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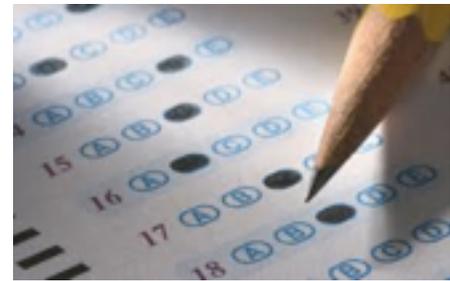
FROM THE BOARD TABLE
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CARDINAL CHATTER

Students Exceed District Goals with Iowa Assessment Testing

Results from the Iowa Assessment tests indicate that the 2015-2016 District Goals for Reading, Math, and Science were met by Earlham students this year.

The district goals were developed by the School Improvement Advisory Committee after analyzing student performance on the Iowa Assessments from previous years. The School Board approved the district goals prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year.



Three of the four district goals are based on proficiency on the Iowa Assessment, which was taken in February. ECSD Administrators elected to test grades 2-11 grade students in Reading, Math and Science. Students in grades 2-8 also took the Computation test. *(cont., pg. 2)*

Upcoming Events

April 4

No School - Professional Development Day

April 4

National Honor Society Inductions, 7 PM

April 5

Iowa Jazz Championships

April 8 & 10

Spring Play

April 11-29

K-12 MAP testing

April 16

EHS Prom

April 20

12:45 Dismissal - Professional Development

April 30

Color Run
Sponsored by P.I.E.

See the master calendar at home.ecsdcards.com for more scheduled events.

The district reading goal was for 83% of grades 3-11 students to show proficiency on the Iowa Assessment, and 86% of students were proficient this year. In 2014-2015, 82% of students in grades 3-11 were proficient.

“We have focused on literacy professional development in the elementary and secondary buildings, so it is great to see this work resulting in raised student achievement,” stated Kristin Sheffield, Curriculum Director.

The district math goal was set at 87% of grades 3-11 students showing proficiency on the Iowa Assessment, and 87% of students were proficient. In 2014-2015, 84% of students in grades 3-11 were proficient.

“We are happy with the achievement shown by our students on these assessments,” stated Elementary Principal Jason Hammen, “but we also are not going to sit back and rest. Our teachers are continuing to focus on individual student growth.”

Secondary Principal Jennifer Knight commented, “It’s great to see all of the awesome daily work our administrators, teachers and students are doing reflected in these test results.”

In science, 87% of students were proficient on the Iowa Assessment this year, which exceeds the district goal of 85% of students in grades 3-11 student proficient. In 2014-2015, 85% of students in grades 3-11 were proficient.

“When we look at this data in conjunction with other measures of student ability, we are able to get a picture of what our students know and are able to do, as well as identify areas for continued improvement,” Superintendent Michael Wright explained.

The graphs on the following page illustrate the number of students at each grade level who fall into the advanced proficient, proficient, and below proficient percentile rankings on the Reading, Math and Science tests.



First graders practice money skills.



Fourth graders engage in discussion.



Freshmen collaborate during Spanish.



High school students create in Art.

Interpreting Iowa Assessment Results

Proficiency on the Iowa Assessment is determined by the student’s “standard score,” a number that describes a student’s location on an achievement continuum or scale, based on the time of year the Iowa Assessment is given.

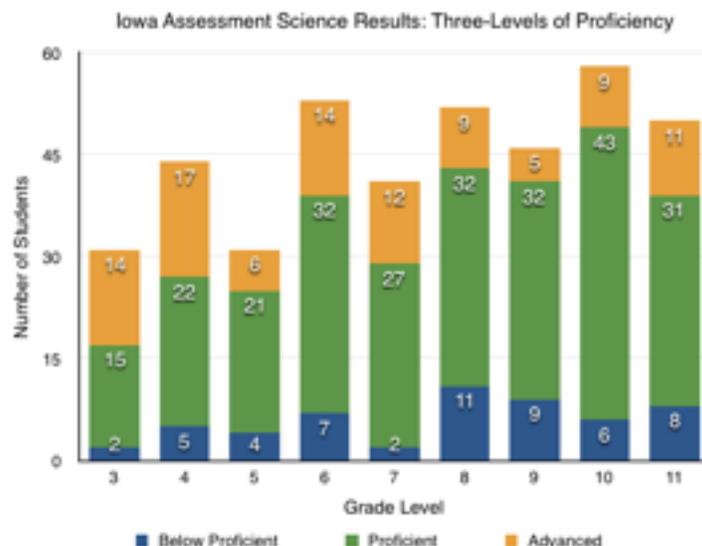
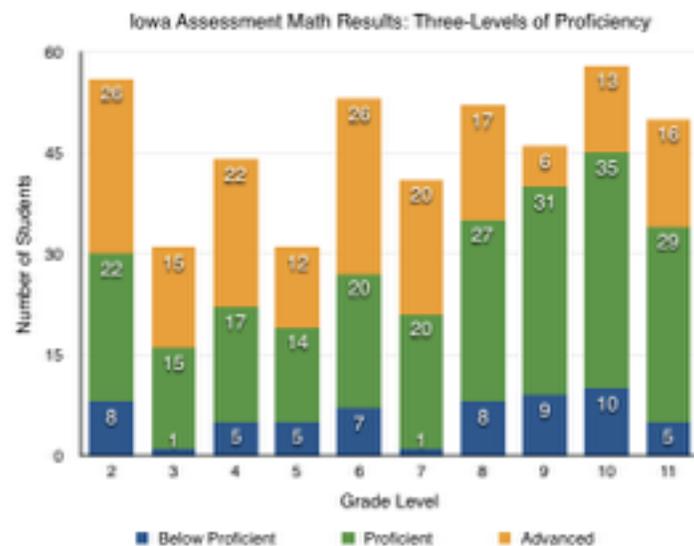
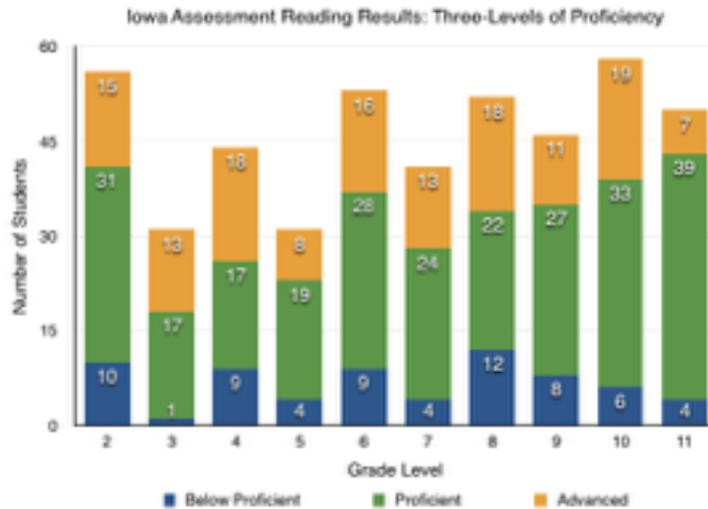
Detailed charts provided by Iowa Testing Programs, the company who produces and scores the Iowa Assessment, are available online, and map out the cut points for the three proficiency levels: Non-Proficient, Proficient and Advanced.

Percentile ranking and grade equivalents for each student are also provided in Iowa Assessment reports. These two methods are a way to rank or compare students to other students.

A student’s percentile rank indicates his or her relative position in a group of students who are in the same grade and who were tested at the same time of year (fall, midyear, or spring).

Grade Equivalents are provided only for grades 1-8. The company looks at range of percentile rankings, then determines an average student’s performance in that grade level as a point of comparison.

Individual student reports were sent to home with students in March.



Earlham Drama Presents Spring Play

What happens when a public relations agent leaves a high profile career in London for retirement in a village located in the English countryside? Murder, mayhem and merriment ensue as Aggie tries to prove her innocence in this modern murder mystery.



Come join us as the students of Earlham High School present: “Agatha Raisin and the Quiche of Death” by M.C. Beaton. Shows will be Friday April 8th at 7 p.m. and Sunday April 10th at 2 p.m. Admission is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students K-12.

Students Compete in WCAC Academic Bowl

On March 8, three teams of students represented Earlham at the West Central Activities Conference Academic Bowl in Ogden. Fifteen teams competed, representing eight conference schools.

Stephen Woolcott, Grant Becker, Tate Rasmussen and Garret Taylor tied for 2nd in points, but finished 4th in the bracket. Bethany Connon, Maggie Luong, Alexis Huls, and Aly Dyer finished in 9th place, and Sara Balch, Cassie Bond, Sophia Balch, and Parker Kliegl finished in 14th place.

René Nuss and Melinda Connon advised the Earlham bowl teams, and all the students plan to compete in next year’s Academic Bowl, with the goal of improving their final standings.

Eleven Students Inducted Into National Honor Society



On Monday, April 4th at 7:00 PM, the Earlham National Honor Society will host their annual induction ceremony in the school auditorium. This year, the NHS will induct eleven new members and honor their fifteen outgoing seniors. Those inducted were selected based on their high achievements in service, leadership, character, and scholarship.

The following students have been selected for induction this year: Grant Becker, Stephen Woolcott, Garret Taylor, Paxton Groves, Kristen Allison, Madison Young, Maddy Kinnick, Joey Harkins, Nathaniel Logemann, Jim Knight, and Tate Rasmussen.

The induction ceremony is open to the public and will feature key note speaker Dion Braet.

Preschool & Kindergarten Registration Open

Do you have a child who will be age 4 or age 5 by September 15, 2016?

Were you unable to attend the Preschool or Kindergarten Registration meeting?

If you answered yes to both this questions, please contact the District Office register your child for Preschool or Kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year.

From the Board Table

At the Earlham School Board meeting on March 23rd, the Board received several presentations. Ms. Waugh, with the assistance of Landon Sheffield and Lily Conry, presented to the Board on how elementary students are learning about computer coding. The Board had the opportunity to sample the computer program that the district uses to teach coding as well as how coding is being used in conjunction with Legos to manipulate movement and sound.

Mr. Hammen shared updates on the ST Math computer program where students come in before and after school to work on their math skills. The district received a STEM grant for this program and all students Grades K-6 are using it as a supplement to the current math program. The program is self-pacing and individualized for each student. He also informed the Board that almost \$7,000 was raised this year during Jump Rope for Heart.

Mrs. Knight shared with the Board a number of student activities in which the students have competed and performed very well. These activities include, but were not limited to: FFA, Jazz Band, Speech and Academic Knowledge Bowl. She also spoke to the Board about some potential course changes for the future in the high school as well as ideas on how to improve attendance at secondary parent/teacher conferences.

Mrs. Sheffield presented information to the Board on the Iowa Assessment scores from the tests taken in February. She presented testing data over time based upon grade level as well as cohort grouping. Mrs. Sheffield also presented information to the Board relative to the updates to the Teacher Leadership and Compensation program for the 2016-17 school year, including the changes in Professional Learning Communities groupings and inclusion of District Leadership Team members.

Mr. Houghton informed the Board about his work assisting Ms. Waugh in getting both the coding and Lego projects to work together. In addition, he plans to further STEM curriculum by introducing electronics and devices for students to get hands-on experiences in electric circuits.

The School Board will be meeting on April 13th at 6:00 PM in the school library.

Get the *Cardinal Chatter* delivered to your mailbox or inbox!



We will publish this newsletter monthly throughout the school year to keep our school community updated on our progress as a district. Copies will be available at local businesses and it will be posted on the school website, but you can elect to have the Chatter delivered directly to your home via email or mail!

Simply go online to <http://goo.gl/dJ08ds> or call the district office at 758-2214 to get signed up to receive all future issues!

Looking for more information about our school? Check out our school website at home.ecsdcards.com for additional announcements, a calendar of events, the staff directory, program information and more.