



CHETEK-WEYERHAEUSER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Big Enough for Opportunities, Small Enough to Care

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Chetek-Weyerhaeuser Schools Meet Expectations in Latest School Report Cards

After a solid showing on the state school report cards the last two years, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser continued their efforts in meeting expectations according to the annual accountability school report cards released by the state this week.

As part of Wisconsin's push to a statewide accountability system for school districts, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has released school report cards for all schools in the state. Along with individual schools, each district was given an overall score. The scores evaluate not only the effectiveness of the school district, but also hold schools accountable for ensuring students receive the education and skills necessary to be successful in a career or post-secondary institution.

The report card score is based on the school's performance in four priority areas:

- Student achievement in reading and mathematics on state tests
- Student growth measured by improvements in achievement
- Closing gaps in performance between specific student groups (i.e. low-income students or students with disabilities.)
- On-track/postsecondary readiness, including graduation or attendance rates, reading and math achievement, and ACT participation and performance.

In addition, the school report card displays the school's performance on three areas of student engagement, including state test participation rates in reading and mathematics, absenteeism and dropout rates.

Based on performance in the above areas, schools are given one of five ratings—from *Significantly Exceeds Expectations* to *Fails to Meet Expectations*. CWASD received an overall district score of 69.5, meeting expectations according to the scorecard. The high school and middle schools were ranked to "meet expectations" with scores of 68.0 and 72.5 respectively. For the third year in a row, Roselawn Elementary again "exceeds expectations" receiving the highest score of the three schools with a 74.2. While each school's overall score and the district's overall score decreased from the previous year's, in three of the four priority areas, CWASD scores were above the state average. According to the WI DPI, however, caution is urged in making comparisons of report cards across years because changes in accountability scores and movement between accountability ratings may be because of changes in how scores were calculated rather than due to changes in 2013-14 report cards. State Superintendent Tony Evers also reminds the public that these report cards are just small part in measuring a school and district's success.

"Let's remember, today's report cards measure a narrow band of what makes a school a vibrant place to learn," said Evers. "The science, art, music, career and technical education, and extracurricular activities that schools offer are truly important to helping students get a well-rounded education that prepares them for college and careers."

"I think our scores show that as a district we are doing very well," says CWASD District Administrator Mark Johnson. "We do have improvement areas. We know what they are and we're working on addressing them. That is exactly what these report cards are meant to do; we will utilize the data and scores to ensure all of our students are performing at the highest of levels and to their fullest potential."

For additional information regarding the schools' report card, visit the DPI website at <http://reportcards.dpi.wi.gov/>

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