

School Board

Members

President – Kevin White

VP – Liz O’Donnell

Clerk – Cindy Damm

Treasurer – Mary Arnold

Bill Braun

Joe Conlin

Mike O’Brien

Board Minutes

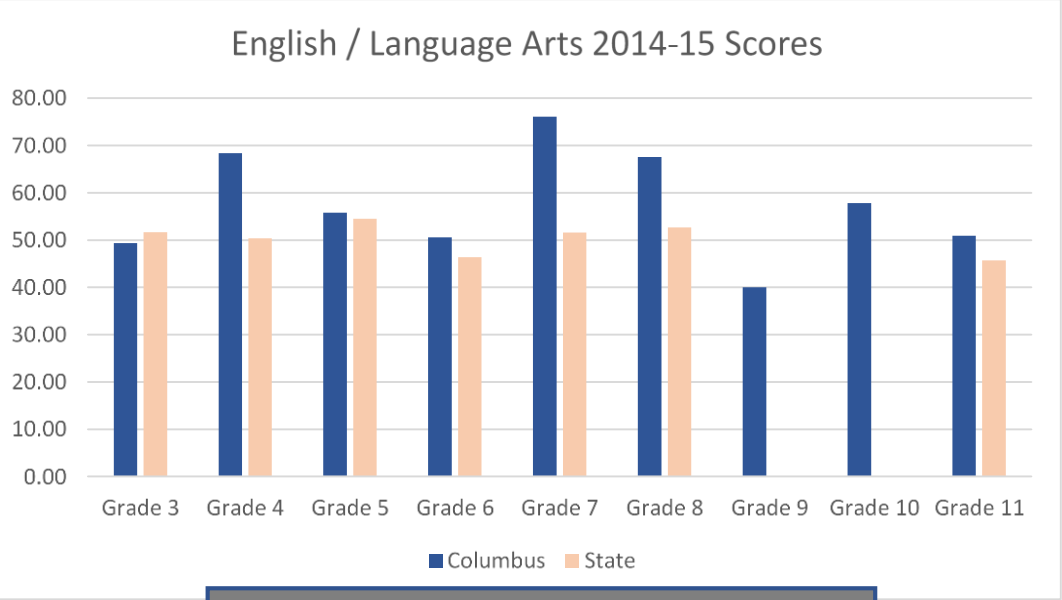
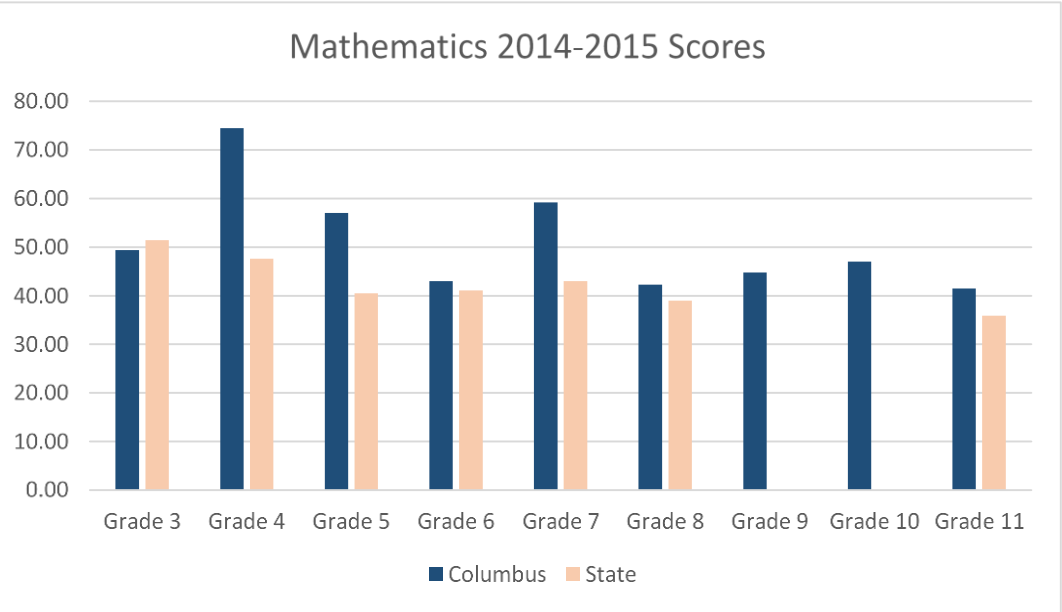
Meeting held on 11/23/15

Mid-year Superintendent evaluation conducted in closed session prior to the meeting.

- Information/Discussion:**
- Ag dinner had 56 attendees. Ag teacher position has been posted.
 - Legislative Update. Letter prepared regarding elimination of energy efficiency exemptions. Invitation sent to District legislators for visits.
 - Board election update.
 - Linkage Committee formed; meeting date set.
 - Community Learning Services update.
 - Superintendent Report:
 - Open Enrollment survey results shared.
 - Update on conferences.
 - Community engagement update.
 - Human resources update.
 - Board Governance Process reports completed.
 - Administrator Reports.

- Action:**
- Approved policy revisions from Governance Committee:
 - B/SR-2, 3, 4 & GP2, 9 & EL4
 - Approved letter to legislative representatives regarding energy efficiencies.
- Consent Agenda approvals:**
- Board meeting minutes 11/9 & Retreat 11/10/15.
 - Grant from Special Olympics for CMS Project Unify \$500
 - Board bills for October; Check # 154537-154726 Receipts \$935,058.01 Expenditures \$854,863.58
 - Open Enrollment requests

Assessment Results



School Board Election – April 5

There will be two three year terms and one two year term for the School Board election. The two top vote getters will receive the three year terms. This is because Mike O’Brien was appointed to replace Loren Glasbrenner – who was elected in April, 2015. According to state statute 120.42 regular terms of school board members shall be for 3 years. Elections to fill unexpired terms shall be held simultaneously with the elections for regular terms. In districts electing members at large, the regular terms shall be filled by the appropriate number of candidates receiving the highest number of votes and the unexpired terms shall be filled by the appropriate number of candidates receiving the next highest number of votes.

There are three candidates running for the Spring, 2016 election on April 5th. Ballot order was drawn on January 6th: **Julia Hoffman, Mary Arnold, Mike O’Brien.**

Liz O’Donnell filed non-candidacy papers in December. Liz has served the Board since 2004.

Overall, Columbus School District had a 57.4% proficiency in English Language Arts and a 50.9% proficiency in math. A detailed report of Columbus School District’s performance in literacy and math is available upon request and will posted to the Columbus School District website in the near future. The literacy and math reports contain information on overall performance as well as subgroup performance, areas of strength, and areas in need of attention.

Despite this, these assessment results still provide important information about what our students have and have not learned relative to the rigorous standards we maintain Columbus School District. In addition to providing parents and our community with a snapshot of our students’ college and career readiness, the statewide assessment results help inform our roadmap for school improvement planning, teacher professional development activities, and closing achievement gaps.

This spring, our students in grades 3-8 will be taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam (mandated replacement of the Badger Exam). Columbus School District will examine trends at our when we have multiple years of data on college and career readiness from these rigorous exams.

Columbus School District will continue to update you on the progress of our students. Should you have any questions, please contact Becky Schmidt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction at bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us.

Assessment Calendar

March 1	Grade 11- ACT Plus Writing
March 1-15	Grade 11 Students Testing with Accommodations- ACT Plus Writing
March 2	Grade 11- ACT WorkKeys (Scheduled late start in district; 11 th graders start at 7:50)
March 2-16	Grade 11 Students Testing with Accommodations- ACT WorkKeys
March 15	Grade 11 Makeup Day- ACT Plus Writing
March 16	Grade 11 Makeup Day- ACT WorkKeys
March 28 – May 20	Grades 3-8 Wisconsin Forward Exam (ELA, and Mathematics Grades 3-8, Science Grades 4 and 8, and Social Studies Grades 4, 8, and 10) (CES/DCS/CMS Building principals will send home information after grade level specific testing dates have been determined)
March 28 – May 20	Grades 3-8 Dynamic Learning Maps (ELA and Mathematics Grades 3-11, Science Grades 4 and 8-11, and
April 6	Grade 11 will take Citizenship Test (Act 55 - WI Civics Graduation Requirement)
April 25 – May 20	4K-2 Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)
April 27	Grades 9 & 10 ACT Aspire [Reading and Math sections] (Scheduled late start K-8; grades 9/10 start @ 7:50; grade 11/12 start @ 10:45)
May 4	Grades 9 & 10 will take the Citizenship Test (Act 55 - WI Civics Graduation Requirement)
May 11	Grades 9 & 10 ACT Aspire [Science, English, & Writing sections] (Scheduled late start K-8; grades 9/10 start @ 7:50; grades 11/12 start @ 10:45)

Board Minutes

Meeting held on 12/14/15

Information/Discussion:

- Inspire Presentation (Madison area business/education partnership program)
 - Board Debriefing
 - Legislative Update & invitations to legislators
 - Board Election Update
 - Linkage committee meeting scheduled
 - Policy Governance training options
 - Resolution submitted to WASB from Columbus regarding mental health was accepted for convention voting delegate assembly
 - Superintendent Report:
 - Community Engagement update
 - Human Resource update
 - District Use of Facilities hourly rate for non-school use increased
 - CMS teacher Tim Dworak and students, with Director of Curriculum & Instruction will present on Project Lead the Way program at WASB State Convention in January.
 - Strategic Plan process update. Two consulting firms contacted for presentations.
 - Data from assessments still embargoed.
 - Administrator Reports.
- Action:**
- Approved Governance Process Reports and Board/ Superintendent Relations reports approved: GP-1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 and B/SR-1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Consent Agenda approvals:**
- Board meeting minutes 11/23 meeting and 12/7/15 retreat.
 - Accepted donation of dictionaries for all third grade students from family of Roger & Joan Thomas
 - Board bills for November; Check # 154791-154938 Receipts \$14,099.83 Expenditures \$773,698.09
 - Carl Perkins consortium agreement with CESA5
 - Open Enrollment requests

Retreat held on 12/17/15

No official business was conducted.

Information/Discussion:

A presentation on strategic plan re-development was given by Patina Solutions.

February, 2016

Message from Superintendent

The first semester has ended and the second half of the year is underway. The test results from the 2014-15 school year were released at the end of December. This newsletter issue is dedicated to sharing the State Assessment results with the public. At the bottom of page three is a table listing the assessment schedule for the coming months.

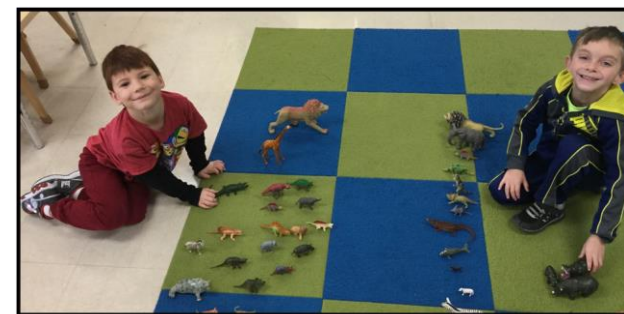
If you have specific questions about these results, please contact our Director of Curriculum and Instruction at (920) 623-5956 or bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us.

The open enrollment deadline for non-resident students to attend Columbus is April 29th. The applications are now submitted online.

The District is also in the process of finalizing the school calendar for 2016-17. Summer school dates have been set – with two sessions – one in June (13-30), one in July (11-28) – three weeks each.

High School students are selecting classes for next fall and budgeting discussions for next year are beginning at the administrative level.

Go Cards!
ANNETTE DEUMAN



2015 State Assessment Results for Columbus

The Wisconsin Department of Instruction lifted the data embargo on last school year's state assessments on January 13, 2016. Before that time, school districts were not allowed to publically share school-wide and district-wide results.

Most students in grades 3-8 at Columbus Elementary, Discovery Charter, and Columbus Middle Schools took the English language arts and mathematics assessments that were part of the Badger Exam. A small number of students with significant cognitive disabilities took the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments. Both of these new online assessments are more rigorous measures of our students' academic performance. These assessments are designed to measure our students' progress toward grade-level knowledge and skills, and replaced the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations (WKCE) and the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD).

At Columbus High School, 9th and 10th grade students took the ACT Aspire exam

and 11th grade students took the ACT, which replaced the 10th-grade Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations in English language arts, mathematics, and science. This is the same ACT assessment that students nationwide take as a college admissions exam and has a solid foundation in measuring college and career readiness. A small percentage of our 9-11th graders took the Dynamic Learning Maps assessment, which measures the academic progress of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Families received their individual student results in late summer or early fall 2015. Now that we have results summarized at the school, district, and state levels, we can use the summary data to inform our school-wide and district-wide improvement plans.

The tables on page two shows Columbus School District Spring 2015 state assessment results as well as State averages (when available) for comparison. The scores represent the percentage of students who scored proficient or advanced.

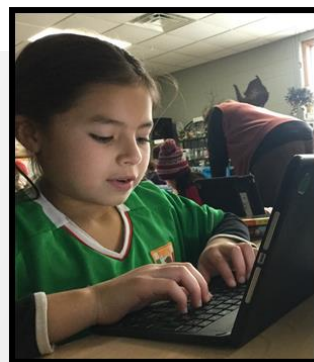
this issue

2015 State Assessment Results P.1

Assessment Results for Columbus P.2

Assessment Calendar P.3

Upcoming Events for February/March P.4



Upcoming Events

February, 2016

- 8 Parent/Teacher Conferences – NO SCHOOL
- 8 School Board Meeting – CHS Library – 7 PM
- 17 Late Start Day; classes begin at 10 AM
- 20 Jazz on the Prairie – Sun Prairie Jazz Clinic & Night Concert
- 22 Legislators Visit – CHS Library – 5 PM – Public is encouraged to attend
Senator Olsen, Senator Fitzgerald & Representative Jagler
- 22 School Board Meeting - 7 PM
- 22 Discovery Charter School Kindergarten Information Night 6-6:45
- 24 CHS Parent/Teacher Conferences - Evening
- 25/26 In-Service Days – NO SCHOOL
- 27 District Solo & Ensemble - Away

March, 2016

- 1 ACT Testing for all Juniors
- 2 ACT Work Keys Testing for all Juniors
- 2 Late Start Day; classes begin at 10 AM

CHS Athletic Events for Freshmen, Junior Varsity, and Varsity athletes can be found at www.columbus.k12.wi.us (link on right side of page.)



GO CARDINALS!

Summer School Dates Set

1st Session: June 13 – 30
2nd Session: July 11 – 28

Mission

Columbus School District empowers students to be community, career, and college ready.

Learning Today, *Leading Tomorrow*