



Raising achievement

Centennial School District Stockholders' Report for 2010–11

Centennial School District's annual report to its stockholders, the 31,982 residents who make up the Centennial community, looks back at the 2010–11 school year, including district data—numbers of residents, students, staff, a breakdown of student numbers and numbers served in various programs.

The report features test scores and shares areas where Centennial shines and struggles. It lists district, student and staff highlights, along with accomplishments, and includes a financial accounting.

Centennial's focus is on three areas:

Reaping high achievement for all—test scores routinely outperform the state and neighboring districts

Nurturing a safe and welcoming environment for students and staff—low expulsion rate, positive school climate, and safety and risk behaviors below state averages

Cultivating effective and efficient systems—financial report and cost/energy savings programs

These statistics are a credit to the Centennial community, its caring parents and other adults who team up with teachers and support staff in working with students.

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"I realize test scores are only one indicator in evaluating a school. However, when you look deeper you come to realize the community we have built is second to none. In my 24 years I have seen enormous improvement in many areas. Discipline issues have become almost non-existent compared to the late 80s. Parent support is better

Strong root system is key to high achievement

Key ingredients in student success are parents, family and community members working in tandem with teachers and school support staff. The measure of this success is revealed in state mandated testing.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) tests— Centennial outperforms state, neighbors

All Minnesota school districts administer the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) each year, which measure student performance against state standards in reading, math and science and fulfill No Child Left Behind requirements. The tests are administered in reading to grades 3–8 and 10, and in math to grades 3–8 and 11, and in science to grades 5, 8, and once in high school.

A higher bar was set for students with tougher new standards, according to Minnesota Education Commissioner Brenda Cassellius. Also, testing was done by computer and included English language learners.

Even with these challenges, Centennial performed better than the state average in every grade and surpassed achievement levels of eight surrounding districts.

2011 composite scores:

Reading: 82.9 % (state average 74%),

Math: 72.4% in math (state average 55%).

Science: 58.8% (state average of 48.1%).

Results determine if schools and districts have made adequate yearly progress. Results, which document participation, proficiency, and attendance, indicate all schools met all of their proficiency index targets and two schools missed participation benchmarks.

State Graduation-Required Assessments for Diploma test (GRAD)



Specially selected plants that can tolerate storm water runoff were planted in three separate rain gardens at Rice Lake Elementary. William Gallagher makes sure this plant will not

Safe and welcoming environment

School climate

The level of positive school climate influences students, staff, parents and the community. It includes various feelings students have about school such as the interactions between adults and students, and feelings of safety, trust and respect. Research has shown that a positive school climate can reduce behavior referrals and also increase academic achievement. Centennial student survey indicators include:

▲ **More than three-fourths like going to school**

6th grade: 84% 9th grade: 76% 12th grade: 78%

▲ **All or most teachers show respect for students**

6th: 87% 9th grade: 78% 12th grade: 73%

▲ This year's survey shows **95% of students expressed educational goals beyond completing high school**. This is an increase over both the state and Centennial's 2007 survey results.

Safety/risk behaviors

The survey shows a decline in bullying and an increase in teen use of seat belts.

Being bullied is a bigger concern for younger students. Of those students participating, **over 50 percent reported no involvement in bullying**. Bullying has decreased at the three grade levels compared to the 2007 survey and is below state averages.

▲ **Centennial students' perceptions of school safeness is higher than the 2007 survey and state average**. Students overwhelmingly strongly agree or agree they feel safe.

These results may be due to the security in place at the middle school and high school, the controlled access to buildings, the security cameras, emergency procedures, safety and crisis plans, drills, the work of police liaisons, the focus on peer leaders at the high school, and more.

▲ Students do not identify gang activity as an issue.

Health

Students were asked about tobacco, alcohol and drug use, obesity and sexual activity. **Most sixth graders strongly agree/agree that alcohol or drug use at school is not a problem, while more than half of 9th and 12th graders strongly agree/agree it is a problem**. Tobacco use increases with age, especially senior boys, but is below the state average for 2007 and 2010.

Student and staff achievements

* Class of 2010: 522 CHS graduates (59 Graduates with Distinction, 43 Highest Honors, 98 Honors, 182 Honorable Mention); 82 seniors awarded \$50,500 in local scholarships; 22 Centennial Area Learning Center graduates; 5 Journey Program/8 Adult Transition graduates; 24 adults earned their GED at Adult Continuing Education

* National Merit Scholarships: Four Letter of Commendations and two semifinalists

* 420 high school students completed one or more Advanced Placement (AP) exam, a significant increase over 2010. 69.3% scored a 3 or higher (5 point scale). The state average is 65.8% and the national average is 60.2%. Awards: 27 AP Scholars, 7 AP Scholars with Honor; 3 AP Scholars with Distinction

* 93 members of National Honor Society

* Theater awards: Fall musical recognized in Spotlight High School Musical Theater Program (7 awards)

* Music awards: 1 Minnesota Band Director's Association 9–10 Honor Band member, 3 perfect scores and 12 Best at Site Region AA Instrumental Music Solo Ensemble Band Contest awards; 6 Minnesota All-State Band and Orchestra members, 3 Minnesota All-State Choir members, 4 Best at Site at Region 5AA Vocal Solo/Ensemble Contest

* State tournament entrants: FCCLA, One-Act Play, DECA, Future Problem Solvers, Poetry Out Loud; regional and national entrant: First Robotics Competition

* Sports—1,646 in fee sports and activities; 1,056 in performance, contests and clubs; 278 in intramurals; Northwest Suburban Conference Norwick Cup runner up (best all-around in conference



First grade teacher Kim Olson works with Landon Liu on the Rice Lake Elementary rain garden project.

2010–11 district composition

Residents

Serving 31,982 residents of Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Lexington and Lino Lakes: 11,634 households—41% (7,996) with children

Staff

* 446 teachers (22% bachelor's degree; 78% master's degree; .7% doctorate); average teacher salary—\$55,268
* 438 support staff
* 18 administrators

Students

* 6,532 students as of Oct. 1, 2010:

Students	Average Class Size
<u>Elementary</u> (2,693)	
(K) 387	19–23
(1) 473	22–26
(2) 456	23–27
(3) 456	26–31
(4) 467	28–33
(5) 455	28–33
<u>Middle school</u> (1,588)	Grades 6–8: 32–33
(6) 533	
(7) 513	
(8) 542	
<u>High school</u> (2,165)	Grades 9–12: 31–32
(9) 523	
(10) 543	
(11) 562	
(12) 537	
<u>CALC</u> —72	

* Activity participation (duplicated): high school—2,980; middle school—6,476
* English language learners—105
* Special Education—966

Cultivating effective and efficient systems

Revenues and expenditures

2010–11 General Fund (GF) Revenues

Local Sources	
Property Taxes	\$ 8,077,797
Property Tax Shift	\$ 3,272,180
Investment Earnings	\$ 2,019
Sales	\$ 104,913
Other	\$ 1,433,624
State Sources	\$46,989,944
Federal Sources	\$ 3,045,735
Total GF revenues	<u>\$62,926,212</u>

2010–11 General Fund Expenditures

Salaries	\$36,018,087
Employee Benefits	\$12,512,961
Purchased Services	\$10,144,131
OPEB Transfer*	\$ 0
Supplies, Materials, Equipment	\$ 1,665,977
Capital Expenditures	\$ 1,529,455
Other Expenditures	\$ 178,987
Total GF expenditures	<u>\$62,049,598</u>



Rice Lake principal Warren Buerkley helps Timothy Brand clear away mulch prior to adding local native plants to filter water from the parking lots..

Sowing seeds of future savings

Centennial continues to be among the lowest spending school districts in the metro area. Last year the district implemented several initiatives to reduce spending and increase efficiencies:

- ★ Cost avoidance of \$200,000 due to a continued focus on energy efficiency (reinsulated roofs, changed out lighting, updated control systems, encouraging changes in user behavior, etc.).
- ★ Savings of over \$600,000 in transportation via route consolidation and scheduling efficiencies, and through a special education transportation collaborative with Intermediate 916 School members.
- ★ Installed newer efficient copiers, saving nearly \$100,000 over the next five years.
- ★ Reduced health care costs for the district and employees.
- ★ Continue reductions in district worker's compensation costs.
- ★ Working with Infinite Campus, a Blaine technology company, on collaborative effort aimed at improving business systems and curricular programming.

District achievements for 2010–11

- Improved student achievement levels K–12.
- Reduced the General Fund budget by 2.5 million, including a reduction in staffing (___ positions) to help ensure the school district's financial viability.
- Achieved AAA enhanced and AA underlying credit rating from Standard & Poors.
- New HVAC equipment serving the red and the white buildings in the gyms, commons, offices, tech areas and community pool.
- High School moves off the 4 by 4 schedule to a 6 by 2 schedule for 9-12 grade students.
- Computer hybrid classes piloted at the high school
- CHS is AdvanceED accredited by the North Central Association.
- Implementation of SHIP (School Health Improvement Program)
- Recess before lunch at elementaries for a positive impact on student health and behavior.
- Established wellness committee. Healthy lunch and snacks. Tool kits for classroom celebrations/incentives
- Farm-to-school products-promotes healthy eating, supports neighboring small/mid-sized farmers
- Power by the Hour program
- One-year pilot program, housed at RLE, involving the use of 21 portable wireless devices by 13 teachers.
- Made several system efficiency improvements while introducing powerED, a behavior-focused, energy awareness and operational efficiency program saving the district approximately 1,744 metric tons of CO2 annually and over \$237,338 in avoided operating costs.
- Reduced grade reductions for attendance issues at the high school from 20% to 10%
- New principals: Cathy Tschida (CV), Bob Stevens (MS)
- New admins: Dan Huffman, Scott Johnson, Keith Dixon
- ECFE new outdoor classroom
- Resident survey results (April/May pg 4)
- Vertical teaming used to create seamless education
- Several schools participated in the H2O for Life project, helping provide water, sanitation and hygiene education in developing nations.
- CAEF grant awards: \$11,000 to 9 organizations.
- MS selected to participate in the Region 11 Math and Science Teacher Center Mathematical Reasoning, grades 6-9 training.
- District named 2010-11 Advanced Placement Achievement Dis-