Commonwealth Accountability Testing System

District Report Card

2000-2001

Rockcastle County

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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 2000-2001 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

Rockcastle County Schools develop students who have the knowledge and basic life skills to lead productive, fulfilling lives. Our district has been influenced by our participation with Effective Schools, The Southern Regional Education Board, The National Alliance for Restructuring Education, The Appalachian Rural Systemic Initiative and The Kentucky Leadership Academy. We have aggressively pursued academic partnerships with institutions of higher education including Berea College, Eastern Kentucky University, Somerset Community College and The University of Kentucky. We create a safe and positive educational environment that requires a well-defined curriculum, appropriate facilities and a total commitment from school personnel, students, parents and community.

How Our District Ensures Educational Equity

High expectations are established for all students. Schools work hard to provide high quality instruction and give individual support to students when necessary. We continuously use data on student achievement to revise school and classroom practices to advance student learning and to recognize students who meet both curriculum and performance goals. Resources are available for extended school supplemental instruction. For students at the middle and high school level, who do not perform well in a regular classroom setting, we have the Rockcastle Alternative School. Sufficient professional guidance is provided based on the belief that all students matter and all students need a long-term personal relationship with an adult, at the school level, who takes an interest in his/her academic success.

District Enrollment (end of year membership 2000-2001)2880

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 (4th)	7%	16%	25%	26%	69%	58%	89.6	80.7
Science (4th)	2%	12%	40%	47%	58%	41%	91.5	77
Writing (4th)	9%	24%	39%	52%	52%	24%	77.8	58.7
Mathematics (5th)	27%	35%	42%	31%	31%	34%	66.6	64
Social studies (5th)	24%	12%	27%	27%	49%	41%	76.6	68.5
Arts & Humanities (5th)	29%	49%	53%	44%	18%	12%	55.1	44.6
PL/VS (5th)	14%	22%	29%	32%	57%	46%	82	72.1

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 (7th)	8%	13%	36%	33%	56%	54%	82.6	80.5
Science (7th)	17%	31%	43%	39%	40%	30%	74.2	64.5
Writing (7th)	6%	46%	60%	42%	34%	12%	71.6	43.5
Mathematics (8th)	18%	32%	39%	40%	43%	28%	75.2	62.4
Social Studies (8th)	14%	24%	40%	43%	46%	33%	77	67.3
Arts & Humanities (8th)	14%	27%	27%	35%	59%	38%	81.8	64.2
PL/VS (8th)	16%	23%	35%	40%	49%	37%	78.9	63.4

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 (10th)	14%	18%	61%	53%	25%	29%	68	68.9
PL/VS (10th)	18%	20%	17%	31%	45%	49%	73	71.6
Mathematics (11th)	37%	38%	38%	33%	25%	29%	59.9	60.1
Science (11th)	26%	29%	49%	43%	25%	29%	63.2	63.1
Social Studies (11th)	19%	23%	60%	51%	21%	27%	62.2	64.8
Arts & Humanities (11th)	44%	35%	34%	39%	22%	26%	51	56.8
Writing (12th)	22%	23%	52%	53%	25%	23%	61.1	59

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 on October 2, 2001.

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
End of Primary (EOP) Reading	74%ile	58%ile	50%ile
EOP Language Arts	72%ile	55%ile	50%ile
EOP Mathematics	73%ile	58%ile	50%ile

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
6th Grade Reading	61%ile	54%ile	50%ile
6th Grade Language Arts	54%ile	51%ile	50%ile
6th Grade Mathematics	51%ile	51%ile	50%ile

National Norm Referenced Test (CTBS/5)	District	State	Nation
9th Grade Reading	47%ile	53%ile	50%ile
9th Grade Language Arts	40%ile	49%ile	50%ile
9th Grade Mathematics	39%ile	49%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 1999-2000 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	95%	3.4%	3.4%	48.4%	0.6%	37.9%	8.2%	0%	4.3%
State	94.2%	4%	3.4%	53.2%	2.7%	28.7%	4.6%	0.2%	4.7%

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

Academic Team State Contest Future Problem Solving Team - Regional Contestant 1 student; 8 students were selected for 2000-2001 District Middle School Band; United States Achievement Academy All-American Scholars - 46 students; National Honors in Government - 25 students; National English Merit Award - 24 students; Kentucky Youth Assembly Governor, Senate President and Outstanding Speaker;

Chorus: Solo - 1 Proficient, 1 Distinguished, Small Ensemble - Distinguished, Mixed Chorus - Apprentice, Beginning Chorus - Proficient;

Band: Small Ensemble - 3 Distinguished, Solos - 2 Distinguished, Large Ensemble - Proficient ;

Future Farmers of America Speaking Contest: 1 State Winner;

Regional Results: 2 Excellent Rating, 2 Superior Rating;

1 Superior 3rd Place Rating, 1 Excellent 2nd Place Rating;

1 Superior 2nd Place Rating, 5 Superior 1st Place Rating;

14 HSTW Award of Educational Achievement in Reading, Science and Math

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 they teach. The bottom two rows present further information about the extent of preparation and years of teacher experience.

	Dist.	State
% of Classes Taught by Teachers Certified for Subject and Grade Level	100%	NA
% of Classes Taught by Teachers with a Major, Minor, or the Equivalent in the Subject Being Taught	100%	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	72%	77%
Average Years of Teaching Experience	15	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 Rockcastle County Board of Education has implemented the following procedures for drug and weapons detection: 1) drug testing for all athletes at the beginning of their sport season with random testing throughout the season, 2) random visits by Interquest Detection Canines to provide detection of drugs, alcoholic beverages, firearms, ammunition, prescription and over-the-counter medication, 3) the use of hand-held metal scanners at the middle, high and alternative levels, and 4) security cameras at the three largest schools.

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	16	15	5
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	6321	15:1	5:1	100
State	6601	18:1	5:1	99

How We Use Technology to Teach

Rockcastle County Schools students and staff are fortunate to have access to current technologies which provide them with the skills necessary for today's technological world. We have at least one computer lab in every school as well as Internet connected workstations in every classroom. Schools have access to SMART boards, projectors, digital cameras, scanners and other equipment to enhance instruction and student work. We feel a conscious effort on the part of the teacher to integrate technology into instruction will result in an unconscious effort of student technology use in the future. A major focus is to provide support and direct professional development during the school day for staff through the use of a technology resource teacher. This resource teacher can provide new ideas and training for use of the hardware and software that is available at that school.

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	2351	76	52	7300

Extracurricular Activities

Academic Team, Athletic, Band and Chorus Booster Clubs, Art Club, Band, Berea College Educational Talent Search, Partners in Education and Upward Bound, Beta Club, Builder's Club, Chess Club, Chorus, Creative Writing, East Kentucky Leadership Network Youth Program, Extended School Services, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, 4-H, French Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Future Homemakers of America, Future Farmers of America, GEAR-UP, Junior ROTC, Health Occupations Students of America, Key Club, Library Club, Math Counts, Math Club, National Honor Society, Rockcastle Incentive Scholarship Trust, School Newspaper, Soldiers of Christ, Spanish National Honor Society, Student Council, Student Technology Leadership Program, Teen Leadership Council, Video Club, Vocational Clubs of America, Work Based Enterprises, "Y" Club

Awards and Recognition

All schools received awards for student performance on CATS for Cycle IV. Selected to be a "Making Schools Work" site, Recipient of "Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs"(GEAR-UP), National Title I Distinguished School Award, Recipient of two US Department of Education grants - "21st Century Community Learning Center", Recognized by the President's Committee for Arts and Humanities, Profiled nationally by "Partners in Arts Education", Awarded a PRIME grant, Board member is a director of Kentucky School Board Association, Associated Press High School Football Coach of the Year, Charter member of Tech/Prep National Student Registry, Innovative ESS grant recipient, Kentucky YMCA Youth Association Excellence Award, Model middle school site for University of Texas grant; Kentucky Track and Cross Country Coach's Association Girls' Track and Field Coach of the Year.

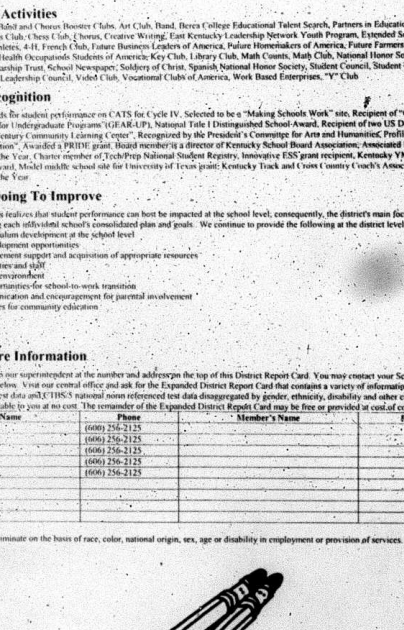
What We Are Doing To Improve

Rockcastle County Schools realizes that student performance can not be impacted at the school level; consequently, the district's main focus for student improvement is supporting each individual school's consolidated plan and goals. We continue to provide the following at the district level:

- Support for curriculum development at the school level
- Quality staff development opportunities
- Classroom management support and acquisition of appropriate resources
- Exceptional facilities and staff
- A safe, nurturing environment
- Support and opportunities for school-to-work transition
- Improved communication and encouragement for parental involvement
- More opportunities for community education

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
Michael Burdette	(606) 256-2125		
Terry F. Burton	(606) 256-2125		
George W. Griffith	(606) 256-2125		
Samuel T. Stallsworth	(606) 256-2125		
Marsh E. Vanzant	(606) 256-2125		

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