

District Report Card

2001-2002

Spencer County

Russell Holt, Superintendent
207 W Main St
Taylorsville, KY 40071-8619
Phone: (502) 477-3250
Fax: (502) 477-3259
Email: lholt@spencer.k12.ky.us

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This report card provides information about how well our district is doing, where it is succeeding, and where there is room for improvement. While it cannot tell everything about our performance, the report card is a good starting point for discussions with our teachers, administrators, school council members, and school board members. Unless noted, all data is from the 2001-2002 school year; contact information and narratives reflect the most recent school year's activity. For a more detailed examination of our district, please ask to see our Expanded Report Card, which contains a wealth of data and reports detailing district performance and procedures. Each district and school is required by law to provide this information upon request.

About Our District

Spencer County is one of the fastest growing districts in the state. This kind of growth challenges resources while it also provides new and exciting opportunities such as 1.) reconfiguring elementary education to a preschool through 5th grade program; building a new middle school (grades 6-8) designed to meet the needs of our young adolescents; equipping the high school to provide new technological and vocational advancements; attracting and retaining outstanding educators (including three with national board certification).

How Our District Ensures Educational Equity

Spencer County's work to ensure educational equity focuses on eliminating differences in academic performance disaggregated by race, gender, socio-economic status, and special learning populations (students who participate in Special Education Programs, Extended School Services, Title I, or English as a Second Language). Each school analyzes its assessment data to identify unmet needs and find ways to serve all students. Action plans are written at the school level and at the district level to constantly improve services to students and to decrease inequities in their academic performance. The Board of Education reviews the implementation of school and district consolidated plans two times during the year to check on progress. The Board also meets with each school's Site-Based Council once each year to discuss detailed accounts of the school's efforts to improve student learning results. Throughout the year administrators and program managers meet on a regular basis to review and revise the instructional program. This process continuously matches resources and unmet needs as we focus on teaching and learning.

District Enrollment (end of year membership 2001-2002) 2152

How Our Students Perform

Kentucky uses the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) to hold schools accountable for student progress. CATS has three parts: the Kentucky Core Content Tests, the national Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS/5), and other measures of the school's performance, including attendance, retention and dropout rates. Together these three elements make up our schools' CATS Performance Scores for every two-year period.

Kentucky Core Content Tests

These tests measure the ability of our students to use knowledge in each subject. Kentucky's tests rate student performance using four categories: Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, and Distinguished. These categories translate into a scale of 0-140, with 100 being considered proficient. The state goal for all schools is 100 by the year 2014. This chart compares our district's performance, including academic indices and the percent of our students scoring novice, apprentice, proficient and distinguished (P/D), with all the other districts in Kentucky.

KCCT Tests	Novice		Apprentice		Proficient/Distinguished		Academic Index	
	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
Reading (4 th)	15%	15%	27%	25%	58%	60%	82.3	81.9
Science (4 th)	9%	11%	48%	47%	44%	41%	79.6	77.4
Writing (4 th)	19%	19%	61%	56%	20%	25%	59	62.1
Mathematics (5 th)	53%	32%	26%	31%	21%	36%	50.3	66.1
Social studies (5 th)	49%	30%	23%	27%	28%	44%	54.5	71.1
Arts & Humanities (5 th)	48%	39%	41%	47%	11%	15%	43.1	49.3
PL/VS (5 th)	28%	20%	36%	32%	36%	49%	62.8	73.8

The goal is that by 2014 nearly all students will score proficient or distinguished

KCCT Tests	Novice		Apprentice		Proficient/Distinguished		Academic Index	
	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
Reading (7 th)	15%	12%	36%	32%	48%	56%	75.2	81.4
Science (7 th)	23%	28%	40%	39%	36%	33%	70.1	67.4
Writing (7 th)	58%	42%	30%	45%	13%	14%	39	46.3
Mathematics (8 th)	33%	32%	47%	42%	20%	26%	55.1	61.3
Social Studies (8 th)	26%	23%	52%	45%	21%	32%	61.3	67.7
Arts & Humanities (8 th)	28%	27%	35%	34%	37%	38%	62	64.3
PL/VS (8 th)	27%	21%	45%	43%	28%	36%	59.8	67.6

The goal is that by 2014 nearly all students will score proficient or distinguished.

KCCT Tests	Novice		Apprentice		Proficient/Distinguished		Academic Index	
	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
Reading (10 th)	17%	19%	65%	52%	18%	29%	61.1	67.8
PL/VS (10 th)	21%	21%	37%	30%	42%	48%	70.2	72.8
Mathematics (11 th)	35%	37%	37%	33%	28%	30%	62.6	62.3
Science (11 th)	23%	27%	49%	42%	28%	31%	63.3	64.5
Social Studies (11 th)	15%	21%	63%	49%	23%	30%	64.5	68.2
Arts & Humanities (11 th)	27%	30%	50%	39%	24%	31%	59.1	62.6
Writing (12 th)	8%	23%	50%	52%	43%	25%	75.5	60.2

The goal is that by 2014 nearly all students will score proficient or distinguished.

National Norm Referenced Test

The national norm referenced test used in Kentucky, the CTBS/5, measures the basic skills of our students while allowing us to compare their performance with national benchmarks established in 1996. These scores are reported in percentiles. A percentile shows the percentage of students who fell below a particular score on the test. For example, a percentile of 60 would show that the average student in our school scored equal to or better than 60 percent of all students who took the test. Data in this table is consistent with the accountability data publicly released in September 2002.

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
End of Primary (EOP) Reading	54%ile	59%ile	50%ile
EOP Language Arts	49%ile	57%ile	50%ile
EOP Mathematics	63%ile	59%ile	50%ile

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
6 th Grade Reading	49%ile	54%ile	50%ile
6 th Grade Language Arts	46%ile	51%ile	50%ile
6 th Grade Mathematics	37%ile	52%ile	50%ile

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
9 th Grade Reading	54%ile	53%ile	50%ile
9 th Grade Language Arts	46%ile	49%ile	50%ile
9 th Grade Mathematics	51%ile	48%ile	50%ile

Other Measures

Other measures of district performance are the degree to which our district succeeds in getting students to come to school, our dropout rate, and the degree to which our graduates successfully move on to higher education or jobs. Another measure is the retention rate, which reflects the percent of students who were not academically ready to go on to the next grade and had to repeat the content of a grade for another year. These data reflect our performance during the 2000-2001 school year.

Transition to Adult Life

	Attendance Rate	Retention Rate	Dropout Rate	College	Military	Work	Voc/Tech Training	Work & Part-Time School	Not Successful
District	94.4%	6.3%	2.2%	48.9%	0%	26.7%	3.3%	5.6%	15.6%
State	94.2%	3.7%	3.2%	54%	2.9%	27%	5%	6.1%	4.9%

State Contest Results: Academic/Speech, Band, Chorus, and Orchestra

The high school Future Farmers of America chapter is proud of first place ratings for the Dairy Judging and Tobacco Grading teams. The high school concert band was given a Distinguished rating at Fort Knox and pronounced Grand Champion in St. Louis, Missouri. Two students were selected for All-State Band.

The middle school band received 10 Distinguished awards at the KMEA All-State Concert Band Festival. Several 5th graders qualified for the 2002 All-State Children's Chorus and four 7th and 8th graders qualified for Junior High All-State Chorus.

Two students won the right to compete at nationals in the National History Day Competition.

Teacher Qualifications

This chart shows the level of content preparation, continuing education, and classroom experience of our teachers. These numbers do not include our administrators, guidance counselors, or library media specialists. The top row presents information on the certification of our teachers, while the second row presents additional information on the extent of their formal preparation to teach specific content. A teacher may be fully certified and yet not possess a formal major or minor in the subject they are teaching. The third row reflects the continuing efforts of our teachers to increase their mastery of the content areas they teach. The bottom two rows present further information about the extent of preparation and years of teacher experience. Upon request, our district will provide information about the qualifications of your child's teachers and teachers' aides.

	Dist.	State
% of Classes Taught by Teachers Certified for Subject and Grade Level	92%	NA
% of Classes Taught by Teachers with a Major, Minor, or the Equivalent in the Subject Being Taught	92%	NA
% of Classes Taught by Teachers Who Participated in Content-Focused Professional Development	100%	NA
% of Teachers with a Masters Degree or Greater or the Equivalent	81%	77%
Average Years of Teaching Experience	11	12

Our Learning Environment

School Safety

The information on school safety is intended to illustrate the policies and procedures we have in place to make our schools as safe as possible for our students and staff.

	Yes	No
Visitors are Required to Sign in	X	
All Parents received the District Discipline Code	X	
% of Classrooms with Telephone Access to Outside Lines		100%

Procedures in Place in Our District for Drug and Weapons Detection

The district's Code of Conduct is updated yearly and enforced uniformly across the district. Each student's family receives a revised copy of this document in August so that all understand the expectations for student conduct. The district continues to encourage a proactive approach to safety in the schools by supporting Second Step in the elementary school and Champs in the middle school. These programs teach social skills and develop in students a sense of responsibility for their own actions. The local sheriff's office works in close cooperation with both the middle and high schools as well as the alternative program.

Violation	Number of Reported Incidents	Number of Students Suspended or Expelled for This	Number of Students Transferred to Alternative Placement for This
Aggravated Assault (with intent to cause injury)	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	21	27	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0

Student Resources

	Spending per Student	Student Teacher Ratio	Student/Computer Ratio	% of Classrooms with at Least One KETS Workstation With Internet Access
District	6136	17:1	6:1	100
State	6846	15:1	5:1	99

How We Use Technology to Teach

Students use technology within their classrooms, in school libraries, and in school computer labs. Computers are used to teach, to research, to develop

class lessons and keep student records, to perform experiments, to communicate through email, and to support development of writing skills. Students with disabilities are assisted by a wide variety of adaptive technology tools. Teachers and students alike use laptops, digital cameras, smartboards and video projectors to produce work and make presentations.

Parental Involvement

	# of Students Whose Parent/Guardian Had at Least One Teacher Conference	# of Parents/ Guardians Voting in School council (SBDM) Elections	# of Parents/Guardians Serving on the School Council (SBDM) or Its Committees	# of Volunteer Hours
Our District	1598	71	16	14697

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities include Extended School Services, academic teams, dance team, basketball, softball, soccer, tennis, golf, cross country, student councils, cheerleading, DARE, National History Day competition, science fairs, intramurals, National Honor Society, FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, the Community Learning Ceter, Young Authors, and many other opportunities in all three schools. The district understands the research that shows student participation in extracurricular activites is a necessary component of school life for students if we want them to graduate and become successful members of their community.

Awards and Recognition

The middle school won a \$10,000 Toyota Tapestry Grant to study water quality. Students advanced to the national level in National History Day competition. The 7th and 8th grade boys basketball team won the 8th Region Class A Tournament. One student was accepted into the Governor's Scholars program and two others participated in the Governor's School for the Arts. Many students excelled in state chorus and band competitions.

What We Are Doing To Improve

The district maintained a focus on math and language literacy. Our schools are expected to incorporate core content in all subject areas and to plan professional development that supports continued development of educators' skills.

In August, 2001, the district began an alternative education program to serve students grades 6-12 who otherwise might have dropped out of school.

We remain focused on creating the best possible environment for learning for all students. Our next step will be to explore instructional models focused on research-based best practices to incorporate into our schools.

How to Get More Information

Call, e-mail, fax or write to our superintendent at the number and address on the top of this District Report Card. You may contact your School Board members at the numbers below. Visit our central office and ask for the Expanded District Report Card that contains a variety of information including Kentucky Core Content Test data and CTBS/5 national norm referenced test data disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, disability and other criteria. This disaggregated data is available to you at no cost. The remainder of the Expanded District Report Card may be free or provided at cost of copying.

Member's Name	Phone	Member's Name	Phone
Diane Black	(502) 477-5514		
Mary Ann Carden	(502) 477-6428		
Vicki Goodlett	(502) 738-5318		
Judy Miller	(502) 477-5820		
Jimmy Stewart	(502) 477-2755		

Our district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability in employment or provision of services.