

## The Parker School District Report Card 2011-2012

A law passed by federal and state legislators is designed to hold public school districts more accountable for the achievement of students. This law is titled “No Child Left Behind.” Part of this law mandates that the Department of Education provides each public school with a Report Card. The data in this report card includes:

- the graduation rates for secondary school students in each school;
- the attendance rates for elementary school students;
- the professional qualifications of all teachers; and
- the results of students’ performance on new statewide and nationwide tests.

Students’ test results are stated in terms of four levels of achievement: advanced, proficient, basic, and below-basic. Achievement, for purposes of this law, is measured by a “standardized” test designed to compare students to their peers throughout South Dakota and the U.S. For the past school year, the subjects of reading and mathematics were the two subjects included in the new annual report card. Public school students will be tested in other subject areas in future years.

The Parker School District Report Card shows the following results for the 2011-2012 school year.

- The Parker High School graduation rate was 96%
- The attendance rate for the district rate was 95.9%
- 100% of the teachers in the Parker School District were considered Highly Qualified according to NCLB during the 2011-2012 school year.
- Test results showed the following:
  - 97% of Parker School students in grades 3 through 5 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 78% of students in these grades achieved this level of performance.
  - 96% of students in Parker School in grades 3 through 5 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. This compares to the statewide average of 77% of students in these grades achieving this level of performance.
  - 97% of Parker School students in grades 6 through 8 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 76% of students in these grades achieved this level of performance.
  - 91% of students in Parker School in grades 6 through 8 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. This compares to the statewide average of 74% of students in these grades achieving this level of performance.
  - 79% of Parker High School students in grade 11 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 69% of high school students achieved this level of performance
  - 74% of Parker High School students in grade 11 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. Statewide, 70% of high school students tested achieved this level of performance.
  - 94% of Parker School District students tested achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 77% of students tested achieved this level of performance.
  - 91% of Parker School District students tested achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. Statewide, 75% of students tested achieved this level of performance.

Lawmakers believe that information in the schools' report cards will help parents know how well public schools are performing. The report card for the Parker School District is impressive and worthy of celebration. Students and teachers in the Parker School District significantly exceed the standards established by the state and nation in this new "No Child Left Behind" law.

**Parker School District is a "Distinguished School District"  
(1 out of only 5 in the State of SD)**

**\*Parker is the only school in the state of SD that has been a Distinguished District for 7 years in a row!**

Distinguished Districts are identified using the following criteria according to the Dakota STEP. The district must meet adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years in both reading and math and the other academic indicator for all three grade spans, AND have at least 85 percent of the students in the "All Student" group meet the State's proficient and advanced levels of student performance in both reading and math. 94% of Parker Students scored Proficient or Advanced in Math and 91% of Parker Students scored Proficient or Advanced in Reading.

**Parker Elementary, Middle School, and High Schools are Distinguished Schools**

Distinguished Schools are identified using the following criteria according to the Dakota STEP. The district must meet adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years in both reading and math and the other academic indicator AND significantly close the achievement gap between the disaggregated groups of students OR if the percentage of students in the "All Student" group that have met the State's Proficient and Advanced levels of student performance in both reading and math is 10 percentage points higher than the current year's AMO for each subject.

**HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF**

100 % of the Parker School District's 2010-2011 certified staff is considered Highly Qualified according to the NCLB (No Child Left Behind) criteria set by the federal government. To meet these requirements, all teachers have to be certified in the areas they teach and have a minimum of three years of teaching experience or pass a praxis test in the areas that they are certified in.

100% of the Parker School District's 2010-2011 Education Assistants, EA's, are also considered Highly Qualified according to the NCLB requirements for Para Professionals. All EA's have to pass a Para Professional Praxis test or hold a minimum of a two-year degree.