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Bridgeport Public Schools

Press Release

Connecticut Mastery Test

Bridgeport, CT, July 18, 2008:

With the release of the 2008 Connecticut Mastery Test scores the Bridgeport Public School district has realized increases in student achievement in the elementary grades for those scoring at or above proficiency in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.

Improved instructional practices, updated curriculum, increased facility in the use of data are all areas identified in the district's Strategic Plan.

Although there needs to be further improvement, nearly 60% of the district's elementary students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 7 are meeting or exceeding the proficiency mark in **mathematics**. All grades had positive gains with the exception of Grades 6 & 8 in **mathematics**.

Mathematics										
Group	Grade	Year	Number Tested	Percent by Level					% At/Above Proficiency	% At/Above Goal
				Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Goal	Advanced		
Bridgeport	3	2007	1674	31.9	14.8	25.6	20.8	6.9	53.3	27.7
	3	2008	1552	29.2	16.2	26.2	22.2	6.2	54.6	28.4
	4	2007	1587	27.9	17.8	25.5	24.4	4.4	54.4	28.9
	4	2008	1620	27.4	17	26.5	23.2	5.8	55.6	29
	5	2007	1598	24.2	18.4	25	27.1	5.3	57.4	32.4
	5	2008	1479	23.9	18.6	24.4	27.5	5.6	57.5	33.1
	6	2007	1517	18.3	17.7	31.2	26.5	6.3	64	32.8
	6	2008	1521	18	18.1	27.9	28.1	7.8	63.8	35.9
	7	2007	1523	25.7	22.6	26.5	21.4	3.8	51.7	25.2
	7	2008	1381	21.7	22.1	26.9	23.5	5.9	56.3	29.4
	8	2007	1561	26	21.7	27.9	19.8	4.6	52.3	24.4
	8	2008	1512	26.3	23.7	26.2	19.1	4.8	50.1	23.9

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Writing scores continue to fluctuate across all grade levels. There were incremental gains recognized at the goal level which is consistent with the Connecticut state standards where nearly 60% of the district's elementary students scored at or above the proficiency level. At or above goal had positive gains in all grades except Grade 4. At or above proficiency had positive gains in Grades 5 & 8. The Empowering Writers program has been implemented across all grade levels to support **writing** instruction.

Writing										
Group	Grade	Year	Number Tested	Percent by Level					% At/Above Proficiency	% At/Above Goal
				Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Goal	Advanced		
Bridgeport	3	2007	1627	19.7	18.5	29.7	26.2	5.8	61.8	32.1
	3	2008	1506	18.5	21	25.9	29	5.6	60.4	34.5
	4	2007	1556	14.5	20.4	30.1	30.4	4.7	65.2	35.1
	4	2008	1583	18.1	17.6	33.4	25	6	64.3	31
	5	2007	1587	13.7	21.8	32.5	28.5	3.5	64.5	32
	5	2008	1481	15.1	19.6	30.9	29.2	5.3	65.4	34.5
	6	2007	1508	11.4	20	34.8	29.3	4.5	68.6	33.8
	6	2008	1506	13.7	20	30.3	30.3	5.7	66.3	36.1
	7	2007	1525	17.1	22.7	32.1	23.6	4.5	60.2	28.1
	7	2008	1369	21.6	21.8	23	27.8	5.8	56.5	33.5
	8	2007	1548	16.5	24.6	30	25.7	3.1	58.9	28.8
	8	2008	1498	19.6	21.1	27.8	27.2	4.3	59.3	31.5

Although there needs to be further improvement all grades had positive gains with the exception of Grade 4 & 5 in **reading**. Adoption of new middle school texts to support the curriculum will help address the challenges in **reading**. Continued revision of online assessments will also address this need.

Reading										
Group	Grade	Year	Number Tested	Percent by Level					% At/Above Proficiency	% At/Above Goal
				Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Goal	Advanced		
Bridgeport	3	2007	1675	45.1	15.8	18.3	18.7	2	39	20.7
	3	2008	1539	45	15.5	18.3	18.5	2.7	39.4	21.2
	4	2007	1581	43	15.7	16.8	23	1.5	41.2	24.5
	4	2008	1613	47.4	12.8	15.7	21.1	3	39.9	24.2
	5	2007	1591	46.1	12.5	14.3	24.6	2.4	41.4	27
	5	2008	1485	44.2	14.3	14.5	25.1	1.9	41.5	26.9
	6	2007	1502	37.2	14.4	17.2	28.6	2.6	48.4	31.2
	6	2008	1515	37.8	12.1	17.3	29.2	3.6	50.1	32.8
	7	2007	1506	38.2	14.2	14.2	29.7	3.7	47.6	33.4
	7	2008	1367	32.6	12.5	13.9	34.4	6.7	54.9	41
	8	2007	1549	42	13.9	13.2	27.5	3.4	44.1	30.9
	8	2008	1501	40.2	12.7	15.1	28.9	3.1	47.2	32

The Connecticut Mastery Test in **science** was implemented for the first time this year. The scores give the district base-line data on which to continue to develop its plan for **science** instruction. **Science** kits to support the curriculum, increased online testing, and continued staff development will be used to improve student achievement.

Science										
				Percent by Level						
Group	Grade	Year	Number	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Goal	Advanced	% At/Above Proficiency	% At/Above Goal
Bridgeport										
	5	2008	1479	26.4	25.8	30.1	16.8	0.9	47.9	17.8
	8	2008	1509	42.9	19.9	19.2	16.6	1.3	37.1	18

Constant work on these all academic areas: Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science should promote the upward movement of student achievement identified in this year's scores.