



July 27, 2009

Word from the Superintendent



Congratulations! Last year our official AYP results noted we were "Making Progress," and this year we made AYP for the first time. Thanks to your efforts, our children continue to demonstrate measurable learning gains.

Some highlights of the data:

1. ALL elementary schools made AYP.
2. We only missed 6 out of 123 performance targets; 95% performance targets were met district-wide.
3. We are measured on 268 total targets including performance and participation. We met 98% of these targets.
4. CASHS met all targets except for our economically disadvantaged students in reading and math.
5. Faust met all targets except IEP students in reading and math.
6. CAMS met all targets except IEP and ELL students in math.
7. We met 8 out of 10 IEP student targets district-wide.
8. We met 26 out of 28 economically disadvantaged student targets district-wide.
9. We met all 6 black student targets district-wide.
10. We met all 6 Latino/Hispanic student targets district-wide.
11. We met 1 of 2 English Language Learner student targets district-wide.
12. 11 schools demonstrated improvement in overall math proficiency.
13. 8 schools demonstrated improvement in overall reading proficiency.
14. There are 237 more proficient/advanced students this year in reading than last year.
15. There are 241 more proficient/advanced students this year in math than last year.
16. Congratulations to Hamilton Heights, Scotland and Stevens for making AYP this year. You did it!

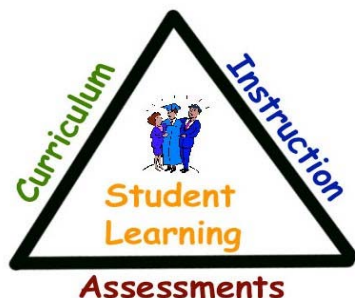
There is a lot to celebrate here and I know you are looking forward to sharing these successes with our students in the fall.

This data also shows us areas for continued improvement. As we work towards the ultimate goal of complete proficiency and beyond for every student, we have to examine and refine what works and adjust for students who aren't yet finding success.

These results remind us we are here for student learning and the path we are taking is the right one. Enjoy the rest of summer. I look forward to congratulating everyone personally in August!

- Joe

Curriculum Connections



Every single teacher and instructional leader is involved in some form of curriculum and professional development this summer. This unprecedented level of summer work focused intently on student learning demonstrates our commitment to the completion of a Standards Based Curriculum in each department, subject and grade level. With this financial investment, it is expected we use and develop the curriculum each year. This is one side of the student learning triangle.

Side #2 focuses on teacher agreed upon common assessments which will solidify the utilization of the curriculum and information changes in instruction and curriculum guides. Currently, the plan to connect Side #1 and Side # 2 is the utilization of common team and grade level times weekly to support learning communities. The teams will focus on using the curriculum to create assessments. The leadership team has been working all summer to create schedules and professional development philosophies which will allow teachers to work collaboratively on making connections between the curriculum and assessments.

Side #3 focuses on instruction where the "rubber meets the road." A world-class curriculum with common assessments is only as good as the instruction and learning that takes place in the classroom.

The art and science of instruction is precision work that requires highly professional teachers to understand and learn with and through others.

PDE Education Hub <http://www.edportal.ed.state.pa.us>

We are excited about our continuous improvement efforts and unwavering focus on student learning.

Graduation Photos Available Online

A photo gallery of the 2009 commencement at Chambersburg Area Senior High School is available at www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/cashs/2009graduation.



Watt's Up by Connie Kelley



Did you know that for every degree you lower your air conditioning temperature, the energy costs rise by 3% to 6%? A temperature setting of 75° costs 18% more; 72° costs 36% more! Your body can acclimate to higher A/C settings ... try adding a degree every couple of days.

For additional energy savings tips, as well as for a district-wide energy savings update, recycling news about aluminum can tabs, juice pouches, and paper, and a list of recent energy conservation employee winners, see [Watt's Up for July](#).

Plus, find out which of our buildings rang up the most energy savings last month by reading the [June results](#).

Our district has saved over \$600,000 in energy costs compared with what we spent in previous years with no energy management and education. This equates to almost 1 mill in local taxes.

Bus Policy Affects Pick-Up and Drop-Off



Parents and guardians are reminded that the district's busing policy will allow for different morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off locations this school year, but the arrangement must be for five consecutive days. For complete details, see this [letter from the CASD Transportation Department](#).

State Funding Adds Uncertainty to District Budget



Because the state budget is not yet finalized, we do not know how much funding our district will receive. By law our school district budget had to be finalized and approved by our school board by the end of June. Our budget is based on the anticipated amount of state funding which was sent to all PA school districts by the Department of Education. For Chambersburg, this amount is \$21,899,999, or approximately 22% of our total revenue.

To balance the budget based on this anticipated state revenue, the following actions were taken:

- eliminate French program
- delay some textbook purchases
- restructure autistic support
- reduce special education support; personal care aide ratio to 1:3 instead of 1:1
- reduce art and music programs
- eliminate health services supervisor position
- reassign two reading specialist positions to fill classroom vacancies
- reassign elementary technology integrator position to fill classroom vacancy
- eliminate three special education support positions
- eliminate three copy room clerks (Faust, CAMS, CASHS);
- fill CAMS assistant principal position with long-term sub internally

If CASD receives less in state revenue, additional program cuts may be necessary. These difficult cuts will be made by examining all areas not directly related to a graduation requirement including extracurricular programs, educational programs, and administrative and support services.

District Wins "Waste Watcher" Award



Thanks to our recycling, waste reduction, and conservation efforts, CASD has been named a Waste Watcher award recipient by the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, and Keystone Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America.

The Waste Watcher awards are given to recycling, waste reduction, reuse, and composting programs in Pennsylvania that have shown exemplary performance. This year, more than 70 municipalities, counties, private businesses, individuals, and community organizations are being recognized for their efforts. CASD is the only organization in Franklin County being acknowledged for its kaleidoscope of recycling, reduction, and reuse projects accomplished during the 2008 school year.

Quest Employee Assistance Program Fliers



With all the worry and anxiety about the economy, be sure to check out [Humor in the Workplace](#) from Quest Employee Assistance Program to help lighten the load.

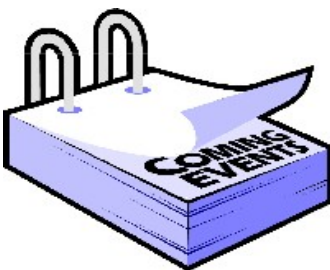
And be sure to read [It's a Family Affair](#), which discusses moving an elderly loved one into your home and what to consider ahead of time to ensure it's a good decision for everyone. Quest offers an eldercare specialist, Dr. Peggy McFarland, to help families navigate through these kinds of decisions. Call 800-364-6352 to find out more about eldercare services.

Web Wisdom



Did you know you can export calendar information from any CASD Schoolcenter calendar directly to your personal calendar? Have testing dates, important school events, parent conferences, school board meetings, holidays, school closings and more added to your Outlook account for a more complete calendar to start the year. To do this, go to the district calendar or the calendar on your school website. Click on the "Export" button located at the top of the calendar. You will see options for exporting. Select MS Outlook for the events of your choice to be added to your Outlook calendar. The next screen allows you to choose which events you want to export to your calendar and the date range of your choice. Select the events and date range you want and click "Export." Your Outlook calendar will automatically be updated!

District Calendar Review



Faust and CASHS band camps: 8/3 - 8/7
 School board meeting: 8/12
 CASHS new student orientation: 8/19
 CAMS and Faust new student orientations: 8/20
 School board meeting: 8/26
 First day of school: 8/31

[Complete district calendar](#)

Do you have something to add to the CASD eNewsletters for employees and/or community members? If so, please e-mail your content to [Sylvia Rockwood](#). The deadlines are the same days as school board meetings, which are the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.



For information about school board business, including meeting agendas and documents, visit [BoardDocs](#) under the school board link on the district website.

[Personnel actions for July 22](#)

Questions or comments about the CASD eNewsletter? E-mail casdnews@chambersburg.k12.pa.us.

Recent issues of eCASD News are available at www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/communications.



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