



Fort Dodge Community School District

2013-2014

Annual Progress Report

A Message from Superintendent
Dr. Doug Van Zyl



The 2013-14 school year was a good one for our students and staff and looks to provide momentum for 2014-15 to be an outstanding year at the FDCSD as well! Our students and staff saw many achievements and 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.

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. A new math curriculum was implemented in grades K-8 last year and our elementary reading program has been revamped for this year. 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.

In addition to our academic focus, we feel it is important to help 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

Two FDSH students were selected to ISU Honor Choir.

Fort Dodge Senior High Artists earned 14 awards at the CIML Art Conference.

Forty-two 8th graders earned the Presidential Academic Excellence Award. (3.5+ GPA and Basic Skill Score of 85% in math or reading comprehension).

1150 elementary students received Bringing Up Grades (BUG) awards in collaboration with the Noon Kiwana's Club.

Two FDSH Speech Groups received Division I ratings and four received Division II ratings at the Iowa High School Speech Association Large Group Speech Contest.

Sixteen FDSH Band Students were selected for the NCIBA Honor Band.

Approximately 230 families participated in two family nights at Cooper Elementary.

Kindergarteners at Duncombe Elementary held a bake sale during the holidays and earned well over \$500, which was given to a needy family in the area.

Students at Feelhaver raised over \$1200 to buy new library books through Miles of Pennies Challenge.

Feelhaver School was selected from the Department of Education as a PBIS Honor School.

A kindness club was started for students at Duncombe Elementary to get together and discuss ways they can make their school a better place.

A'Capella choir earned 2nd place for best concert choir and the award for best tenor section at Onalaska Classic choral competition.

Eighty-three science student and math students received awards at the annual Math/Science recognition evening held in the Spring of 2014. Recognition goes to students with high student achievement in math and science as well as to those students who have taken more than the required courses in each of the content areas.

Thirty-five FDSH musicians performed solos and small group ensembles in band, choir, orchestra and piano at the State Solo/Ensemble Festival. FDSH musicians received 15 Division 1 (superior) ratings, 19 Division II (excellent) ratings and four Division III (good) ratings.

We demonstrate...

Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence

Students at Butler Elementary School improved math screener scores over the course of the year.

Riverside ELC raised money for the Humane Society, and conducted a food drive and peanut butter and jelly drive for the Salvation Army.

Riverside ELC RSVP program volunteers worked with Kindergarten children in the area of reading which contributed to improved reading scores.

The Middle School merged two buildings, two staffs and 1,100 students.

Student in the FDSH Understanding Social Systems and our alternative school equivalent engaged in numerous civic action activities.

The district adopted a new math program in grades K-8.

Universal assessment screeners were adopted for reading and math in grades K-12.

The district continued implementation of Rachel's Challenge for improved culture and climate.

JOY of Reading Book Club was started by the Emily Joy Averill Foundation for all 2nd graders.

First graders in the district raised their oral reading fluency scores on the DIBELS Assessment.

First graders in the district raised their Fountas and Pinnell Leveling Assessment.

Fourth grade students in the district raised their oral reading fluency score on the DIBELS Assessment.

Fourth grade students in the district raised their Fountas and Pinnell Leveling assessment.

All classroom teachers at Feelhaver received an iPad from the Feelhaver Booster Club to enhance student learning.

The Senior High Student Senate arranged a Prom Court honoring their senior special education students.

Cooper Elementary remodeled their computer lab and added 27 chrome books to building technology.

Eight Middle School Band students were selected as members of the 2014 Karl King Honor Band.

Nine student from the Middle School were selected for the 2014 River City Honor Band.

We demonstrate...

Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence

Fourteen FDSH Artists earned awards at the 2014 CIML Art Conference.

Seventy FDSH students competed in the ICCC Competition Day in the areas of business, industrial technology and healthcare.

Fifth graders at the Middle School made Valentine's Day cards for veterans.

Riverside ELC students made placemats for Friendship Haven residents.

Nine 6th grade students participated in the regional Math Bee. Teams finished 10th and 16th out of 27 participating teams.



Central Administration

Dr. Doug Van Zyl	Superintendent of Schools
Robert Hughes	Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Administrative Services
Stacey Cole	Director of Educational Services
Travis Filloon	Director of Maintenance
Brandon Hansel	Director of Finance
Marcy Harms	Director of Student Services, ELL, Director of Transportation
Brenda Janssen	Director of Food Services, Taher
Jennifer Lane	Director of Communications and Community Relations
Jeremy Pearson	Information Technology Supervisor
Lis Ristau	Director of Special Needs/Principal Riverside Early Learning Center

2014-2015 Board of Education

Stu Cochrane	Brian Forsythe	Bill Kent
Kevin Rogers	Lisa Shimkat	Steve Springer
Matt Wagner		

Enrollment Information for 2014-2015

Fort Dodge Elementary		1,400
Butler Elementary	467	
Cooper Elementary	271	
Duncombe Elementary	352	
Feelhaver Elementary	234	
Riverside Early Learning Center	76	
Fort Dodge Middle School		1,017
Senior High & Alternative School		1,175
Total Enrollment		3,492

Does not include preschool grant, open enrollment or supplemental weighting

Number of Students Per Grade Level Per Sub Group

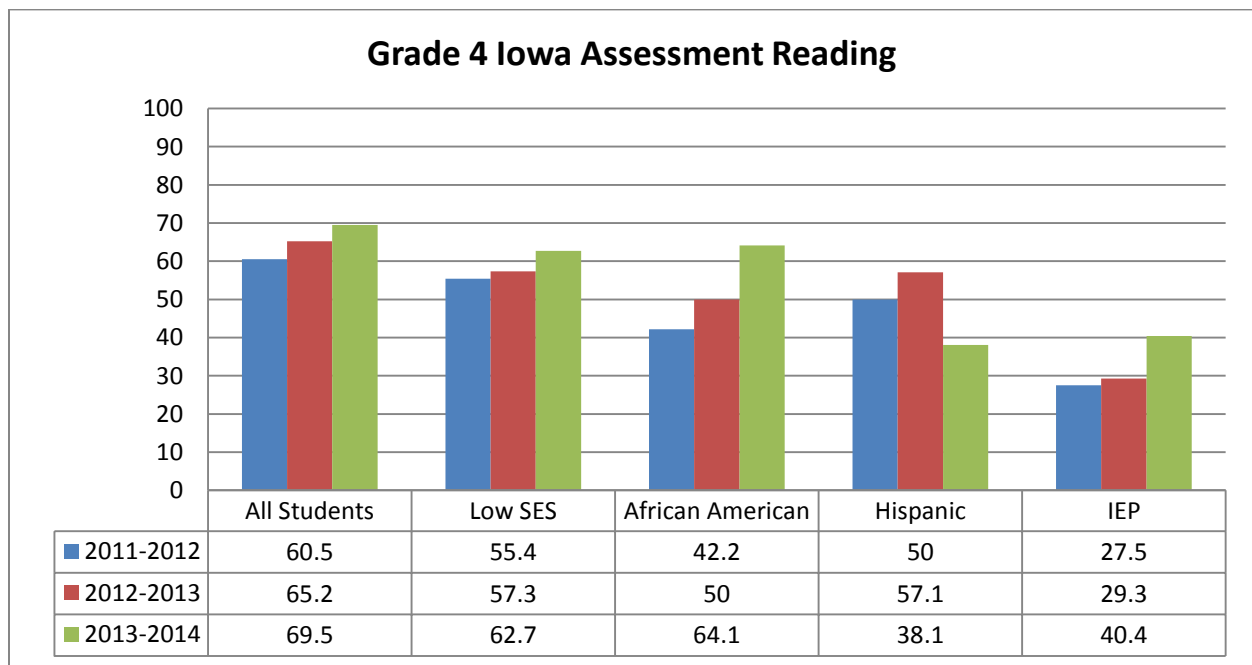
The data below will assist in the interpretation of charts and graphs on the following pages.

	Grade 4	Grade 8	Grade 11
All Students	278	276	240
Low Socio-economic (SES)	169	147	113
African American	24	14	16
Hispanic	20	31	18
Special Education (IEP)	47	53	41

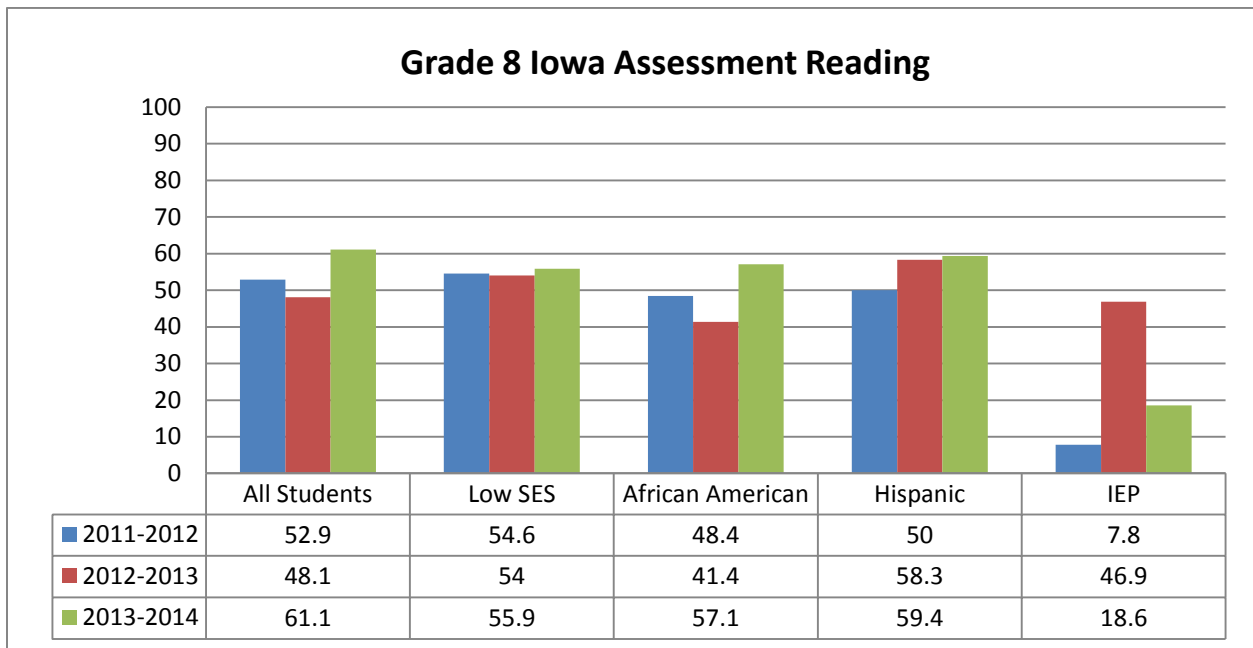
Each year the Comprehensive School Improvement/Equity Advisory Team, a committee comprised of community members, parents, teachers, and administrators, analyzes student data and develops annual student achievement goals for the District. The following pages illustrate the District's progress toward the achievement of the goals.

Goal 1: Achievement in Literacy will improve for all students, K-12.

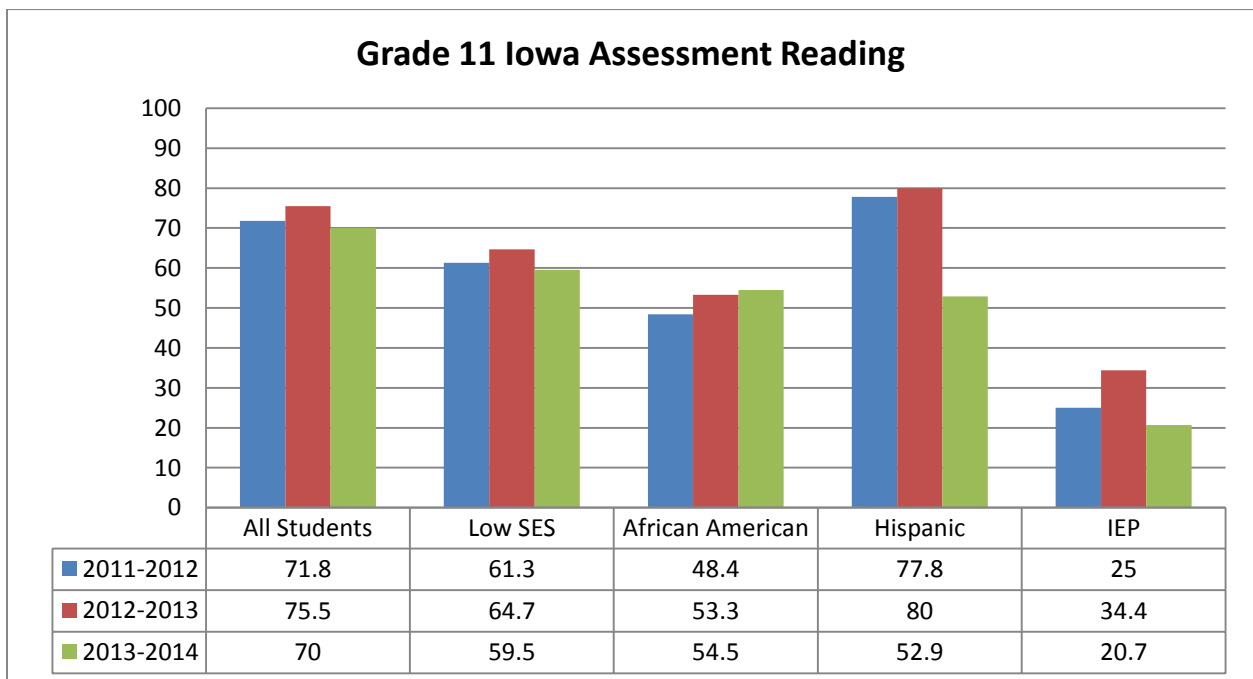
In the 2011-2012 school year, students in grades 2-11 began taking a new assessment which replaced the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and Iowa Test of Educational Development. The chart below illustrates the progress of students in reading on the new test known as the Iowa Assessment. Students are judged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



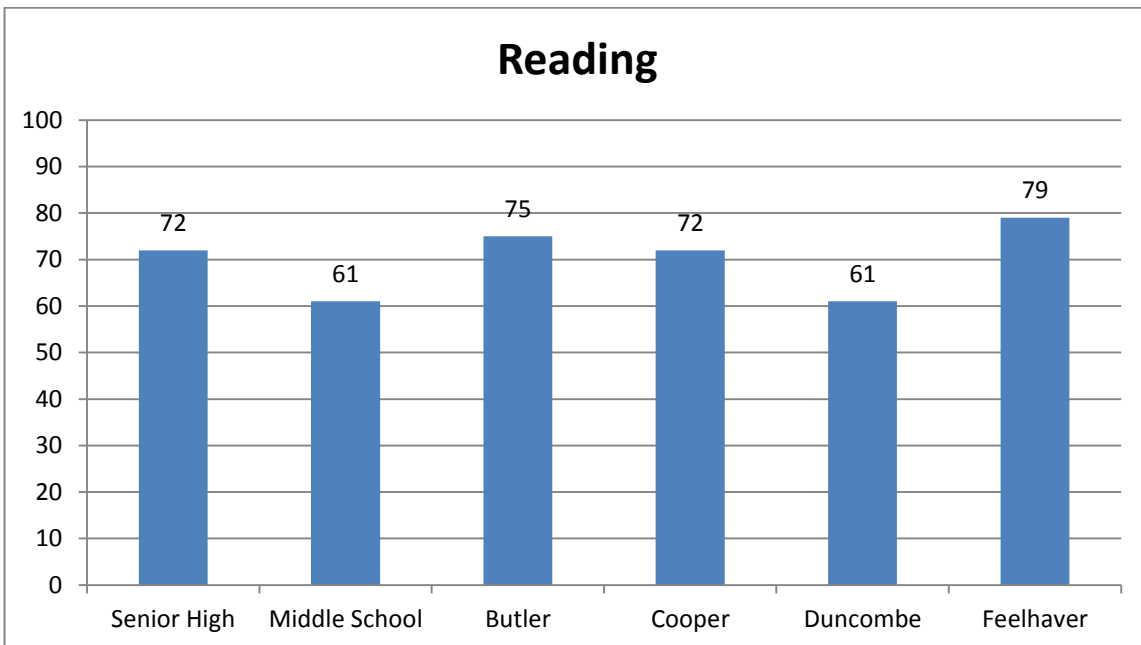
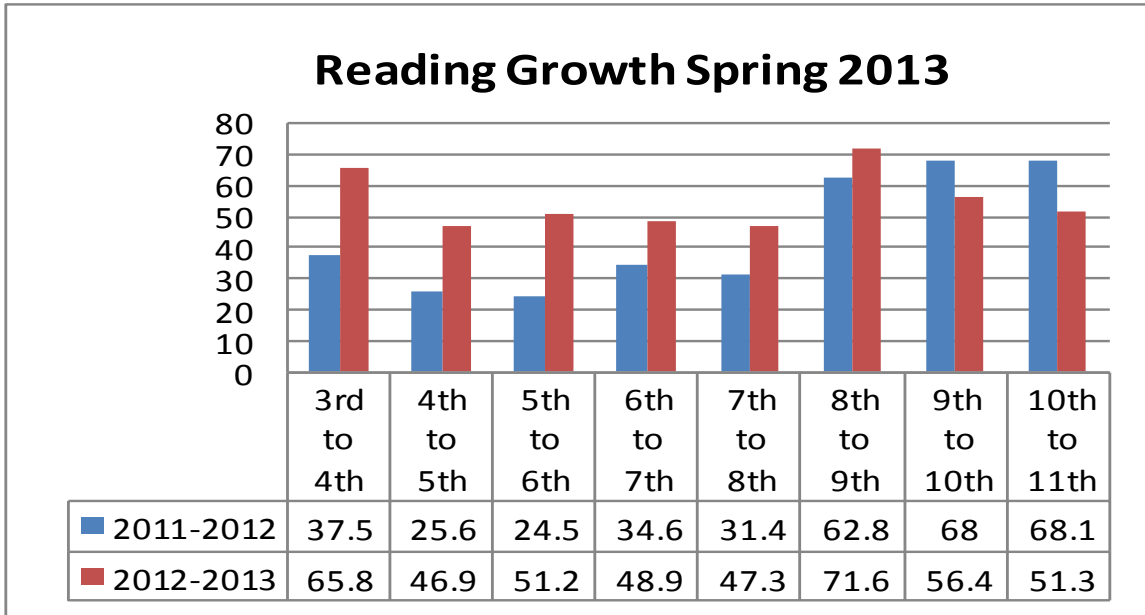
At the 8th grade level a Standard Score of 239 is considered proficient



At the 11th grade level a Standard Score of 263 is considered proficient.

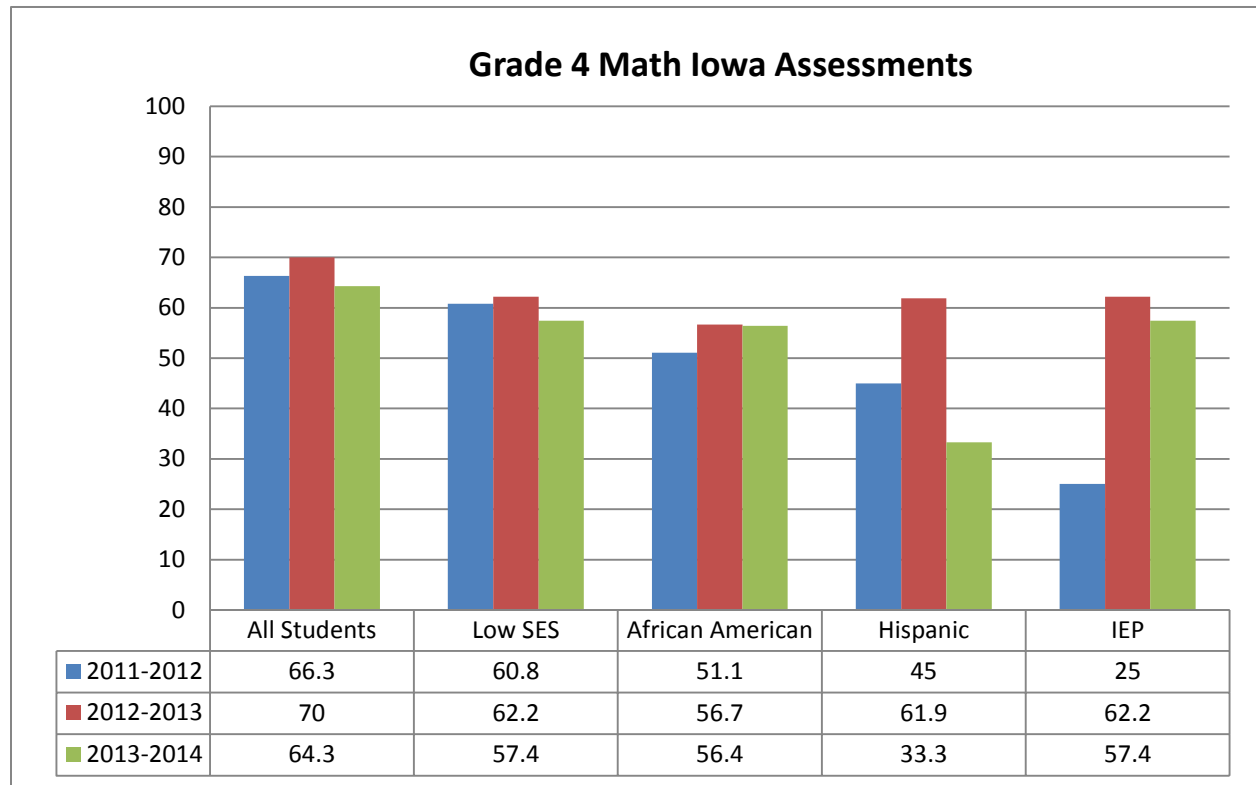


As illustrated in the chart below, the percent of student who met the growth goal increased in grades 3-8, but decreased in grades 9-11

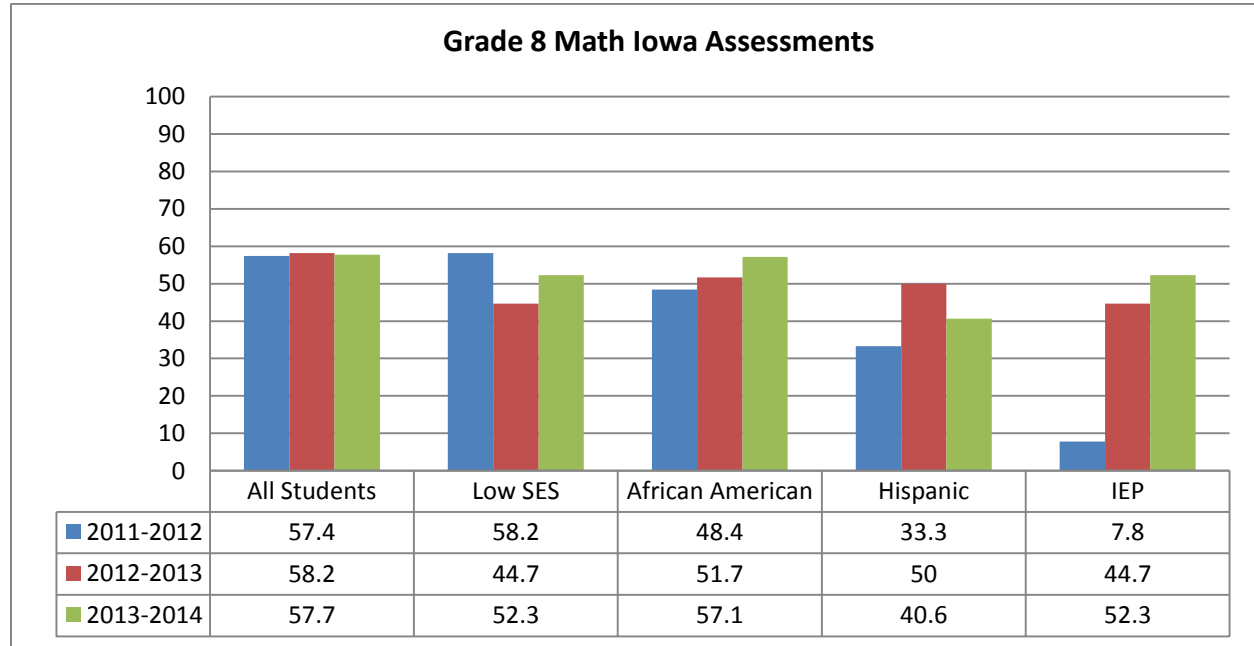


Goal 2: Achievement in Math will improve for all students grades K-12.

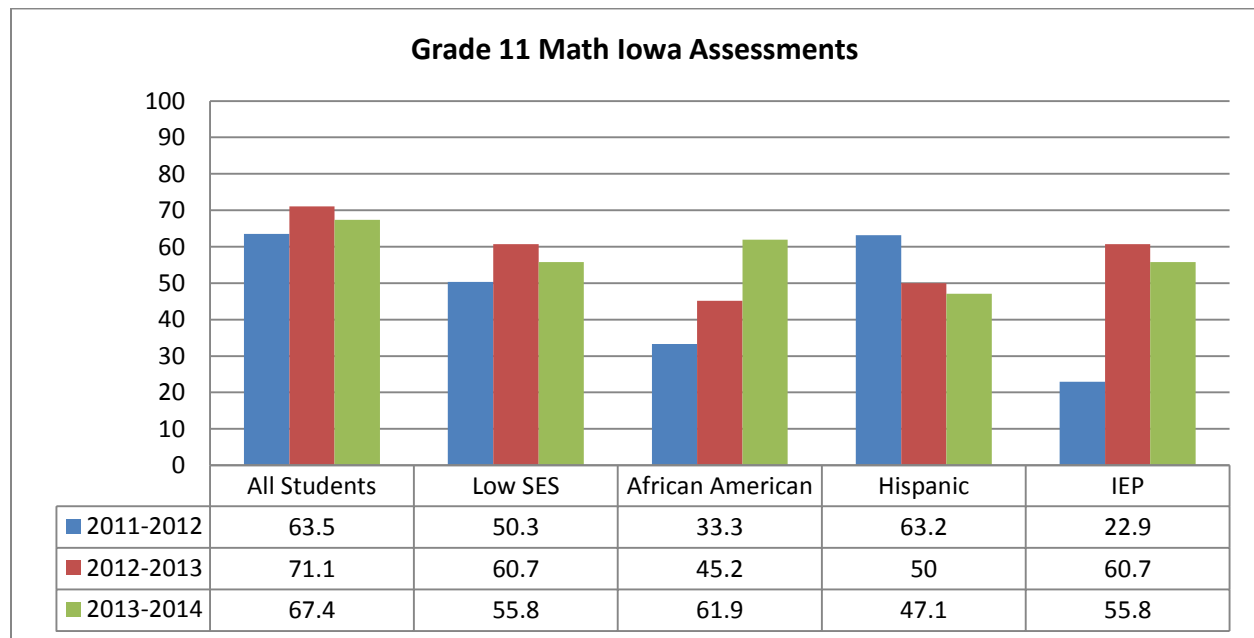
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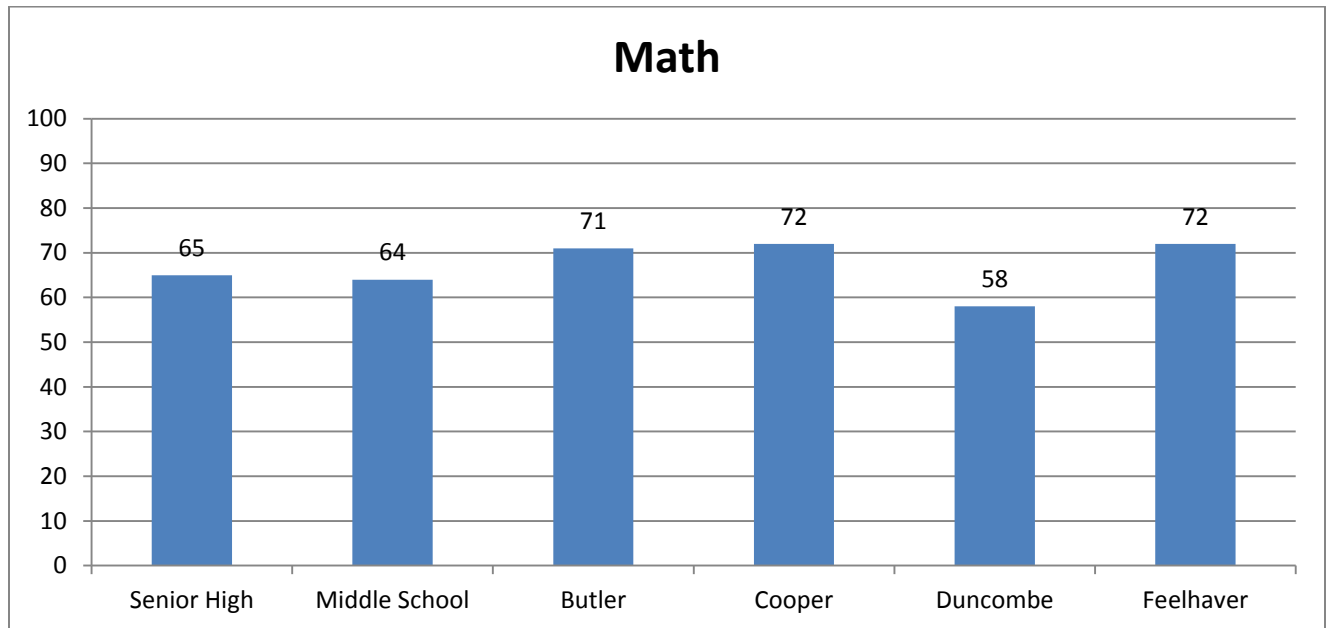


This chart represents achievement of 8th graders in Math. 8th graders needed a Standard Score of 236 to be proficient.



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.



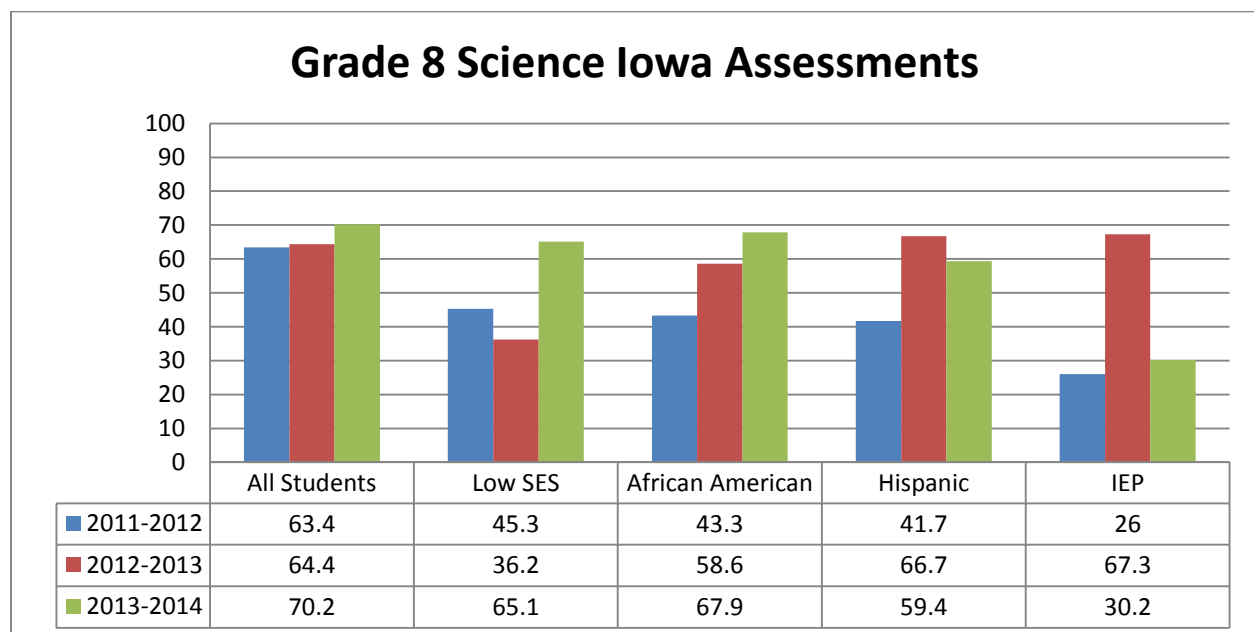
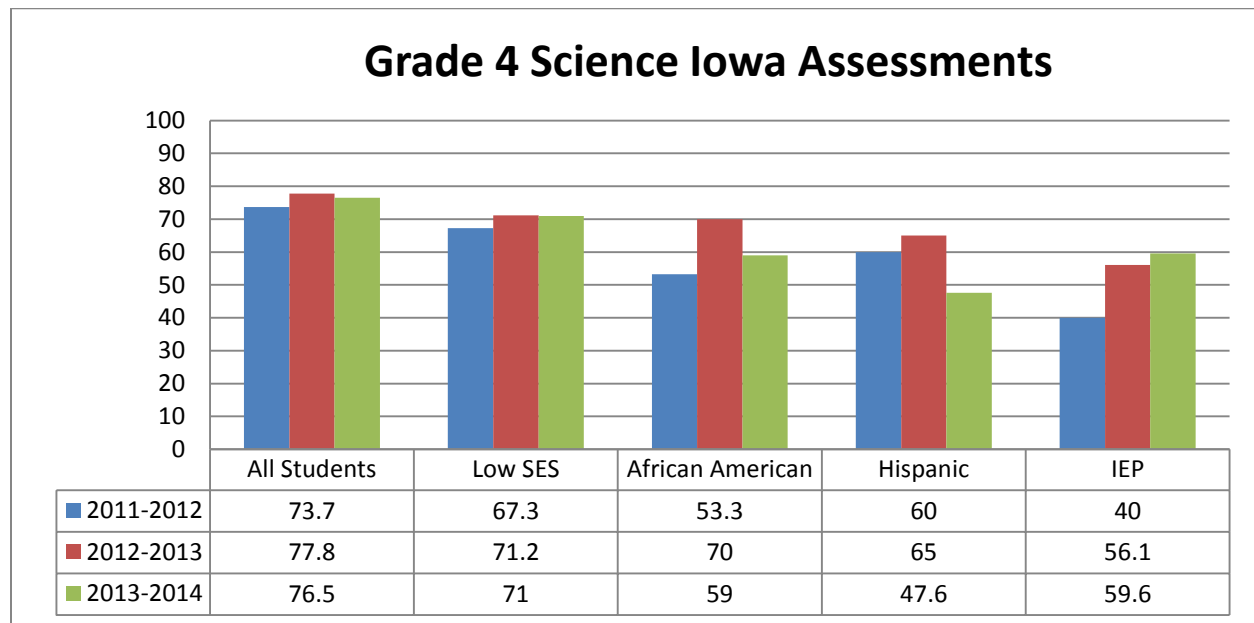


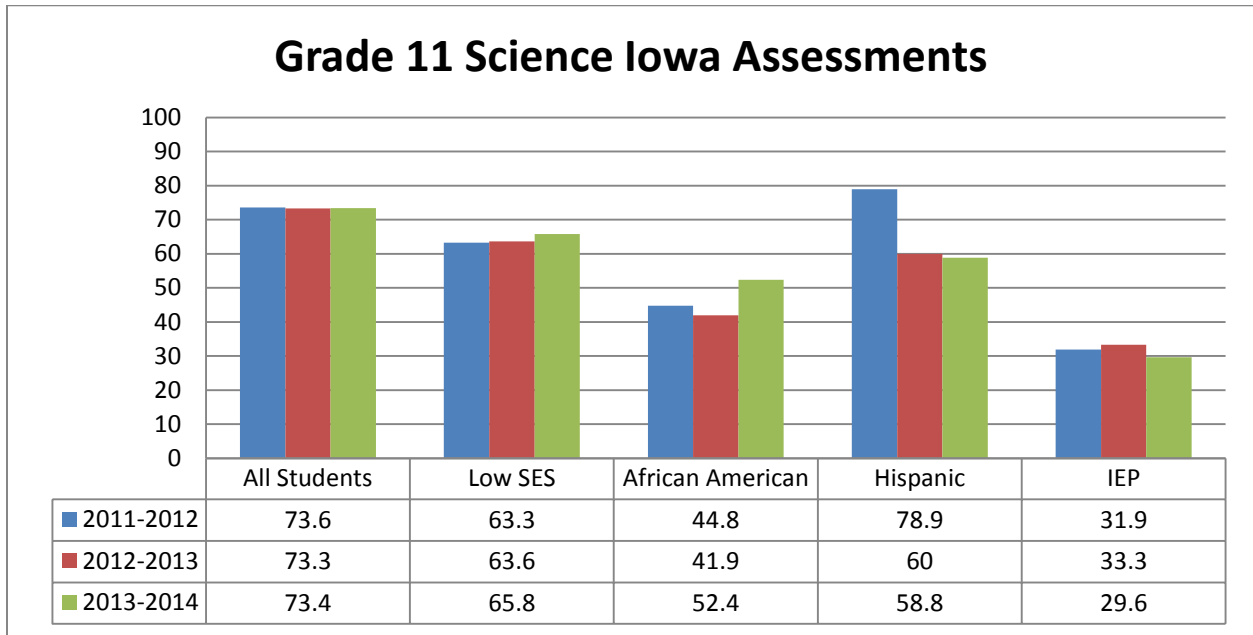
Actions Being Taken To Improve Student Achievement

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 and math. 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 as well as Read 180 and System 44 programs. A small cadre of middle school and high school teachers are taking part in coaching training to enhance the effectiveness of our multi-tiered system of supports.

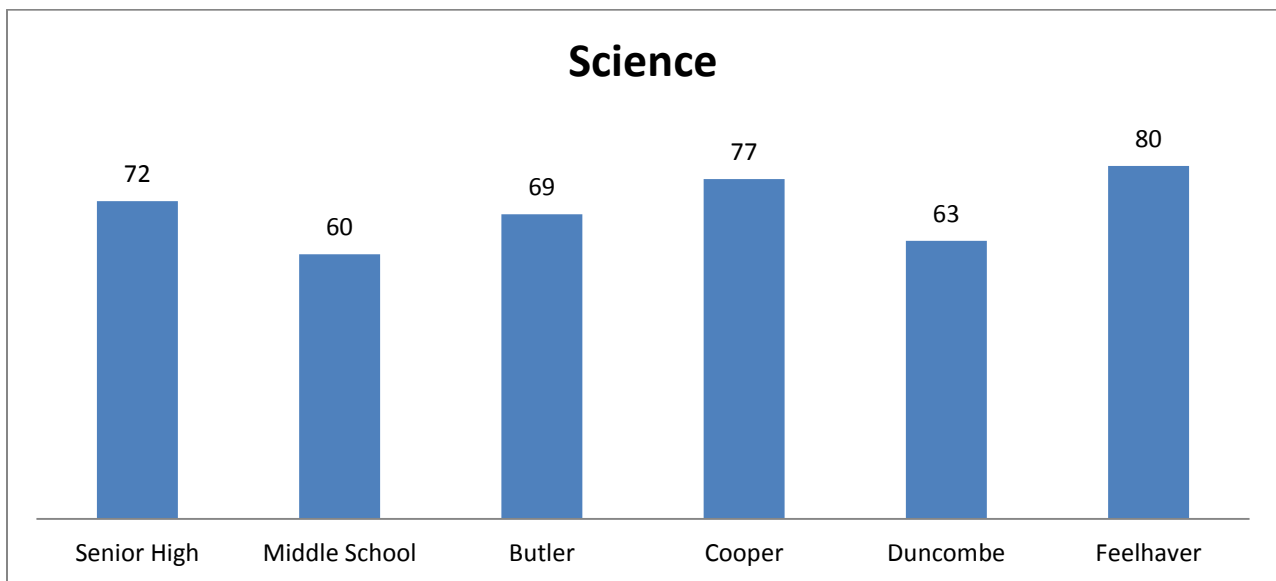
Goal 3: Achievement in Science will improve for all students in grades K-12.

The following charts illustrate student achievement in science as measured by the Iowa Assessments. Students in grade 4 experienced a slight decrease, while students at grades 8 and 11 saw an increase in achievement





The percentage of students who met the growth goal in Science as defined by Iowa Testing Programs increased in grades 3-9, but decreased in grades 10 and 11



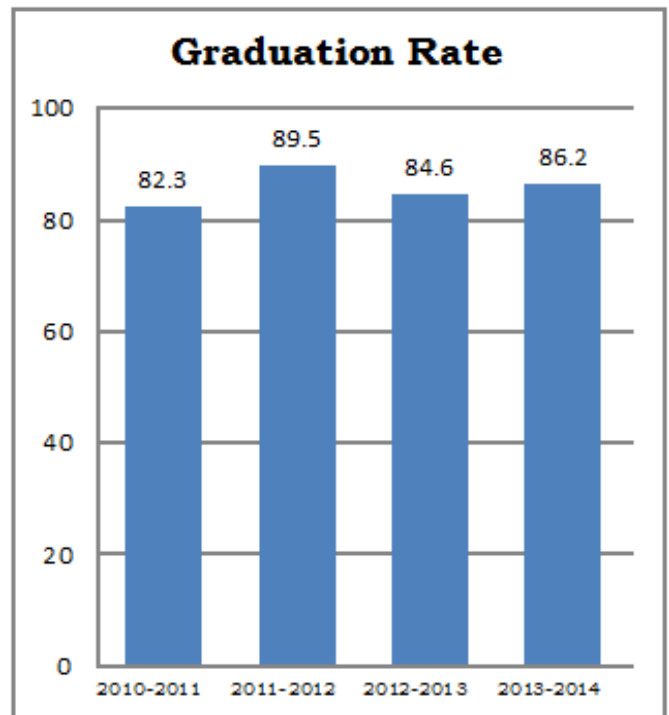
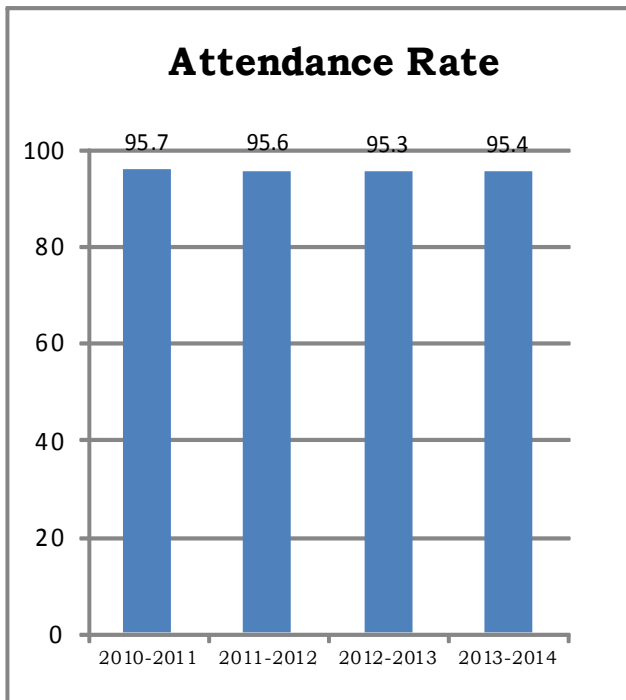
Results of ACT

The American College Test (ACT) was taken by 105 Fort Dodge Senior High students. The overall composite score was 22.3 compared to the State average of 22.0. Seventy-seven percent of the students taking the test received a benchmark score of 18 on the English test compared to 75% at the State level. Fifty-five percent received a benchmark score of 22 on the Mathematics test compared to 48% at the State level. Fifty-seven percent received the benchmark score of 22 in Social Science as compared to 52% at the State level and 53% of the students received the benchmark score of 23 on the College Biology test compared with 47% at the State level. Thirty-four percent of the students scored at benchmark in all 4 areas as compared to 31% at the state level.

Goal 5: All students grades K-12 will experience a learning environment that is safe, drug free and conducive to learning.

As illustrated on the chart below, the K-12 attendance rate increased slightly over the 2013-14 school year.

The graduation rate at Fort Dodge Senior High for the 2013-14 school year was 86.2% for students completing High School in 4 years.



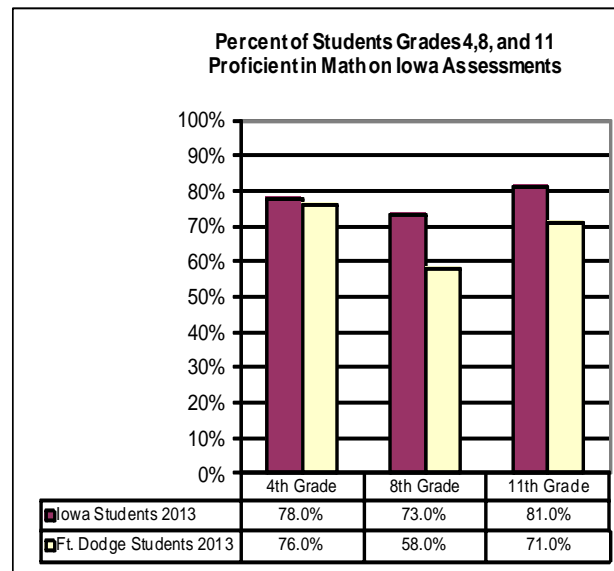
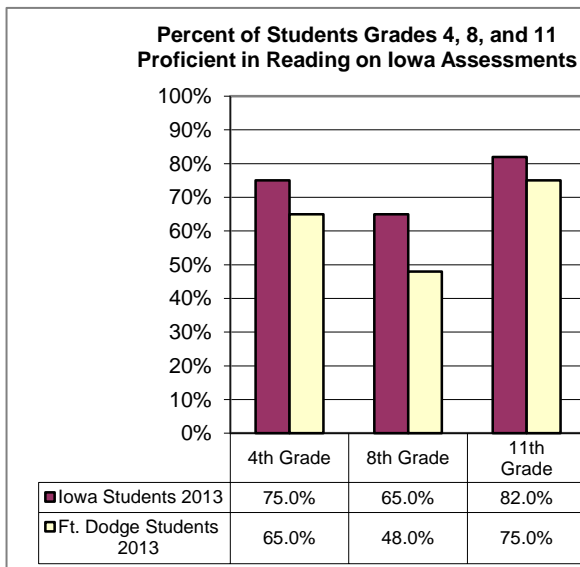
Fifty-four percent of students at Fort Dodge Senior High feel as though students treat each other with respect compared to 65% in 2011-12.

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, 87 fights/assaults were reports; grade one, 181; grade two, 102; grade three, 93; grade 4, 65. At grade five, 66 fights/assaults were reported, at grade six 58; grade seven, 38; grade eight, 25; grade nine, 22; grade ten, 12; grade eleven, 8; and grade twelve, 6.

During the 2012-13 school year, twenty-four 9th grade and twenty-eight 10th grade students were reported as truant. During the 2013-14 school year, six 9th grade and twenty-four 10th grade students were reported as truant.

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 exceeded the national percentages in reading and math, but were below the State percentages for the *2012-13 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. Riverside, Butler, Feelhaver and Duncombe schools will all be processing analysis of data as a part of the School in Need of Assistance process. In addition, Duncombe Elementary remains on the SINA list for reading. 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 enhances collaboration measures this school year.

Graduate Information

Of the 236 students graduating in 2014, 77% indicated they would pursue a post-secondary education. The remaining 17% planned to work full or part time, or join the military. The remaining 6% were unknown.

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 2012-13 school year was 84. This is an increase of 22 students from the prior year. Of the 84 dropouts, 33 were females, and 51 were males; 59 were Caucasian, 12 were African American, 9 were Hispanic, and 4 were of multiple ethnicity. Of these students, 9 were Special Education students, and 1 was an English Language Learner.

Post Secondary College Classes

During the 2013-14 school year, 36 Iowa Central Community College Early Bird classes were offered at Fort Dodge Senior High. A total of 850 FDSH students and 119 St. Edmond's students participated in the college courses offered at Fort Dodge Senior High. 49 Fort Dodge Senior High students and 96 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



Type of Degree	Percent of Teachers
Bachelor's Degree	47%
Master's Degree	53%
Doctorate	0%

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



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Central Administration Office
104 South 17th Street
515-576-1161
Superintendent: Dr. Doug Van Zyl

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

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

Fort Dodge Middle School
800 North 32nd Street
515-574-5691
Principal: Ed Birnbaum
Assistant Principal: Ryan Flaherty
Assistant Principal: Mark Johnson

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

Duncombe Elementary School
615 North 16th Street
515-574-5623
Principal: Pat Reding

Riverside Early Learning Center
733 F Street
515-576-5740
Principal: Lis Ristau

Fort Dodge Senior High
819 North 25th Street
515-955-1770
Principal: Dave Keane
Assistant Principal: Kevin Astor
Assistant Principal: Lynnae Harvey
Assistant Principal: Allison Emery

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

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