

2010—2011
CONESTOGA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ANNUAL REPORT CARD
Quality Education
For All Students

MISSION OF CONESTOGA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Conestoga Inspires and Prepares Students for Life."

Conestoga Public Schools has utilized the Nebraska Continuous Improvement Model as an on going approach to school improvement. Kindergarten through 12th grade teams, representing each building, have taken a comprehensive look at the educational process at the Conestoga schools.

Vision Statement: By 2020, student performance in standardized academic measures will rank in the top 20% of Nebraska districts.

Performance Metrics:

1. ACT Scores
2. Financial Solvency
3. Number of Course Offerings
4. Staff Satisfaction
5. Graduation Rate
6. Student Feedback (Survey)
7. Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Strategic Initiatives:

1. Professional Development
2. Curriculum Review and Alignment
3. Explore Non-Traditional Funding Sources
4. Community Relations
5. Student Involvement
6. Parent Involvement

GOVERNING VALUES/BELIEFS

The mission of the Conestoga Public schools is based upon the belief that:

- All students can learn.
- A safe environment is essential to learning.
- Learning is most effective in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.
- Students need to be responsible for, and be actively involved in their learning.
- Learning is a cooperative effort among the home, school, community, and the learner.
- Learning is lifelong.
- All students live in a diverse and interdependent world.

To successfully carry out the mission of the Conestoga Public Schools, parameters that will enable the mission and beliefs to grow were identified. In order to accomplish our mission:

- All employees will approach tasks with a positive attitude.
- Educational goals will be developed with the input of students, staff, parents, and community.
- Only programs with supportive research, proven best practice, proper staff training, and on-going evaluation will be implemented.
- Effective instructional skills will be demonstrated by all staff.
- Adequate facilities, supplies, and equipment must be provided for use by students, staff and all patrons.
- An analysis of cost effectiveness will be undertaken before expending any financial resources.
- Excuses for not learning are not acceptable.

CONESTOGA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Conestoga School District (#56) comprises approximately 198 square miles in Cass and Otoe Counties. The district is made up of the communities of Nehawka, Murray, Beaver Lake, Lake WaConDa, and the surrounding rural areas. The district is organized as a K-12 educational program with the K-6 Building located in Murray and the 7-12 Building located 2.5 miles west of Murray on Highway #1. In 2008-09 an Alternative Program was opened in the district-owned building in Nehawka to serve students from the junior and high school needing a modified educational experience leading to graduation.

Conestoga is classified as a Class III (K-12) district by the Nebraska Department of Education and a Class C1 school by the Nebraska School Activities Association. AdvanceEd, which serves an 18-state region of schools and colleges, has recognized the elementary and secondary programs for meeting high quality educational standards and has accredited all grade levels. Conestoga is a member of the East Central Nebraska Conference. Member schools include East Butler, Elmwood-Murdock, Johnson County Central, Louisville, Malcolm, Mead, Palmyra, Weeping Water, and Yutan.

The Conestoga School District is governed by a six-member board of education. The Board meets at the elementary building in Murray the second Tuesday of the month. The meetings start at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised. 2010-11 members of the Board of Education are: President Gary Todd, Vice-President Jeff Stanley, Secretary Linda Rice, Treasurer Dean Nickels, and members Scott Moore and Ricky King.

The Conestoga Public Schools Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization that operates separately but as an extension of the schools. The Conestoga Board of Education serves as the Foundation Trustees. The Foundation was formed to provide for acceptance of tax-deductible donations from interested supporters of education. Since the formation of the Foundation in 1989, donations of cash and equipment have been provided as memorials and contributions. Each year the Foundation awards scholarships to graduating seniors from the Conestoga Schools to further their education. The Foundation offers mini-grants to classroom teachers for special projects that provide additional learning experiences for students.

Improvement Goal provided by the school district for 2010-2011

In 2008-2009 Conestoga sought approval for district accreditation and received the approval from the visitation team at the readiness visit to advance. In fall of 2009 the Board of Education adopted the revised Nebraska Reading state standards and work began to align curriculum with those standards. An analysis of the data indicated the necessity of a new goal in the area of reading.

During the Spring of 2012 the Conestoga District will host an AdvanceEd Accreditation visit.

Student Performance Goal 1:

Each grade level K-12 will increase their scores in vocabulary and comprehension by 3% by the 2012-2013 school year.

Free and Reduced-Priced Meals

42.58 % of Nebraska students are eligible for free and reduced-priced meals. Based on pre-kindergarten through 12th grade fall enrollment, Conestoga has 24.07% of the students using the free and reduced-priced meals.

Special Education – 15.17% of school-aged children received special education services in Nebraska.

Conestoga Public Schools has 16.14% of all students that are receiving some form of special education services.

Graduation Rate

Nebraska's graduation rate of 90.01% of students that graduate in four years. This figure included all students transferring in and out of districts.

Conestoga High School graduation rate is 95.24% (41 students)

The above data is for the 2009-2010 year.



ACT Results for 2010-2011

ACT scores for Nebraska high school graduates participation in the ACT compared to their peers across the

ACT Composite

Years	National Average	State Average	District Average
2006-2007	21.20	22.10	23.00
2007-2008	21.10	22.10	20.20
2008-2009	21.10	22.10	20.30
2009-2010	21.00	22.10	19.80
2010-2011	21.10	22.10	20.50

Average Score of Students Who Took Core Courses or More

Years	National Average	State Average	District Average
2006-2007	22.00	22.90	23.50
2007-2008	22.00	22.80	21.00
2008-2009	22.00	22.90	21.20
2009-2010	22.00	22.80	20.60
2010-2011	21.90	22.70	20.80

Students who took the core courses, have completed at least four years of English and three years of mathematics, social studies and natural sciences.



Attendance

The attendance rate shows the total number of days students are actually in school compared to the number of days they should be in school. The attendance rate is the average daily enrollment/membership divided into the average daily attendance.

Years	State	District
1993-1994	95.12%	95.18%
1998-1999	94.95%	95.54%
2003-2004	94.70%	93.71%
2008-2009	94.83%	95.12%
2009-2010	94.76%	95.15%
2010-2011	95.18%	95.32%



Student Demographics Enrollment Comparisons October Enrollment Numbers

Grade	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-2011
Pre K 4 yr	17	32	10	36	47
K	44	56	55	45	52
1	43	36	45	50	40
2	45	46	37	46	51
3	50	49	45	43	48
4	48	56	51	47	45
5	36	47	50	52	48
6	41	37	50	55	50
K-6	307	327	333	338	334
7	52	42	31	49	51
8	43	48	43	35	42
9	46	42	51	46	31
10	54	37	42	49	51
11	56	48	39	44	52
12	46	56	48	41	40
7-12	297	273	254	264	267
K-12	604	600	587	602	601
PreK—12	621	632	597	638	648

Nebraska State Accountability NeSA - Mathematics

All Students

NeSA statewide tests reading in grades 3-8 and 11 were administered for the first time in spring 2010. The tests measured the newly revised Nebraska reading standards and determined whether Nebraska students were proficient on standards

District Average Mathematics Scale Scores: Scale Score Range 0-200

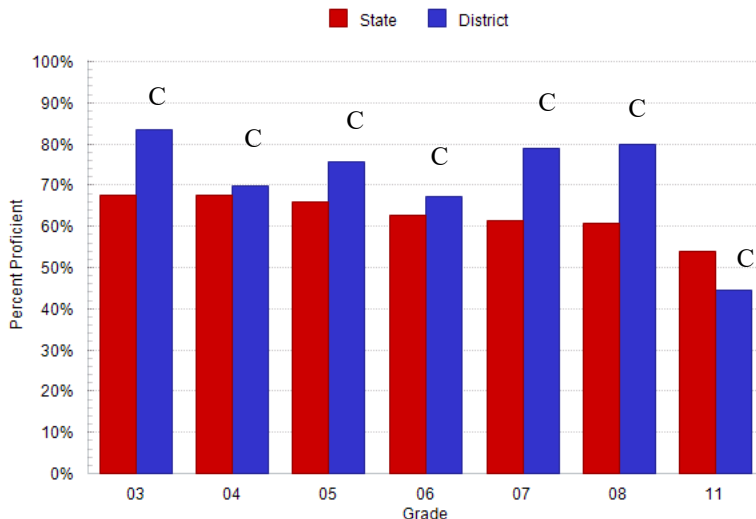
	2010-2011	
	State	District
Grade 3	103	113
Grade 4	103	106
Grade 5	103	103
Grade 6	100	105
Grade 7	99	110
Grade 8	98	115
Grade 11	95	87

Participation 2010 - 2011

	Students Tested		Students Not Tested	
	State	149,611	99.82 %	263
District	343	100.00 %	*	*

- * Data has been masked to protect the identity of students using one the following criteria:
- 1) Fewer than 10 students were reported in a grade or standard.
 - 2) All students were reported in a single performance category.

Percent Proficient By Grade



Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) - Reading All Students

District Average Reading Scale Scores: Scale Score Range 0-200

District Average Reading Scale Scores: Scale Score Range 0-200

	2009-2010		2010-2011	
	State	District	State	District
Grade 3	101	115	104	124
Grade 4	104	105	109	121
Grade 5	101	104	108	117
Grade 6	101	97	109	117
Grade 7	104	112	110	107
Grade 8	102	105	106	106
Grade 11	101	94	102	107

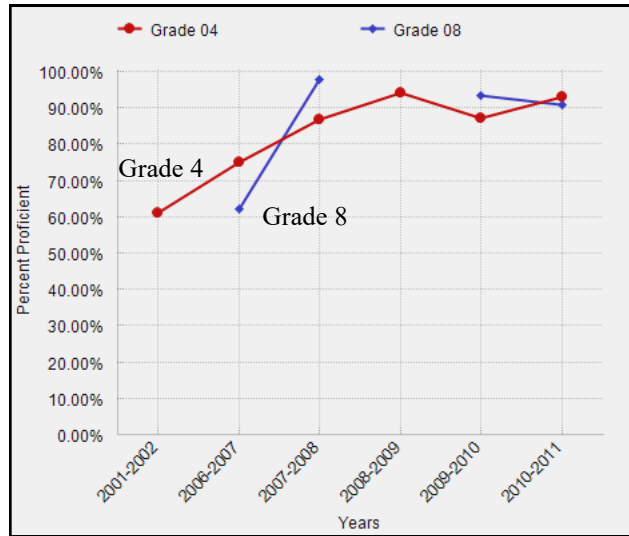
NeSA statewide tests reading in grades 3-8 and 11 were administered for the first time in spring 2010. The tests measured the newly revised Nebraska reading standards and determined whether Nebraska students were proficient on standards.

Participation 2010 - 2011

	Students Tested		Students Not Tested	
	State	149,347	99.85%	227
District	343	100.00%	⊠	⊠

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- 1) Fewer than 10 students were reported in a grade or standard.
 - 2) All students were reported in a single performance category.

Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) - Writing All Students



Overall Performance Percentages for All Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards

Years	Grade 04	Grade 08
2001-2002	61.11%	N / A
2006-2007	75.00%	62.16%
*2007-2008	86.79%	97.96%
2008-2009	94.00%	☒
2009-2010	86.96%	93.55%
2010-2011	92.86%	90.91%
% of Change	31.75%	28.75%

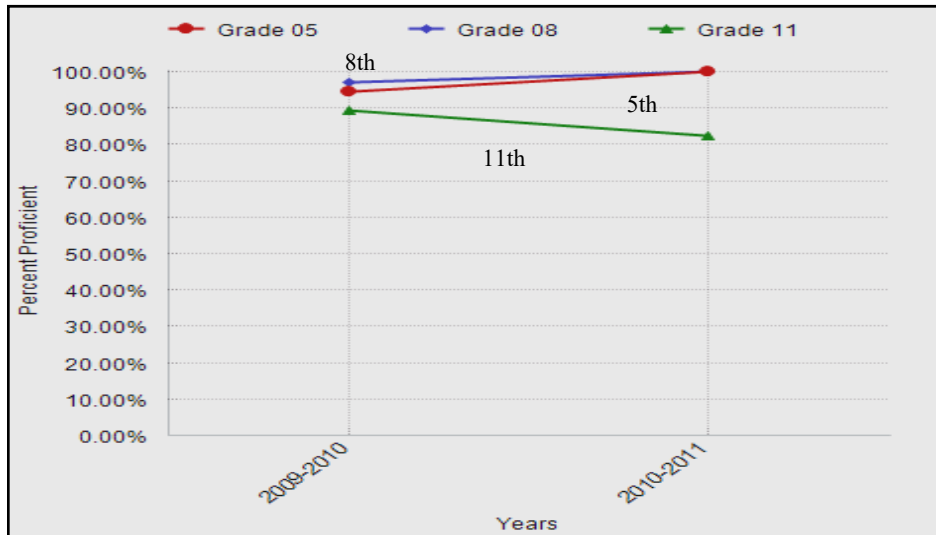
% of Change: Compares the percentage of students proficient on the first state assessment to the current year's results.

*Beginning in 2007-2008 school year, data was collected at the student level..

N / A: Standards were assessed at a different grade levels for the current school year.

- * Data has been masked to protect the identity of students using one the following criteria:
1) Fewer than 10 students were reported in a grade or standard.

Assessment of State Science Standards All Students



Overall Performance Percentages for All Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards

Years	Grade 05	Grade 08	Grade 11
2009-2010	94.44%	97.06%	89.47%
2010-2011	⊠	⊠	82.35%
% of Change	↑ 5.56%	↑ 2.94%	↓ 7.12%

% of Change: Compares the percentage of students proficient on the first state assessment to the current year's results.

- * Data has been masked to protect the identity of students using one the following criteria:
 - 1) Fewer than 10 students were reported in a grade or standard.
 - 2) All students were reported in a single performance category.

Nebraska school districts chose one national standardized test to measure their students' performance at a certain grade and to compare their results to the performance of students across the country. Results show the average Nebraska student score on these National Assessment Instruments (NAIs), which score student results between 1 and 99.

National Standardized Test Results*

2010-2011

Terra Nova Average Student Scores

Terra nova—Normal Curve Equivalent Score (NCE 1-99)

Grade	District			State		
	Average Normal Curve Total Score (NCE Range: 1-99)	Reading	Math	Average Normal Curve Total Score (NCE Range: 1-99)	Reading	Math
4th Grade	57	57	63	54	55	55
8th Grade	62	61	63	57	57	57
11th Grade	52	53	50	56	55	56

Terra Nova Participation

Students Tested		Students Not Tested	
133	100.00%	✖	✖

*Reported as Average Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE)



Teachers Count and Teachers with Master's Degree

Years	Total Teacher Count		Total Teachers with Master's Degrees		Percentage of Teachers with Master's Degrees	
	State	District	State	District	State	District
2000-2001	20,479.84	54.50	11,010.00	22.00	43.59%	39.29%
2005-2006	23,586.92	51.25	9,610.00	22.00	39.08%	41.51%
2007-2008	24,193.13	55.0	10,242.00	20.00	40.80%	37.00%
2008-2009	24,331.56	58.00	10,712.00	20.00	42.41%	35.00%
2009-2010	24,467.68	61.0	11,207.00	24.00	44.10%	40.00%
2010-2011	24,633.92	61.0	11,692.00	25.00	45.72%	41.00%

Average Teacher Salary

Years	State	District
2000-2001	\$34,258	\$32,765
2005-2006	\$40,382	\$36,371
2007-2008	\$43,629	\$38,876
2008-2009	\$44,968	\$40,386
2009-2010	\$46,227	\$42,314
2010-2011	\$47,402	\$43,970

Average Years of Teaching Experience

Years	State	District
2000-2001	16.03	14.41
2005-2006	15.62	13.94
2007-2008	15.30	13.86
2008-2009	15.19	13.90
2009-2010	15.26	13.99
2010-2011	15.24	14.61

High School Teachers Endorsed in the Subject Area They Teach

Subject	State Average	District Average
Language Arts	95.45%	100.00%
Mathematics	97.18%	58.72%
Social Studies	96.98%	100.00%
Science	90.62%	100.00%
World Languages	95.27%	100.00%
Career and Technical Education	96.11%	100.00%
Health and Physical Education	91.24%	100.00%
Visual and Performing Arts	97.07%	100.00%
Overall Average	95.11%	93.93%

State accreditation requirements specify that at least 80 percent of instructional units provided in the secondary grades must be assigned to teachers who hold certificates displaying appropriate endorsements. Endorsements mean the teachers majored in the subjects they teach.

NCLB Qualified Teachers 2010-2011

NCLB Content Areas	2009 - 2010		2010 - 2011	
	Number of courses	Percent NCLB Qualified	Number of courses	Percent NCLB Qualified
CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT	3	100.00%	3	100.00%
ECONOMICS	N / A	N / A	1	100.00%
ELEMENTARY	21	100.00%	21	100.00%
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	36	97.22%	50	100.00%
FOREIGN LANGUAGES	12	100.00%	13	100.00%
HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY	22	95.45%	27	96.30%
MATHEMATICS	31	87.10%	33	96.97%
NATURAL SCIENCES	23	95.65%	25	100.00%
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	23	100.00%	24	100.00%
Overall Count/Average	171	95.91%	197	98.99%

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires all teachers, teaching in the content areas it identifies as core academic areas, to demonstrate that they have sufficient content knowledge in that subject. Teachers in Nebraska met this requirement by holding the appropriate endorsement for the courses/classes taught or by successfully completing the HOUSSE process. The chart below provides the number and percentage of courses taught by NCLB Qualified Teachers in each of the NCLB content areas.

For NCLB purposes, one elementary teacher is considered as one course.

Nebraska's emergency teaching certificate is the Provisional Commitment Certificate. During this school year, there were no teachers in this district teaching on this certificate

NOTE: NCLB Qualified Teacher data presented here includes Special Education teachers.

NCLB Non-Qualified Teachers

NCLB Content Areas	2009 - 2010		2010 - 2011	
	Number of	Percent NCLB Qualified	Number of courses	Percent NCLB Quali-
CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
ECONOMICS	N / A	N / A	0	0.00%
ELEMENTARY	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	1	2.78%	0	0.00%
FOREIGN LANGUAGES	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY	1	4.55%	1	3.70%
MATHEMATICS	4	12.90%	1	3.03%
NATURAL SCIENCES	1	4.35%	0	0.00%
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Overall Count/Average	7	4.09%	2	1.01%

NCLB established a goal of having 100% of all teachers in NCLB content areas. Districts must annually measure the progress of each school and the district toward meeting this goal.

History of Levies and Valuations

Budget Year	Bond	Special Building	General Fund	Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	Total Levy	Valuation	State Aid History
1992-93	0.1459	0.0396	1.2022		1.4203	\$155,298,231	\$764,507
1993-94	0.0949	0.0311	1.2401		1.3930	\$167,891,633	\$708,106
1994-95	0.1037	0.0308	1.4428		1.5901	\$174,160,261	\$338,214
1995-96	0.0908	0.0481	1.2872		1.4261	\$205,972,784	\$151,155
1996-97	0.0818	0.0489	1.2583		1.3890	\$227,233,826	\$233,488
1997-98	0.0841	0.0364	1.2154		1.3359	\$219,278,828	\$567,766
1998-99	0.0827	0.0749	1.0219		1.1795	\$228,541,587	\$1,018,565
1999-00	0.0686	0.0970	0.9915		1.1570	\$264,717,489	\$1,143,495
2000-01	0.2875	0.0461	0.8995		1.2331	\$278,396,957	\$946,483
2001-02	0.2190	0.0541	0.9957		1.3364	\$299,440,630	\$678,934
2002-03	0.2190	0.0621	1.0177		1.2988	\$307,431,535	\$918,348
2003-04	0.2077	0.0407	1.0619		1.32	\$340,456,733	\$539,484
2004-05	0.2437	-0-	1.0741		1.32	\$359,807,511	\$508,835
2005-06	0.2914	.0079	1.0768		1.37	\$378,326,976	\$915,043
2006-07	0.209797	0.0259	1.0670		1.30	\$412,871,368	\$406,419
2007-08	0.229940	0.0171	1.0811		1.33	\$451,117,543	\$92,490
2008-09	0.088127	0.019986	1.045915		1.154029	\$476,424,962	\$32,759
2009-10	0.213785	.020768	1.034081	0.030379	1.268634	\$498,737,742	\$118,079
2010-11	0.201532	.020036	1.034817	0.050094	1.299013	504,138,955	\$74,878
2011-12	0.138303	-0-	1.054960	0.044272	1.237535	534,617,818	\$112,218

This publication contains information reflecting the 2010-11 school year. The publishing of an annual report allows the Conestoga Public Schools to meet the requirements of Rule 10 category 010.01A of the Nebraska Department of Education.

More importantly, it provides an opportunity to share information with the school community and others interested in Conestoga Public School. Data from school districts can be found at the Nebraska Department of Education website: <http://www.education.ne.gov>

More information about Conestoga Public Schools can be found on the school website: <http://www.conestogacougars.org>



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Receipts	Conestoga 2006-07	Nebraska 2006-07	Conestoga 2007-08	Nebraska 2007-08	Conestoga 2008-09	Nebraska 2008-09	Conestoga 2009-10	Nebraska 2009-10
Local	57.76%	52.82%	72.72%	52.05%	76.27%	52.44%	71.68%	50.37%
County	1.01%	0.80%	1.58%	.081%	1.36%	0.81%	0.87%	0.71%
State	11.93%	36.67%	11.46%	38.01%	13.23%	39.06%	13.69%	36.81%
Federal	13.15%	7.94%	4.11%	7.73%	5.41%	6.93%	3.61%	11.30%
Other	16.14%	1.77%	10.13%	1.40%	3.73%	0.86%	10.15%	0.81%

2009-2010 Receipts

	Receipts	Percent
Local	\$5,313,316.78	71.68%
County	\$64,124.61	0.87%
State	\$1,014,505.80	13.69%
Federal	\$267,893.49	3.61%
Other	\$752,400.00	10.15%



Expenditures	Conestoga 2006-07	Nebraska 2006-07	Conestoga 2007-08	Nebraska 2007-08	Conestoga 2008-09	Nebraska 2008-09	Conestoga 2009-10	Nebraska 2009-10
All Instruction	46.13%	59.57%	47.60%	60.37%	47.53%	60.46%	51.30%	57.68
Support Services—Pupils	9.16%	7.01%	9.86%	6.90%	10.55%	6.74%	10.88	6.35
Support Services—Staff	2.44%	3.16%	2.06%	3.16%	2.03%	3.01%	1.84	2.94
Central Administration	6.25%	6.01%	5.51%	5.60%	5.48%	5.36%	5.34	4.95
Office of the Principal	4.46%	5.52%	4.42%	5.38%	4.68%	5.25%	4.65	5.13
Maintenance & Operation	6.81%	10.21%	7.40%	10.26%	8.81%	10.62%	8.83	10.06
Federal	3.60%	7.27%	3.39%	6.76%	5.78%	7.02%	6.13	11.44
Other	21.14%	1.24%	19.77%	1.57%	15.15%	1.54%	11.03	1.45

2009-2010 Expenditures

	Expenditures	Percent
All Instruction	\$4,168,066.27	51.30%
Support Services - Pupils	\$883,938.81	10.88%
Support Services - Staff	\$149,180.44	1.84%
Central Administration	\$434,223.02	5.34%
Office of the Principal	\$378,183.58	4.65%
Maintenance & Operation	\$717,267.33	8.83%
Federal	\$498,187.50	6.13%
Other	\$896,223.47	11.03%