

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	NA	NA	NA	
Hispanic	NA	NA	NA	
Asian	NA	NA	NA	
Limited Eng Prof	NA	NA	NA	
Free/Red Lunch	Y	Y	Y	
With Disability	NA	NA	NA	

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



Somerset High School

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School Enrollment: 465

Our School Council

Bonnie Anciro, Parent

Colleen Bivens, Parent

Kevin Burkett, Teacher

Sara Cobb, Teacher

Kenneth Estep, Parent

Teresa Head, Teacher

Kristi Jenkins, Teacher

Mark Murray, Principal

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: SHS was first in the region to earn SACS accreditation and continues to perform well on the Kentucky Core Content Test compared to other schools in state. ACT averages consistently exceed regional and state averages. Ninety-seven of 114, 2009 graduates transitioned successfully. SHS claims one of the highest percentages statewide for students in the Governor's Scholars Program. All AP students take the AP exams. Our dropout rate is below regional and state averages. A Freshman Focus program is in place to help freshmen make a successful transition from the middle to high school, thus reducing the dropout rate. College courses are offered through KVHS, KET; and through Somerset Community College and Eastern Kentucky University at our school on SHS campus. Vocational and work-based learning is available through Pulaski County Area Technical Center and our school bank. SHS provides internet-based instruction for credit recovery coursework and a GED option program.

How We Ensure Educational Equity: SHS continues to make a daily commitment to serve all students equitably. Our goal is to maximize the potential of every student regardless of race, national origin, gender, socioeconomic status, or disability. Free tutoring assistance is provided for any student through the Extended School Services Program and the 21st Century Grant Program. A Freshman Focus program is used to ensure the successful transition from 8th to 9th grade for all students. Staff is trained to properly implement 504 and Individual Education Plans in order to better facilitate learning for special needs students. Teaching strategies are used to incorporate a multicultural approach in all applicable areas. All extra-curricular activities are scheduled and implemented according to Title IX guidelines for gender equity. Discipline referrals are handled consistently with the student handbook and the SHS code of conduct.

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.

High School KCCT Test		Reading		Mathematics		Science		Writing On Demand		Social Studies	
		2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Novice	School	5%	4%	21%	17%	13%	12%	6%	5%	9%	16%
	District	5%	4%	21%	17%	13%	12%	6%	5%	9%	16%
	State	6%	6%	27%	26%	20%	20%	12%	9%	20%	20%
Apprentice	School	35%	29%	44%	28%	49%	29%	59%	60%	46%	34%
	District	35%	29%	44%	28%	49%	29%	59%	60%	46%	34%
	State	34%	33%	34%	33%	38%	38%	58%	56%	42%	40%
Proficient Distinguished	School	60%	67%	35%	55%	38%	59%	35%	35%	45%	50%
	District	60%	67%	35%	55%	38%	59%	35%	35%	45%	50%
	State	60%	62%	39%	41%	41%	41%	30%	35%	38%	41%

Readiness Assessment: 10th grade

students in Kentucky are being given the PLAN 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 32. 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.

PLAN						
	2008			2009		
	School	District	State	School	District	State
Reading	17.3	17.4	16.1	16.6	16.6	16.0
Mathematics	17.0	17.0	16.1	16.6	16.6	16.4
English	16.5	16.5	15.3	16.8	16.8	15.9
Science	18.1	18.1	17.2	17.9	17.9	17.4
Composite	17.3	17.4	16.3	17.1	17.1	16.6

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.

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

	Attendance Rate	Retention Rate	Dropout Rate	Graduation Rate
School	94.0%	0.9%	1.5%	85.7%
District	95.1%	1.1%	1.0%	85.7%
State	94.2%	2.6%	2.3%	84.5%

Transition to Adult Life

College	Military	Work	Voc/Tech Training	Work & PT School	Not Successful
62.5%	2.7%	17.0%	4.5%	1.8%	11.6%
62.5%	2.7%	17.0%	4.5%	1.8%	11.6%
55.2%	2.4%	26.0%	5.0%	6.8%	4.7%

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%

Violation	# of Reported Incidents	# of Students Suspended	# of Students Expelled
1st Degree Assault	2	0	0
Drug Violation	5	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0

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

SHS provides a safe environment. Staff works with local authorities. Students are encouraged to talk with staff when they feel uncomfortable with a situation. Our small size helps to build positive relations with students. Random drug testing is conducted; canine searches and wand detection shall be utilized if necessary. Camera surveillance is used for protection of students and staff. Administrators adhere to board policy with regard to enforcement of infractions.

Student Resources

	Spending per Student	Student/Teacher Ratio	% Computers 5 Years Old or Less	Students per Internet Connected Computer
Our School	\$8,784	15.0:1	93.2%	2.0:1
District	\$9,445	14.0:1	91.7%	2.7:1
State	\$10,301	16.0:1	77.7%	2.8:1

How We Use Technology To Teach:

KTLN, writing labs, workstations, Smart boards, Computers on Wheels, digital cameras, scanners, projection devices, and laptops enhance teaching and learning. Course offerings focus on computer applications, web development, and multimedia publishing. Our state-of-the-art alternative learning center provides internet based credit recovery and live broadcasts of classroom presentations to students. The Student Technology Leadership utilizes high level skills of students to assist in web page design and maintenance, troubleshooting, upgrades and assistance to students and teachers.

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	30	10	9,000

ACT Testing: The ACT is America's most widely accepted college entrance exam. It assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. All Kentucky Juniors are required to take the ACT. The chart below shows both 11th grade and graduating Senior ACT scores.

		11th Grade ACT Scores				
		English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2009	School	19.30	19.60	20.40	20.00	20.00
	District	19.30	19.60	20.40	20.00	20.00
	State	17.30	18.20	18.40	18.50	18.20
2008	School	18.30	19.00	19.90	19.20	19.20
	District	18.30	19.00	19.90	19.20	19.20
	State	17.30	18.10	18.50	18.70	18.30

		Graduating Senior ACT Scores				
		English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2009	School	19.40	19.50	20.20	19.50	19.80
	District	19.40	19.50	20.20	19.50	19.80
	State	18.30	18.70	19.40	19.40	19.10
2008	School	22.80	21.70	22.90	21.80	22.40
	District	22.80	21.70	22.90	21.80	22.40
	State	20.50	20.20	21.50	20.70	20.90

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	0.0%	0.0%	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%	0.0%	1.2%
Average Years of Teaching Experience	15.3	14.1	11.7
Number of Teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Standards	2	3	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	7.3%	39.0%	53.6%	0.0%	0.0%	100%

Other Important Information About Our School

State Contest Results: Five band members made Honors band at Western KY Univ. The academic team placed 1st in the fall league and 1st in the district governor's cup with several individuals receiving 1st place. They also participated in the All A quick recall competition, placing 4th. DECA had six 1st place and three 2nd place finishes in state competition, and had one student who competed in DECA nationals this past school year.

Extracurricular Activities: Academic team, quick recall, Future Problem Solving, yearbook, newspaper, National Honor Society, dance, archery, cheerleading, cross-country, soccer, football, basketball, swimming, golf, tennis, track, softball, & baseball; Environmental Club, DECA, FBLA, Police & Medical Explorers, Student Technology Leadership Program, Family, Career, Community Leaders of America, and Pep Club.

Awards & Recognitions: SHS consistently has one of highest percentages of students in GSP; ACT averages exceed regional and state averages; 69% of graduates attended college full time. Dropout rate is below regional and state averages; "Meets Goal" school since 2000. Two SHS students were National Merit Scholars; one was National Merit Commended. Seniors were awarded more than \$920,000 in scholarships for academic & service excellence.

What We Are Doing To Improve: We strive to improve every aspect of our school and to do what is best for our students. School improvement planning includes staff PD, curriculum alignment with Core Content for Assessment, Program of Studies, and national standards. We work to provide opportunities for extended student engagement in the classrooms. Teachers are using "Best Practice" instructional strategies, including technology, to motivate students and guide them in the 21st Century.

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	124	60.48	101	67.33	110	35.45	112	55.36	110	38.18	112	58.93
White	106	60.38	88	68.18	95	32.63	96	53.13	95	36.84	96	55.21
African-American	10	60.00	8	-	7	-	9	-	7	-	9	-
Asian	3	-	2	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-
Hispanic	3	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	5	-	1	-
Free/Red Lunch	49	44.90	43	53.49	38	10.53	37	40.54	38	23.68	37	54.05
Non-Free/Red Lunch	75	70.67	58	77.59	72	48.61	75	62.67	72	45.83	75	61.33
Limited English	1	-	2	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
Non-Limited English	122	61.48	99	68.69	110	35.45	112	55.36	110	38.18	112	58.93
Disability	12	8.33	12	25.00	8	-	11	9.09	8	-	11	18.18
Non-Disability	112	66.07	89	73.03	102	35.29	101	60.40	102	38.24	101	63.37
Migrant	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
Non-Migrant	123	60.98	101	67.33	110	35.45	112	55.36	110	38.18	112	58.93
Female	68	69.12	46	69.57	56	37.50	61	57.38	56	41.07	61	62.30
Male	56	50.00	55	65.45	54	33.33	51	52.94	54	35.19	51	54.90
Percentage Tested	124	100.00	101	100.00	110	100.00	112	100.00	110	100.00	112	100.00

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.