

WALKER HACKENSACK AKELEY
PUBLIC SCHOOL
ISD #113

Walker, Minnesota

Annual Report on
Curriculum, Instruction,
& Student Achievement
for 2010-2011

Approved by the:
WHA Public School Board

October 10th, 2011

MISSION OF THE WALKER HACKENSACK AKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Educate, Empower, & Inspire All Students for a Successful Future.

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN GOALS FOR THE WALKER HACKENSACK AKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

1. Reach ALL Students...
 - ...in Reading & Math.
 - ...by Engaging them in their Learning.
 - ...through High Quality Professional Development.
2. Enhance Communication...
 - ...with Parents & the Community.
 - ...with the Staff & the School Board.
 - ...by Establishing Consistent Procedures.
3. Make Meaningful Connections...
 - ...with K-12 Staff.
 - ...with the Community.
4. Enrich the Facilities...
 - ...Safety.
 - ...Technology.
 - ...Building & Grounds.
5. Attain Financial Stability...
 - ...Increase Revenue.
 - ...Prioritize & Decrease Expenditures.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GOALS

Education is the primary goal of the Walker Hackensack Akeley Public School District. Academic achievement of every student at WHA is a fundamental priority in the district. All students in Gr. K-12 are assessed in a variety of ways to demonstrate that learning has occurred. The district specifically focuses on reading, writing, arithmetic, and science when measuring acquisition of basic skills. The NWEA / Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests are used to measure individual student achievement and grade level performance. Results of these academic achievement tests are used to tailor instruction within the classroom setting and for individual Title I, Special Education, & ELL services to students.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR

Each year, a strategic action plan is developed through input from students, parents, support staff, teachers, administration, school board, and community members. The strategic action plan lists specific goals in each of the five district dimensions, including: 1) Reaching all students, 2) Enhancing communication, 3) Making meaningful connections, 4) Enriching the facilities, & 5) Attaining financial stability. District improvement plans this year, include:

WHA PUBLIC SCHOOL Annual Strategic Action Plan 2011-2012

Goal #1: Reach ALL Students

In Reading & Math

Purchase new math textbooks (K-12).
Purchase Read Naturally materials (K-4).
Rotary Reading Challenge 5,000 books (Gr. 2).
Hire 2 Kindergarten paras due to large classes.
Dedicate 3 Title I paras to (Gr. 1-4).
Uninterrupted Reading block in a.m. (K-4).
Consider Math block in a.m. (K-4).
Consider K-2 reading series.
Use Study Island for Reading & Math (Gr. 2-8).
Use NWEA / MAP Tests for Reading & Math (K-10).

By Engaging Them in Their Learning

Weekly Student Assistance Team (SAT) meetings.
Weekly Teacher Assistance Team (TAT) meetings.
Look into Truancy assistance.
Use Moodle to enhance lessons.
Use SmartBoard to enhance lessons.
Look into eBooks vs. Textbooks.
Develop Individual Learning Plan goals (K-6).

Through Quality Professional Development

Weekly teacher Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) [Mondays].
Weekly Administrative PLC responses to teacher PLC time.
Have former Instructional Coach assist with Staff Development Days.
Plan high quality staff development days, including the following topics:
SmartBoard
Moodle
My Big Campus
Google Docs
Crisis Management

Goal #2: Enhance Communication

With Parents & the Community

Monthly PTO meetings.
Regular "School News" column in newspaper.
Feature photos in newspaper.
Periodic radio ads.
Open House / Registration Night.
Instant Alert message reminders.
Instant Alert notifications as needed.
Better Middle School transition communications.

With the Staff & the School Board

Weekly Administrative meetings.
Regular Faculty meetings.
Weekly "Rundown" newsletter for staff.
Weekly Department Head meetings.
Monthly Student Services meetings.
Monthly Auxiliary Team meetings.
Quarterly Staff Development meetings.
Periodic AYP Team meetings.

By Establishing Consistent Procedures

Develop Complaint Resolution procedures.

Goal #3: Make Meaningful Connections

With the K-12 Staff

K-12 Open House / Registration Night.
Monthly Working Together Coalition meetings.
Homecoming Spirit Days (K-12).
Teens Leading the Way / Red Ribbon Week.
Interact Students / Projects.
Pass educational information to next grade level.
Review Peaceful School Bus program.
4 Cornerstones of Responsive Classroom.

With the Community

Veteran's Day Program.
Monthly "Soup with the Supt" (Oct through April).
Rotary representative.
Leech Lake Chamber of Commerce representative.
Hackensack Chamber of Commerce representative.
Akeley Lions representative.
4th of July Parade.
Ethnic Fest Parade.
Monthly LIEC meetings.
Rotate School Board meetings in 4 Communities.
Monthly Cass County Health & Human Services meetings.
Monthly Cass County Leech Lake Children's Initiative meetings.

Goal #4: Enrich the Facilities

Safety

Install additional Security Cameras.
Random drug dog searches.

Technology

Install new server.
Purchase 4 new laser printers.
Purchase Netbooks for Gr. 5 & Gr. 6.
Purchase 6 new computers for Elementary Classrooms.
New computers in Media Lab.
Rotate other PCs to other computer labs.

Building & Grounds

Develop a Records Retention / Destruction policy.
Complete roof project.
Replace 8 damaged VFD Units.
Complete bus loading zone entryway.
Complete commons area sidewalk project.

Goal #5: Attain Financial Stability

Increase Revenue

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables Grant recipient.
Carefully allocate Title I & Title II federal funds.
Surplus property auction.
Possibly re-allocate Alternative Facilities Bond.
Look into Umbrella Booster Club.
Look into selling unused parcels of land.
Re-apply for 21st Century Grant.
Develop an overview of all Fundraisers.
10% of apparel sales to Wolf Pride.
Fund Balance Goal → 2 Mths Operating Expenses.

Decrease & Prioritize Expenditures

Assign PLC Instructional Coaching to K-4 Principal.
Assign ALP Director Responsibilities to 5-12 Principal.
Hire 2 Kindergarten paraprofessionals vs. 3rd section of K.
Volunteer / Donations corner in newspaper & Paw Prints.

PROGRESS OF PREVIOUS IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Last year, the District continued to focus on meeting all federal and state requirements under the "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) law enacted in 2002. The District did not meet all of the academic requirements of NCLB during the 2010-2011 school year by not making adequate yearly progress (AYP) on the state-mandated Reading Tests, specifically in the Elementary School in the Free & Reduced Hot Lunch category, the Special Education category, the White / not of Hispanic Origin category, & the American Indian / Alaskan Native category. In addition, the Elementary School did not make AYP in Math in the Special Education category. The District did, however, make enough progress on the state-mandated Reading Test to move Elementary Reading in the American Indian / Alaskan Native category & in the All Student category to "Safe Harbor" thus meeting AYP in those 2 categories during the 2010-2011 school year. In addition, the District exceeded the 90% attendance rate requirement with a **91.97%** Attendance Rate for All Students in Gr. K-12. The District also exceeded the 85% graduation rate requirement with an **88.41%** Graduation Rate of Senior Students in Gr. 12.

GRAD TESTS / MCA BASIC SKILLS REPORT

Proficiency of Gr. 3-11 for MCA / GRAD Tests according to the MARSS Enrollment & the MDE 2011 AYP Results Report: **449** Students in Gr. 3-11.

MCA / GRAD Test	WHA District Average	Gr. 3 WHA Average	Gr. 4 WHA Average	Gr. 5 WHA Average	Gr. 6 WHA Average	Gr. 7 WHA Average	Gr. 8 WHA Average	Gr. 10 WHA Average	Gr. 11 WHA Average
Math	40.00%	54.09%	50.00%	30.15%	50.94%	37.87%	31.25%	N / A	25.37%
MN State Average	55.96%	70.21%	67.29%	53.15%	49.73%	50.94%	52.56%	N / A	48.00%
Reading	67.63%	73.77%	54.16%	62.12%	74.07%	71.21%	65.30%	79.06%	N / A
MN State Average	74.04%	78.43%	75.06%	78.89%	74.11%	69.17%	67.63%	75.06%	N / A
Science	35.76%	N / A	N / A	28.57%	N / A	N / A	38.29%	43.90%	N / A
MN State Average	48.36%	N / A	N / A	46.48%	N / A	N / A	44.67%	53.93%	N / A

Bold Scores indicate **WHA scored Above State Average**. Clearly, although some classes exceeded state averages, it is evident that the District needs to do something significantly different. Please know that the District will do everything in its power to take corrective action to make sure that the students are achieving academic success in Reading, Math, & Science. Please be prepared for ideas that may seem different to you, but making a difference for your child's success is now called for! The time is now to make a significant difference in the academic lives of our students!

LOCAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The District uses a comprehensive assessment program to measure student performance & achievement. The chart below depicts the ways the District measures student academic performance.

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>Grades Tested</u>	<u>Use of Results</u>
Measures vocational aptitude in various areas of armed services for interested students.	Armed Services Vocational Aptitude (ASVAB)	Gr. 11	For student career planning & career counseling.
Measures verbal & math reasoning abilities of college bound students; compares local results with state averages.	American College Test (ACT)	Gr. 11 & Gr. 12	To determine needs for curriculum modification & upgrading; used for student career planning & counseling and for college admissions.
Measures learning as compared to a state standard as required by NCLB	GRAD Tests	Gr. 9, 10, 11	Graduation requirement in Writing (Gr. 9), Reading (Gr. 10), & Math (Gr. 11).
Measures learning as compared to a state Standard in Writing, Reading, & Math.	MN Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs)	Gr. 3-11 (Math & Rdg)	Accountability for a School District or School.
Measures individual learning.	Measures of Academic Progress (MAP Tests)	Gr. K-10 (Math & Rdg)	Aligned with MCAs to help students master basic skills.

Please see data charts and results of State-Mandated Tests from the Spring of 2011 annual School Report Card as posted on the Minnesota Department of Education website at www.education.state.mn.us .

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Each member of various district advisory committees is appointed or is a volunteer and serves for at least one year. Participants gain membership by applying to or being appointed by the District Superintendent with subsequent School Board approval as needed (except for applicable faculty & staff). The WHA Public School Board and administration, along with teachers and staff, are committed to improving student performance both behaviorally and academically. We cannot do it alone, however, and therefore ask for your cooperative assistance. If at any time, you have questions, concerns, suggestions, or input of any kind, please contact the district office, the high school office, or the elementary school office. By working together, we can accomplish great things for our students!

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