

Focused Measures of the Geneseo CUSD 228 Educational Experience

- 95% of the kindergarten students who completed our preschool program are ready for the first day of school.¹ This number is possible in part by the Board's and community's continued commitment to provide our pre-school program financial support in the absence of the Preschool For All (PFA) grant.
- 86% of our third grade students are reading at grade-level based on Lexile scores.² This number will increase due to the following factors: improvements in our reading program and the reading interventions for students not meeting expectations.
- 29% of our fifth grade students meet or exceed Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) standards in Math.³ This percentage will increase due to our revision of the Math program to directly align to the Illinois Learning Standards, our focus on scope and sequence through a curriculum review, and a new Math intervention program (Reflex: Math Fact Fluency).
- 100% of eighth grade students complete a postsecondary college and career exploratory project, researching future career aspirations based on strengths and interests, preparing them for a potential College & Career Pathway Endorsement on their high school diploma.
- 99% of our ninth grade students are on track to graduate.⁴ This percentage will be maintained as a result of our freshman orientation program, our Strategies for Academic Success (SAS) program, and the interventions we implement for students who have any failing grades.
- X% of our students are college and career ready as evidenced by the new high school requirement that students pass the local junior college Math readiness assessment.⁵ Any student who does not pass the assessment is required to take a non-college credit remedial course in the subject they did not successfully complete. It is our school district's desire that all students will be able to take college-level Math for college credit after they complete high school, even if they choose not to do so.
- 12% of our teachers are National Board Certified.⁶ This is an increase of 10% from five years ago and is a result of the Board's financial commitment to, belief in, and support of the certification.
- The district has remodeled all main entrances to the schools, making them secured entrances, to increase the safety of students and staff. The district partners with the Geneseo Police Department to employ a School Resource Officer (SRO).
- 40% of our Juniors met or exceeded on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) in English and Language Arts (ELA) [37% state average]; 36% of our Juniors met or exceeded on the SAT in Math [34% state average].⁷ The 2018-2019 school year was the third year the state of Illinois required all Juniors to take the SAT. This percentage will increase with continued professional development for staff, continued student support through Khan Academy, and familiarity with the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) by our Freshman and Sophomores.
- Regarding financial stewardship, Geneseo CUSD 228 spends 25% below the average of other school districts in Rock Island and Henry counties on instructional costs per pupil.⁸ In fact, we are the lowest per pupil rate in either county. This percentage needs further examination and reflection with regards to local capacity, adequacy, and educational performance outcomes.

Glossary of Terms

Preschool For All (PFA) - Preschool for All is Illinois' promise that all three- and four-year-olds can engage in the early learning experiences they need to succeed in school and in life. Preschool for All is a high quality program that brings together qualified staff, a proven curriculum and parent involvement to help prepare children for success in school. There is no cost to parents for part day Preschool for All or Head Start programs.

Lexile - A Lexile measure is defined as "the numeric representation of an individual's reading ability or a text's readability (or difficulty), followed by an "L" (Lexile)".

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) - The Illinois Assessment of Readiness is a federally required measure of student mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3 through 8 -- as well as their readiness for what's next.

Illinois Learning Standards - The Illinois Learning Standards establish expectations for what all students should know and be able to do in each subject at each grade. The standards emphasize depth over breadth, building upon key concepts as students advance. The standards promote student-driven learning and the application of knowledge to real world situations to help students develop deep conceptual understanding. Intentionally rigorous, the Illinois Learning Standards prepare students for the challenges of college and career.

Strategies for Academic Success (SAS) – Interventions designed to provide researched-based supports to students' deficit skill areas in reading, math and executive functioning skills.

National Board Certified – National Board Certification is an advanced, voluntary teaching credential that identifies teachers who have met the high and rigorous standards of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). It was designed to develop, retain, and recognize accomplished teachers and to generate ongoing improvement in schools across the nation.

Scholastic Aptitude Test – a set of standardized college admissions tests developed by the College Board, the principal one measuring mathematical and verbal reasoning, and others measuring knowledge in specific subject areas.

Khan Academy - Khan Academy is a non-profit educational organization created in 2008 by Salman Khan with the goal of creating a set of online tools that help educate students. The College Board professes that students who used its free online practice course through Khan Academy for as little as six to eight hours gained 90 points on average between their PSAT and SAT scores.

Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) - an observational tool designed to help teachers, administrators, families and policymakers better understand the developmental readiness of children entering kindergarten.

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) - The Illinois State Board of Education administers public education in the state of Illinois. The State Board consists of nine members who are appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate.

Instructional Spending Per Pupil - Instructional Spending Per Pupil includes only the activities directly dealing with the teaching of students or the interaction between teachers and students.

Footnotes

1. This figure comes from the Board report Northside Elementary principal Alex Kashner gave in 2019 and reflects 2017-2018 data. This figure is impressive when compared to our cumulative Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) assessment data. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) cautions against viewing KIDS data as a reflection on a district since you cannot control the readiness of those students who do not attend your preschool program.
2. This score represents the percentage of students from our Spring 2019 MAP assessment who were at or above the College and Career Readiness Lexile range according to MetaMetrics. (151/176 students)
3. This score comes from our 2018-2019 IAR results. (52/181 students)
4. This data comes from the IL Report Card (2017-2018). Students identified as “on track” have earned at least five full-year course credits (10 semester credits) and have earned no more than one semester “F” in a core course (English, math, science, or social science).
5. This course (Transition Math) will be offered for the very first time during the 2019-2020 school year at GHS. Data will be collected and reviewed after its completion.
6. We have 21 teachers (21/169) who are currently NBC, with another 17 who have begun the process. Twenty one is one of the highest totals for a district in the state of Illinois. As of 12/16/17, we only had four NBCTs.
7. This data comes from our 2018-2019 SAT results. For ELA, (78/194) students, and for Math, (66/194) students.
8. The district spends \$4,098 per pupil on instructional costs compared to the regional average of \$5,483 per pupil. The district spends \$10,154 per pupil on operational costs compared to the regional average of \$10,305. Operational Spending Per Pupil includes all costs associated with a district's operating costs over the regular school year, such as transportation, building maintenance, salaries, etc. These figures represent data from the FY19 budget. The amount of money a district spends on each student is often greatly dependent upon the local tax base. Therefore, it is important to understand how this money is allocated to various school supports, such as transportation, teaching staff, student resources, school personnel resources, and other functions.

*Replaces Board Policies 1:35, 1:35-1 (Statement of Academic Targets), and 1:36

ADOPTED BY BOARD ACTION 09/12/2019