

# **Corsica School-Wide Community Improvement Plan & Council**



**2013-15**

# **Corsica School District School-Wide Improvement Plan Components**

## **Program Development – Pages 8-21**

A plan must be completed for each building in school improvement, for those Title I schools planning to implement a school wide program, and for districts in improvement. The district or school improvement plan and the school wide plan must be developed with the input of parents, community, and staff. Documentation of planning and implementation activities must be included. The role of the LEA in the planning and support of the plan must be documented. District/school mission and vision statements and philosophy should be incorporated into the plan. Profile information and a description of the local indicators used to evaluate the program are included. The plan must cover a two-year time period, be evaluated annually, and revised as needed. The historical background of the plan should be noted and updated annually.

## **Comprehensive Needs Assessment – Pending**

An up-to-date, comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school must be completed. The results obtained from the needs assessment must be included, noting both strengths and weaknesses. Conclusions drawn from these results must be described. Documentation of this process and analysis of the results needs to be kept on file.

## **Goals, Objectives, and Strategies – pages 33-41**

The plan is structured to include measurable academic goals and objectives designed to address identified needs, using scientifically based research strategies. An evaluation process to measure the effectiveness of these goals must be included.

## **Instruction by Highly Qualified Staff – 17**

Instruction must be delivered by highly qualified staff. Paraprofessionals working in a Title I program must meet the NCLB requirements. Strategies developed to attract highly qualified staff must be included in a school wide plan.

### **Professional Development – Page 50**

Professional development opportunities must be provided for staff, relative to the determined needs. Options for training and support need to be available for parents and community as well. Title I schools and districts in improvement must set aside 10% of their Title I Part A allocation for professional development. The school improvement plan must incorporate teacher mentoring activities or programs.

### **Parent Involvement and Education- Pages 51-54**

Parents must be involved in the development of the plan and ongoing evaluation of the program. The plan must indicate the strategies it will use to increase parental involvement. The Parent Involvement Policy and School/Parent compact must be included. Family activities and conferences must be planned, as well as opportunities for training. Parents must be provided assistance in interpreting test results. Methods of parent notification must be listed in the school improvement plan.

### **Transition – Page 55-56**

A transition plan must be in place to provide assistance for the transition of preschool students into Kindergarten. This includes coordination with local and community child education and care agencies. May also include other transition plans developed by the school such as special education, building, and post-secondary transition plans.

### **Monitoring and Support – Pages 55-57**

A plan must be in place for helping students experiencing difficulty. Teachers must be included in decisions on the use of assessments to determine individual student progress. These results must be shared with parents. Effective and timely assistance must be given to students.

### **Fiscal Requirement – Pages 58-59**

All resources available to the district or school must be considered in structuring the plan. Time, personnel, and funding resources must be documented. Coordination and integration of programs should be described. Funds used to support the plan must be listed and their use described.

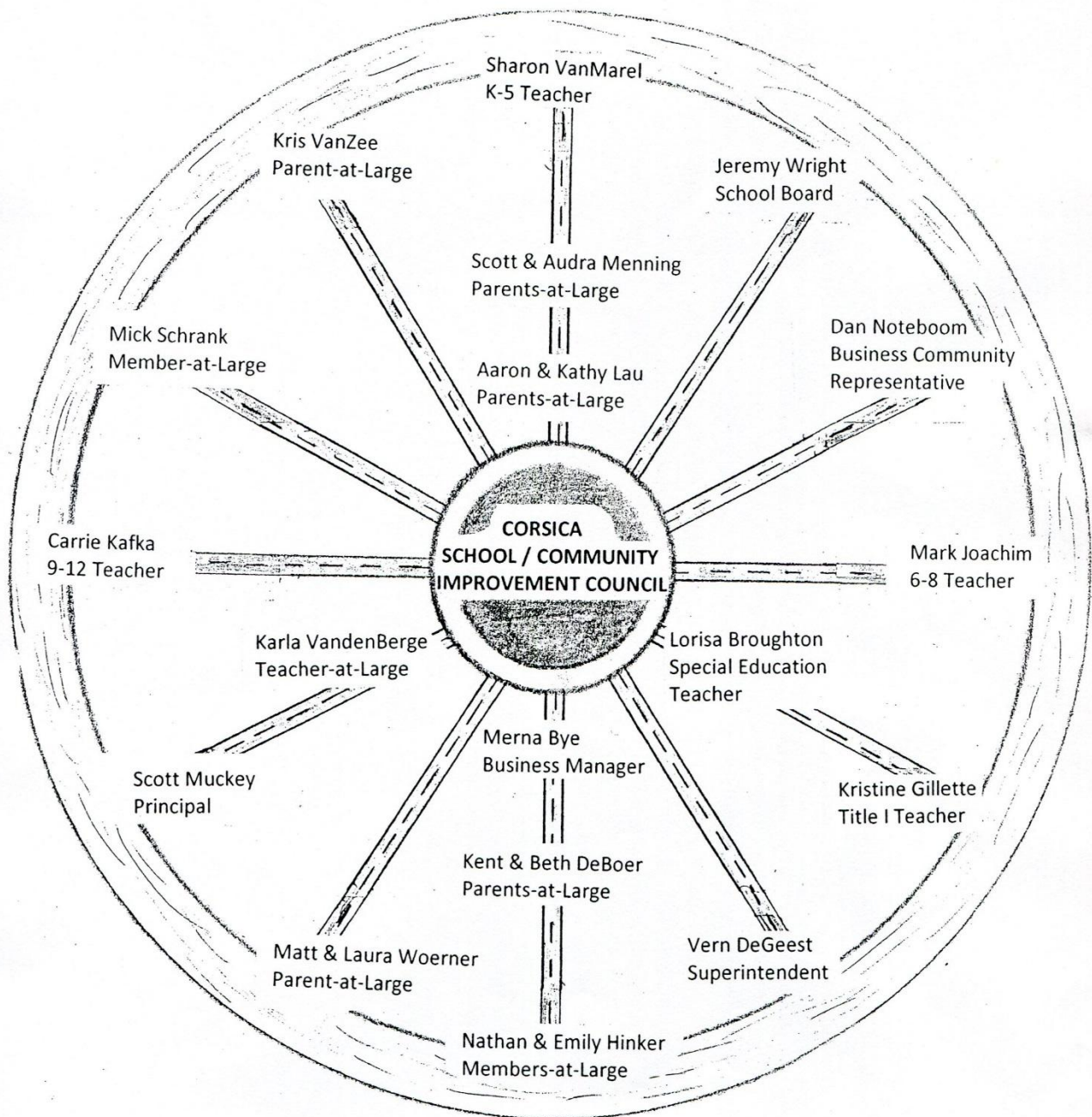
## **Ongoing Program Development – Page 59**

The school improvement plan is considered a plan in progress with periodic evaluation needed to assess progress towards meeting goals. The plan must be developed within three months of identification for school improvement or within a one year time period for school wide programs. The plan must be peer reviewed through a process designed by the LEA. The LEA must approve the plan within 45 days after receiving the plan. The school must implement the plan immediately upon approval by the district. At a minimum, the plan must be evaluated annually and revised as needed.

## **Policies/Practices – Pages 60-69**

1. School Compact, 2. District Parent Involvement, 3. School Level Parent Involvement, 4. Parent Right to Know Policy, 5. Parent Right to Know Letter, 6. Complaint Policy for Federal Programs. 7. Algebra I Waiver.

# CORSICA SCHOOL/COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL



# SCHOOL / COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

TO: CORSICA IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS  
FROM: VERN DEGEEST, SUPERINTENDENT  
DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2013  
RE: SCHOOL / COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL MEETING

THE CORSICA SCHOOL / COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL WILL HAVE A BREAKFAST MEETING AT HOFFMAN'S GAS AND GRILL ON **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013 AT 7:00 A.M.** THE CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE INDICATED WITHIN THE "WHEEL" LOCATED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.

THE FOCUS OF THE MEETING WILL BE TO ADDRESS RECENT AND PERTINENT INFORMATION THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST FOR EACH OF US.

SEVERAL YEARS AGO SCHOOLS WERE REQUIRED BY THE STATE TO DEVELOP AN IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL AND A SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN. THE COUNCIL IS NO LONGER A REQUIRED ELEMENT. THE COUNCIL IS SIMPLY A DISCUSSION GROUP AND IS NOT A DECISION MAKING GROUP. WE SHOULD HOPE THAT OUR INPUT MAY BE OF VALUE TO THE DISTRICT AS DECISIONS ARE MADE NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

A COPY OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES IS INCLUDED ON THE LAST PAGE.

EDUCATIONAL ISSUES ARE ABUNDANT IN THE NEWS TODAY. WE CERTAINLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TOUCH UPON THEM ALL. PLEASE JOIN THE GROUP FOR BREAKFAST ON NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>.

THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. TITLE I FUNDING / TITLE I PROGRAM OVERVIEW
2. FALL 2013 STATISTICAL PROFILE
3. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT HOFFMAN'S FOR BREAKFAST ON **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>.**

## **Minutes from the Last Meeting**

### **School/Community Improvement Council**

**November, 7, 2013**

The Corsica School/Community Improvement Council met at Hoffman Gas and Grill on November 7, 2013 at 7:00 a.m. Members present were: Vern DeGeest, Kristine Gillette, Sharon VanMarel, Kris Van Zee, Carrie Kafka, Scott Muckey, Matt and Laura Woerner, Merna Bye, Karla VandenBerge, and Scott and Audra Menning.

Mr. DeGeest welcomed the group and gave a brief overview of the mission of the council. He reiterated that the group is not a decision making group, however, is important for input in matters that pertain to the district.

Miss Gillette shared with the group that the Title 1 program is school –wide. This allows her to work with any student in grades K-4. She currently works with about 13 students in grades K-4 throughout the day. She works primarily on Math and Reading skills. Students were recommended by their teachers for Title 1 services. Miss Gillette tracks their progress with biweekly DIBELS testing and charting chapter and unit test scores in Reading and Math. She stated she is currently working on updating the Corsica School/Community Improvement Plan. When finished it will be uploaded to the school website for viewing.

Mrs. Bye gave a funding report on Title I and REAP. Approximately \$75,000 was received in Title I. REAP funds for the year was approximately \$45,000. There was a \$7500 carryover from the previous year. Federal funds are used for personnel, technology, and professional development. Mrs. Bye reported that these funds adequately fund the needs of the district in these areas. She also mentioned that our Consolidated Application that was submitted this summer to the state was approved in September.

Mr. DeGeest discussed the Statistical Profile/Report Card for the Corsica School District. He shared that the Elementary and the High School earned Exemplary status while the Junior High is at a progressing status. All three schools met the AYP Goals for the 2012-2013 school year. A copy of this profile can be found on the school website as part of the Corsica School/Community Improvement Plan.

Mr. DeGeest discussed the consolidation plans with the group. Consolidation talks between Corsica and Stickney have begun. A committee from both schools has been meeting to lay the foundation for the consolidation process. He explained that first there will be public meeting in both communities, then a plan will need to be developed by both schools, the public will then vote on the plan, and finally the plan will need to be submitted and approved by the State Dept. of Education. The actual consolidation will take place for the 2015-2016 school year.

Mr. Muckey briefly discussed the Common Core standards that the teachers are implementing this year. Students will take the new Common Core test in the spring of 2014. He mentioned that this year is the baseline year. He informed the group that the test scores will be drastically lower than in the past. The new testing will be done on the computer and is strictly computer based. Corsica students piloted the online version last year. He mentioned that it is somewhat more difficult than the older version of paper/pencil.

Mr. DeGeest thanked the group for coming and the meeting was adjourned.

# **Corsica Community School**

## **Setting the Standard School Improvement Plan 2013-2015**

**120 South Napoleon  
Ave.**

**Corsica, SD 57328**

**[http://www.corsica.  
k12.sd.us](http://www.corsica.k12.sd.us)**



# **Corsica District**

## **Assurance Statements**

### **Mission Statement:**

**The faculty, staff, and administration of the Corsica School District will provide a safe, caring, and productive environment for every student so they will acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to be productively active citizens of today's modern technological society.**

### **Vision Statement:**

**Students in the Corsica School District will actively participate in their educational opportunities and leave our school with the skills, knowledge, discipline, and character to succeed in the next phase of their lives.**

### **Belief Statement:**

**The students' welfare is our major concern in developing the intellectual, social, physical, and vocational potential of each student.**

**All students are basically good and have a desire to learn, therefore, the district will provide them with experiences to learn as a continual program.**

**Each student will learn desirable mental attitudes and truths concerning life, rather than memorizing facts only.**

**Supportive, understanding, cooperative attitudes within the students, teachers, parents, and the community are essential in the education of each student.**

**The professional staff individualizes the instructional components when implementing the curriculum by teaching and assisting as much as possible in order to access the individual ability of every student.**

**The teacher is a very essential component in successful educational programs.**

**The Corsica School District assists with guiding the students through areas as they develop skills and attitudes that will encourage them to utilize their leisure time in a productive, acceptable manner at all times.**

**Pleasant facilities definitely enhance learning.**

## **Section 1: Unique Local Insights**

**The Corsica School District is located twenty miles south of Interstate 90 on Highway 281. It is located in Douglas County and consists of about 200 square miles. The community population is about 700 and the business district has approximately 61 businesses.**

**The Corsica School District has two attendance sights with a K-4 facility that was built in 1968 which has an attached gymnasium with additional classrooms for special education and other support educational activities.**

**Corsica Elementary has been recognized as a Distinguished School by the South Dakota Department of Education as well as a Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education in 2005.**

**94.87% of the elementary students were proficient or advanced on the Dakota STEP in 2013. The elementary was given exemplary status by the SD Dept. of Education based upon these test scores. 79.31% of middle school students are proficient or advanced in Reading and 93.10% are proficient or advanced in Math on the Dakota Step test in 2013. The middle school was given a progressing status by the SD Dept. of Education based upon these scores. 100% of the high school students were proficient or**

**advanced in Reading and 82.35% of the high school students were proficient or advanced in Math on the Dakota Step test in 2013. An exemplary status was given to the high school by the Dept. of Education based upon these test scores.**

**The elementary has an all-day every day kindergarten program. The elementary is semi-departmentalized with elementary teachers assigned to the science, social studies, computer and physical education areas. Students are bussed to the high school for lunch each day.**

**The 9-12 high school was built in 1979 with a gymnasium, music room, shop/home economics areas, and a large stage area for the fine arts activities. In 2002 an addition was added to the high school that includes four classrooms for the 5-8 classes, and includes a new kitchen and commons area.**

**This building has a complete wireless environment with all high school students having an assigned Tablet PC. Corsica High School was one of the initial schools to embrace the one-to-one initiative (Classroom Connections) promoted by the State of South Dakota.**

**We have a wide variety of high school courses that include all required courses and numerous electives.**

**Our course offerings meet or exceed all accreditation requirements as established by the South Dakota Department of Education.**

**The district has a DDN classroom that is used on a daily basis for College English, physics, and chemistry. Certified physics and chemistry teachers monitor the students on site while students receive instruction via Dakota Digital Network from Northern State University.**

**Students are involved in a variety of extra-curricular activities which include basketball, football, volleyball, track, instrumental and vocal music, plays, oral interpretation, etc.**

**Class size is small which provides students with individualized attention throughout the school day. The current student ratio is 10.0 to 1 with 16.41 FTE teachers and 163 students. The district also employs three paraprofessionals to guarantee that students with special needs receive the individualized help they need.**

**The Corsica School District is part of the Mid-Central Cooperative and ESA3. Mid-Central Cooperative provides speech/language services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, guidance and other services to its member districts.**

**The Educational Service Agency Region 3 provides a large portion of staff development opportunities.**

## **Section 2: Student Characteristics**

**The student population of the Corsica School District is predominantly white/Caucasian. The ethnic background of the community was primarily Dutch, and is still many times referred to as a Dutch Community.**

**The School District student population is experiencing a declining enrollment throughout the past few years as a result of a major shift in the farming community. We are considered a small school by the fact that we have 163 students in grades PreK-12.**

**We provide an exceptional educational opportunity for our students and whenever comparisons are made regarding drop-out rates, standardized test scores, attendance rates, student to staff ratios, graduation rates, and ACT scores our school district consistently ranks near the top.**

## **Existing School Data – Student Information**

**Demographic Information:** In the 2012-2013 school year, the Corsica School District had an enrollment of 163 in the three attendance centers.

<b>Corsica High School</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Corsica Middle School</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Corsica Elementary School</b>	<b>84</b>

**The district has approximately 28.8% of its students who can be classified as economically disadvantaged due to free/reduced lunch eligibility.**

**Average Daily Membership:** The following is the 2012--2013 Corsica School Districts student attendance.

**Corsica School District 163.00**

**Graduation/Drop-out Rates:** In the 2012-2013 school year, the Corsica School District had a 100% graduation rate, with 13 students graduating. In the 2012-2013 school year, the Corsica School District had 0 students drop out, which has been a consistent trend for Corsica High School

**Special Education:** Approximately 19 students in the Corsica School District received special education services during the 2012-2013 school year.

## **TESTING:**

**Dakota Step Test of Educational Progress:** The Dakota STEP is South Dakota's mandatory criterion-referenced test that is given to all students in grades 3-8 and 11. This test assesses student achievement in the areas of Math and Reading. A student's score on each subtest places him or her in one of four achievement categories: Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic. The state of South Dakota has set an Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) for both content areas, defined as the percent of students who must score proficient or higher.

**ACT PLAN:** Sophomore students use this to estimate their ACT score and see where their area of interests are.

**ACT:** The ACT is the commonly used college-entrance exam given to college-bound students in our area. The following information gives the average ACT scores for the students tested from the Corsica School District.



**SDMYLIFE:** The ability profiler test allows the opportunity for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to examine their interests and abilities, and explore potential careers as suggested by the program based on the results of the tests and survey taken.

### **Section 3: Instructional Data**

**We currently have 100% Highly Qualified Staff in our district. About 75 % of the teaching staff possesses a Masters or Masters Equivalent degree. Our instructional staff is currently made up of 16.41 FTE's.**

**The school district is one of the largest employers in the community and takes a great deal of pride in the SCHOOL. We have a very low turnover rate in staff, and if experience is an indicator for student success we should certainly observe success in our student population**

**A large majority of school district employees reside within the district, and many were former graduates of the school district.**

**To view specific statistical data about the above categories please use the link below:**

**<http://midcentral-coop.org/member-schools/>**

#### **Section 4: Financial Data**

**The state of South Dakota has a state funding formula that is based on a per pupil allocation. The State of South is currently experiencing declining enrollments which is causing severe financial hardships on many schools. Please refer to the Profile of School Districts for accurate information regarding Financial Data.**

**The Corsica School District approved an opt-out of \$150,000 annually over five years.**

**The Corsica School Board at the February, 2011 board meeting passed a resolution for a \$150,000 opt out that went unchallenged. This opt-out will start with the calendar year 2011 taxes payable calendar year 2012 and will go for five years which will be through 2015 taxes payable calendar year 2016. The opt-out is an extension of the current \$100,000 opt out passed in 2006 and the Corsica School District will continue to operate with the Capital Outlay levy decrease of one mill to fund the \$100,000. The**

**additional \$50, 000.00 will be a General Fund Tax Levy increase of 0.34 cents per thousand for AG property, 0.52 cents per thousand increase for Owner Occupied and \$1.13 per thousand increase for Other/Utilities.**

**Financial data for the Corsica School District is compiled in the chart below.**

**All data is from the 2012-2013 school year.**

<b>Financial Data</b>
-----------------------

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$1,471,114.71</b>
<b>Capital Outlay Fund</b>	<b>\$ 765,543.99</b>
<b>Special Education Fund</b>	<b>\$ 197,839.59</b>
<b>Pension Fund</b>	<b>\$ 43,610.00</b>

**Tax Levy - 2013 Payable 2014**

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>2.09</b>
<b>Owner Occupied</b>	<b>4.296</b>
<b>Other N-Ag/Utilities</b>	<b>9.20</b>
<b>Special Education</b>	<b>1.352</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>	<b>1.98</b>
<b>Bond Redemption</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Pension Fund</b>	<b>0.30</b>
<b>Opt-Out-\$amount only</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>

## **Student Cost per**

<b>ADM –2011-2012</b>	<b>9,520.00</b>
<b>Teacher Base Salary</b>	<b>29,150.00</b>
<b>Average Teacher Salary</b>	<b>34,922.00</b>
<b>Substitute Teacher Pay</b>	
<b>Certified</b>	<b>100.00/day</b>
<b>Non-certified</b>	<b>90.00/day</b>

## **School Profile Section 5: Community Data**

**The Corsica community prides itself on maintaining an active and growing business community that is both product and service based. The agricultural sector continues to develop opportunities for valued added products. The community of Corsica provides most professional services including healthcare and a nearly complete retail supply of products/services. Visitors are usually very impressed by what is available for consumers in a small town of approximately 700 people.**

**The Corsica Community Development Corporation is an entity that is continually striving to improve the business climate as well as the quality of life for everyone.**

**Corsica Schools are a major focal point of the community. The facilities are utilized to a maximum degree, and activity can be observed day and night throughout the school term. The school and the**

**community rely on each other for survival, and depend upon each other for support to maintain the richness that each provides.**

**The school and community work together as computer labs are used for adult classes. Businesses also use school facilities for various promotions and staff trainings that allow training to be close to the job. The school has hosted regional economic development meetings.**

**The school has both wireless and wired classrooms. All High School Students receive a Tablet PC to use through their high school years. Middle School students also have wireless laptops available to them for use in school with plans to have tablet pc's available for all students in the future. College courses for advanced high school students are also available through various distance delivery systems.**

**The community businesses, service groups and individuals have also been very generous to the school district by donating computer equipment, running track surfaces, music and athletic equipment as well as physical improvements to the school in general. The Corsica community is very proud of its business district and their schools.**

## Corsica School District 21-2

120 S. Napoleon Ave.  
Corsica, SD 57328

**Home County:** Douglas  
**Area in Square Miles:** 188

### School Names:

- ◆ Corsica Elementary
- ◆ Corsica Middle School
- ◆ Corsica High School

## School Performance Index

School	Category & SPI	Student Achievement	Attendance	High School Completion	College/Career Readiness
Corsica Elementary	Exemplary 95.53	75.90 / 80	19.63 / 20	NA	NA
Corsica Middle School	Progressing 88.38	68.97 / 80	19.41 / 20	NA	NA
Corsica High School	Exemplary 89.34	45.59 / 50	NA	25 / 25	18.75 / 25

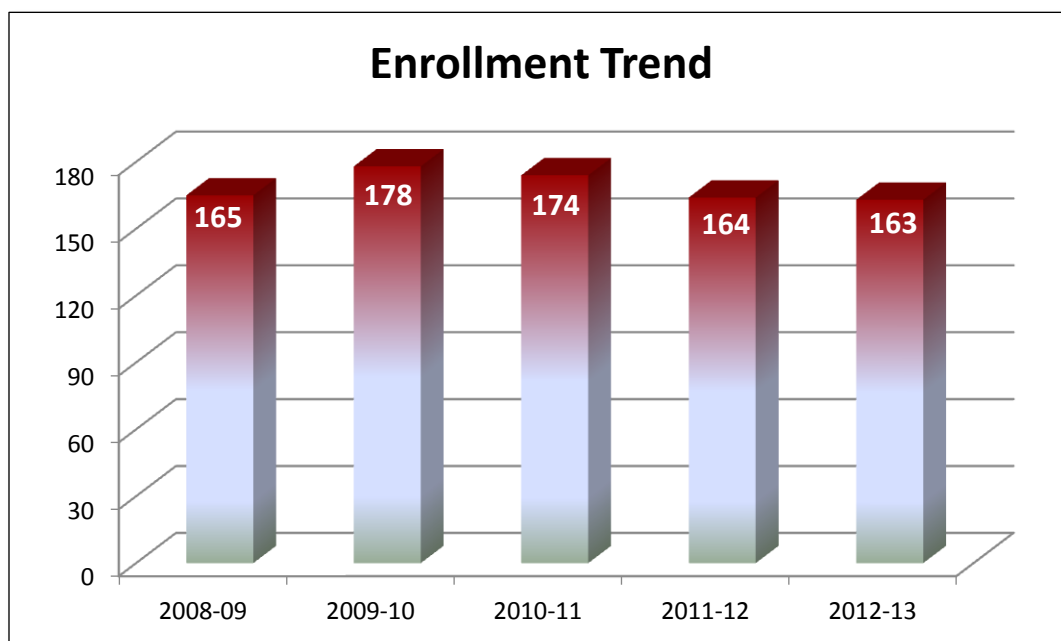
**NOTE:** The SPI is a 100 point index based on 5 indicators. In 2013-14, only 2 indicators will be used for elementary and middle schools and 3 indicators will be used for high schools. All 5 indicators will be implemented in 2014-15.

## Staff Profile

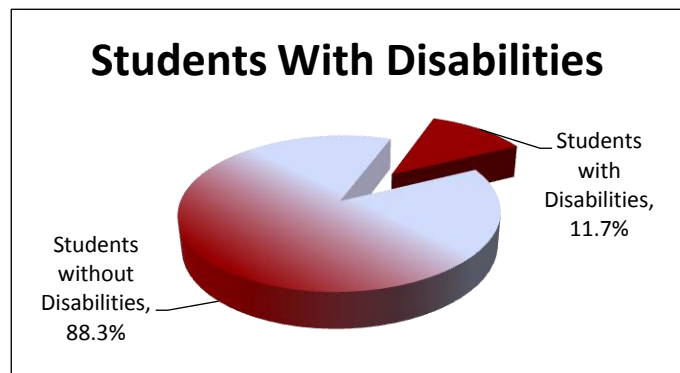
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Certified Instructional Staff (# FTE)	16.5	17	17	17	16.41
% with Advanced Degrees	15.2%	15.1%	15.1%	15.1%	15.79%
Average Years of Experience	22.9	22.0	23	24	22
Student to Staff Ratio	10.3 to 1	10 to 1	10 to 1	10 to 1	10 to 1
% Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PreK-5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
6-8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
9-12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of Core Courses taught by SPED teachers (grades 7-12)	0	0	0	0	0

## District & School Enrollment

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Total Enrollment (PreK-12)	165	178	174	164	163
PreK-5	63	77	79	76	84
6-8	39	34	30	30	30
9-12	62	67	65	58	49
Total Students with Disabilities Enrollment	9	17	16	20	19
(% of PreK-5 with special needs)	8.0%	7.0%	11%	20%	16.7%
(% of 6-8 with special needs)	2.0%	1.0%	3%	10%	13.3%
(% of 9-12 with special needs)	6.0%	2.0%	3.2%	3.4%	2%
Economically Disadvantaged Enrollment (% Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch)	43.2%	45.0%	44.0%	41%	28.8%
Total Open Enrolled Students Received	1	5	1	2	2
Total Native American Enrollment	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	<1%	0.0%
Total Black, Hispanic, & other minority Enrollment	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	1.9%	2.4%
LEP Enrollment (Limited English Proficiency)	0.0%	<2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



## Students with Disabilities



### Disability Identification and Proportionality

(Number of students based on Federal Child Count)

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Deaf-Blind	*	0	0	0	0
Emotionally Disturbed	*	*	*	0	0
Cognitive Disability	*	0	0	*	0
Hearing Impaired	*	0	0	0	0
Learning Disabled	*	*	*	*	*
Multiple Disabilities	*	0	0	*	*
Orthopedic Impairment	*	0	0	0	0
Visually Impaired	*	0	0	0	0
Deaf	*	0	0	0	0
Speech/Language	*	*	*	*	*
Other Health Impaired	*	*	*	*	*
Autism	*	0	0	*	*
Traumatic Brain Injury	*	0	0	0	0
Developmental Delay	*	0	0	*	*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>

**NOTE:** Due to rules of confidentiality, any category with fewer than 10 students will be identified with an asterisk (\*).

### Special Education Placement Categories

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Regular Classroom	*	*	*	14	11
Resource Room	*	*	*	*	*
Self-Contained Classroom	*	0	0	*	*
Separate Facility	*	0	0	0	0
Regular Early Childhood	*	*	*	0	*
Age 3-5 Special Education Program	*	*	0	*	0
Age 3-5 Other SPED Locations	*	*	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>



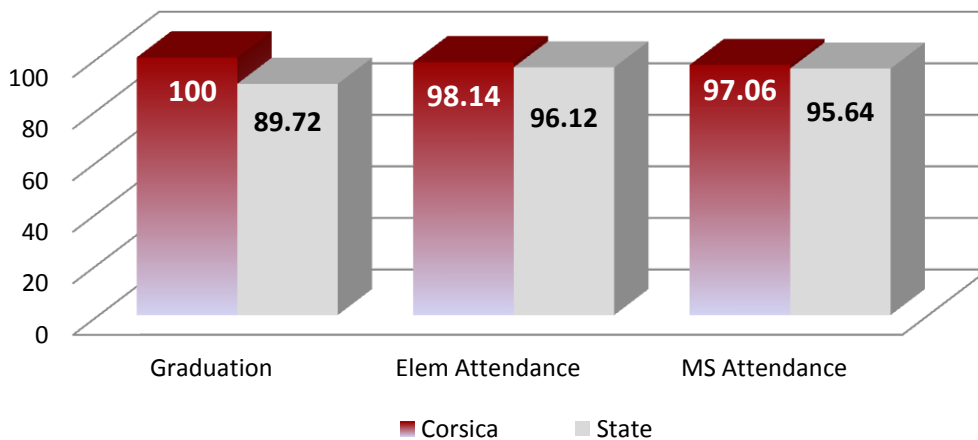
## Attendance, Graduation and Discipline Data

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Attendance Rate	96.93%	96.74%	97.19%	96.84%	97.57%
PreK-5	96.87%	97.37%	97.14%	96.96%	98.51%
6-8	97.56%	97.08%	97.3%	96.83%	97.06%
9-12	97.62%	96.0%	96.36%	96.75%	96.31%
Drop Out Rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
High School Completion Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of Graduates	10	19	15	15	13

**NOTE:** The attendance rate is reported as a percentage and is calculated by dividing the aggregate days of attendance by the aggregate days of membership for all students enrolled.

**NOTE:** The graduation rate is based upon the 4-year cohort of students who finished high school in the typical 4 years. The high school completion rate includes the 4-year cohorts plus any students who may have completed a GED or required additional academic time to finish.

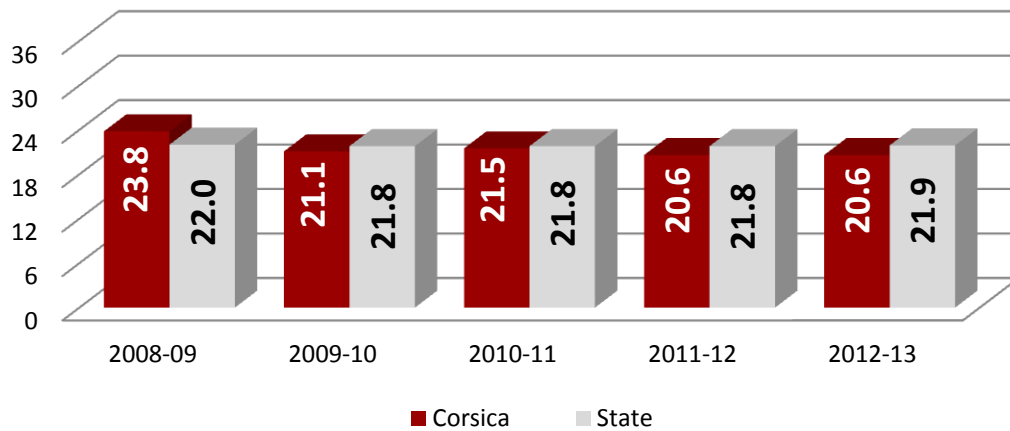
### 2012-13 Comparison With State (Percentage)



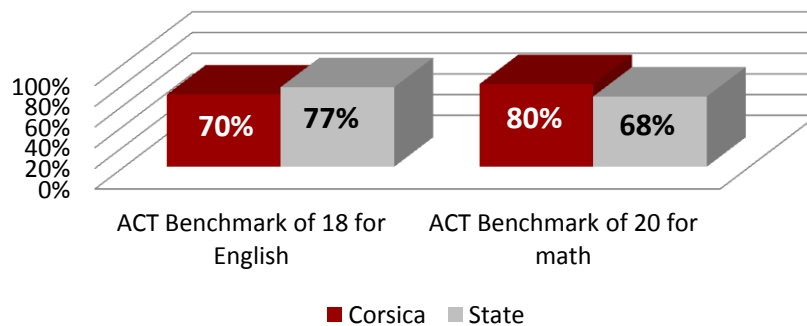
## College and Career Readiness

	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
ACT Number Tested	8		9		12		10		13	
	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg
English	24.3	21.2	21.2	21.1	20.2	21.0	19.6	21.0	19.6	21.0
Math	22.6	21.8	19.9	21.6	20.8	21.8	19.9	21.8	19.9	21.8
Reading	23.4	22.3	21.1	22.0	22.2	22.0	21.5	22.1	21.5	22.1
Science	24.0	22.0	21.3	21.9	22.7	22.1	20.7	22.0	20.7	22.0
Composite Score	23.8	22.0	21.1	21.8	21.5	21.8	20.6	21.8	20.6	21.9

### ACT Score Comparison

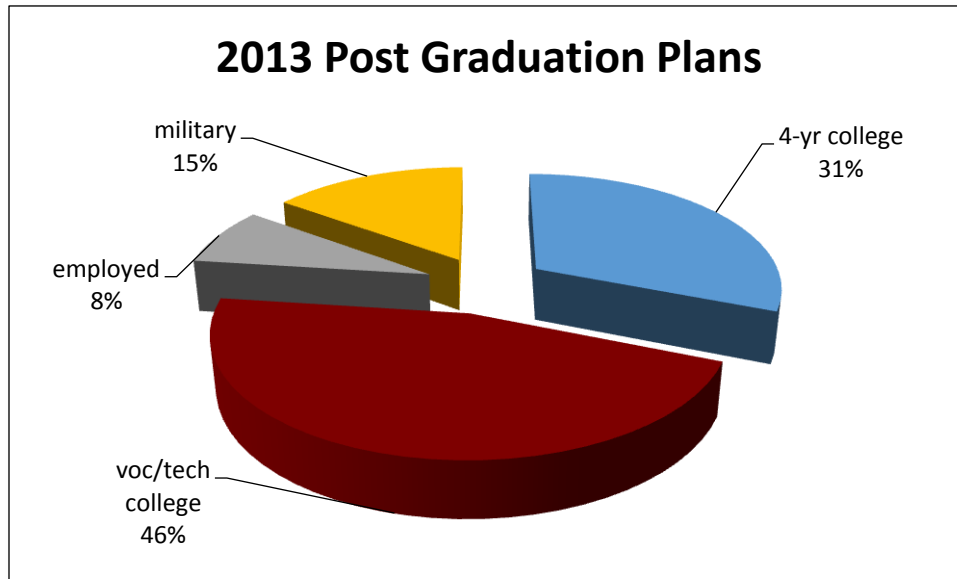


### College Readiness - % ACT Tested Students



## Post-graduation Plans

	# of graduates	4-yr college	voc/tech college	employed	military	misc.
<b>2008-09</b>	10	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%
<b>2009-10</b>	19	48%	42%	5%	5%	0%
<b>2010-11</b>	15	47%	47%	6%	0%	0%
<b>2011-12</b>	15	33%	28%	33%	0%	6%
<b>2012-13</b>	13	31%	46%	8%	15%	0%



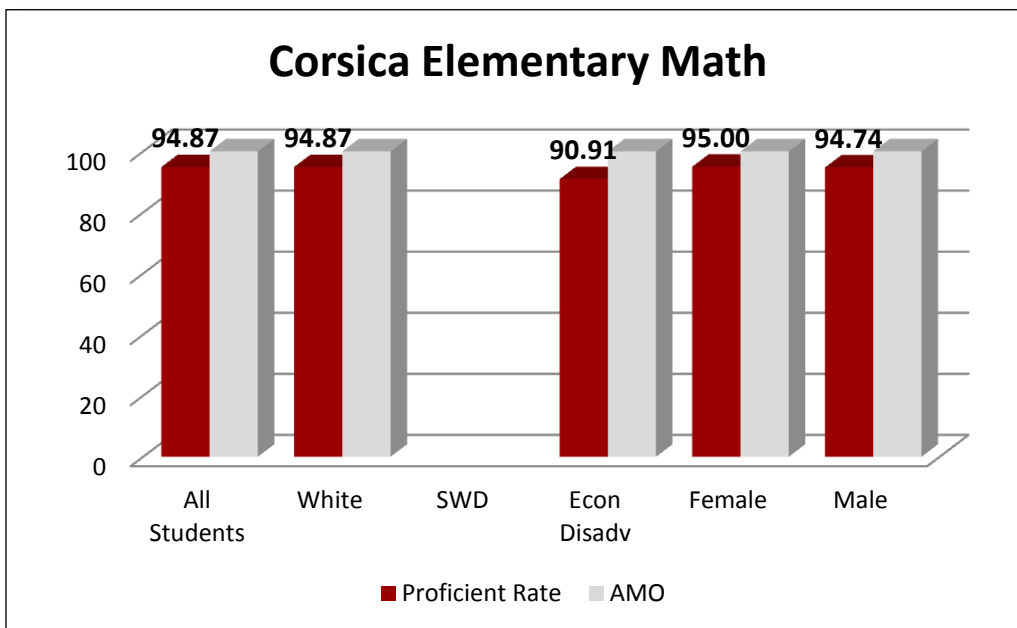
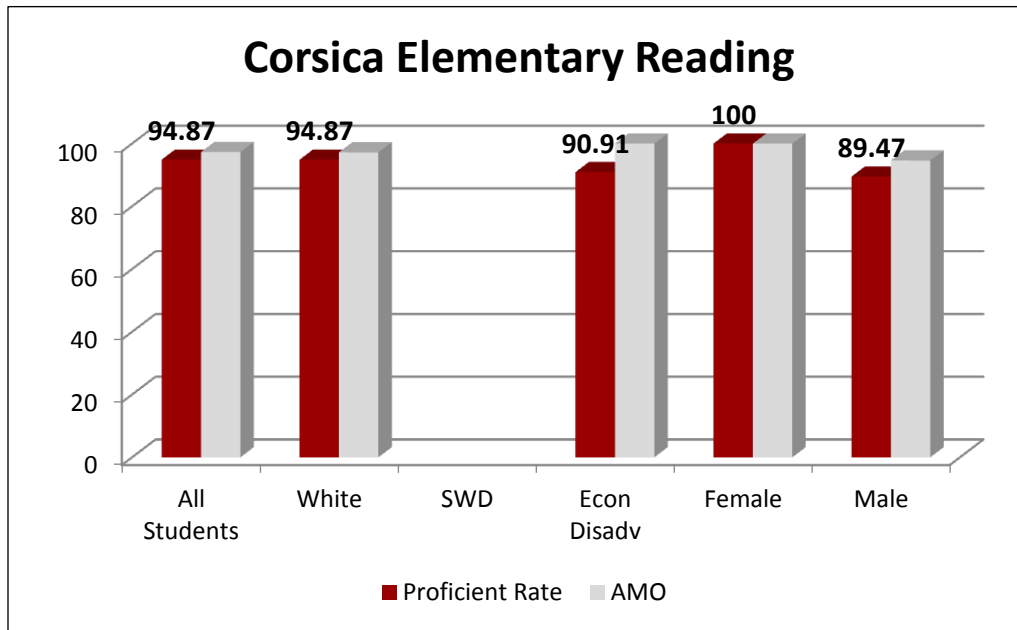
## Non-Traditional Course Enrollment

(Number of Students Enrolled)

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Advanced Placement	1	0	0	0	0
Dual Credit	6	6	8	4	3
Credit Recovery	0	0	0	0	0
Distance Learning	21	6	20	4	30

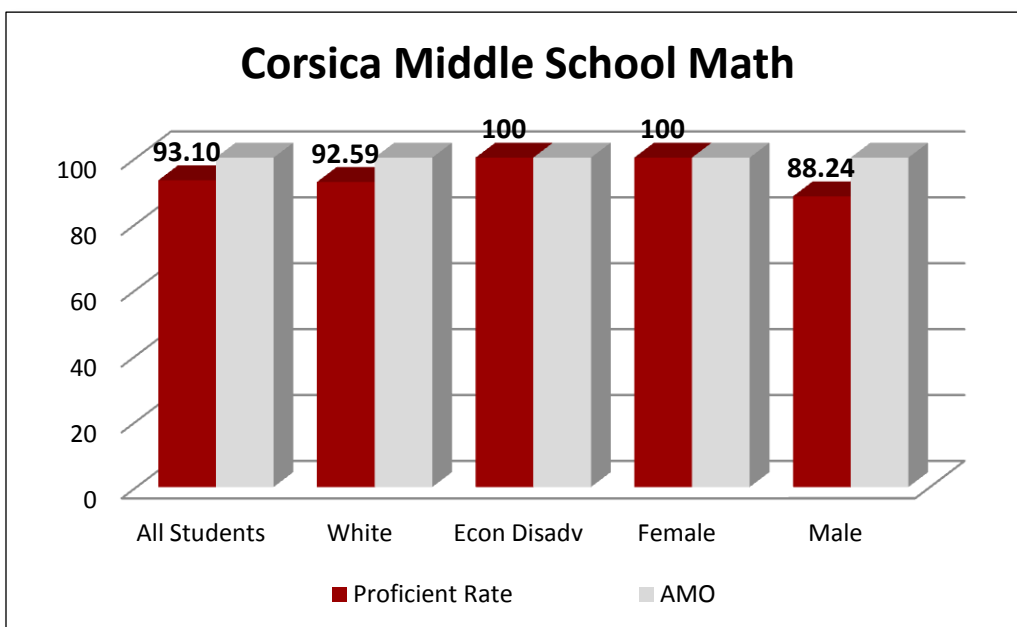
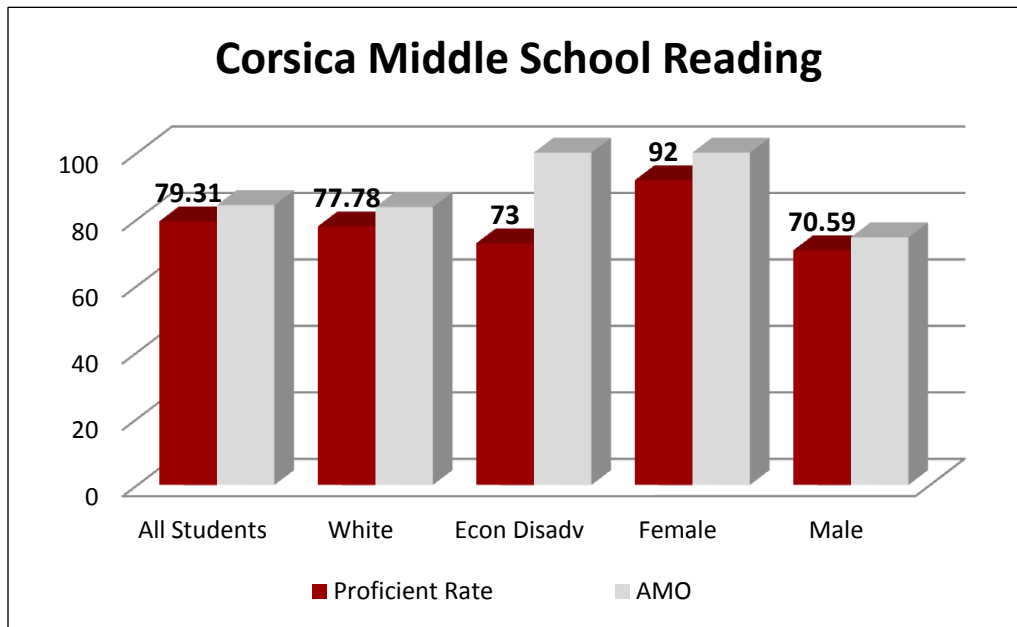
## Corsica Elementary Student Achievement

**NOTE:** The “AMO” is an Annual Measureable Objective (achievement target) that is unique for each school. The desired achievement should exceed the AMO. The charts below reflect the percent of proficient and advanced students in subgroups meeting a minimum of 10 students. Subgroups smaller than 10 students are not shown.



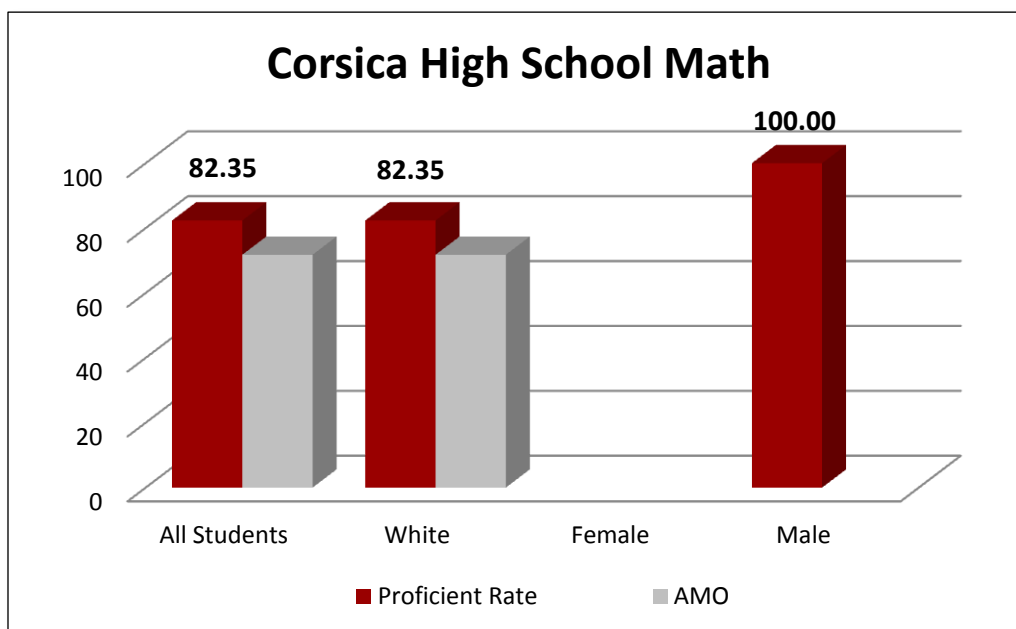
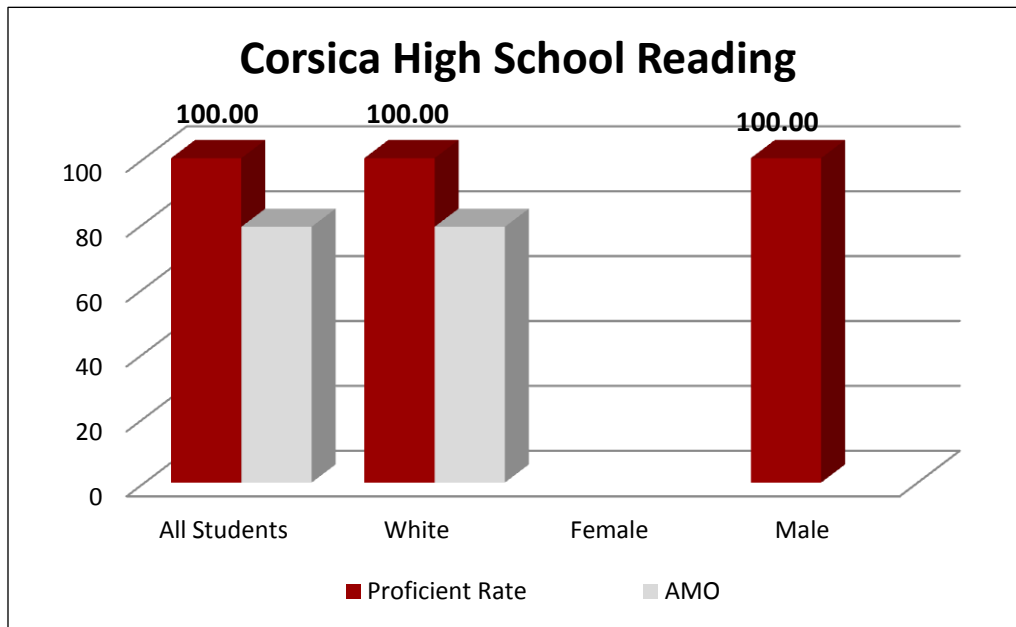
## Corsica Middle School Student Achievement

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## Corsica High School Student Achievement

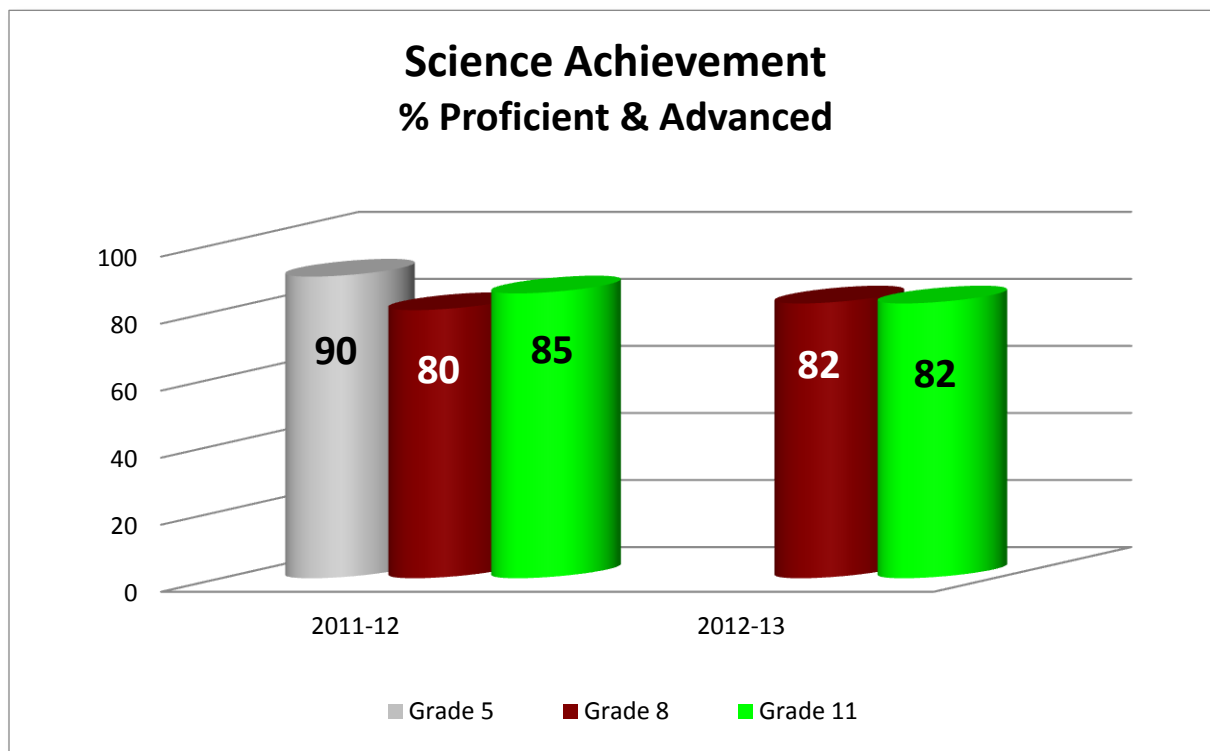
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## Science Student Achievement

**NOTE:** Science is only tested in grades 5, 8, and 11. No target AMO is identified. The chart below represents the percentage of students that were proficient and advanced.

**NOTE:** For 2012-13, grade 5 subgroup was smaller than 10 students and not shown here.



## **History and Development of Council:**

**Our Improvement plan is developed in conjunction with our School/Community Improvement Council as well as with assistance from our Educational Service Agency for Region 3 located in Platte, South Dakota. The development of this information was done jointly in various phases. The Corsica /School Community council has been in existence since November 11, 1991. The function of the council since its inception:**

**Increase the involvement of parents, teachers, administrators, and local business and civic leaders in the operation of the local schools. Provide more responsibility and flexibility in the governance of school at the state and local level, and Encourage innovative and responsible management practices in light of the social, economic and educational needs in the community. These are still ongoing goals today. We have tried to include a wide range of actively involved people on our council.**

**State On-site accreditation review—Fall 2013  
Staff Data Retreat—All three attendance centers  
annual data review- August 2013.**



**Sara Fridley-ESA Region 3 visits for Improvement plans and has worked annually with us on data retreats toward our achievement goals.**

**The Corsica Schools including the High School, Middle School, and Elementary annually attend a data retreat conducted by the ESA Region 3 or conduct a school wide data retreat among the staff from all 3 attendance sites. Our staff is small and with just one class for each grade level it allows us to track student over the years. When we attend with the ESA it allows us to compare regional data as well as our own.**

### **Goals, Objectives & Strategies**

**Our local data retreat this year was held on August 20, 2013 upon receiving our test scores. The complete instructional staff for the elementary, middle school, and high school worked on identifying standards that seem to give students difficulty, utilized achievement series to identify sample questions as well as the e-metric test data site to track students' performance and identify bubble students. We use the data to improve curriculum, teaching, and student performance.**

**Corsica school has successfully met AYP since NCLB begin and continues to monitor and improve its curriculum through collaborative efforts of staff, community and the ESA.**

**Goals/Objectives/Strategies: District**

**Continue to improve curriculum through use of test data of several sources involving data retreats**

**Provide a safe learning environment that allows for individual differences.**

**Continue to be a technology leader for student learning.**

**Provide a useful and practical curriculum to students that is rigorous. Use of the program TechPaths to align curriculum to standards and assess curriculum**

**Achieve NCLB academic standards**

**Continue to meet the Annual Measurable Objectives set for South Dakota Schools.**

**Use the school/community improvement council as a liaison to address improvements/criticisms.**

**Continue to be a hub of activity academically/socially for the community and assist all ages in their quality of living.**

**All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.**

**All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning.**

**Corsica School District has had no incidents reported involving weapons or drugs, as reported in the Safe & Drug Free Schools report. The district continues to work to address social circumstances that arise as society continues to present challenges to educational institutions. Some of the programs utilized are Assemblies, Quest, Before and After-School programs, DARE, and other that seem effective and pertinent.**

## **High School:**

**Achieve NCLB academic standards**

**Achieve AYP each year.**

**Corsica High School became a one-to-one laptop school in the 2006-2007 school year and was one of the first 20 schools in the state to begin the Classroom Connections Initiative in South Dakota.**

**Continue the One-to One Initiative**

**Continue to achieve ACT test scores above the state average level.**

**Maintain 100% graduation rate and work to successfully transition students into the post-secondary level.**

**Continue to meet the Annual Measurable Objectives set for South Dakota Schools.**

**All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.**

**All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. Assemblies, programs will be used to enhance.**

**Corsica High School continues to maintain an approved Career and Technical Education program for its students.**

**2013-2014 additional HS Goals as determined by staff data retreat:**

- **Ninety percent of students will show fifty percent growth from their pre-test to post-test in all academic classes for the school year of 2013 – 2014**
- **One hundred percent of teachers will implement higher order thinking skills (HOT skills) 2 times a week by the end of the 2013 – 2014 school year**
- **One hundred percent of teachers will use informational texts along with other recipes to achieve fifty percent growth on post-test evaluation and comprehension and application of critical thinking skills for the 2013 – 2014 school year**

- **By May of 2014, ninety percent of students will show a fifty percent growth in writing effectively to convey their understanding of informational text as based on their pre and post tests**

## **Middle School:**

**Achieve NCLB academic standards**

**Achieve AYP each year.**

**Continue to extend the one-to-one initiative program.**

**Continue to transition Middle School students into the high school through sharing staff/schedules.**

**Continue to meet the Annual Measurable Objectives set for South Dakota Schools.**

**All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.**

- 1. All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. Presentations, assemblies such as Quest are used to educate.**

**2013-2014 additional Middle School Goals as determined by staff data retreat:**

- **During 2013 – 14 include targeted reading instruction for informational text in all content area classes to be measured by the teacher lesson planning**
- **During 2013 – 14 school year, all content area teachers will incorporate lessons on text form and structure to be measured by teacher lesson planning**
- **During the 2013 – 14 school year, students will be able to identify the point of view of all texts and begin to analyze bias, conflicting evidence, and author's purpose to be measured by the spring Smarter Balanced assessment**
- **During the 2013 – 14 school year, all teachers will encourage students to select and read texts in a variety of forms that are interesting and relevant to each student. Students will set goals and track the number of pages read per quarter**

**Elementary:**

**Achieve NCLB academic standards**

**Achieve AYP each year.**

**Continue to extend the technology integration through smart boards and laptops making the curriculum more interactive.**

**Continue to meet the Annual Measurable Objectives set for South Dakota Schools.**

**All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.**

**All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free, and conducive to learning. Assemblies, Dare, Guidance services are utilized to enhance.**



**2013-2014 additional Elementary Goals as determined by staff data retreat:**

**TECHNOLOGY:**

**Focus technology time on reading and responding to text**

- **weekly or biweekly**

**MATH:**

**Improve problem solving through modeling**

- **relationships / connections / patterns**
- **time / measurement / money**

**Assess with Smarter Balance**

**READING:**

**Transfer literary skills into informational text**

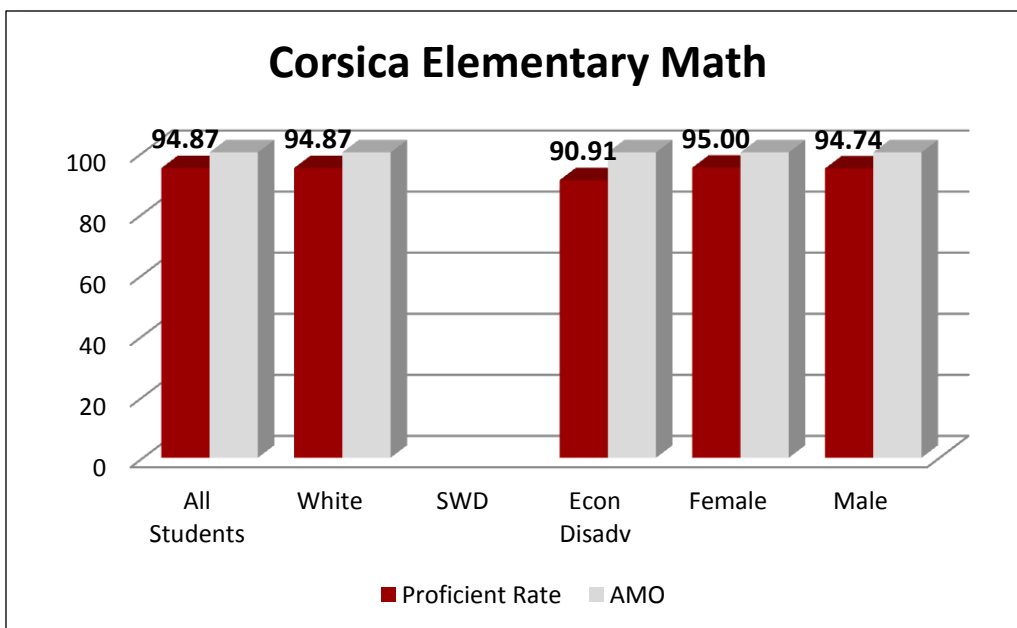
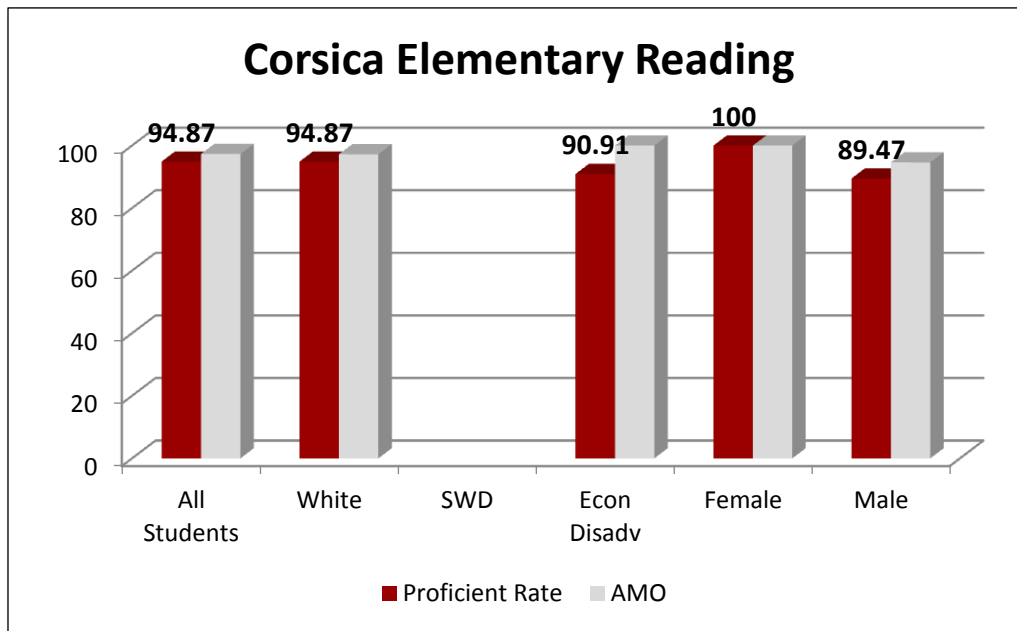
- **compare and contrast / relationships / infer / implied by the author**
- **respond to the text**

**Assess with Smarter Balance**

The Corsica Elementary School was named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education in 2005. Corsica Elementary was 1 of 298 school distinguished in the nation that year.

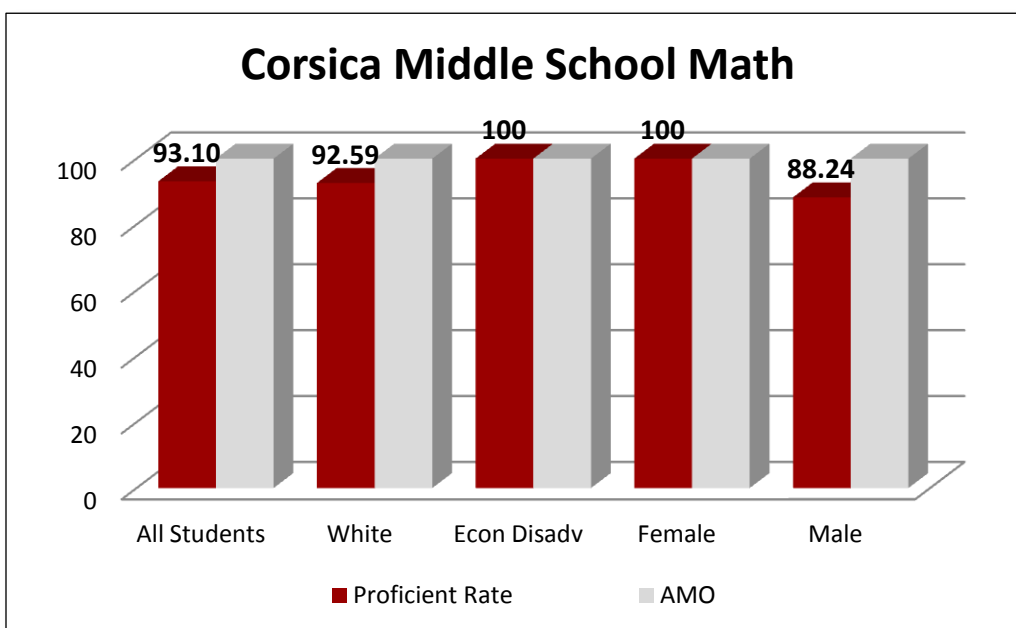
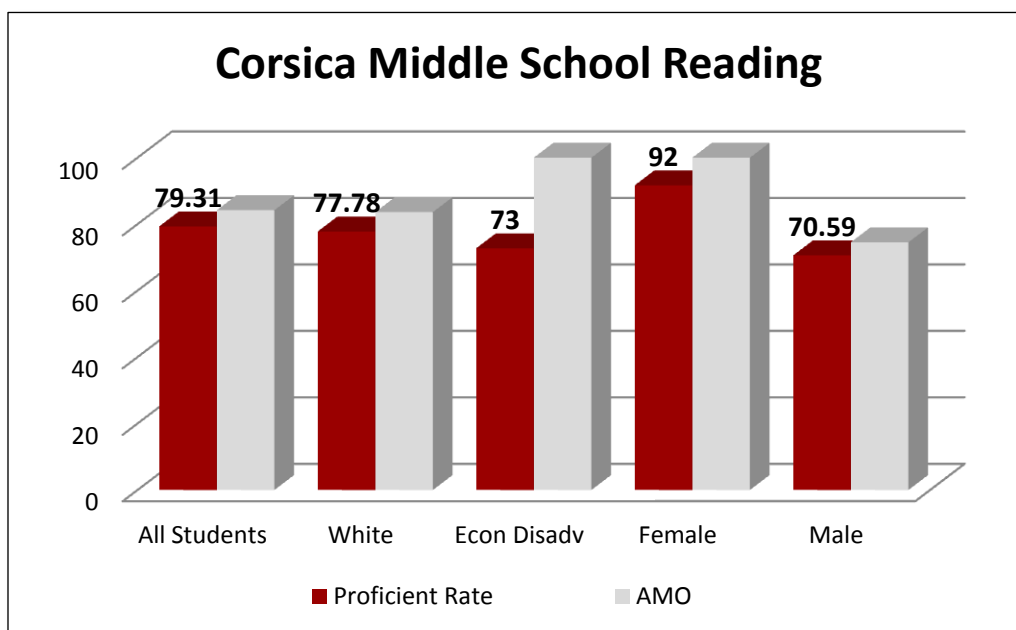
### Corsica Elementary Student Achievement- 2012-2013

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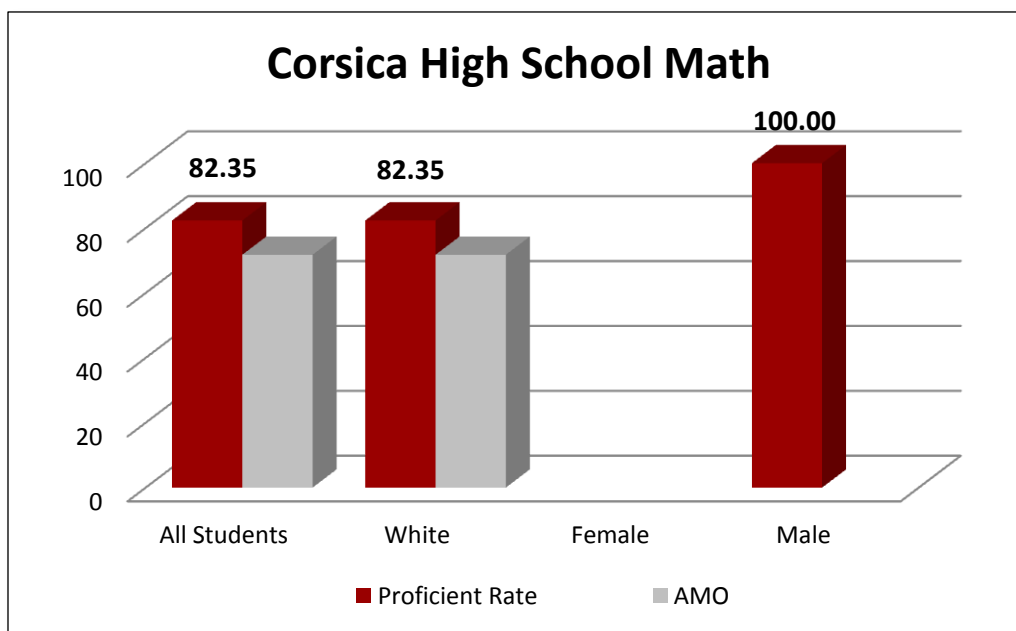
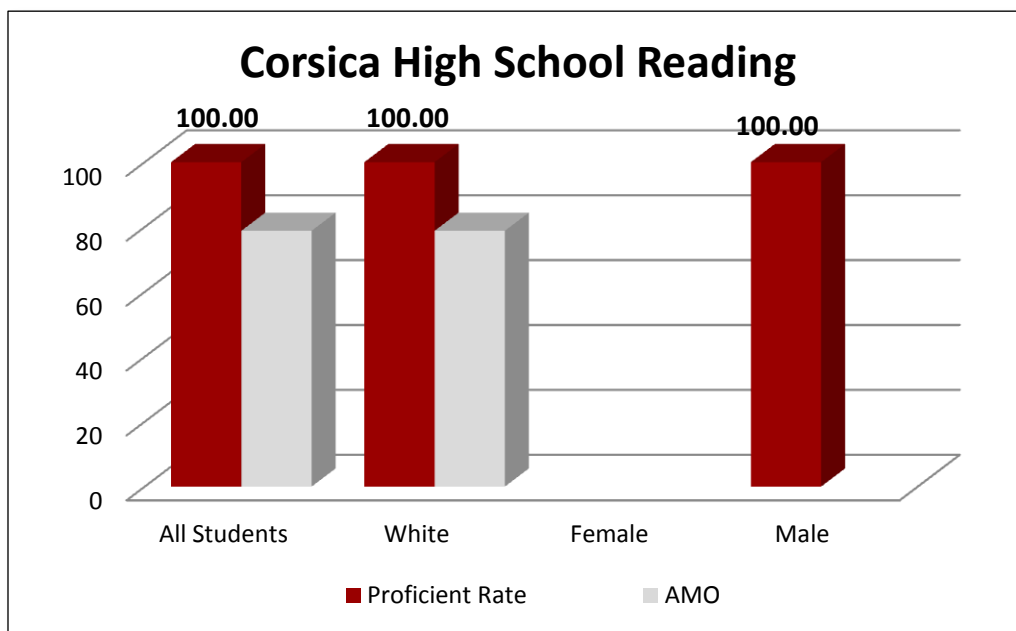
## Corsica Middle School Student Achievement-2012-2013

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## Corsica High School Student Achievement-2012-2013

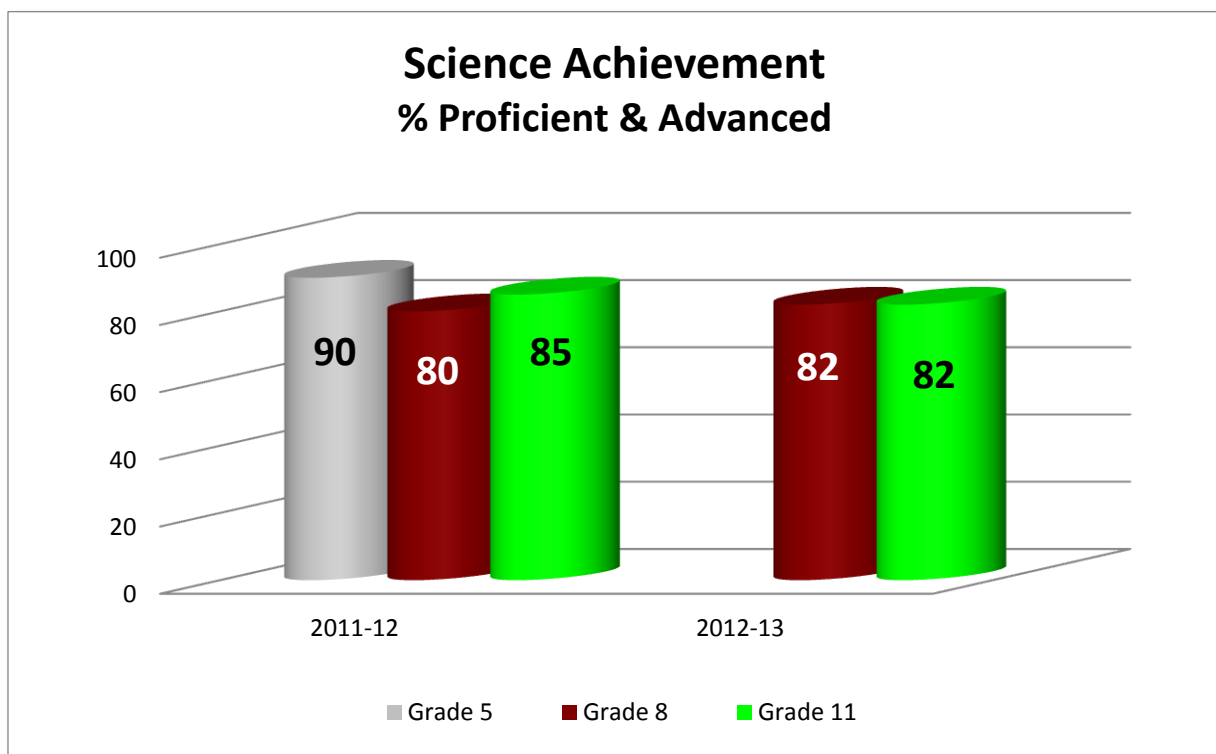
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## Science Student Achievement 2012-2013

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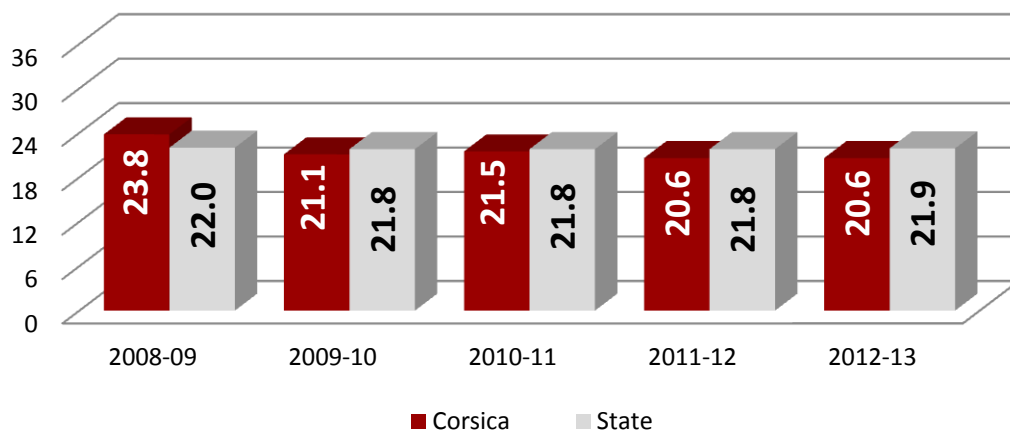
**NOTE:** For 2012-13, grade 5 subgroup was smaller than 10 students and not shown here.



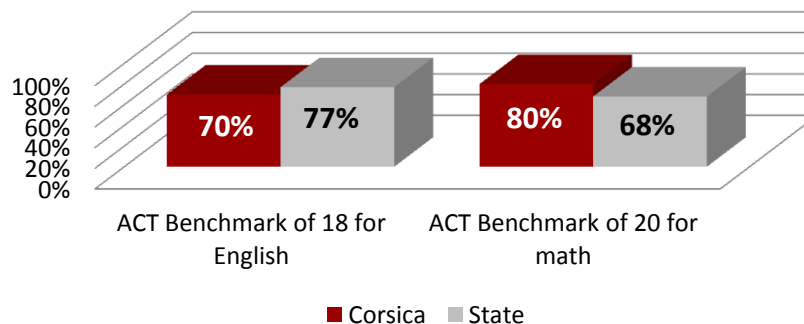
## College and Career Readiness

	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
ACT Number Tested	8		9		12		10		13	
	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg	Dist Avg	State Avg
English	24.3	21.2	21.2	21.1	20.2	21.0	19.6	21.0	19.6	21.0
Math	22.6	21.8	19.9	21.6	20.8	21.8	19.9	21.8	19.9	21.8
Reading	23.4	22.3	21.1	22.0	22.2	22.0	21.5	22.1	21.5	22.1
Science	24.0	22.0	21.3	21.9	22.7	22.1	20.7	22.0	20.7	22.0
Composite Score	23.8	22.0	21.1	21.8	21.5	21.8	20.6	21.8	20.6	21.9

### ACT Score Comparison



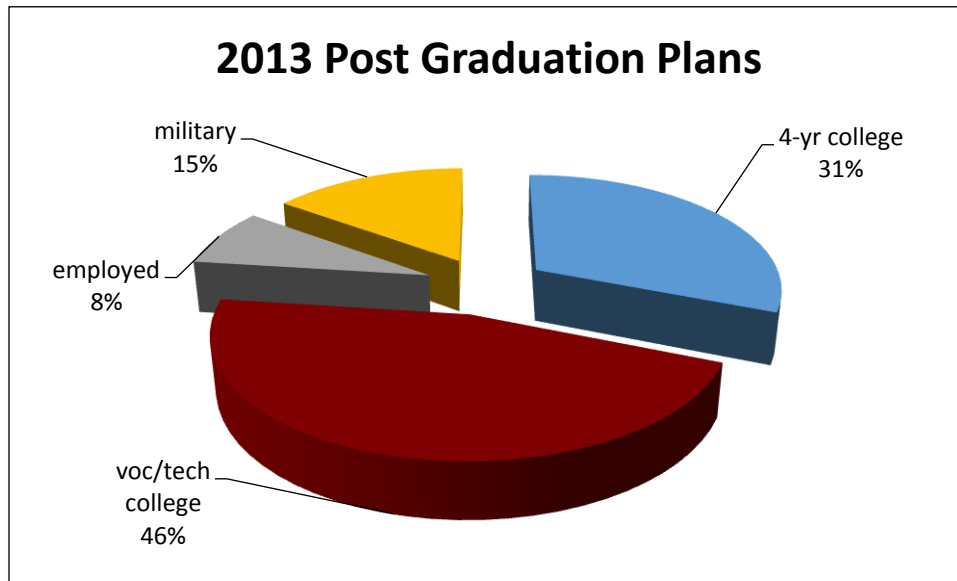
### College Readiness - % ACT Tested Students



NOTE: College readiness takes into consideration whether students took the appropriate college prep courses in high school.

## Post-graduation Plans

	# of graduates	4-yr college	voc/tech college	employed	military	misc.
<b>2008-09</b>	10	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%
<b>2009-10</b>	19	48%	42%	5%	5%	0%
<b>2010-11</b>	15	47%	47%	6%	0%	0%
<b>2011-12</b>	15	33%	28%	33%	0%	6%
<b>2012-13</b>	13	31%	46%	8%	15%	0%



## Non-Traditional Course Enrollment

(Number of Students Enrolled)

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Advanced Placement	1	0	0	0	0
Dual Credit	6	6	8	4	3
Credit Recovery	0	0	0	0	0
Distance Learning	21	6	20	4	30

**The District at all levels uses data retreats to develop a formative assessment of the district and individual school. At all levels the aforementioned goals/objectives/strategies are always viewed within the scope of the state and community with constant and continual process to create a formative environment with the summative assessment being consistent improvement or consistent high level performance to meet the established goals of the district and each individual school.**

**The School profile/statistical data developed with the assistance of the Region 3 ESA staff includes: Demographic information—The names of the schools within our district(Corsica Elementary, Middle School, and High School) and the data from those schools are included in the profile.**

**In addition the square mileage of the district, district enrollment, and a profile of staff(highly qualified status, years of experience, teacher-student ration) in our school is provide in the profile.**

**Special Education information: The profile provides date on disability prevalence and placement categories of students in the special education program.**



**Student Behavior Information: The profile provides graduation rate and discipline data, attendance and participation rate data.**

**College Admissions and Placement Performance Information: The profile provides ACT test averages of our students in all areas and comparisons to state averages in those areas.**

**Post-graduation Information: The profile provides data about placement of graduates in their future endeavors.**

**Achievement Information: The profile provides Dakota STEP reading, math, and science performance disaggregated for each test grade, and the following subgroups: all students, ethnicity, gender, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged.**

**The district does not disaggregate data for Migrant of LEP subgroups as there are no students in those subgroups.**

## **Perception Data:**

**Perception Data is accumulated through annual surveys of patrons, parent/teacher conferences, school/community improvement council as well as the school board. This data is used as constructive criticism to assist in the formative assessment of the Corsica School District and to make it responsive to the community's educational needs.**

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

**August 15 & 16, 2013- Staff set aside these two days to work on student data and to analyze standards in respective content areas. Staff had the opportunity to work across contents to enhance curriculum areas and discover strength and weakness in curriculum. They also wrote goals for the upcoming school year based upon the data. Staff members also attended Common Core trainings during the summer of 2013.**

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION.**

**The Corsica School District with the assistance of the staff at the Region 3 ESA, prepares an Annual District Statistical Profile.**

**The Corsica School District welcomes parents/community members to become involved in the education of our future community members at all levels of education.**

**Volunteers, collaborative efforts between school and community is an important support system for the Corsica School District.**

**Parent Involvement is a goal in our consolidated grant this school year. We plan to implement a K-12 newsletter to inform them of opportunities to be involved in the school. We will be holding events that are parent specific, develop training activities for parents, and give opportunities for parents to be active volunteers in the school. We will have two parent/teacher conferences.**

**The Parent Resource Network will be asked to do parent training for our parents as well as ESA3. When the school district has the annual meeting all parents will be invited to the event. An invitation will be sent as well as information about the meeting will be discussed in the monthly newsletter.**

**Our parents have the opportunity to have teachers assist in interpreting test results at parent/teacher conferences. Our school counselor also is available for appointment to do in depth discussions of the test results. The school counselor also explains test results.**

### **High School Level:**

**A school/district report card is issued and made available for public each year.**

**Financial Aid Nights are held to assist families as they prepare for the next level of education.**

**Information to explain test data goes home with every student. Parents are encouraged to contact the school with questions with a personal letter from the counselor.**

**Our FCCLA/National Honor Society does several programs to give time to families where they can come together for movies, social times, etc.**

**Infinite Campus is utilized to make grades/report cards available continually**

**through a parent portal. Parent/Teacher conferences are held at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-weeks with staff/parents encouraged to have conversations whenever there are any questions.**

### **Middle School Level:**

**A school/district report card is issued and made available for public each year.**

**Information to explain test data goes home with every student. Parents are encouraged to contact the school with questions with a personal letter from the counselor.**

**Infinite Campus is utilized to make grades/report cards available continually through the parent portal. Parent/Teacher conferences are held at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-weeks with staff/parents encouraged to have conversations whenever there are any questions.**

## **Elementary School Level:**

**A school/district report card is issued and made available for public each year.**

**Information to explain test data goes home with every student. Parents are encouraged to contact the school with questions with a personal letter from the counselor.**

**Infinite Campus is utilized to make grades/report cards available continually through the parent portal. Parent/Teacher conferences are held at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-weeks with staff/parents encouraged to have conversations whenever there are any questions.**

**Parents are invited to plan, implement, evaluate and revise the school wide plan at the annual Title I meeting. Copies of the Parental Involvement Policy as approved by the District Board of Education will be included in the informational packet delivered to each family at the beginning of the school year.**

## **TRANSITION PLAN:**

**The Corsica Elementary has a written transition plan that assists student coming to Kindergarten. Our preschool program is integrated into the kindergarten classroom so the students already have an idea about kindergarten just because of their preschool experience.**

**We work very closely with the Head Start program in the transition process. With parental consent, there is a procedure in place to transfer Head Start records to Corsica Elementary. If a student is not enrolled in preschool or is enrolled in Head Start, we set up a specific day for the child to be in the kindergarten classroom.**

**Parents were involved in the design of the transition plan as well as Head Start staff. It includes program development, coordination, transition plan, transfer of records with Head Start, communication, professional development, parent involvement, monitoring/evaluation.**

## **Corsica Middle School:**

**This year the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades from Corsica and Stickney have been combined. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from Corsica are bused to Stickney for classes. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Corsica and Stickney have classes in Corsica. Some Staff is shared between the two schools.**

## **High School:**

**Our transfer to post-secondary and the workforce is done well by our counselor. ASVAB tests, ACT tests, PLAN tests, ACT workshops, and Post-secondary/vocational visits are all coordinated for students by the counselor. In the area of special education, the special education teacher does an excellent job of transitioning students.**



## **Student Monitoring & Support:**

**Teachers in all buildings meet weekly to discuss issues and students with difficulties so as to address items timely.**

**TAT(Teacher Assistance Team) meeting are also held if the student need is beyond what can be handled with collaboration from colleagues.**

**Parents are notified by the regular classroom teacher whenever their child is experiencing difficulty in the classroom. As children are brought to the teacher assistance teams, parents help is elicited not only on ideas on how to handle difficulty, but are sometimes asked to work with the child or asked to allow the student to stay longer than the regular school day so the needs can be met.**

## **Fiscal Requirement:**

### **High School & Middle School:**

**Teachers have been provided with quality professional development, in-service time has been, and will be provided for staff to work on curriculum, assessment, and instructional strategies to improve student achievement.**

**Substitute costs will be covered through district, state, or Title Funds.**

**Any school curriculum materials, or supplemental materials needed, will be purchased as needed or as budgeting and funding allows.**

### **Elementary Level:**

**We use Title I monies to support personnel for our school wide staff, but monies will be used from the LEA to support any needs that may occur that cannot be covered by Title I.**

**District monies are available to the district for all things—this includes utilities, upkeep of the building, supplies, books, and**

**personnel to carry out functions that monies from Title I will not support. We do not have Reading 1<sup>st</sup> in Corsica, but do offer a pre-school opportunity for students.**

### **On-Going Development:**

**The improvement plan is developed and written for a two year time period for the district and individual schools and will be submitted for school board approval and implementation. The school/community improvement council will meet at least annually to assess programs towards the overall goals.**

# Corsica School ~ Student / Parent / Teacher Compact

## PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT:

I want my child to succeed. Therefore, I will encourage him/her by doing the following:

- See that my child is punctual and attends school regularly
- Send my child to school with proper nourishment and rest
- Send my child to school with the proper supplies, prepared to learn
- Support the school discipline policy
- Establish a time for homework and review child's work regularly to make sure it is done
- Talk regularly with my child's teacher and volunteer in my child's classroom
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my child's education
- Stay informed about my child's education by responding appropriately to written and phone messages
- Read with my child at least once a week and let my child see me read

## STUDENT AGREEMENT:

It is important that I work to the best of my ability. Therefore, I will try to do my best to do the following:

- Attend school regularly and observe regular school hours
- Come to school each day with supplies, ready to work
- Complete and return schoolwork assignments
- Follow school and classroom rules
- Take pride in my community, my school, and myself
- Give parents all notices and information received that is to be delivered to parents

## TEACHER/SCHOOL AGREEMENT:

It is important that students achieve. Therefore I shall strive to do the following:

- Believe each student can learn
- Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive learning environment that will meet the state's student academic achievement standards by meeting the individual needs of each student
- Parents will be provided at least four reports yearly on the progress of their child's academic success  
Frequent communication will occur between teacher and parent if the child is struggling academically
- Provide necessary assistance to parents so they can help students with assignments
- Treat all students, parents, and co-workers with respect
- Demonstrate a positive attitude
- Make available opportunities for parents to volunteer at school throughout the year
- Hold Parent/Teacher Conferences two times yearly with at least one conference discussing how the compact relates to student achievement

## PRINCIPAL AGREEMENT:

It is important for all to work together for students to achieve their full potential.

Therefore, I shall strive to do the following:

- Provide an inviting school environment that allows for positive communication among administration, the school staff, the parent, and the student
- Encourage teachers to provide challenging and relevant classroom instruction
- Provide updated curriculum materials
- Enforce school discipline policy

Donna Noteboom  
Karla Vanden Berge  
Michael Ihler  
Sharon Van Marel  
Sheryl Muckey  
Scott Muckey  
Vern DeGeest

Nicole Finnesand  
Mark Joachim  
Kristine Gillette  
Wade Gall  
Brittney Eide  
Lorisa Broughton

Jason Broughton  
Christina Strid  
Steve Entringer  
Paul Ma  
Carrie Kafka

**Signature of the Handbook shows agreement with this compact by both students and parents**

## **CORSICA SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

1. The Corsica School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan:
  - Invite parents to the yearly Corsica Parent Involvement Policy meeting to plan, review and improve the school parental involvement policy
  - Invite parents to give their input to school administration if they cannot attend the meeting.
  - Share the District Parent Involvement Policy on the school website as well as inform parents by the school newsletter that the district and school policies are found on the school website and are located in the administrative offices
2. The Corsica School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - Explain what School Improvement means and how the district and the schools located in the district compare academically to South Dakota
  - Identify the reasons for School Improvement
  - Provide an explanation on how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that cause the school to be identified for improvement
  - Provide information about programs provided under Title I
  - Describe and explain the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
  - Give opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children
  - Involve parents in deciding how the District 1% Title I set aside funds for parent Involvement will be used
3. The Corsica School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
  - Collaboration with parents to establish and develop programs and practices that enhance parent involvement and reflect the special needs of students and families
  - Parents will be encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
  - Parents will be encouraged to volunteer and observe in the child's classroom as an important responsibility for high academic achievement and helps build good school/parent relationships
  - Schools will be given the resources to develop informational/educational parent involvement meetings
4. The Corsica School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A under the following other programs:
  - Head start
  - Public preschools
  - South Dakota Parent and Information Center

The Corsica District will provide staff and financial support for the activities which are agreed on as funding is available.

5. The Corsica School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality

of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying ways to increase participation of parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary its parental involvement policies.

- Parent meeting will be convened to evaluate the policy
- Parents will be notified of the time and place
- Parents who cannot attend will have the opportunity to give their input to the administration
- Support of the Board of Education for development, implementation and regular evaluation
- Parental comments will be welcomed if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program at the district level

6. Corsica Elementary will work to strengthen the role of schools', parent's, and community as a partnership for strong, effective involvement, in order to build on and improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- the State's academic content standards
- the State's student academic achievement standards
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

Activities will include but are not all inclusive to workshops, conferences, and classes.

Supporting materials, equipment and refreshments will also supplied by the school district for parent activities. Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Assisting parents to capitalize on the vital role they hold in their child's education
- Provide parents with literacy programs that bond families around reading and using the public library
- Provide information about the essential components of reading instruction to enable parents to support the instructional practices used by the teacher
- Train parents in the use of Internet to enable them to access their children's homework, communicate with teachers and review information posted about schools in improvement, supplemental educational services, public school choice and other opportunities to promote student achievement
- Assist parents and or guardians to develop parenting skills to foster positive relationships at home that support children's efforts and provide techniques designed to assist their children with learning at home
- Involving parents, with appropriate training, in instructional and support roles at the school
- Providing access to and coordination of community and support services for children and families

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Making parents full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child

- Promotion of clear two-way communication between the school and the family as to school programs and children's progress
  - Advisement of parents to learn of their children's progress on a regular basis
  - Developing opportunities for parents to meet with classroom teachers and Title I staff
- D.** The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- Parent activities will be planned with all the agencies involved whenever feasible
  - Other agencies will be informed when the Corsica School District has a parent activity so information can be shared with other parents
- E.** The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- Will interpret information, to the extent practicable, in the parents' language
  - Use interpreters whenever possible at meetings so that parents are ensured of a equal participation level in the educational discussions between the schools and parents

#### **PART IV. ADOPTION**

This District-wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This policy was adopted by the The Corsica School District on July 8, 2013 and will be in effect for the period of 1 year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of each school year.

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*(Signature of Authorized Official)*

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*(Date)*

## **Corsica Elementary School Level Parent Involvement Policy**

1. Corsica Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school wide parental involvement plan:
  - Invite parents to the yearly Corsica Elementary Parent Involvement Policy meeting to plan, review and improve the school parental involvement policy
  - Invite parents to give their input to school administration if they cannot attend the meeting
  - Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings. This may include transportation and childcare costs as well as other expenses that will allow for more parent participation at the school level
2. Corsica Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - Explain what School Improvement means and how the district and the schools located in the district compare academically to South Dakota
  - Provide an explanation on how the parents can become involved in addressing academic issues that cause the school to be in school improvement
  - Provide information about programs provided under Title I
  - Describe and explain the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet
  - Give opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children
  - Provide each parent an individual report of their child's performance on the Dakota STEP (in a timely manner once the school receives the information)
  - Provide parents with a timely notice when the child has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified
  - Give parent input to the LEA if there are parents not satisfied with the school wide plan
3. Corsica Elementary will work to strengthen the role of schools', parent's, and community as a partnership for strong, effective involvement, in order to build on and improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

The school will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- the State's academic content standards
- the State's student academic achievement standards
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

Activities will include but are not all inclusive to workshops, conferences, and classes. Supporting materials, equipment and refreshments will also supplied by the school district for parent activities. Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

4. Corsica Elementary will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster



parental involvement, by:

- Assisting parents to capitalize on the vital role they hold in their child's education
- Provide parents with literacy programs that bond families around reading and using the public library
- Provide information about the essential components of reading instruction to enable parents to support the instructional practices used by the teacher
- Train parents in the use of Internet to enable them to access their children's homework, communicate with teachers and review information posted about schools in improvement, supplemental educational services, public school choice and other opportunities to promote student achievement
- Assist parents and or guardians to develop parenting skills to foster positive relationships at home that support children's efforts and provide techniques designed to assist their children with learning at home
- Involving parents, with appropriate training, in instructional and support roles at the school
- Providing access to and coordination of community and support services for children and families

5. Corsica Elementary will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:
  - Making parents full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child
  - Promotion of clear two-way communication between the school and the family as to school programs and children's progress
  - Advisement of parents to learn of their children's progress on a regular basis
  - Developing opportunities for parents to meet with classroom teachers and Title I staff
6. Corsica Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
  - Parent activities will be planned with all the agencies involved whenever feasible
  - Other agencies will be informed when Corsica Elementary has a parent activity so information can be shared with other parents
7. Corsica Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
  - Will interpret information, to the extent practicable, in the parents' language
  - Use interpreters whenever possible as meetings so that parents are ensured of a equal participation level in the educational discussions between the schools and parents

## PARENTS' RIGHT-TO KNOW

In accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Section 1111 (h) (6)

PARENTS' RIGHT-TO KNOW, our Title I school is required to notify each parent of your right to request and receive information in a timely manner regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers. This information regarding the professional qualification of your child's classroom teachers shall include the following:

- If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas taught.
- If the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which South Dakota qualification and licensing criteria are waived.
- The teachers baccalaureate degree major, graduation certification, and field of discipline.
- Whether the student is provided serviced by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

If at any time your child has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher that is not highly qualified, you will be notified by the school.

## PARENTS' RIGHT-TO KNOW

Dear Parent and Guardians:

In accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Section 1111 (h) (6)

PARENTS' RIGHT-TO KNOW, our Title I school is required to notify each parent of your right to request and receive information in a timely manner regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers. This information regarding the professional qualification of your child's classroom teachers shall include the following:

- If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas taught.
- If the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status in which South Dakota qualification and licensing criteria are waived.
- The teachers baccalaureate degree major, graduation certification, and field of discipline.
- Whether the student is provided serviced by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

I am pleased to inform you that each teacher and paraprofessional possess the necessary qualifications.

If at any time your child has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher that is not highly qualified, you will be notified by the school of this information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. DeGeest at 946-5475.

Sincerely,

Vern DeGeest  
Superintendent  
Corsica School District #21-2

# **CORSICA SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPLAINT POLICY FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

A PARENT, STUDENT, EMPLOYEE, OR DISTRICT STAKEHOLDER WHO HAS A COMPLAINT REGARDING THE USE OF FEDERAL NCLB FUNDS AND IS UNABLE TO SOLVE THE ISSUE, MAY ADDRESS THE COMPLAINT IN WRITING TO THE DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT.

DISPUTES ADDRESSING THE ENROLLMENT, TRANSPORTATION (INCLUDING INTER-DISTRICT DISPUTES), AND OTHER BARRIERS TO THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ARE ALSO ADDRESSED UNDER THIS PROCEDURE. PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH MAY INITIATE THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL OR AT THE DISTRICT'S HOMELESS LIAISON'S OFFICE. THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH A WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF THE SCHOOL'S DECISION INCLUDING THE RIGHTS OF THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR YOUTH TO APPEAL THE DECISION. STUDENTS SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH ALL SERVICES FOR WHICH THEY ARE ELIGIBLE WHILE DISPUTES ARE RESOLVED.

- THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL INVESTIGATE, WITHIN ONE WEEK, THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COMPLAINT AND RENDER A DECISION, WITHIN TWO WEEKS, AFTER RECEIPT OF THE COMPLAINT.
- THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL NOTIFY THE COMPLAINANT OF THE DECISION IN WRITING .
- THE COMPLAINANT WILL BE ALLOWED ONE WEEK TO REACT TO THE DECISION BEFORE IT BECOMES FINAL.
- THE COMPLAINANT WILL EITHER ACCEPT OR DISAGREE WITH THE DECISION AND WILL PROVIDE SUCH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN WRITING, ADDRESSED TO THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT.
- IF THE ISSUE IS NOT RESOLVED WITH THE SUPERINTENENT, THE COMPLAINT WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR FURTHER REVIEW. THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH A WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF THE DISTRICT'S DECISION INCLUDING THE RIGHTS OF THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR YOUTH TO APPEAL THE DECISION.
- UNRESOLVED COMPLAINTS MAY BE FORWARDED BY THE STAKEHOLDER TO THE SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR REVIEW. (CONSULT SD DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMPLAINT PROCEDURE)

DATE ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION July 8, 2013

**Algebra I Waiver: Algebra I is given in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and counts as a high school Math Credit if students complete the End of Course exam provided by the state with an 80% or above score. Students who do not score this percentage will continue on with the math program and may choose to retake Algebra I during their High School years.**

**Students that gain high school credit, while in middle school, afford themselves the opportunity take more rigorous math in high school, possibly through AP or dual credit work if they choose. They also have the chance to take career specific/career readiness math if they choose.**

**Of the 10 Students in Algebra 1 in 12-13, seven of those successfully gained high school credit during their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.**

**The School District believes the waiver allows students to take more rigorous math classes in high school if they choose. It also offers students the opportunity to improve their math skills for several reasons including the ACT test, Smarter Balanced Assessment, and practical usage/rationale. Our goal is to provide an excellent math curriculum tailored for our students.**