

Westerville City Schools  
Parent Council  
Wednesday, February 16, 2011

*Westerville City School's Board President Remarks*

1) All three high schools were identified by Newsweek magazine as being among the best high schools in the nation. This is the first time in the district's history that each of our high schools appeared on this list at the same time.

2) Excellent with Distinction rating from the state. We met 25 of 26 report card indicators. We barely missed meeting all 26 report card indicators as the percent proficient in eighth-grade science came in at 74.7 percent, which is three-tenths of a percent shy of meeting the state standard of 75 percent.

3) The district also earned a Performance Index score of 100.8, which reflects how well students are performing individually on state tests. A district's Performance Index score increases when more students score at the advanced, accelerated and proficient levels. Our score is up from last year's score of 99.9 and is the highest score achieved by the district since the Performance Index was implemented in 2000-01. Students are passing these tests at levels higher than ever.

4) We've also met federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements for three consecutive years and our Value Added Rating over that same three-year period has been designated as "Above." This means that students have demonstrated academic growth that exceeds growth expectations. Our academic progress appears to be continuing as results from November's Ohio Achievement Assessments indicate that the district's passage rate has increased 12 percent from the fall of 2009 and that 94 percent of our elementary schools also increased their passage rates.

5) Students in the ESL program for the first time ever met the state's three requirements as identified in No Child Left Behind. Requirements for an ESL program are to:

- Make progress toward English proficiency;
- Attain English proficiency; and
- Achieve in academics.

Districts must meet all three criteria annually. If one criterion is missed, none of them counts toward meeting state requirements.

6) Our Special Needs student population achieved 100% passage on the 65 Alternate Assessments completed during the 09-10 school year. Every student scored in the Accelerated or Advanced range.

7) Cost-Per-Pupil Data: Westerville - FY10 \$10,068...FY09 was \$10,426, so we actually decreased our per-pupil costs.

Franklin County - 16 districts

We rank 12 out of the 16 districts in cost per pupil.

The Franklin County average per pupil expenditure is \$12,467.

We spend \$2,399 less per pupil than the county average.

Similar Districts - 21 districts

We rank 14 out of the 21 districts in cost per pupil.

The Similar District average per pupil expenditure is \$10,867.

We spend \$799 less per pupil than the county average.

Report Card Rating Comparison - 34 districts

Ranked area and similar districts by Report Card ratings.

There are 11 districts that were rated Excellent with Distinction.

Only 2 of those 11 districts have lower per pupil expenditures than WCSD:

- Fairfield City \$8,484

- Lakota Local \$9,806

8) Austerity initiatives...we have already logged approximately \$8.5 million in austerity initiatives that are reflected as savings to the district, cost avoidances, or enhancements to the academic opportunities available to our students. Significant initiative over past two years was the realignment of administrative staff to put more support in academics and did so while maintaining a lean staff. According to state data, out of 609 districts in Ohio for which this ratio was calculated, only 20 had more students per administrator than Westerville City Schools.

9) Eastwind facility...consolidation of preschool classes to open up space in elementary schools (10.5 classrooms in seven schools). Consolidation of offices on second floor in order to create appropriate space for alternative education programs (such as EOS, students who want to accelerate education, etc.). Both to be open at start of 2011-12 school year.

10) Earlier start to school year next year. First day for staff will be August 15; first day for students August 17.