A Message from Superintendent
Dr. Doug Van Zyl

The 2014-15 school year was a good one for our students and staff and looks to provide momentum for 2015-16 to be an outstanding year at the FDCSD as well! Our students and staff achieved many successes that our schools and our community can be very proud of. We continue to focus on providing quality learning experiences and building relationships with our students so they can learn, grow and excel into productive citizens ready for their futures.

In the pages that follow, you will see that our focus on student learning has led to improved student achievement scores. Our students and staff have worked hard for these academic gains, and we are proud of their continued growth and improvement. Our new K-8 math curriculum and elementary reading program are making a difference for our kids. We will continue to monitor our progress, utilize our data and make adjustments like these to our curriculum in order to provide our students with the best educational experience possible.

We are excited to begin our work with instructional coaches, funded through the Teacher Leadership and Compensation grant this year. These new positions should lead to even greater benefits when it comes to quality of learning and educational growth for both our students and staff. We are anxious to see how our staff is able to utilize their own learning to the benefit of our students. The additional guidance and support for our teaching staff has huge potential impact on the success of our students and their learning.

In addition to our academics, it is important for us to develop our students into people of strong moral character. We will continue to emphasize the messages of Character Counts, PBIS and Rachel’s Challenge. We are not only proud of the academic success our students achieve, but also of the people we help them become.

As you can see, as a school district and community we have a lot to be proud of. We know these accomplishments will continue into our current school year and look forward to sharing more successes with you.

Our Schools. Our Community.
Our Pride.
Mission
The mission of the Fort Dodge Community School District is to provide quality learning experiences and build relationships that develop productive citizens ready for their futures.

Vision
The Fort Dodge Community School District is an innovative school community that exceeds expectations, builds meaningful relationships and creates the foundation for all learners to excel.

Core Beliefs
Respect: Acknowledging the worth of someone or something; while showing appreciation of and regard for the differences in viewpoints, personalities and perspectives of others.

Integrity: Quality of being honest, having and acting on strong moral principles to help establish the complete person, our behavior matches our words and values.

Excellence: Striving for perfection through continuous growth, having quality in everything we do.

Empathy: Actively recognize, validate and connect ourselves to the feelings and experiences of others.

Goals
1. All students will perform at or above grade level.
2. Achievement gaps among all students groups will be eliminated.
3. All students will graduate ready for college, career and life in a globally competitive economy.
4. All schools will meet or exceed state accountability standards, and the district will meet federal standards and exceed state standards.
5. Every child feels he/she has a safe, meaningful relationship with an adult in the school system who they can go to for guidance and support.
Points of P.R.I.D.E

Four FDSH students attended FCCLA State Leadership Rally.

Four FDSH students were selected to Opus Honor Choir.

Eight FDSH students were selected to All-State Music Festival.

Thirteen FDMS students were selected to NCIBA Honor Band.

FDSH Leadership Club hosted a Movie Night to benefit Toys for Tots.

Eighteen FDSH students were chosen for NCIBA Honor Band.

FDSH A Capella Choir was 1st Runner-up at choral competition and received an award for Best Alto section.

FDMS 6th grade students participated in Honor Choir Festival.

Nine FDSH Large Group Speech Groups advanced to State.

Teachers and Students at Butler Elementary cut their hair for charity.

FDSH Speech Team advanced 24 Acts to State Competition.

Three FDMS students participated in the History Day Competition.

Thirty-nine FDSH students were inducted into National Honor Society.

One FDSH Speech Team was selected for All State Festival.

Fifty FDSH musicians performed solos and small group ensembles in band, choir, orchestra and piano at the State Solo/Ensemble Festival. FDSH musicians received 12 Division 1 (superior) ratings, 28 Division II (excellent) ratings and nine Division III (good) ratings.

Twenty-five FDSH students competed in the State SkillsUSA competition bringing home 15 medals: 11 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze.
We demonstrate...

Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence

FCCLA had 3 STAR events at the State Leadership Rally this year with 2 STAR events receiving a gold and qualified for nations and 1 STAR event receiving a silver.

Students and Staff in the FDCSD raised over $9,300 through the FDCS Foundation’s “Miles of Pennies” campaign.

Forty-one eighth graders received the Presidential Academic Excellence Award for outstanding academic achievement.

FDSH introduced one of the first high school Makerspaces in Iowa. The space is equipped with technology ranging from cameras and a green screen to 3D scanners and printers to embroidery machines to stimulate creativity and STEM learning.

Second graders at Cooper Elementary raised money to purchase over 100 books for preschoolers at Riverside Early Learning Center as a Joy of Reading service project.

FDSH students earned 2547 credits from ICCC during the 14-15 school year getting an early and free start on their college education.

Students at Riverside Early Learning Center performed 1659 acts of kindness as part of Rachel’s Challenge.

FDSH introduced the Link Crew, a freshmen mentoring program where upper classmen are assigned to freshmen Dodger Time groups to serve as mentors, helping ease the transition to high school.

The Duncombe Elementary Morning Fitness Club logged over 1300 miles this year, all before 8:10 a.m. helping students stay active and healthy.

Fort Dodge Middle School received a GearUp grant which follows 7th graders through high school and will target money toward making it easier for these students to access post-secondary education.

Eleven FDSH students qualified for the National Skills USA competition in architectural drafting, automated manufacturing, welding fabrication, culinary arts, carpentry, sheet metal and medical terminology. Our students finished 22nd in the nation in architectural drafting and carpentry, 18th in welding fabrication and 9th in medical terminology.

Number Talks at the elementary level greatly increased students’ number sense and mental math skills.

FDSH crowned several state champions this year in bowling team, wrestling, track and tennis.

Riverside ELC’s first ever Family Fun Night raised over $4000 for technology needs for the school.

FDMS and Mr. Newman, 8th grade science teacher, received a Governor’s Grant on STEM to increase interest in science, technology, engineering and math. The school made a $30K upgrade to computer labs to prepare for this grant.
We demonstrate...

Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence

Feelhaver Elementary received a State PBIS “Banner Plus Award” for continued efforts to implement and honor the 4 B’s; Be Kind. Be Respectful. Be responsible. Be Safe.

The percentage of 2nd graders around the district proficient in math and reading on the Iowa Assessments increased over the previous year.

Students at all grade levels participated in various community service projects showing how red and black give back to our community.

One third of 4th graders at Cooper Elementary scored in the advanced range on the Iowa Assessments in reading.

Students at Butler and Duncombe participated in field trips which provided life experiences for the kids which will enhance their learning. Parent Nights were also held at these two schools to connect with and engage parents in the educational process. All of this was possible due to the District receiving a K-3 Innovation Grant.

FDSH First Tech Challenge Robotics Club qualified for the state competition and hosted its first tournament here in Fort Dodge this year.

Elementary staff worked to implement Jan Richardson Small Group Guided Reading with tremendous results including many preschool and TK students reading above level.

Feelhaver’s Booster Club purchased 30 Chromebooks with a charging cart to provide additional opportunities for students to work with technology.
## Central Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Doug Van Zyl</td>
<td>Superintendent of Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Hughes</td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent for Personnel &amp; Administrative Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Cole</td>
<td>Director of Educational Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travis Filloon</td>
<td>Director of Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Hansel</td>
<td>Director of Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcy Harms</td>
<td>Director of Student Services, ELL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Janssen</td>
<td>Director of Food Services, Taher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Lane</td>
<td>Director of Communications and Community Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Niemeyer</td>
<td>Director of Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Pearson</td>
<td>Information Technology Supervisor</td>
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<td>Lis Ristau</td>
<td>Director of Special Needs</td>
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## 2015-2016 Board of Education

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stu Cochrane</td>
<td>Brian Forsythe</td>
<td>Bill Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Shimkat</td>
<td>Steve Springer</td>
<td>Angie Tracy</td>
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<td>Matt Wagner</td>
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Enrollment Information for 2015-2016

Fort Dodge Elementary 1,544
  Butler Elementary 488
  Cooper Elementary 311
  Duncombe Elementary 338
  Feelhaver Elementary 255
  Riverside Early Learning Center 152

Fort Dodge Middle School 1,122

Senior High & Alternative School 1,217

Total Enrollment 3,883

Does not include preschool grant, open enrollment or supplemental weighting

Number of Students
Per Grade Level Per Sub Group
The data below will assist in the interpretation of charts and graphs on the following pages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Socio-economic (SES)</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>141</td>
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<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Education (IEP)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
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Each year the Comprehensive School Improvement/Equity Advisory Team, a committee comprised of community members, parents, teachers, and administrators, analyzes student data and develops annual student achievement goals for the District. The following pages illustrate the District’s progress toward the achievement of the goals.
Goal 1: Achievement in Literacy will improve for all students, K-12.

In the 2011-2012 school year, students in grades 2-11 began taking a new assessment which replaced the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and Iowa Test of Educational Development. The chart below illustrates the progress of students in reading on the new test known as the Iowa Assessment. Students are judged on Standard Scores with a score of 189 considered proficient at the 4th grade level.

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low SES</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>57.3</td>
<td>62.7</td>
<td>60.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>45.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>57.1</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>38.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>IEP</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>40.4</td>
<td>23.1</td>
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Grade 4 Iowa Assessment Reading
At the 8th grade level a Standard Score of 239 is considered proficient.

At the 11th grade level a Standard Score of 263 is considered proficient.
Goal 2: Achievement in Math will improve for all students grades K-12.

In the 2011-12 school year, students in grades 2-11 began taking a new assessment which replaced the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the Iowa Tests of Educational Development. The chart below illustrates the progress of students in Math on the test known as the Iowa Assessment. Students are judged on Standard Scores with a score of 189 considered proficient at the 4th grade level.
This chart represents achievement of 8th graders in Math. 8th graders needed a Standard Score of 236 to be proficient.

The chart below illustrates the achievement of 11th graders in Math. 11th graders were also administered the Iowa Assessments and a Standard Score of 263 was needed to be proficient.
Actions Being Taken To Improve Student Achievement

Steps are being taken throughout the district to ensure the core instruction used with all students is as strong as it can be. Professional Learning Communities are working to identify essential skills to ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum aligning our student tasks to the rigor of the Iowa Core. Throughout the District in grades K-8, students who are experiencing difficulty in reading and math are experiencing targeted interventions based on analysis of data generated from various formative and summative assessments. Students in grades K-4 receive small group flexible instruction and interventions in reading. In grades 9-12, a Response to Intervention program has been implemented which will assist students who are experiencing specific problems in reading and math. A new math program continues to be implemented in grades K-8, specifically designed to increase student problem solving abilities. Students at the middle and high school participate in Reading Strategies classes.

Goal 3: Achievement in Science will improve for all students in grades K-12.

The following charts illustrate student achievement in science as measured by the Iowa Assessments. Students are judged on Standard Scores with a score of 189 considered proficient at the 4th grade level.
At the 8th grade level a Standard Score of 238 is considered proficient.
The chart below illustrates the achievement of 11th graders in Science. 11th graders were also administered the Iowa Assessments and a Standard Score of 265 was needed to be proficient.

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<tbody>
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<td>All Students</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>73.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low SES</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>44.8</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>52.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>58.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>IEP</td>
<td>31.9</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>22.7</td>
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</table>
Goal 5: All students grades K-12 will experience a learning environment that is safe, drug free and conducive to learning.

As illustrated on this chart the K-12 attendance rate decreased slightly over the 2014-15 school year.

The graduation rate at Fort Dodge Senior High for the 2014-15 school year was 80.15% for students completing High School in 4 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Degree</th>
<th>Percent of Teachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>0%</td>
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Fort Dodge Community School District has implemented a consistent behavior plan in grades PreK-8 known as PBIS (Positive Behavior Instruction System) and a new data collection system is in place. Physical assault data and fight data is combined, so represents baseline data. At the PreK-K level, 93 fights/assaults were reports; grade one, 104; grade two, 68; grade three, 50; grade four, 144. At grade five, 72 fights/assaults were reported, at grade six 59; grade seven, 50; grade eight, 34; results were not available for grades 9-12.

**FDCSD Achievement Comparisons to State and Nation**

As evidenced in the charts below, the percentage of Fort Dodge Community School District students considered to be proficient on the Iowa Assessments in grades 4 and 8 and 11 were below the national percentages in reading and math for the 2014-15 school year.
No Child Left Behind Results

Each year the Iowa Department of Education in accordance with the NCLB legislation asks each district to look at results on Iowa Assessment both overall and in the area of growth. Fort Dodge Community Schools have four elementary school on the School in Need of Assistance list for the 2014-15 school year. Cooper, Butler, Feelhaver and Duncombe schools will all be processing analysis of data as a part of the School in Need of Assistance process. Action plans are being cooperatively written with the Iowa Department of Education and the Fort Dodge Community School District to ensure continued improvement in student achievement in reading and math. The Fort Dodge Middle and High Schools also missed AYP targets but will not write official plans with the Iowa Department of Education as they do not accept Title I funding. Those building leadership teams will continue to write action plans in the form of building plans and continue to look for ways to enhance improvement through enhanced collaboration measures this school year.
Dropout Rate

*Note: The dropout rate is calculated by the State, and data is reported for the year preceding the date of the current annual progress report.*

The number of students in grades 7-12 considered to have dropped out of school during the 2013-14 school year was 64. This is a decrease of 19 students from the prior year. Of the 64 dropouts, 29 were females, and 35 were males; 49 were Caucasian, 6 were African American, 6 were Hispanic, and 4 were of multiple ethnicity.

Post-Secondary College Classes

During the 2014-15 school year, 36 Iowa Central Community College Early Bird classes were offered at Fort Dodge Senior High. A total of 823 FDSH students and 5 St. Edmond’s students participated in the college courses offered at Fort Dodge Senior High. 33 Fort Dodge Senior High students and 92 St. Edmond’s students were enrolled in 50 Flex-net or On-line Iowa Central Classes. The opportunity to participate in college courses and earn college credit while in high school is a definite advantage for our Senior High students. Many students leave high school with enough college credit to begin their sophomore year in college.
The Fort Dodge Community School District Foundation

Fort Dodge Alumni Association

Through the support of the Fort Dodge Community School District Foundation, the Fort Dodge Alumni Association and the Ann Smeltzer Charitable Trust, projects such as the following have been funded. (This is not an “all inclusive” list. Many more projects have been funded by each group.)

Foundation Projects

- iPads for Elementary TAG students
- iPads for ALC center @ Fort Dodge Middle School
- Books for Middle School students
- Chromebooks for Middle School TAG students
- iPads for Middle School students
- CNC Plasma Table for Industrial Tech @ Fort Dodge Senior High

Alumni Association Projects

- Partial cost of Chromebooks, licenses and support fees
- Henry Cole, Author Visit, for Elementary students
- iPads and cases
- Dodger Time Notebooks

Ann Smeltzer Charitable Trust

- Chromebook computers

For additional information about this report contact Stacey Cole at 515-574-5640, scole@fdschools.org
Central Administration Office
104 South 17th Street
515-576-1161
Superintendent: Dr. Doug Van Zyl

Butler Elementary School
945 South 18th Street
515-574-5882
Principal: Jerry Brown

Cooper Elementary School
2420 14th Avenue North
515-574-5602
Principal: Bruce Hartley

Duncombe Elementary School
416 South 10th Street
515-574-5623
Principal: Pat Reding

Feelhaver Elementary School
1300 14th Avenue North
515-576-5740
Principal: Nancy Cross

Riverside Early Learning Center
733 F Street
515-576-5740
Principal: Tabitha Acree

Fort Dodge Middle School
800 North 32nd Street
515-574-5691
Principal: Ed Birnbaum

Fort Dodge Senior High
819 North 25th Street
515-955-1770
Principal:

Assistant Principal: Val Jergens
Assistant Principal: Mark Johnson
Dean of Students: Shawn Bennett

Assistant Principal: Kevin Astor
Assistant Principal: Lynnae Harvey
Dean of Students: Scott Danielson

Alternative Education Program
819 North 25th Street
515-576-7305
Director:

It is the policy of the Fort Dodge Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, physical attributes, religion, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, veteran’s status, actual or potential parental, family or marital status, in its programs, services, and employment practices. If you have questions or grievances related to this policy, please contact Marcy Harms, Director of Student Services, Central Administration Office, 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501, (574-5678) or contact the Civil Rights Midwestern Division for U. S. Department of Education Office, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661-4544. (Alternate for Section 504 is Lis Ristau, Director of Special Needs, 515-574-5675).

The District’s Compliance Coordinator for Affirmative Action is Robert Hughes, Assistant Superintendent, who can be reached at 574-5657 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

The District’s Designated Investigator of Physical/Sexual Abuse of Students by School Employees is Marcy Harms. She can be reached at 574-5678 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501. The alternate is Corey Moody. He can be reached at 574-5469 or 819 North 25th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

The District’s Officer for Harassment Complaints and Allegations is Marcy Harms, Director of Student Services. She can be reached at 574-5678 or 104 South 17th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

Revised: 2/14