



State of the District - Highlights from 2011-2012 School Year

Academics and Student Achievement

West High School Student Named 2012 National Merit Scholar

Andrew Wiese has earned the title of National Merit Gold Scholar. Wiese competed for the scholarship in a field of approximately 16,000 academically talented high school seniors who were vying for 8,300 available scholarships. Wiese has a strong record of academic prowess and participation at Davenport Community Schools, where he maintained a 4.0 GPA, took part in AP and Project Lead The Way classes, and participated in the West High School robotics team, drama club, and baseball team. Outside of school, Wiese volunteers reading news to the visually impaired over WVIK Radio.

Central High School Student Awarded 2012 Dr. Thomas Anthony Dooley Memorial Scholarship

Brenna Guard is the recipient of the prestigious Dooley scholarship in the amount of \$20,000. Brenna plans to attend Westminster College as Biochemistry major in the fall of 2012. The Dooley Scholarship is awarded each year to a Davenport Community School District senior. Scholarship applicants must be in the upper 10% of their class, have shown continued interest in the field of medicine, and expressed a desire to become a medical doctor. The scholarship benefactor, Dr. Walter Neiswanger, has been awarding this scholarship annually since 1965.

Kimberly Center saw an overall rise in student achievement, with proficiency levels rising from +16 to +25.4%, depending on subject matter. The school also had a 100% participation rate in the Iowa Assessments and noted increases in proficiency % for each grade level in each test category.

Our schools saw significant growth on the Scholastic Reading Inventory, including an upswing at JB Young Intermediate of +116 and an increase at Lincoln of +329.

At Sudlow Intermediate, there was over a 10% increase of students with Individual Education Plans who were proficient on the Iowa Assessments, and over 400 students made the end of year Honor Roll.

Williams Intermediate noted an increase in 7th grade math scores from the previous year at the 6th grade level.

At West High School, over 80% of students attending help at Catch Up Day passed classes.

Jackson Elementary saw a 20% increase in the number of 2nd grade students meeting their grade level expectations, and there was a reduction in Office Discipline Referrals at all grade levels.

Harrison Elementary students were first in the state of Iowa in the First in Math online math program.

4th grade achievement scores at Garfield Elementary showed a 20% increase in the Reading Comprehension Benchmark.

At Central High School, the highest gains in the Iowa Assessments reading category were earned by the African American sub-group.



Academics and Student Achievement, Continued

5th grade achievement scores at Washington Elementary showed a 33% increase in the District Math Assessment.

Career and Technical Education Dual credit enrollment has expanded dramatically, from DCS students taking a total of 18 courses in 2006-2007 to a total of almost 800 courses in 2011-2012.

5th grade achievement scores at McKinley Elementary showed a 32.9% increase in the District Math Assessment.

The Central High School Thinkers' Throw Down team placed second in the Quad City Mediacom televised Quiz Bowl Tournament in November.

Wilson Elementary noted higher than expected success on in all grade levels on both the Scholastic Reading Inventory and Scholastic Math Inventory.

North High School saw a 10% increase in the number of 9th graders who moved on to 10th grade.

98% of Fillmore Elementary's kindergarten students were proficient with initial sounds, and the school moved from 10% low-level activity on Instructional Practices Inventory to less than 1%.

4th grade achievement scores at Hayes Elementary showed a 15% increase in both the District Math Assessment (from 70% to 85%) and the Reading Vocabulary Benchmark (from 75% to 90%).

Kimberly Center saw 53 students graduate this year.

100% of the 3rd grade students at Blue Grass Elementary were proficient on the Reading Vocabulary Benchmark.

100% of Eisenhower Elementary School's kindergarteners were proficient on the District Math Assessment.

District Math Assessment scores at Buchanan Elementary School showed a 47.8% increase in proficiency by 5th graders and a 25.4% increase in proficiency by 4th graders.

High Quality Teaching and Student Experiences

North High School science teacher Laura McCreery is the recipient of the 2011-2012 National Association of Biology Teachers Outstanding Biology Teacher Award for the state of Iowa.

More than 200 teachers were trained to administer DIBELS for use as a benchmark and progress monitoring tool. The response from teachers and administrators to this new district initiative has been overwhelmingly positive, and teachers are using DIBELS reading scores in data team discussions to plan and implement interventions and to monitor progress of readers who fall short of benchmark goals. Looking ahead, in the 2012-13 school year, teachers in grades 3-5 will be trained to administer DIBELS and use the data to support student achievement in reading.



High Quality Teaching and Student Experiences, Continued

Quad City Arts Teacher of the Year: Michele Mess, North High School

Data teams are now active at all levels at Washington Elementary.

Julliard-trained dancer Dorian Byrd conducted a dance workshop with DCS teachers to add Dance to elementary Physical Education and Music classes. The workshop was funded with a \$2000 grant from Quad City Arts.

Joan Moorhead of Williams Intermediate School and Teri Wiese of North High School received an Excellence in Science Teaching Award from the Iowa Academy of Science.

Athletics

State Champions in Track and Field

- Alisha Jones, North High School – Girls 400 meter dash
- Pauline Wyatt, Krystal Pollard, Tamika Tucker, & Alisha Jones, North High School – 800 meter sprint medley relay
- Jasmine Butler, Shaianne Thomas, Tadaisha Thornton, & Allannah McCorkle, Central High School – 4x200 meter relay
- Jerry Westerfield, North High School – Long jump (Jerry's jump of 24'01" tied the 4A meet record)

North High School boys bowling won the MAC bowling tournament on February 11 and clinched an automatic berth at the Iowa Class 2A state tournament for the second straight year.

Annabel McAtee, Central High School student, competed in the World Baton Twirling Championships in Neuchatel, Switzerland.

West High School co-ed cheerleading squad took 1st in state for second consecutive year.

Michael Brus, North High School alumni, qualified for the U.S. Olympic Trials in the 200-meter backstroke.

Two Central High School students qualified for the Iowa Special Olympics in bowling, and seven students qualified in track and field.

Athletics fast facts

- High School athletes – 1216 participants in one or more sports
- Attendance rate for athletes through the third term – 94.1%
- GPA for athletes through the first semester – 2.85



Music, Art, Theatre, and Dance

West High School Student Wins Second Place in 2012 Congressional Art Contest

Amanda Whitfield, a student at West High School, received the second place award for the State of Iowa in the 2012 Congressional Art Contest for her photograph "Beautiful Bridge." Congressman Bruce Braley presented her with the award during a special reception in the West High School Library on May 24, 2012.

The Central High School Marching Blue Devils placed 1st out of 18 marching bands at the Little Hawk Marching Invitational in Iowa City, and also brought home "Best Winds" and "Best Percussion."

Art students from Central, North, and West High Schools were featured in *Exposure*, a photography exhibit at Bucktown Center for the Arts. This student showcase was part of *Sights and Sounds*, an annual music and art exhibit put on by Augustana College. 21 of the 25 students who made the final cut of the jurying process were from Davenport Schools. Out of the 200+ artworks that were submitted, Central students Claire Waterman and Jacob Leyhe won 2nd and 3rd Place, respectively.

Two West High School seniors, Jenny Gomez and Amber Alariz, were named to the All Iowa Honor Dance Team.

Jackson Elementary Students Win State "Reflections" Award

Each year, the Iowa P.T.A. conducts its "Reflections" program for students to create art, music, literature and films showcasing their talent statewide. Two Jackson Elementary School students are among the 100 winners this year. Erik Villapando, a second grade student, won second place for his drawing "Baseball." Annie Hollonbeck, a fourth grade student, won second place in literature for her poem "What Diversity Means to Me."

DCS Students Named to All-Iowa 8th Grade Band

Sudlow Intermediate students Abby Lunz, Graham Atkinson, and Isaiah Gibbs, as well as Wood Intermediate student Halie Dodd, were selected for the 130 piece All-Iowa 8th grade band. The band performed for the Iowa Bandmasters Association Annual Convention.

Twenty-one DCS High School Students Named to 2011 Iowa All-State Band, Chorus & Orchestra

Twenty-eight student musicians selected to participate in the Opus All-State Honor Choir Festival. Over 8,400 students were nominated by their directors for only 720 positions in four honor choirs. Selections were made by means of a recorded audition.

All three high schools had students who earned awards for their artwork at the Quad City Arts Invitational.

Central High School's music department utilized the Adler Theatre for rehearsals and concerts throughout the school year. This successful collaboration between DCS and the city will continue next year.

ArtBASICS schools now include McKinley, Jackson, Sudlow, and Central. BASICS stands for "Building Arts Strategies in Community and Schools." This program is sponsored in part by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, of which DCS has shared a formal partnership along with Quad City Arts since 1992.

North High School's Northside Establishment show choir earned its 5th straight Grand Champion title at the Ft. Madison Invitational.



Social and Literary Studies

3 DCS Students Represent the State of Iowa at National History Day Competition

Central High School student Danielle Barasel and Williams Intermediate students Mickey Sloat and Tony Nguyen recently competed at the National History Day National Competition at the University of Maryland. Danielle, who qualified for the national competition for the second year running, gave an individual performance on the life of writer and activist Virginia Woolf. Mickey portrayed Gloria Steinem in the performance category. In the website category, Tony presented on the topic of reforms in the Great Depression. Only 16 students from the entire state of Iowa qualified to attend this competition.

Wood Intermediate School's Mock Trial Team qualified for the state mock trial competition.

A Wood Intermediate student qualified as a finalist for the 2012 Iowa Geographic Bee.

The Truman Elementary School library received a Laura Bush Foundation Grant for \$5000 to purchase new books.

The Central High School student newspaper *The Blackhawk* placed first in the 2011 Iowa State Press Association Sweepstakes photography competition and third in the state graphics competition.

Wood and Smart intermediate schools sent students to the state National History Day competition.

The Central High School TAG History Team took first place at the Eastern Iowa History Bowl and Bee and went on to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

Central High School students April Newell & D.J. Gibbs were awarded 1st Place by the Iowa High School Press Association in the category Multimedia Broadcast News Story.

The West High School Speech & Debate Team qualified for the National Competition that took place in Indianapolis this June. The following students represented WHS and eastern Iowa: Greg Windeknecht in Domestic Extemporaneous, Eli and Noah Kirschbaum in Public Forum, and Olivia Grubbs in Original Oratory.

Adams Elementary School was awarded a special trophy for having the highest student participation in the Summer Reading Program for 19 years in a row.

Students as Civic Leaders

West High School Seniors Selected as Iowa Legislative Pages

Daniel M. Dankert and Eli Kirschbaum were selected as 2012 Iowa Legislative Pages. Each year, the House of Representatives and Senate select Iowa high school juniors and seniors to serve as pages for the legislative session. Pages assist with tasks such as the switchboard, delivering messages, distributing legislation, assisting committee chairpersons and sorting amendments.



Students as Civic Leaders, Continued

CHS Student Named to State Advisory Group

Whitney Leming-Salisbury, Senior Class President at Central High School, is one of 15 Iowa students selected to serve on the Learning Council, a new state advisory group.

West High School Student Attends National Student Leadership Conference

Brianna Fisher, student at West High School and member of Iowa Job's for America's Graduates (iJAG), was one of three students in the state of Iowa to be invited to JAG's National Student Leadership Conference in Washington D.C.

Forty Garfield Elementary students received the Optimist Good Citizenship Award.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and Vocational Accomplishments

West High School Students Win Awards at Robotics Event

The "Combustible Lemons" student team, coached by Jason Franzenburg, won the Iowa Winning Alliance and Michigan Inspire awards at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Tech Challenge. The team had a strong showing at the World Championships in St. Louis, qualifying 8th out of 64 teams in the Thomas Edison division.

The Germ Busters Robotics team from Williams Intermediate School took first place at the FIRST LEGO League Regional Competition.

West High School Students are 2011-2012 Real World Design Challenge Aircraft State Champions

Teammates Eli Shellabarger, Nicole Kraft, Pardeep Saini and Amber Sawvell were coached by Project Lead the Way teacher Jason Franzenburg, and went on to represent Iowa at the national competition in Washington D.C.

Central High School's ProStart Management Team placed 2nd in the Iowa ProStart Invitational.

West High School Students Receive High Marks on John Deere Welding Exam

Twelve vocational welding students from West High School participated in a production welding training unit, which consisted of a 14-weld qualification test at John Deere Harvester Works. All students taking the exam passed with high marks. Deere inspectors were very impressed with their high levels of skill, stating, "All of these young men have attained the welding skills required by our company in pre-employment weld testing process."

The North High School Science Bowl team competed at the State High School Science Bowl in Ames, and placed 12th out of 40 other teams from across the state.



Junior ROTC

Amber Mallette, North High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC cadet, came in 6th in the target shooting competition at the Marine Corps Service National Championship in Aniston, AL.

Central High School's Army Junior ROTC Marksmanship team won 4th Place in the Iowa Junior Olympics.

Davenport Schools Foundation

On Feb. 21 in Des Moines, Dr. Lisa Arbisser was named to the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame by Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds. Dr. Arbisser helped found the Davenport Schools Foundation in 1987 and is DSF chairman emeritus.

In April 2012, the Davenport Volunteer Connection's *Education Volunteer Award* went to the Davenport Schools Foundation's scholarship committee.

The DSF scholarship committee received a community service award from the Bi-State Literacy Council.

2012 DSF Scholarship Winners

This year the Davenport Schools Foundation awarded over \$50,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors. In early June the winners were presented to the Davenport Community Schools Board of Education.

Family Involvement and School Culture & Climate

Family Involvement in Madison Elementary's S.P.A.R.K program (Super Parents Are Relating to Kids) increased by 91% this year.

In 17 years of S.P.A.R.K. (Super Parents Are Relating to Kids) at Madison Elementary, the school has increased parent/guardian participation 60%, with over 2,300 in attendance at its monthly family evening events this school year.

Buffalo Elementary had a 100% parent participation rate in conferences this year.

More than 1000 volunteer hours were logged at Fillmore Elementary this year. The WatchDOGS program began in January 2012 and more than 25 WatchDOGS participated during the second half of the year.

Harrison Elementary won a Lujack Honda Extra Mile Award, in recognition for the school's implementation of the Olweus Program.



Family Involvement and School Culture & Climate, Continued

In the fall of 2011, two teachers and ten students from JB Young worked to write, direct, film and produce several public service announcements. The PSA featuring the state of Iowa's Anti-Bullying campaign went all the way to the local news (KWQC TV6), Facebook, and YouTube.

Wood Intermediate saw a 25% decrease in the number of Out of School Suspensions from the 2010-2011 school year, and a drop of 43% from the 2009-2010 school year.

Walcott Elementary and Intermediate reduced the number of behavior issues before the start of first class.

At Monroe Elementary, the number of office referrals has been cut in half over the past 3 years.