

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

- On the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Test for Reading, our kindergarten students earned an average score of **168.7** compared to the national average of 155.1.
- On MAP for Math, our kindergarten students earned an average score of **169.2** compared to the national average of 156.1.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **94.97%**, which is slightly above the 5 year average for FES.
- On the Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) for Reading, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders scored **84.77%** proficient/distinguished (P/D) which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Math, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders scored **86.80%** P/D which is above the state average.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.65%**, which is above the 5 year average for SES and above the state average.



## Simpson Elementary

- On MAP for Reading, our 1<sup>st</sup> graders earned an average score of **180.1** compared to the national average of 176.1.
- On MAP for Math, our 1<sup>st</sup> graders earned an average score of **180.2** compared to the national average of 179.
- On MAP for Reading, our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders earned an average score of **193.3** compared to the national average of 189.2.
- On MAP for Math, our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders earned an average score of **197.8** compared to the national average of 191.3.
- On MAP for Reading, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders earned an average score of **203.0** compared to the national average of 199.2.
- On MAP for Math, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders earned an average score of **205.6** compared to the national average of 203.5.



- On the Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) for Reading, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders scored **84.77%** proficient/distinguished (P/D) which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Math, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders scored **86.80%** P/D which is above the state average.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.65%**, which is above the 5 year average for SES and the state average.

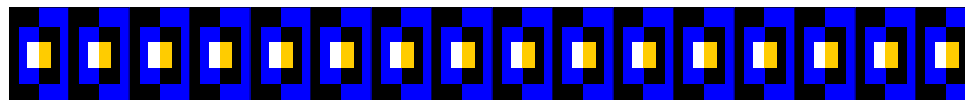
## Lincoln Elementary



- On MAP for Reading, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of **206.7** compared to the national average of 206.3.
- On MAP for Math, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of 209.6 compared to the national average of 212.4.
- On MAP for Reading, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of **215.8** compared to the national average of 212.4.
- On MAP for Math, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of **220.9** compared to the national average of 220.7.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders scored 74.35% P/D.
- On the KCCT Math, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders scored 67.83% P/D.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders scored **79.27%** P/D which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Math, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders scored **74.38%** P/D which is above the state average.
- LES met 10 out of 15 targets on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) report, which is based on the KCCT results.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.92%**, which is above the 5 year average for LES and above the state average.

## Franklin Simpson Middle School

- On MAP for Reading, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of 215.7 compared to the national average of 216.2.
- On MAP for Math, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of 224.2 compared to the national average of 226.
- On MAP for Reading, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of **221.0** compared to the national average of 220.7.
- On MAP for Math, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of 225.3 compared to the national average of 230.9.
- On MAP for Reading, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of **226.4** compared to the national average of 222.6.
- On MAP for Math, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders earned an average score of 231.3 compared to the national average of 234.4.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders scored **72.02%** P/D which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Math, our 6<sup>th</sup> graders scored **68.35%** P/D which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders scored 65.42% P/D.
- On the KCCT Math, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders scored 57.08% P/D.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders scored **75.45%** P/D which is above the state average.
- On the KCCT Math, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders scored **66.07%** P/D which is above the state average.
- On the Pre-ACT EXPLORE test, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders earned scores of -
  - **14.0 in English** compared to the state average of 13.9
  - **15.9 in math** compared to the state average of 15.2
  - 14.1 in reading compared to the state average of 14.2
  - **16.7 in science** compared to the state average of 16.3
  - **15.2 on the overall composite** compared to the state average of 15.0
- FSMS met 9 out of 16 targets on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) report.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **95.25%**, which is above the 5 year average for FSMS and the state average.



## Franklin Simpson High School

- On the Pre-ACT EXPLORE test, our 9<sup>th</sup> graders earned scores of -
  - **15.7 in English** compared to the national average of 15.7
  - **17.2 in math** compared to the national average of 16.3
  - **15.7 in reading** compared to the national average of 15.4
  - **17.2 in science** compared to the national average of 17.1
  - **16.6 on the overall composite** compared to the national average of 16.2
- On the Pre-ACT PLAN test, our 10<sup>th</sup> graders earned scores of -
  - 15.6 in English compared to the state average of 15.7
  - **17.2 in math** compared to the state average of 16.8
  - **16.6 in reading** compared to the state average of 16.4
  - 17.5 in science compared to the state average of 17.6
  - **16.9 on the overall composite** compared to the state average of 16.7
- On the ACT test, our 11<sup>th</sup> graders earned scores of -
  - 16.8 in English compared to the state average of 18
  - 17.7 in math compared to the state average of 18.5
  - 17.7 in reading compared to the state average of 19
  - 18.2 in science compared to the state average of 19
  - 17.7 on the overall composite compared to the state average of 18.8
- In 2011, FSHS students earned *420 hours of college credit through our Advanced Placement (AP) program by earning qualifying scores on 140 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.
- In 2010 and 2011, our students earned *453 college hours through our "On Track" dual credit partnership with the Franklin Center of Bowling Green Technical College*.
- In the last two years, FSHS students have earned *1,218 college hours through AP and "On Track"*.
- On the KCCT Reading, our 10<sup>th</sup> graders scored 59.19% P/D.
- On the KCCT Math, our 11<sup>th</sup> graders scored 28% P/D.
- FSHS met 5 out of 10 targets on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) report.
- In 2010, **68%** of our graduates enrolled in post-secondary training compared to just below 65% for the state.
- In 2010, FSHS had a dropout rate of **0.67%** compared to the state average of 3.19%.
- The end of year Attendance Rate is **94.09%**, which is above the 5 year average for FSHS and above the state average.





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!



There are some significant changes occurring in our state assessment and accountability system as a result of Senate Bill 1, now called Unbridled Learning. The Kentucky Core Content Test or KCCT (formerly call CATS) will no longer be used. A new assessment system is being implemented this year called K-PREP, the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress. The new state assessment will include and assess the new common core standards in reading and math, end of course exams (EOCs) for high school students and include achievement, gap and growth measures at all levels. Additionally, it will include college and career readiness measures beginning in middle school and highly emphasized in high school. 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.



Along with the new testing system, Kentucky is seeking a waiver for the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Under NCLB, schools and districts are required to make adequate yearly progress toward goals based on reading and math tests. In Kentucky, the KCCT reading and math was used as the sole measure. In order to achieve AYP, a school or district must meet 100% of its goals. Consequently, only 12% of districts and less than half of all schools in Kentucky are now meeting AYP. As a result, none of our schools or the district made AYP in 2011. Should the waiver be approved, Kentucky schools will be judged on multiple measures valued by the new K-PREP measures and expected to meet annual measurable objectives. Our Commissioner of Education, Dr. Terry Holliday is optimistic that our waiver will be approved in January 2012.



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 MAP testing, the Scot-Foresman Reading Program, Achieve3000 Reading, Carnegie Learning Math, 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 mapped out curriculum based on the new common core math and reading standards and developing formative, daily/weekly assessments aligned to those standards.



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 reading and math classes. Additionally, we are honing our instructional 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 and be an active partner with teachers in educating your child and implementing our improvement plan.

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.

Again, we want ongoing communication with you throughout the year. Our parents are important partners in our school system and I invite you to join us in our mission to successfully educate every child we serve. We have excellent schools and working together we can make sure every child is successful and our schools get even better!



### **Jim Flynn, Superintendent**

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