



Inspire and prepare students for life.

2024/2025

Annual Report



**Conestoga
Public
Schools**

ANNUAL REPORT



DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Conestoga School District (#56) comprises approximately 198 square miles in Cass and Otoe Counties. The district is made up of the communities of Nehawka, Murray, Beaver Lake, Lake WaConDa (partial), and the surrounding rural areas. The district is organized as a PreK-12 educational program with the PreK-6 Building located in Murray and the 7-12 building located 2.5 miles west of Murray on Highway #1. Conestoga is classified as a Class III (PreK-12) district by the Nebraska Department of Education and a Class C1 school by the Nebraska School Activities Association. Conestoga is a member of the Capital Conference. The Conestoga School District is governed by a six-member board of education. The Board meets at the High School building in Murray the second Tuesday of the month. The meetings start at 5:00 PM, unless otherwise advertised. The 2025-2026 members of the Board of Education are: President Greg Page, Vice-President Seth Ahrens, Secretary Jeremy Stone, Treasurer Teri Weisz, and members Candace Kelley and Tracey Priefert.

CONESTOGA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

The Conestoga Public Schools Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization that operates separately, but as an extension of the schools. The Conestoga Foundation Board of Trustees is made up of three school board members and two at large members. The Foundation was formed for acceptance of tax-deductible donations from interested supporters of education. Since the formation of the Foundation in 1989, donations of cash and equipment have been provided as memorials and contributions. Each year the Foundation awards scholarships to graduating seniors from the Conestoga Schools to further their education.

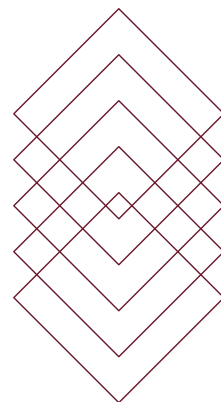
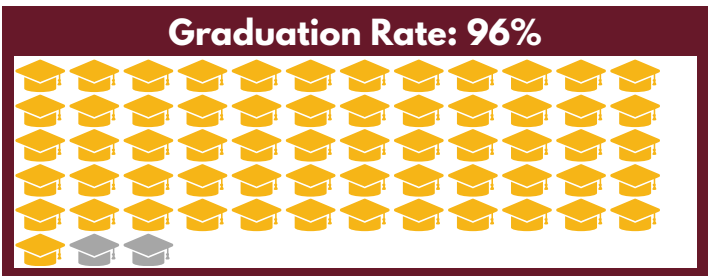
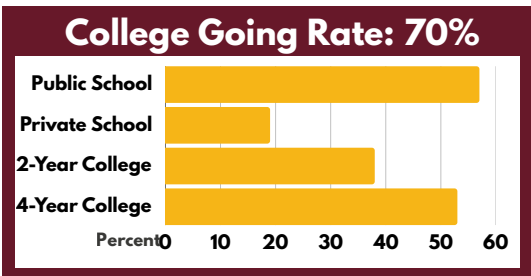
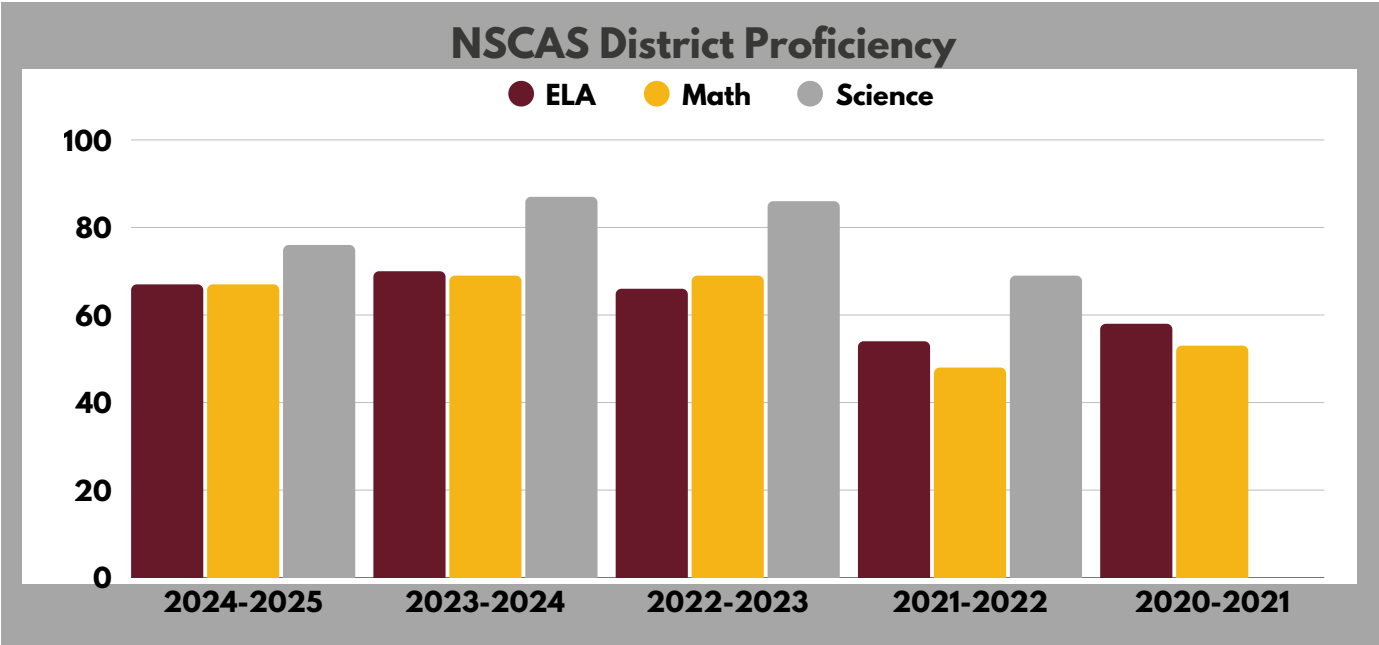
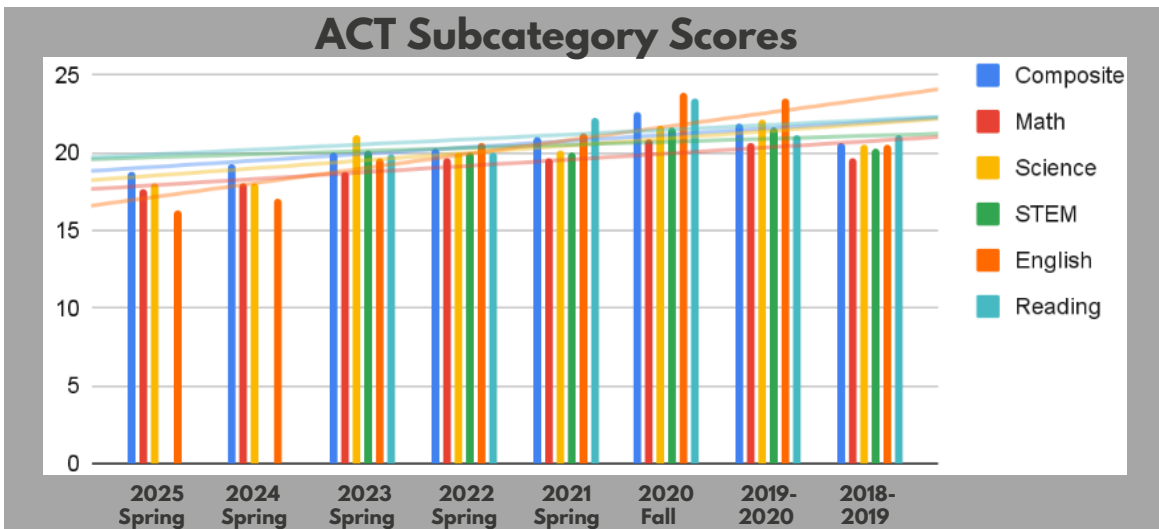
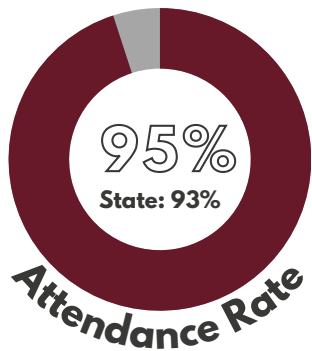
OTHER INFORMATION

- School is in session Tuesday through Friday, with a few exceptions as displayed on the district calendar.
- Conestoga participates in the Federal School Foods program. Breakfast and lunch are available to purchase at all sites on a daily basis.
- Conestoga Preschool serves students ages 3 and 4 with and/or without disabilities living in the Conestoga School district.
- Conestoga Early Education Center is located at the elementary site and offers services to school employees and patrons of the district. Phone: 402-235-3416

INSPIRE and PREPARE students for LIFE



Student **ACHIEVEMENT**



DISTRICT STATE CLASSIFICATIONS 2025

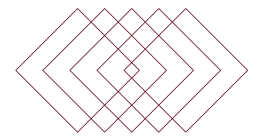
Excellent ★★★★★

- Conestoga Middle School

Great ★★★★★

- Conestoga Public School District
- Conestoga High School
- Conestoga Elementary School

Student DEMOGRAPHICS



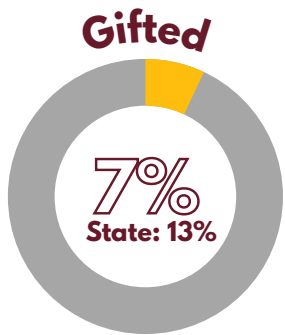
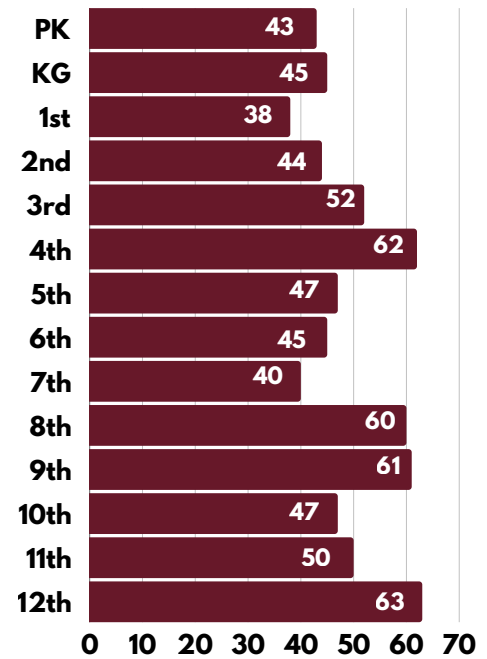
697

**Total PK-12
Students in
2024-2025**

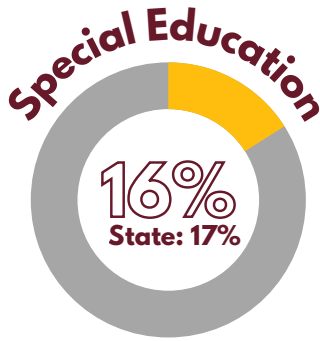
District Enrollment by Year

2023/24 - 700 Students
2022/23- 709 Students
2021/22 - 698 Students
2020/21 - 684 Students

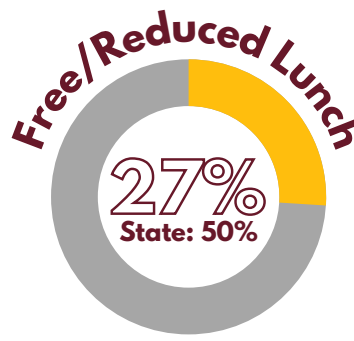
District Enrollment by Grade



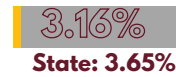
Students who give evidence of high performance capability



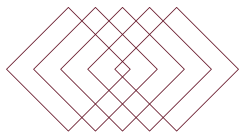
Students receiving special education services



Students eligible for free/reduced price meals or eligible for free special milk



Mobility Rate
Students moving into or out of district during the year



Teacher DEMOGRAPHICS

Average Years of Teaching Experience

15

State Average: 14

58 Total Teachers

Teachers with Master's Degrees **35**

% of Teachers with Master's Degrees

67%

State Average: 59%

\$61,842

Average Teacher Salary

State Average: \$63,527

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Michael Apple, Superintendent
Email: mapple@conestogacougars.org

Rob Geise, Jr-Sr High Principal
Email: rgeise@conestogacougars.org

Eric Dennis, Elementary Principal
Email: edennis@conestogacougars.org

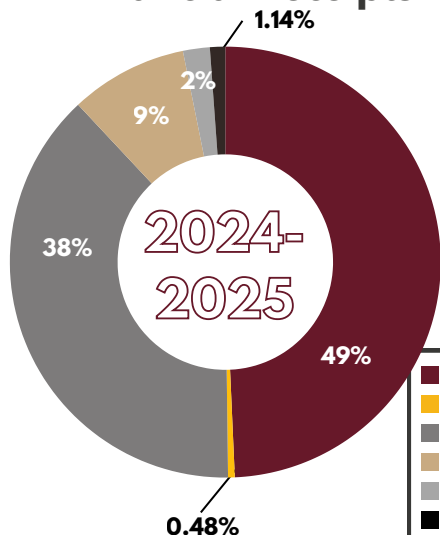
Lisa Bergmeyer, Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
Email: lbergmeyer@conestogacougars.org

Nicholas Krause, Director of Student Services
Email: nkrause@conestogacougars.org

Molly Stieren, Jr-Sr High AP & Activities Director
Email: mjstieren@conestogacougars.org

Financial REPORT

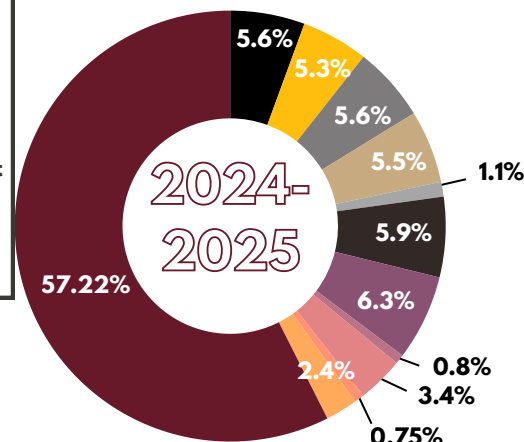
Financial Receipts



- All Instruction Exp.
- Support Services - Students
- Support Services - Instruction
- General Administration
- Office of the Principal Exp.
- Central Services
- Maintenance & Operation Exp.
- Support Services - Pupils Transport
- State Categorical Programs
- Total Facilities
- Other Expenditures
- Total Federal Programs

- Local Receipts
- County Receipts
- State Receipts other than TEEOSA
- State Aid (TEEOSA)
- Federal Receipts
- Total Other Financing Sources

Financial Expenditures



Per Pupil Expenditures

\$19,872

Peers: \$20,117

\$1.12M State Aid (TEEOSA)

Other State Receipts **\$4.86M**

Expenditures

\$12.05M

Peers: \$11.65M

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY Notice of Nondiscrimination Conestoga Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Retaliation is prohibited. The following employee has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Nicholas Krause, Director of Student Services/Title IX Coordinator, 8404 42nd Street, Murray, NE 68409, (402) 235-2271, nkrause@conestogacougars.org. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact OCR at One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street #320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.

ANNUAL REPORT NOTICE

This publication contains information reflecting the 2024-2025 school year. The publishing of an annual report allows the Conestoga Public Schools to meet the requirements of Rule 10 category 010.01A of the Nebraska Department of Education. More importantly, it provides an opportunity to share information with the school community and others interested in Conestoga Public School. Data from school districts can be found at the Nebraska Department of Education website: <http://www.education.ne.gov>. More information about Conestoga Public Schools can be found on the school website: <http://www.conestogacougars.org>