

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

Evergreen Park Community High School had a successful year, however we did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the second straight year, which places us on the "Academic Early Warning Year 2." Although as a faculty we worked extremely hard to raise our scores, below you will see that our hard work paid off in other areas.

- 100% of our juniors who qualified to take the PSAE test in junior year participated in the testing in spring of 2011. This is our seventh year in a row, since its inception, that we have given this test.
- The EPCHS key areas monitored by the state are chronic truancy, parental involvement, attendance rate, and class size continue to exceed the state required benchmark.
- The EPCHS graduation rate for 2011 (85.3%) continues to exceed the State Minimum AYP Graduation Rate. Although there is a slight decrease from last year, most districts experience a decrease due to the state changing the way the graduation rate is calculated.
- The EPCHS attendance rate for 2011 (95.3) exceeded the State AYP Minimum target of 93.9. This is the third year in a row that our attendance rate has been above the state minimum target rate.

In addition, the class of 2011 had an average ACT composite of 21.0 (state = 20.0), English 21.8 (state = 19.3), mathematics 21.5 (state = 20.4), science 20.0 (state = 20.0), and reading 20.1 (state = 19.8). While the state averages showed a decline in all areas, we showed growth or maintained an average above the state in all areas.

Students in the class of 2011 were extremely successful, with 27 students selected as Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois Students Assistance Commission. Our number continues to increase with \$6,467,406.00 in scholarships offered to individual students in this class. Even more impressive is the fact that this graduation class had only 203 students.

Academic accomplishments during the 2010-11 school year include:

- Junior David Hector was named a National Merit Scholarship Program Semi-Finalist
- 36% of our student body was part of our term one honor roll
- 44% of our graduates attended four-year colleges/universities
- 44% of our graduates attended community college or trade school

Our School Improvement Plan from 2010-11 included:

- Intensive two-day preparation course for ACT/PSAE for juniors in addition to PSAE/ACT prep pullouts throughout the year
- EPCHS Bridge Program was expanded during the summer of 2011 and is designed to assist students from junior high transition to high school
- Increased technology in the math, science, and English departments
- In an effort to reach out to the community, EPCHS hosted our annual Mustang Dinner Theatre Evening for Evergreen Park senior citizens.
- 9th grade teachers will receive NWEA professional development.
- All 9th grade students will be assessed three times per year NWEA MAP in reading, math, language arts.
- All 9th grade students will participate in conferencing and goal setting after each assessment.

Our School Improvement Plan for 2011-12 will focus on reading across the curriculum. Since we did not make AYP this past year, our State status is "Academic Early Warning Year 2." This means we have to create a comprehensive two-year plan which will include data analysis in five main areas: School Report Card, local assessments, school and community, educator qualifications, and parent involvement. This plan will be sent to the State for approval in November. Once approved, we will start to implement the plan immediately school-wide. Within the five main areas, some of our identified strengths include:

1. School Report Card:
 - Graduation rate consistently above the state average
 - Parent involvement remains constant the past six years at approximately 95%
 - Pupil-to-teacher ratio remains stable at a five-year average of 17.6 to 1
 - Attendance rate has increased from 92.8% in 2006 to 95.1% in 2010
2. Local Assessment:
 - Increase the percentage of students who demonstrated expected growth from 47% in the class of 2010 to 55.6% in the class of 2011
 - Implementation and expansion of the Read 180 Program
 - Slight growth in the percentage of three-year growth of 8 or more points 20% class of 2010 to 26% class of 2011
 - 44% of tested students achieved expected growth
3. School and Community:
 - A wide variety of extracurricular opportunities
 - A safe and secure environment
 - Clubs and groups perform outreach to local community groups
4. Educator Qualifications:
 - PLCs provide a venue for team professional and curriculum development
 - Average teacher experience is 14.2 years
 - Over 90% of our faculty members have advanced degrees
 - Low staff turnover rate
5. Parental Involvement:
 - Family Access (on-line student information portal) – 11,210 logins in 2009-10
 - Eight counselor-led parent forums per year
 - Two parent-teacher conferences per year
 - A variety of parent clubs: PTSA, Mustang Boosters, Music Boosters, Educational Foundation, and Alumni Association
 - A variety of recognition programs: NHS Induction, Honors Awards Night, Mustang Pride Breakfasts, Sports Awards, Bridge Parent Dinner, Bridge Mentor Breakfast, and Volunteer Dinner

A summary of our planned initiatives over the next two years include:

- Expand the length of the Summer Bridge Program and add a mentor piece to the program.
- Implement an expanded summer reading program and provide students with novels and follow-up activities throughout the year.
- Provide PSAE pullout seminars and after school sessions for test preparation.
- Increase the number of freshmen and sophomores in the Read 180 Program.
- Freshman and sophomore tutorials for failing students.
- Implement the use of a professional math aide in our freshman and sophomore lower track math classes.
- At-risk seniors will be required to participate in a college and career readiness course.
- Teachers participate in weekly (PLCs) professional development activities to align curriculum with state standards, college readiness standards, and ACT benchmarks in math.
- Provide parents with information about standardized assessment preparation.
- Add another term of language arts – 9th grade.
- Strategic plans to be created in student achievement, perception, finance, and parent involvement.
- Add a 9th grade one-term science intro course.
- A two-day ACT prep intensive course for juniors.
- Micro/Industrial Tech
- Art/Industrial Tech