

A Report to Our Parents

Simpson County Schools
Benchmarks of Success



A Great Place to Learn, where
Kids Matter Most



Simpson County Schools is dedicated to providing our students with a world-class education that will prepare them for success in life. We have defined prepared for life as primarily being citizenship-ready (prepared to contribute to our democratic society in a positive manner) and college/career-ready (prepared to enter post-secondary training or the workforce and make a positive contribution). We are working extremely hard to help each student develop to their fullest potential so that whichever path they choose in life, they can make a good living and contribute to their community in meaningful ways.

In an effort to communicate how our schools are doing and to enlist your help and support in the education of your child, I am sharing this report of our progress in our schools. We utilize multiple measures to gauge the progress of our students and schools. We call these our **BENCHMARKS FOR SUCCESS** (**BOLD** signifies at or above the state or national average):

Franklin Elementary

- The BRIGANCE Early Childhood Screen is a nationally normed and standardized assessment that has been adopted as Kentucky's kindergarten ready screener. This test was administered the first week of school. Students scored as follows:
 - 15% are ready with enrichments (above benchmark)
 - 27% are kindergarten ready (at benchmark)
 - 58% are ready with supports (below benchmark).
- On the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Test for Reading, our kindergarten students obtained a benchmark score of **170.62** compared to the national benchmark of 155.1.
- On MAP for Math, our kindergarten students obtained a benchmark score of **170.11** compared to the national benchmark of 156.1.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **94.5%**, which is below the 5 year average for FES.



Simpson Elementary Overall Score 56.7 (2013 Goal 57.7)

- On the KPREP for Reading, our 3rd graders scored **50.7%** proficient/distinguished (P/D) which is above the state average 49.4%.
- On the KPREP for Math, our 3rd graders scored **55%** P/D which is above the state average of 42.8%.
- On the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT 10) SES scored a 53 in Reading and a **57** in Math which is above the state average of 55. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- The Gap score for SES is **45.9** which is above state average of 40.5. The Gap measures how well students in at-risk populations achieve academically.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.64%**, which is above the 5 year average for SES.



Lincoln Elementary Overall Score 54.6 (2013 Goal 55.6)

- On the KPREP Reading, our 4th graders scored **51.8%** P/D, which is above the state average of 47%.
- On the KPREP Math, our 4th graders scored **47.2%** P/D, which is above the state average of 39.6%.
- On the KPREP Science, our 4th graders scored 66% P/D.
- On the KPREP Language Mechanics, our 4th graders scored 43.7% P/D.
- On the KPREP Reading, our 5th graders scored 41.1% P/D.
- On the KPREP Math, our 5th graders scored 31.7% P/D.
- On the KPREP Writing, our 5th graders scored a 28.6% P/D.
- On the KPREP Social Studies, our 5th graders scored 50.4% P/D.
- On the SAT 10 4th grade scored a **61** in Reading, a **66** in Math, a 49 in Language and a 65 in Science. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- On the SAT 10 5th grade scored a 45 in Reading, a 56 in Math, and a 64 in Social Studies. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- The Gap score for LES is 39.1. The Gap measures how well students in at-risk populations achieve academically.
- The Growth score is 58.3. Growth measures how each individual student progresses each year as compared with achievement of like peers.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.65%**, which is below the 5 year average for LES.



Franklin Simpson Middle School **Over all Score 52.8 (2013 Goal 53.8)**

- On the KPREP Reading, our 6th graders scored **55.4%** P/D, which is above the state average of 46%.
- On the KPREP Math, our 6th graders scored **44.2%** P/D, which is above the state average of 41.6%.
- On the KPREP Writing, our 6th graders scored 35.5% P/D.
- On the KPREP Language Mechanics, our 6th graders scored **43%** P/D, which is above the state average of 38.4%.
- On the KPREP Reading, our 7th graders scored 46.8% P/D.
- On the KPREP Math, our 7th graders scored 30.2% P/D.
- On the KPREP Science, our 7th graders scored 55% P/D.
- On the KPREP Reading, our 8th graders scored **47%** P/D, which is above the state average of 46.7%.
- On the KREP Math, our 8th graders scored 36.4% P/D.
- On the KPREP Social Studies, our 8th graders scored **61.9%** P/D, which is above the state average of 58.6%.
- On the KPREP Writing, our 8th graders scored **49.6%** P/D, which is above the state average of 43.5%.
- On the 2011-12 Pre-ACT EXPLORE test, our 8th graders earned scores of
 - 13.4 in English compared to the state average of 14.3
 - 14.7 in Math compared to the state average of 15.3
 - 13.9 in Reading compared to the state average of 14.4
 - 15.8 in Science compared to the state average of 16.3
 - 14.6 on the Overall Composite compared to the state average of 15.2
- On the 2012-13 Pre-ACT EXPLORE test, our 8th graders earned scores of
 - 14.5 in English compared to the state average of 14.3*
 - **15.3** in Math compared to the state average of 15.3*
 - **14.4** in Reading compared to the state average of 14.4*
 - **16.7** in Science compared to the state average of 16.3*
 - **15.4** on the Overall Composite compared to the state average of 15.2*
- On the SAT 10 6th grade scored a **55** in Reading, a **56** in Math, and a **41** in Language. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- On the SAT 10 7th grade scored a 52 in Reading, a **61** in Math, and a 58 in Science. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- On the SAT 10 8th grade scored a 57 in Reading, a 62 in Math, and a **63** in Social Studies. This is the norm-referenced portion of the KPREP.
- The Gap score for FSMS is **39.5** which is above the state average of 37.9. The Gap measures how well students in at-risk populations achieve academically.
- The Growth score is 59.3. Growth measures how each individual student progresses each year as compared with achievement of like peers.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.01%**, which is above the 5 year average for FSMS.

* denotes 2011-12 state score averages for Pre-ACT EXPLORE

Franklin Simpson High School **Over all Score 53.7 (2013 Goal 54.7)**

- On the 2011-12 Pre-ACT PLAN test, our 10th graders earned scores of
 - **16.5** in English compared to the state average of 16.1
 - **16.9 in Math** compared to the state average of 16.8
 - **16.8 in Reading** compared to the state average of 16.6
 - **18.6 in Science** compared to the state average of 17.9
 - **17.3 on the Overall Composite** compared to the state average of 17
- On the 2012-13 Pre-ACT PLAN test, our 10th graders earned scores of
 - **18.1 in English** compared to the national average of 16.2
 - **18.5 in Math** compared to the national average of 17.6
 - **17.9 in Reading** compared to the national average of 16.7
 - **19.3 in Science** compared to the national average of 17.8
 - **18.6 on the Overall Composite** compared to the national average of 17.2
- On the ACT test, our 11th graders earned scores of
 - 17.7 in English compared to the state average of 18.4
 - 18.3 in Math compared to the state average of 18.8
 - 18.6 in Reading compared to the state average of 19
 - 18.9 in Science compared to the state average of 19.1
 - 18.5 on the Overall Composite compared to the state average of 19
- On the End-of-Course (EOC) exams, the % of students earning P/D
 - **60.6 in English II** compared to the state average of 52.2
 - **45.2 in Algebra II** compared to the state average of 40
 - 29.3 in Biology compared to the state average of 30.2
 - **44.8 in US History** compared to the state average of 39.5
- In 2011-12, FSHS students earned *441 hours of college credit through our Advanced Placement (AP) program by earning qualifying scores on 147 AP exams*. This includes 31 freshmen earning 3 hours of college credit in AP Human Geography. Comparatively, we had only 49 qualifying scores total in 2009.
- Last year, our students earned *181 college hours through our "On Track" dual credit partnership with the Franklin Center of Bowling Green Technical*.
- In 2011-12, students earned 42 credit hours of Chinese through our partnership with the WKU Confucius Institute.
- In the last three years, FSHS students have nearly 2000 *college hours through AP and "On Track"*.
- On the KPREP Writing, our 10th graders scored **46.9%** P/D, which is above the state average of 42.3%.
- On the KPREP Language Mechanics, our 10th graders scored 55% P/D, which is above the state average of 50.7%.
- On the KPREP Writing, our 11th graders scored **47.2%** P/D, which is above the state average of 45.6%.
- The Gap score for FSHS is **35.9** which is above the state average of 28.8. The Gap measures how well students in at-risk populations achieve academically.
- The Growth score is 55. Growth measures how each individual student progresses each year as compared with achievement of like peers.
- The College Readiness score is 32.4.
- The Graduation Rate is **81.9** which is above the state average 77.8.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **93.38%**, which is above the 5 year average for FSHS.



As you can see from the results on our Benchmarks for Success, we have many areas to celebrate and at the same time some areas that need attention. However, we want to make improvements in all areas so that our students continually grow and develop to their highest potential!



Kentucky Public Schools and districts are now accountable for educating children under a new system called Unbridled Learning: College/Career-Readiness for All. It includes multiple measures that take into account all areas of a school's work. Unbridled Learning is designed to promote continuous improvement in our schools and districts.



Kentucky adopted new standards in reading and math, so the tests for those subjects are different; they cover different items and are more challenging. Because the standards on which some test are based are more rigorous than in the past, scores may decline in the short term, but should show improvement as teachers and students become more

comfortable with the standards. The accountability labels are different from those in the past—it's not possible to compare a school's label or category from previous years to the new labels and categories. Elementary schools will be accountable for progress in achievement, gap and growth measures. Middle schools will be accountable for progress in achievement, gap, growth and readiness for college/careers. High schools will be accountable for achievement, gap, growth, readiness for college/careers, and graduation rates. Students will receive reports that place their performance in each content area into the categories of Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, and Distinguished.





Simpson County Schools is taking several steps to improve achievement in the area of reading and math with all of our students. These include:

- Implementing Learning Community Days that allow teachers to collaborate and learn in an effort to improve instruction and student achievement performance.
- Implementing Systems of Intervention for students who struggle in reading and math.
- Targeting achievement gaps through the use of scientifically researched-based strategies including diagnostic reading and math assessments such as STAR testing, Read 180, Achieve 3000 Reading, Carnegie Learning Math, Odysseyware and many other programs.
- Providing schools with interventionists – Instructional Coaches, Title 1 Teachers and Paraeducators, Special Education Teachers and Paraeducators, and other support staff who help remove barriers to student learning.
- Focusing on delivering a clear, concise curriculum through pacing guides/unit plans based on the new common core math and reading standards while developing daily/weekly formative assessments aligned to those standards.
- Providing enrichments for students who are meeting or exceeding our goals to stretch them further.



We are working hard to improve the quality of our curriculum, instruction and assessment at all schools to better meet the needs of every student we serve. Our teachers are implementing the new common core standards in techniques to enhance critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, creativity and teamwork skills among our students. As we continue to work to better engage our students in a deeper understanding of the content and skills needed to succeed in life, we encourage you to be active partners in the process. We want and need you to become involved in your child's school .



Glossary

Achievement: Measures how well students in each school and district perform on state accountability tests.

Career Readiness: Determined by tests such as the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, Work Keys, or Occupational Skills Standards Assessment.

College Readiness: Determined by benchmarks on standardized tests such as the ACT, PLAN, EXPLORE and COMPASS.

COMPASS: A college placement test to evaluate incoming students in reading, writing and math.

End-of-Course Exams: State tests given to determine content knowledge at the end of courses in English II, Algebra II, Biology, and U.S. History. End-of-Course

exams are used to determine a school's overall achievement, but also count 20% of the students final grade in Franklin-Simpson High School.

EXPLORE: A high school readiness test for 8th graders that measures achievement in English, math, reading and science.

Gap: Measures how well students in at-risk populations achieve academically.

Growth: Measures how each individual student progresses each year as compared with achievement of like peers.

K-PREP: The Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress measures how well students have learned content determined by grade-level standards.

Plan: A college-readiness test for 10th graders which measures achievement in English, math, reading and science.

If you have any questions about what the district is doing to improve teaching and learning, please feel free to contact Jim Flynn, Shelina Smith, Sheila Baugh, or Whitney Maxwell at 586-8877.

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