

ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: March 21, 2011

AGENDA
ITEM No. 11-03-(2)-12

ACTION: (Y/N) N

SUBJECT: 2009-2010 Consolidated Data Report

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ATTACHMENTS: 1. Orange County School System Dropout Prevention Efforts
2. Draft PowerPoint

PURPOSE: To provide the Board of Education a report on the 2009-2010 consolidated data report which includes data on crime and violence incidents, suspensions and expulsions, and dropout counts and rates.

BACKGROUND: North Carolina General Statute 115-C-12(27) requires the compilation of an annual report of incidents of crime and violence, suspensions and expulsions, and dropout counts for grades 9-12. The annual report was released by the Department of Public Instruction on March 3, 2011.

Dropout Data: A review of the 2009-2010 data shows that the number of students dropping out of the Orange County Schools decreased for the second year in a row - from 84 dropouts for the 2008-2009 school year to only 66 dropouts for the 2009-2010 school year, or a 21% decrease from the previous year. The district's dropout percentage was 2.88% while the state rate was 3.75%.

Crime and Violence Data: A review of the crime and violence data showed that Orange County Schools was one of the 10 LEAs reporting the lowest rates of reportable acts for grades 9-12 with 12 reportable acts for a rate of 5.54 acts per 1000 students, as compared to the state rate of 7.97 acts per 1000 students.

Short Term and Long Term Suspensions: The school district ranks 21st out of 115 school districts for the lowest short term suspension rate in grades 9-12 with 286 students being suspended for a rate of 13.19% as compared to the state rate for short term suspensions which were 31.89%.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: According to the October 2009 report "Dropouts and the High Cost for Taxpayers" prepared by Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts *"the average high school dropout will cost taxpayers over \$292,000 in lower tax revenues, and imposed incarceration costs relative to an average high school graduate."*

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education receive for information the 2009-2010 Consolidated Data Report.

ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM DROPOUT PREVENTION EFFORTS

There are a number of efforts underway in the Orange County Schools to provide better academic and social/emotional support for students. Some of these efforts are:

Elementary Level Strategies

- Twelve prekindergarten programs serving over 200 four-year olds are in operation
- Intense reading interventions for at-risk readers
- Free after school programs located at three sites in the county

Middle School Level Strategies

- Free afterschool programming for at-risk learners offered at each middle school
- Intense reading intervention for at-risk readers
- AVID program
- Sixth Grade transition programs
- Established a therapeutic day treatment program
- Alternative school programming grades 6-12

High School Level Strategies

- Options for credit recovery through ACE program, free summer school and online course options
- 21 credit diploma
- Change in promotion policy to credits only for grade to grade advancement
- Revised attendance policy
- Security check-in machines were installed at each high school
- Ninth grade transition program
- Free after school programming for at-risk learners for OHS 9th graders

District Level Efforts

- Expansion of Partnership Academy facility and staff
- Pyramids of Intervention at each school
- Partnership with OPEC area mental health to offer school-based mental health services to selected elementary, middle and high school students
- District-wide dropout prevention committee is in place to develop a comprehensive action plan
- Provided free computers to families in need through the Kramden Institute
- Host yearly school-wide minority summits for parents as well as a district level parent summit focusing on how to support their children academically

2009–2010 Consolidated Data Report











