

## The Parker School District Report Card 2012-2013

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 2012-2013 school year.

- The four-year cohort graduation rate: 96.30%
- The high school completion rate: 100%
- The attendance rate for the district rate was 96.49%
- 100% of the teachers in the Parker School District were considered Highly Qualified according to NCLB during the 2012-2013 school year.
- Test results showed the following:
  - 92.98% of Parker School students in grades 3 through 6 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 74.17% of students in these grades achieved this level of performance.
  - 88.6% of students in Parker School in grades 3 through 6 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. This compares to the statewide average of 76.18% of students in these grades achieving this level of performance.
  - 89.8% of Parker School students in grades 7 through 8 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 74.13% of students in these grades achieved this level of performance.
  - 77.55% of students in Parker School in grades 7 through 8 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. This compares to the statewide average of 73.15% of students in these grades achieving this level of performance.
  - 78.79% of Parker High School students in grade 11 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 70.27% of high school students achieved this level of performance
  - 87.88% of Parker High School students in grade 11 achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. Statewide, 69.4% of high school students tested achieved this level of performance.
  - 89.8% of Parker School District students tested achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Mathematics. Statewide, 73.64% of students tested achieved this level of performance.
  - 85.71% of Parker School District students tested achieved at the proficient or advanced level in Reading. Statewide, 73.99% 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 the "No Child Left Behind" law.

### **HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF**

100 % of the Parker School District's 2012-2013 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 2012-2013 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.

### **Blue Ribbon School Award Winner- 2012-2013**

Parker Elementary School was named a "**Blue Ribbon School of Excellence**" by the Federal Government's Education Department. Parker was one of 300 schools in the nation to receive this prestigious award. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that are either high performing or have improved student achievement to high levels, especially among disadvantaged students. The program is part of a larger Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices.