

GARDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT #35-0001
PO BOX 230
OSHKOSH, NE 69154-0230

PHONE: 308-772-3242

FAX: 308-772-3039

WEBSITE: gardencountyschools.org



ANNUAL REPORT TO PATRONS
2015

GARDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

District #35-0001

PO Box 230

Oshkosh, NE 69154-0230

Phone: 308-772-3242

Fax: 308-772-3039

Website: gardencountyschools.org

GARDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS' MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Garden County Schools is to develop individuals who meet the challenges of a diverse society.

Garden County Schools Belief Statements:

- *We believe all students, staff, families, and the community share the responsibility in creating an educational partnership that strives for excellence.*
- *We believe in developing self-sufficient, socially responsible citizens who are able to solve problems and communicate effectively.*
- *We believe that safe, trusting, and respectful relationships and environments best serve individual learning.*
- *We believe that innovation and change are integral to our educational system.*

~From the Superintendent's Desk~

Greetings, Garden County patrons!

January 2016

It seems change has been the constant in our schools this past year! There has been a focus on our facilities, particularly at the elementary site. With aging buildings, updating and making improvements became a high priority. Installing energy efficient windows and doors, new flooring, roofing repairs, and electrical updates were the major items on the list. If you have not had a chance to see all the renovations, please stop by and check them out!

Current enrollment has grown with 281 PK-12 students (as of the last Friday in September) with 25 students more than last year, 22 of them enrolled at the elementary site. District demographic data reveals the student population as highly mobile and qualifying for free/reduced meals (both exceeding the state averages).

To maintain AdvancED/NDE accreditation, an external review team of professional educators visited the district in November. Their summary report, coupled with a new state accountability classification (AQuESTT), will provide feedback for continuing improvement. Be sure to check out results from both in this report and the full report on the school's website.

The annual January board retreat provides an opportunity for stakeholders to review the district's vision, purpose, and goals. Student learning, perceptual, and demographic data are the foundation for setting new goals.

The support from this community is greatly appreciated and a huge asset in contributing to the success of all our students!

*Educationally,
Dr. Paula Sissel*

Garden County Schools' DEMOGRAPHICS

Board Members

President	Randy Stanczyk
Vice President	Richard Paisley
Secretary	Andrea Lake
Treasurer	Mike Fischer
Member	Kelly Reece
Member	Matt Ardissono

Administration

Superintendent/Principal GCE	Paula Sissel
Principal GCJH/HS	Jason Spady
Bookkeeping	Dixann Krajewski

Enrollment

The last five years of student enrollment data indicate the district's enrollment is increasing, particularly in the elementary grades.

Grade-by-Grade Enrollment					
Grade	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
PK	19	26	23	33	33
K	18	14	19	26	18
1	19	19	10	16	25
2	16	20	17	13	20
3	12	16	21	18	14
4	16	11	17	23	23
5	18	17	11	16	27
6	17	16	19	10	18
7	18	17	17	21	13
8	19	17	16	16	22
9	13	19	12	17	19
10	24	11	20	12	19
11	20	20	11	22	12
12	27	23	26	14	20
Total	256	246	239	257	283

2014-15 District Profile

While ethnicity is lower than the state average, percentages for poverty, mobility, and highly mobile students all are considerably higher than the state's. The 100% graduation rate and 100% of teachers being determined as high qualified are district commendations.

District Characteristics		
District Data	State Statistics	District Statistics
Poverty Percentage	44%	59%
English Language Learners Percentage	6%	2%
Special Education Percentage	15%	13%
School Mobility Rate	12%	21%
Graduation Rate Percentage	89%	100%
Attendance Percentage	95%	95%
NCLB Qualified Teachers	98%	100%
Highly Mobile Students Percentage	4%	12%

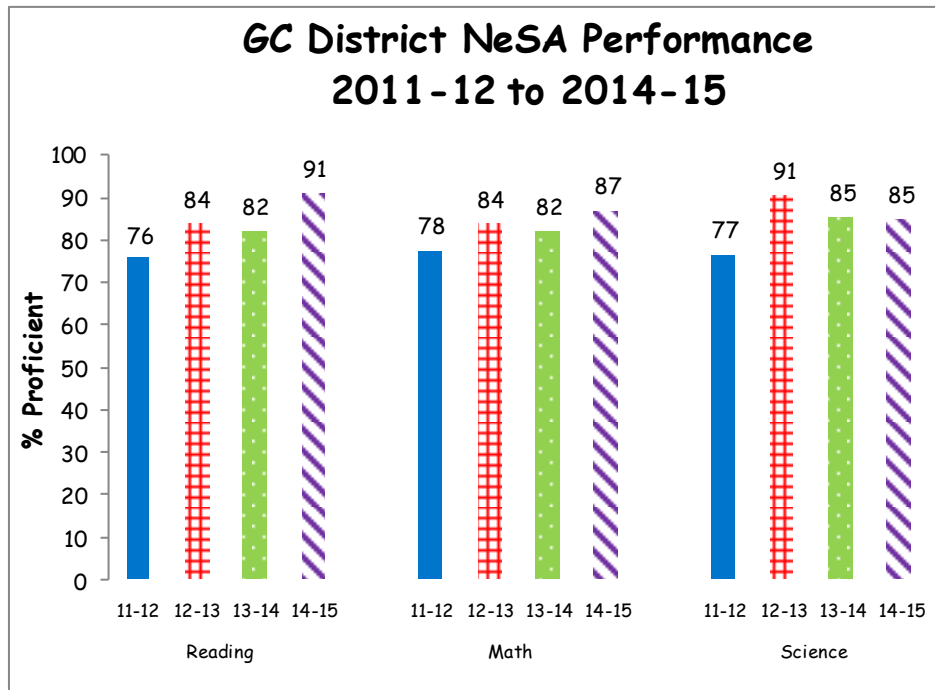
District Accreditation

The State of Nebraska requires a minimum of 1032 hours of instructional time per school year for elementary students and 1080 hours of instructional time per school year for secondary students. Garden County Schools are accredited by the State of NE, with Garden County Junior/Senior High School holding AdvancED accreditation.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Garden County Schools use the Nebraska state test (NeSA) to evaluate student performance in the areas of reading, writing, math, and science each spring. (Trend data for writing unavailable.)

- Results indicate student achievement continues to exceed the state average in all subject areas.
- Trend data is displayed in the graph below. Results indicate increased performance in all subjects over the past four areas!



ACT Results

Students typically take their college entrance exam (ACT) during their junior year. It should be noted that “all” students at GC Schools take the ACT. (Due to the small graduating 2014-15 class size, data unavailable .)

Years		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2012-2013	National	20.2	20.9	21.1	20.7	20.9
2013-2014	National	20.3	20.9	21.3	20.8	21.0
2014-2015	National	20.4	20.8	21.4	20.9	21.0
2012-2013	State	21.1	21.1	21.8	21.5	21.5
2013-2014	State	21.3	21.1	22.0	21.7	21.7
2014-2015	State	21.1	21.0	21.9	21.6	21.5
2012-2013	District	17.1	19.2	19.4	20.1	19.1
2013-2014	District	20.6	20.7	21.6	21.2	21.1
2014-2015	District	*	*	*	*	*

AQuESTT for NE Final Classification Reports*

GARDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Senior High Classification (Excellent – 4, Great – 3, Good – 2, Needs Improvement – 1)

3 – GREAT

Evidence-Based Analysis (EBA) Responses Average Score of 5 Self-Reported Responses
Total EBA Score – 74 out of 90 Total Points Possible

Junior High Classification (Excellent – 4, Great – 3, Good – 2, Needs Improvement – 1)

3 – GREAT

Evidence-Based Analysis Responses (EBA) Average Score of 5 Self-Reported Responses
Total EBA Score – 77 out of 90 Total Points Possible

Elementary Classification (Excellent – 4, Great – 3, Good – 2, Needs Improvement – 1)

3 – GREAT

Evidence-Based Analysis (EBA) Responses Average Score of 5 Self-Reported Responses
Total EBA Score – 67 out of 90 Total Points Possible

**Complete report, with individual tenet results, available on the school’s website under AQuESTT link.*

AdvancED External Review Team Report Highlights*

GARDEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

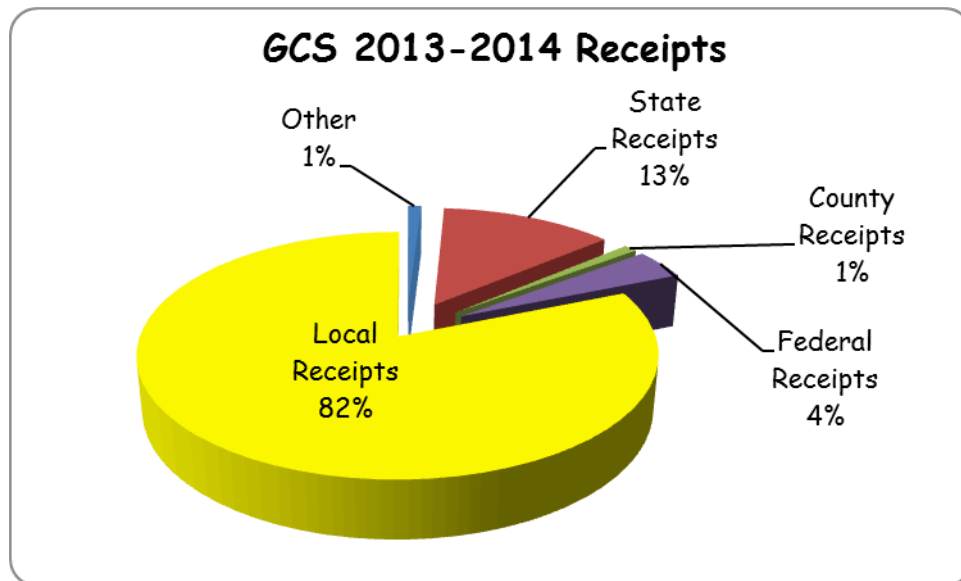
Improvement Priority: *Develop a systematic and systemic curriculum review and implementation process to support the academic expectations.*

Opportunities for Improvement: *1) Evaluate the current grading policies, practices, and procedures being used in the junior/senior high school and establish a consistent grading procedure. 2) Review the current technology infrastructure for effective future capacity.*

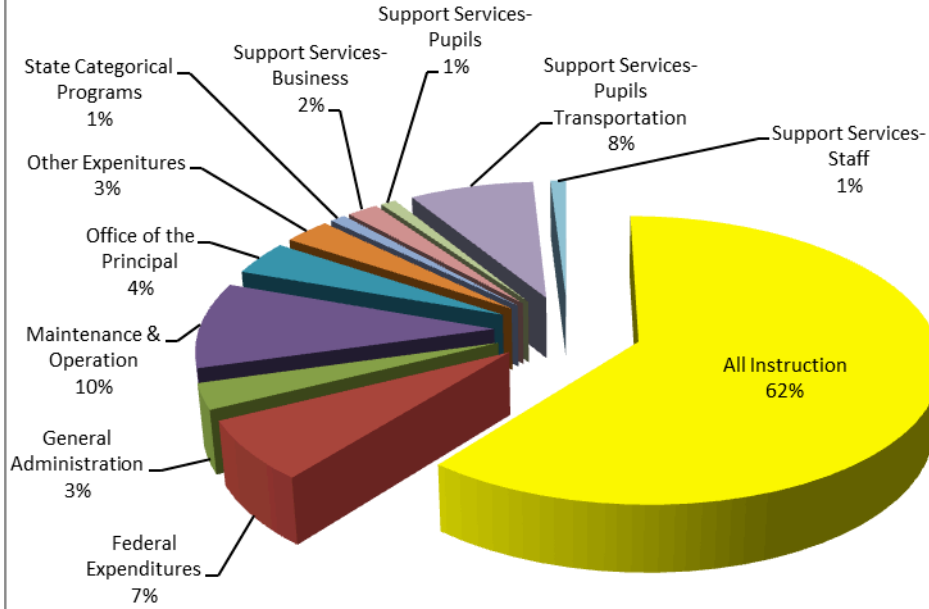
Powerful Practices: *1) A comprehensive instructional model (focused on APL strategies) has enhanced student engagement. 2) Garden County Schools has shown the team its dedication to the school improvement process. 3) The district is to be commended for its proactive approach to developing and implementing additional programs and opportunities that include, but are not limited to, CHAMPS, TeamMates, Second Step, Sixpence, Apply to College, and inter-local agreements/community partnerships.*

**Complete report available on school website under External Review Team Report link.*

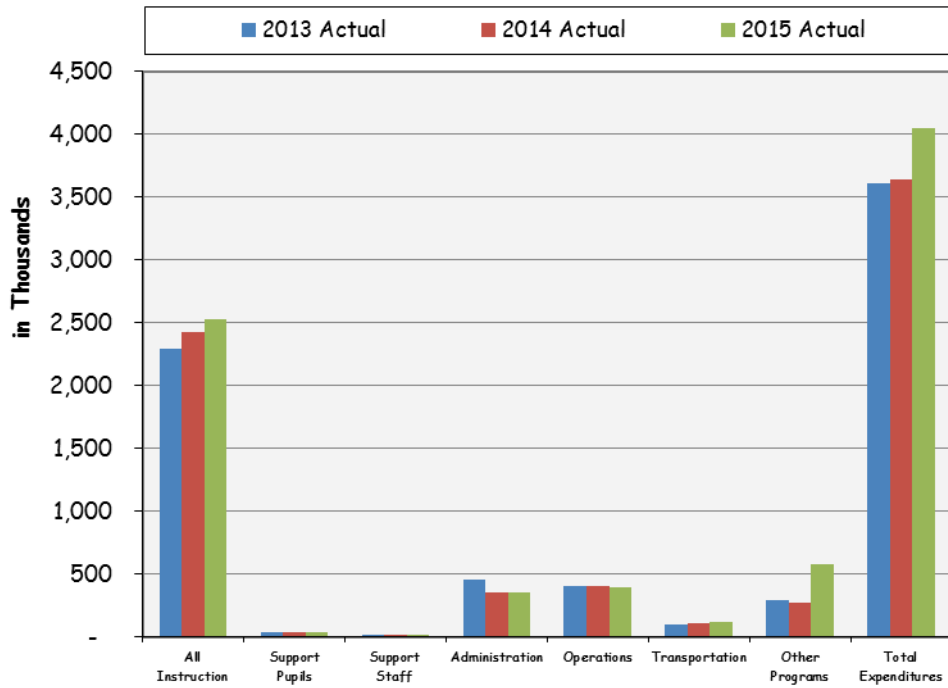
DISTRICT FUNDING



GCS 2013-2014 Expenditures



Garden County Schools General Fund Expenditures Comparison



ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Garden County High School

Students, their families and potential employees of Garden County High School are hereby notified that Garden County High School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, gender or disability in employment, career, and technology programs or activities set forth in compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations. Any persons having inquiries concerning Garden County High School compliance with Title II, Title IV, Title IX and/or section 504 may contact:

Dr. Paula Sissel, Superintendent
200 W, 4th
Oshkosh, NE 69154
(308) 772-0182
psissel@gceagles.org

Garden County High School offers the following career and technical education programs for all students regardless of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, gender or disability, including those with limited English proficiency: Agriscience, Agribusiness, Animal Science, Plant Science, Intro to Food Science, Livestock Nutrition, Personal Finance, Accounting I, Accounting II, Rural Entrepreneurship, Intro to Industrial Technology, Advanced Woods, Advanced Metals, Small Engines, and Construction. Persons seeking further information concerning career and technical education offerings and specific pre-requisite criteria should contact:

Michelle Dormann
200 W, 4th
Oshkosh, NE 69154
(308) 772-0104
mdormann@gceagles.org

To obtain this information in a language other than English call (308) 772-3336.

It is the policy of Garden County Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of gender disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its educational programs, administration, policies, employment or other district programs.

ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

The Federal Government has instituted laws, which mandate school districts to identify and manage asbestos or asbestos containing materials in the schools. As a result of this mandate, the Garden County Schools have been inspected and have conducted asbestos abatement.

The asbestos abatement for Garden County Schools is complete as dictated by the government. General recommendations and detailed descriptions of the management plan are on file in the school office and are open for inspection to all interested patrons. The law requires that all patrons are notified of this management plan and safety measures instituted. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office.