

Changes in Kentucky School Testing System

This year has seen many changes in the Kentucky School Testing System and the school and district report cards. Senate Bill 1 (SB1), enacted in the 2009 Kentucky General Assembly, outlines numerous changes to Kentucky's assessment and accountability program. SB1 creates a three-year interim period (2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11) and a new state assessment program beginning in 2012. The interim period allows Kentucky time to develop the new assessment system while maintaining components necessary for federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) reporting.

SB1 suspended the former state assessment and accountability program with its focus on the accountability index and individual growth charts. All public schools in Kentucky, both Title I and Non-Title I, are held accountable for student performance through Adequate Yearly Progress status included in No Child Left Behind (NCLB) reports. Assistance to schools that do not meet AYP will be delivered using the Kentucky Department of Education's Assistance and Support School Improvement Success Team (ASSIST) model. ASSIST teams shall have local district staff collaborating with Kentucky Department of Education staff and other educational partners to support school improvement.

This report card reflects the changes to the system during the interim period. The familiar narratives and most of the data reported in previous years are unchanged. However, the growth chart and the data table supporting it are gone, as well as, data from assessments of writing portfolios, arts and humanities and practical living/vocational studies. These assessments changed from state-required to local-option in spring 2009. All academic indices are gone. Little has been added in the interim, but you will see the state results for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) as required by law.

NCLB Annual Yearly Progress

Student Group	Met Annual Measurable Objectives		Met Participation Rate	Other Academic Indicator
	Reading	Mathematics		
All Students	Y	Y	Y	Y
White (non-Hisp)	Y	Y	Y	
African-American	Y	Y	Y	
Hispanic	NA	NA	NA	
Asian	NA	NA	NA	
Limited Eng Prof	NA	NA	NA	
Free/Red Lunch	Y	Y	Y	
With Disability	Y	Y	Y	

Y=Met the goals N=Did not meet the goals NA=Not applicable
S=Safe Harbor, did not make goal but made significant improvement

For High Schools the Other Academic Indicator is Graduation Rate. For Elementary and Middle Schools the Other Academic Indicator is the overall Classification which covers other content beyond Reading and Mathematics.

-Commonwealth of Kentucky-

SCHOOL REPORT CARD

for the 2008-2009 school year



Morton Middle School

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School Enrollment: 781

Our School Council

Jenny Andrews	Karen Bernard
Dana Boarman	Tracey Carroll
Neva Christensen	Kim Eldridge
Sue Hufnagel	Rubin Jones
Twanjua Jones	Donna Mitchell
Lisa Owens	Ronda Runyon
Molly Toney	Karen Ziegler

Dear Parents/Guardians: This report card for the 2008-2009 school year contains important information about our school, including the details about our academic performance, teacher qualifications, learning environment, and more. For a more detailed look at our school, please go to <http://www.education.ky.gov> and select School Report Cards on the blue navigation bar to the left of the homepage.

About Our School: With academics and tradition as cornerstones, Morton Middle School's foundation is built on a middle school culture with our success being all about relationships and an academic focus. Based on Kentucky's Core Content and Assessment, Morton is a pacesetter school with several Top 10 State Rankings. We develop a community of learners by exemplifying our school motto, "Work Hard, Play Fair and Take Care of Each Other" on a daily basis. Morton assures an equal opportunity for every student to learn to their academic potential through a team based middle school philosophy and is especially recognized for its math program. ALL students take Algebra! Morton's mission is: "Exemplary Learning, No excuses, No exceptions!" The high expectations of its leadership and staff enable the school to bring this extraordinary mission, vision and culture to life!

How We Ensure Educational Equity: We believe that all students can learn at high levels and be critical thinkers, problem solvers and effective communicators. Students are taught using a common core of learning skills. Every student is given the opportunity to be successful in challenging classes with rigorous curriculum and is provided resources such as Student Achievement Conferences with the leadership team, MAP/RAP differentiation meetings, Student Assistance Team meetings, TASK, PLATO and Decisions Determine Destiny Study Hall when needed. All students can participate in exploration and enrichment activities. We believe all stakeholders share in the responsibility for learning outcomes, and we emphasize the development of the whole child. At Morton, all students have equal access to a quality education; the diversity of students and staff is encouraged and celebrated.

How We Are Doing

Kentucky's Interim School Testing and Accountability System has three parts: the Kentucky Core Content Tests (KCCT); readiness tests by grade level; and other measures of a school's performance, including attendance, retention and dropout rates. This interim system will be replaced in the 2011-12 school year by a new testing and accountability system structured as required by statute. The goal is that, by 2014, nearly all students will score proficient or distinguished in every subject area tested.

Kentucky Core Content

Tests: Kentucky's tests rate student performance as either Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, or Distinguished. These categories translate into a scale of 0-140, with 100 being considered proficient. This chart compares our school's performance with the schools in our district and throughout Kentucky. For further information on the KCCT Test, performance levels or standards based assessment go to the KDE home page <http://www.education.ky.gov> and click on School Report Card.

Middle School KCCT Test		Reading		Mathematics		Science		Writing On Demand		Social Studies	
		2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Novice	School	2%	2%	7%	5%	5%	4%	2%	0%	4%	5%
	District	7%	5%	14%	10%	10%	10%	8%	5%	12%	10%
	State	7%	7%	16%	13%	10%	11%	9%	8%	12%	12%
Apprentice	School	19%	18%	19%	18%	20%	21%	38%	33%	17%	15%
	District	24%	21%	24%	20%	27%	25%	44%	40%	29%	26%
	State	27%	26%	28%	26%	30%	27%	52%	50%	31%	32%
Proficient Distinguished	School	79%	81%	74%	77%	75%	75%	60%	67%	79%	79%
	District	69%	73%	63%	70%	63%	66%	48%	55%	60%	63%
	State	67%	67%	57%	61%	60%	63%	39%	42%	58%	56%

Readiness Assessment: 8th grade students in Kentucky are being given the EXPLORE assessment from ACT, Inc. This assessment predicts attainment on the ACT assessment and suggests performance in college. These scores are reported as scale scores from 1 to 25. For further information on this test and the other components of the Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) go to the KDE homepage (<http://www.education.ky.gov>) and select School Report Card from the blue navigation bar.

EXPLORE						
	2008			2009		
	School	District	State	School	District	State
Reading	15.0	14.1	13.7	15.3	14.3	13.9
Mathematics	16.2	15.1	14.4	16.4	15.3	14.6
English	15.6	14.4	13.7	15.9	14.6	13.8
Science	16.9	16.3	15.8	17.3	16.4	16.0
Composite	16.1	15.1	14.5	16.3	15.3	14.7

Other Measures: The third component of the Kentucky Testing System is our school's performance in attendance, retention*, dropout rate, and for successful transition to adult life. Data in these tables reflect our performance during the 2007-2008 school year.

	Attendance Rate	Retention Rate	Dropout Rate
School	94.9%	0.0%	0.0%
District	93.6%	4.1%	2.5%
State	94.2%	2.6%	2.3%

* The percent of students who had to repeat the grade.

NAEP: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is also known as "the Nation's Report Card". NAEP has been conducting assessments since 1969 and is the only national assessment of what "America's students know and can do" in various subject areas. NAEP does not report scores for individual students or schools. NAEP bases its results on a sample of students and provides data at the state and national level.

Grade 8	NAEP Achievement Level Percentages			
	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Reading	27%	46%	25%	3%
Mathematics	31%	42%	22%	5%

Grade 8	NAEP Participation Rates	
	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Reading	84%	89%
Mathematics	51%	82%

Our Learning Environment

School Safety: Here is what we are doing to make our school safe for our students.

Visitors are Required to Sign in	All Parents Received the District Discipline Code	% Classrooms with Outside Line
Y	Y	100%

Procedures in Place In Our School for Drug and Weapons Detection:

Violation	# of Reported Incidents	# of Students Suspended	# of Students Expelled
1st Degree Assault	0	0	0
Drug Violation	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0

Morton Middle is a safe place. Our students, staff, parents and half-time school resource officer take pride in our orderly school environment which promotes high student achievement. All exterior doors are locked and 16 video surveillance cameras are used to monitor our campus. Visitors are welcomed and identified by our full-time concierge as they enter through the front door. Our School Emergency Response Team prepares plans of action in case of specific emergencies, trains our staff, and conducts regular drills to ensure the safety of everyone in our care. We promote the importance for our students and staff to keep each other informed if they know about drugs or weapons on school grounds and have a reporting procedure in place.

Student Resources

	Spending per Student	Student/Teacher Ratio	% Computers 5 Years Old or Less	Students per Internet Connected Computer
Our School	\$5,821	16.0:1	73.4%	3.3:1
District	\$9,771	15.0:1	79.6%	3.0:1
State	\$10,301	16.0:1	77.7%	2.8:1

How We Use Technology To Teach:

All subject areas have access to a 31 station computer lab, a 32 station library lab, and an 11 wireless laptop lab. In addition, all language arts teachers have access to a 30 wireless laptop lab for writing. Computers are used for Internet research, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Word which all enhance classroom instruction and student-directed learning. Classrooms are equipped with a LCD Projector and document camera to engage students. Also, CPS units, United Streaming videos and clips are used to support and enhance learning. READ 180 lab uses computers for differentiated reading instruction.

Parental Involvement

	# of Students Whose Parent/Guardian Had at Least One Teacher Conference	# of Parents/Guardians Voting in School Council (SBDM) Elections	# of Parents/Guardians Serving on the School Council (SBDM) or its Committees	# of Volunteer Hours
Our School	207	101	4	715

Teacher Qualifications

The preparation and experience of our teachers also is important to our success. These numbers do not include administrators, guidance counselors, or library media specialists. Upon request, our district will provide information about the qualifications of your child's teachers and teachers' aides.

	School	District	State
% of Teachers with Emergency or Provisional Certification	1.7%	1.3%	1.2%
% of Classes Taught by Teachers who Participated in Content-Focused Professional Development	100.0%	100.0%	NA
% of Core Academic Subject Classes NOT Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers	0.0%	0.8%	1.2%
Average Years of Teaching Experience	15.2	11.3	11.7
Number of Teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Standards	0	81	1,506

	B.A./B.S.	M.A./M.S.	Rank I	Specialist	Ph.D./Ed.D.	Total Teachers
Professional Qualifications of all Teachers in the School	21.0%	45.6%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	100%

Other Important Information About Our School

State Contest Results: Morton had 142 students receiving straight Distinguished, D, ratings on the 2009 KCCT. The Academic Quick Recall Team placed 2nd in the KAAC District Governor's Cup. All three bands received straight D ratings for the 23rd year at the KMEA Festival. Morton's chorus earned D ratings in solo and ensemble. The speech team placed 10th in the state. The 6th grade orchestra and 7th/8th grade orchestra received D ratings at the KMEA Festival.

Extracurricular Activities: Academic Teams, Future Problem Solving Team, Math Counts Team, Math Bowl Team, Speech & Drama Team, Cheerleading Team, Dance team, Football Team, Girls Volleyball Team, Girls & Boys Basketball Teams, Girls & Boys Track Teams, NXT Lego League, Student Council, Beta Club, PTSA Sponsored Dances, STLP, TSA, Yearbook, Recycling Club, MMS News, FCA, KUNA, KYA, Horizons Club, Breakfast Book Club, Mustang Club, and Cassidy Study Buddies.

Awards & Recognitions: Morton has several staff members receiving awards such as Building Assessment Coordinator of the Year, Technology Program of Excellence Award recipient, KMEA Band Director of the Year, John R. Bryden, Great Teacher Award recipient, and Who's Who Among American Teachers. Morton is recognized as an exemplary middle school, as well as a Pace Setter School, by KDE. We continue to receive SACS accreditation. Our athletic teams receive county honors for highest team GPAs.

What We Are Doing To Improve: Morton's success is all about relationships! Our motto at Morton is, "Work hard, play fair and take care of each other." With the help of our SBDM Council, faculty and staff, we work cooperatively to create a school climate fostering excellence and equity for all. We have regularly scheduled monthly RTI meetings, team leader meetings, departmental meetings, and weekly leadership team meetings to help us stay focused on student achievement and success.

Kentucky Core Content Testing by Sub-groups: This chart shows the average test scores for student sub-populations in our school. P + D % is Proficient and Distinguished percent. Scores of groups of ten or fewer students are not reported.

Student Sub-populations	Reading				Mathematics				Science			
	2008		2009		2008		2009		2008		2009	
	Students	P+D%	Students	P+D%	Students	P+D%	Students	P+D%	Students	P+D%	Students	P+D%
All Students	700	78.57	747	80.86	700	73.86	747	77.11	212	75.00	267	74.91
White	503	85.29	508	87.60	503	80.52	508	85.63	143	85.31	178	83.15
African-American	79	55.70	113	61.95	79	39.24	113	47.79	29	37.93	43	51.16
Asian	37	-	38	76.32	37	-	38	89.47	16	81.25	11	90.91
Hispanic	59	54.24	52	61.54	59	57.63	52	57.69	15	53.33	22	59.09
Free/Red Lunch	219	61.19	279	66.31	219	55.71	279	60.93	67	53.73	107	56.07
Non-Free/Red Lunch	481	86.49	468	89.53	481	82.12	468	86.75	145	84.83	160	87.50
Limited English	42	35.71	26	-	42	61.90	26	-	10	30.00	12	58.33
Non-Limited English	652	81.60	714	82.07	652	74.85	714	77.73	200	77.50	251	75.30
Disability	70	52.86	77	71.43	70	52.86	77	68.83	19	57.89	33	75.76
Non-Disability	630	81.43	670	81.94	630	76.19	670	78.06	193	76.68	234	74.79
Migrant	5	-	2	-	5	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
Non-Migrant	695	78.99	745	80.94	695	73.81	745	77.32	211	75.36	266	74.81
Female	344	81.98	360	87.22	344	73.55	360	79.17	103	74.76	136	74.26
Male	356	75.28	387	74.94	356	74.16	387	75.19	109	75.23	131	75.57
Percentage Tested	704	99.43	752	99.34	704	99.43	752	99.34	213	99.53	268	99.63

For Further Information: To locate further data concerning this school and the district, please go to the Kentucky Department of Education homepage at <http://www.education.ky.gov>, and select School Report Card from the blue navigation bar at the left of the screen. Next, select Expanded Data and you will see a selection of reports offering a wealth of detail about the school and district and their programs. For even more information we suggest that you visit the school or district office and talk with the staff and faculty.



Our school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability in employment or provision of services.