Iowa Performance Profiles Discussion

In late December, the Iowa Department of Education released the Iowa School Performance Profiles, which replaced the Iowa School Report Cards. This change happened due to the federal requirements with the Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA, for short. I wanted to take a moment to discuss the Performance Profiles by digging a little deeper into the report.

On the surface, it may look like each of our schools has mediocre scores. With the High School receiving an overall rating of 60.12 out of 100. While this is above the state average of 54.91, when thinking about a standard grading scale, it does not look very impressive. But let’s look a little closer at our achievement scores.

The state gives weight to various factors, when giving out a percentage for each school. These factors include: Student Participation on State Assessments, Academic Achievement, Student Growth, Graduation Rate, Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency, and Conditions for Learning. Although each of these are important, we may not score very high in one or two of these areas for very specific reasons. For instance, it is difficult to show student growth in Reading and Math when 94% of your students are already proficient in Reading and 100% of your students are proficient in Math. Our 4 year graduation rate is 94.87% and our participation rate is 98%.

As a school administrator, the most important factor to look at is our Proficiency Rate. As stated above, by digging a little deeper into the scores, we see that 94% of the high school students tested are proficient in Reading and 100% of our high school students are proficient in math! If you wish to look at our scores and compare our scores to other schools, simply go to the Iowa Performance Profiles at the following link: https://www.iaschoolperformance.gov/Home/Index

When at this site, type in the school name and click the school you want. Then, at the top of the page, there is a tab called Learning Measures. Click on this and choose Proficiency. This will be the true score to look at. This is the Proficiency rate of the students tested.

Do we have some work to do? Sure we do. Going back to the No Child Left Behind bill passed 20 years ago, the goal was to make 100% of the students proficient in reading and math. This is a great goal to have, but we also need to remember we are taking a snapshot of one single day in a school year. We do not know what each of our students have gone through the night before or the morning of. Did they get a good night sleep? Did they get a good breakfast? Was there some family issue that may have stressed them out? Does the student get anxious before standardized tests? All these factors will affect student scores. We do our best to provide the best education possible to all of our kids. I believe this is a fantastic school with strong educational practices and excellent educators. According to the Iowa Performance Profiles, we did achieve or meet all the requirements requested by the State of Iowa. (Fact Sheet located on page 2)
Iowa and other states developed systems of school accountability and support in response to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, the K-12 education law replacing No Child Left Behind. ESSA maintains a focus on school accountability and equity for all students but shifts decision-making to states and local school districts.

Iowa’s system:
- Meets federal requirements outlined in ESSA but fits Iowa’s context.
- Focuses attention and resources to schools that need it most.
- Was created with broad stakeholder input.
- Is designed to support schools, not punish them.

Under ESSA, States Must:

- Develop plans for accountability and support
- Set achievement goals for all students to reach
- Identify schools for support and improvement every three years
- Publish school report cards with data and information

School Identification

Identification of Iowa schools for support and improvement is based on these measures:

- **Student Participation on State Assessments**: Requires a minimum of 95 percent of a school’s enrollment participate in annual state assessments.

- **Academic Achievement** (measures the following):
  - **Proficiency**: Percentage of students in a school who are proficient in math and reading based on assessment results.
  - **Average Scale Score**: Information about the average performance of students in reading and mathematics in a school.

- **Student Growth**: Measures overall student growth by looking at student percentiles and determining whether the student is meeting or exceeding growth targets.

- **Graduation Rate** (high schools): Determines percentage of students who graduate from high school in four or five years.

- **Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency**: Measures a student’s progress in obtaining English language proficiency across the domains of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

- **Conditions for Learning**: Measures a school’s safety, engagement and environment based on a survey of students in grades 5 through 12.
School Health Information

All 9th grade students are currently taking CPR class on Tuesday and Thursdays during their normal Health class. Students learn how to provide CPR and use an AED with adults, children, and infants. We follow the American Heart Association’s Heartsaver course curriculum.

February is National Children’s Dental Health Month. Students in grades K-4 received toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss to help keep their smiles healthy! Additional supplies are in the health office on an as needed basis.

Kindergarten Round Up!

Attention all parents: if your child will be 5 years old by September 15, 2019 they are able to enroll in kindergarten for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year! Kindergarten Round Up will take place on Friday, April 5th, at the elementary school in Kingsley.

There will be a session at 9am and 1pm. Please call the school at 378-2861 to register for a session today. We ask that you bring a copy of your child’s birth certificate and immunizations with you to the round up.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for the K-P BOOSTER CLUB

We are in need of volunteers to head up and/or work at events/activities we hold during the year. If you would be willing to help us out, please contact Mary Kennedy at 712-490-0695 or come to a meeting. We would love some fresh, new ideas!

Thank you for your consideration!

“It is the policy of the Kingsley-Pierson Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Rob Wiese, 322 Quest Ave. 712-378-2861, nwiese@k-pcsd.org. The Kingsley-Pierson Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas: Agricultural Education, Business Education, and Industrial Education.”
Elementary & Middle School Comments
- Mr. Wiese

Our second round of Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 21, 2019. Please make every effort to attend the conference. Students are welcome to attend the conference with the parent(s)/guardian(s).

Class of 2032, you are invited to our annual “Kindergarten Round-Up” on Friday, April 5. There will be two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. There are activities planned for each session and we are excited to welcome new kids to the elementary! Please keep in mind that the regular kindergarten classes this year will NOT have school this day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

The “Box Tops 4 Education” collection for Round #2 concluded late February. We all appreciate your willingness to send these items in to the school!

Mother Nature has created chaos with late starts, early dismissals, school cancelled, events cancelled, etc. Spring is hopefully around the corner and we can have a normal schedule! Thank you for your patience and support on these days!!!

Our school usually gets hit with various cases of sickness this time of year. A quick reminder that your child needs to be healthy for 24 hours (stomach flu free) before returning to school.

March is filled with numerous activities and opportunities.

Friday, March 1: Money Smart Week Poster Contest - Grades 4 - 8
Monday, March 4: MS Wrestling at OA-BC-IG (@Odebolt starting at 4:00 PM).
Friday, March 8: Talent Show Kingsley Building.
Sunday, March 10: Daylight Savings Time Begins (Spring ahead: move your clock ahead one hour).
Monday, March 11: MS Track Practice begins.
Tuesday, March 12: Candy Sales End for 5th, 6th, & 7th Grades.
Wednesday, March 13: Early Dismissal @12:30, for a Teacher In-Service and the 3rd Quarter Ends.

Thursday, March 14: 4th Quarter begins.
Tuesday, March 19 &
Thursday, March 21: Parent-Teacher Conferences.
Wednesday, March 20: Spring Begins!
Friday, March 22: No School.
Friday, March 29: 7th & 8th Grade Dance in the Pierson Commons from 8:00-10:00 pm.
Friday, April 5: Kindergarten Round-Up (Regular Kindergarten Students: No School.)
March (more details to come): Assessments for Grades 3-11. Used to be called the Iowa Assessments but now is I.S.A.S.P. for 2018/2019.

The fourth-grade students celebrated the 100th day of school on January 25th! To celebrate students were asked to dress like they were 100 years old. They also participated in fun activities in the classroom throughout the day!

Valentine’s Day was celebrated by getting creative and creating a one-of-a-kind Valentine’s Day box! There were so many wonderful boxes that our judges had a difficult time picking the top three in each class!

**Ms. Mehrer’s class**
1st- Casey Bobolz
2nd- Ari Mosqueda- Lynch
3rd- Willa Wright

**Mrs. Conrad’s class**
1st- John Leekley
2nd- Ziggy Becker
3rd- Wyatt Klaschen

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SPORTS SCHEDULES: #KPSTRONG!!
Our Panthers are making us proud in the classrooms, music and drama competitions, wrestling mats and gym floors. Thank you for staying positive and cheering with our wonderful cheerleaders. Please continue to show your Black and Gold, Panther Pride in a positive way for our kids!!

Thank you for all the workers to make our KP Wrestling Invite a success. Gregg Roeppke, Chad Utesch, Kevin Seuntjens, Tim Reis Brett Harvey, and Robby Haggin at the scoretable. A special thanks to Val Sitzmann and Torey Hill for running the tournament, Chad Utesch for running our seeding meeting and Erin Hoffman, Abby and Bill Sitzmann for running trackwrestling!

Thank you to our volunteers who also helped at our home wrestling tourney and CNOS for their Athletic Training coverage. Our regular seasons are winding down. Please check the Google School Calendar for updates, etc. and continue to show your positive Panther Pride!

Please utilize our Kingsley-Pierson website for updated schedules and gym times. You can locate gym times under the “community” link.

IMPORTANT DATES:
Track and Field starts March 4th
Boys & Girls golf starts March 11th

PE NEWS: Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart Kick-off will be Friday morning, March 8th.

Also, remember if you child has seen a doctor and they are excused from PE for any medical reason, they will need a note from their doctor or from you, the parent/guardian, saying that they are OK to participate. Thank you for your cooperation!