

## More Kansas schools meet AYP than in previous year

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More Kansas schools meet AYP than in previous year  
Performance not deterred by increasing targets

TOPEKA – Despite an increase in performance targets of as much as 8 percent, more Kansas public schools met adequate yearly progress (AYP) requirements in the 2010-11 testing cycle than in the previous year. State Board of Education members learned during their monthly meeting today that 84 percent of the state's 1,367 public schools met AYP in 2010-11, compared to 81 percent in 2009-10. The same number of school districts made AYP in 2010-11 as did the previous year.

“It is amazing to me that our schools continue to perform at this level, even as the bar is constantly rising,” said State Board Chairman David Dennis. “I’m proud of the way Kansas schools have risen to the challenge, but I also know it will become increasingly difficult to maintain this level of performance as we near 2014, when the performance targets will be at 100 percent. It is imperative that Congress reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to include a more realistic and effective accountability measure.”

AYP is a requirement of ESEA (more commonly known as No Child Left Behind) that measures the ability of schools and districts to meet specified targets for student performance and participation on reading and math assessments, as well as in the areas of attendance and graduation. Performance targets must be met for the full student population, as well as for sub-groups based on race/ethnicity, income level, special needs and English proficiency. Each year, the specified performance target increases, working toward a goal of having 100 percent of students meeting standards by 2014.

For the 2010-11 testing cycle, 87.8 percent of K-8 students were required to meet standards on state reading assessments in order to achieve AYP, up from 83.7 percent in 2009-10. Among 9-12 students, the reading target was 86.0 percent in 2010-11, up from 81.3 percent in 2009-10. In math, the AYP target for K-8 students was 86.7 percent in 2010-11 and 82.3 percent in 2009-10. The math target for 9-12 students was 82.3 percent in 2010-11 and 76.4 percent in 2009-10.

“Our school professionals are to be commended for continuing to improve performance from year to year, even in the face of significant challenges,” said Education Commissioner Dr. Diane DeBacker. “While meeting AYP targets is certainly laudable, we should not dismiss those schools that continue to improve performance each year, even if not at the same rate that performance targets are increasing. As we work with the U.S. Department of Education to revise our federal accountability plan, and await action in Congress on the reauthorization of ESEA, it will be important that we find a way to recognize positive performance among all of our schools.”

**PLAINTIFFS'**  
**EX. 97**

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While preliminary AYP results have been confirmed for most Kansas school districts, AYP calculations for the McPherson School District have not yet been completed. The McPherson district was granted a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education that allowed 2010-11 student performance in the district to be measured based on performance on a series of ACT assessments rather than on state assessments. Information regarding the schools and districts not making AYP for the 2010-11 testing cycle follows:

<b>Kansas Public Schools</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Kansas Public School Districts</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Schools making AYP</b>	1,126	1,148	<b>Districts making AYP</b>	211	211
<b>Schools not</b>	254	213	<b>Districts not</b>	82	77
<b>Making AYP</b>			<b>Making AYP</b>		
<b>School AYP</b>	0	6	<b>District AYP</b>	0	1
<b>Undetermined</b>			<b>Undetermined</b>		
<b>Schools not making</b>	166	129	<b>Districts not making</b>	61	50
<b>AYP in reading</b>			<b>AYP in reading</b>		
<b>Schools not making</b>	182	157	<b>Districts not making</b>	54	48
<b>AYP in math</b>			<b>AYP in math</b>		
<b>Schools not meeting</b>	0	1	<b>Districts not meeting</b>	0	1
<b>Attendance rate goal</b>			<b>Attendance rate goal</b>		
<b>Schools not meeting</b>	9	5	<b>Districts not meeting</b>	7	10
<b>Graduation rate goal</b>			<b>Graduation rate goal</b>		