



Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

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D 200 8th-grade literacy scores top McHenry County

Woodstock Community Unit School District 200 had the highest 8th-grade reading scores in McHenry County and high reading scores across grade levels when compared with other Illinois schools, according to recently released 2024 Illinois School Report Card data.

Overall, Creekside Middle School earned an Exemplary designation from the Illinois State Board of Education for the second year in a row while Northwood Middle School wasn't far behind with the second highest eighth-grade literacy scores.

For comparison purposes, 76 percent of District 200's 8th-graders met or exceeded literacy readiness standards while about 50 percent of eighth-graders across Illinois met or exceeded the state standards. That score also surpassed scores in neighboring, Huntley, Crystal Lake, Cary and other McHenry County school districts.

"Leaving 8th grade with the ability to read at grade level allows students to enter high school with the ability to take advantage of all of the opportunities our high schools offer. We are very excited to see this achievement in 8th grade," D 200 Superintendent Mike Moan said.

All other District 200 schools earned Commendable designations based on their math and reading scores across all grade levels and subgroups.

Superintendent Mike Moan presented Report Card comparison data highlighting District's scores against both McHenry County Districts and Illinois districts with similar demographic populations to the District 200 Board of Education at its Nov. 12 Board meeting.

"This is really impressive," said Board President Carl Gilmore. "We're certainly competitive in all of these areas with all of the districts around here. I think it's terrific that we're doing the work that we are."

Board member John Headley also congratulated the teaching staff and administration for outstanding work in achieving the test results.

District 200 also had the highest 6th-grade reading scores in McHenry County and the second-highest 3rd-grade reading scores. Moan explained that with more than 40 percent of students participating in Dual Language, students reading growth takes more time in the younger grades as students learn to read in two languages, but many eventually move ahead of their peers at higher grade levels.

In addition to reading, District 200 students overall outpaced McHenry County school district's in math growth from year to year.

When compared to districts with similar demographics such as District 300, Moline, Sterling among others and the state overall, District 200 students also performed better in several categories in both reading and math..

One other bright spot according to the latest data is that both 8th-grade reading scores have surpassed scores from prior to the pandemic from 46 percent meeting or exceeding reading expectations in 2019 to 76 percent last year.

“Since the early days of the pandemic, our efforts have been to regain and then surpass our achievement prior to the pandemic. Our 8th grade scores are now at that point. This has been a great effort by our staff, our students and families,” Moan said.