State passed the test.

Grade 9 Writing results show that 95 % of the class of 2015 District 2144 students are diploma eligible, while 89% of the State's students are eligible.

The State allows for an alternative path for students through the class of 2014 who fail the GRAD Math test. Students who fail the math GRAD can graduate if he/she participates in two re-tests, participates in district-prescribed remediation – as defined by the district – and fulfills all other graduation requirements.

Parents and interested community members are encouraged to visit the Minnesota Department of Education's web site to obtain more information about Statewide Accountability at <http://education.state.mn.us/mde/index.html>

More information about the district's Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement 2010-11 and the district's testing program are available at www.chisagolakes.k12.mn.us