

► Myers Park High School



A Message from the Principal

Dear Myers Park High School families:

Myers Park High continues to be on the cutting edge of curriculum development, preparing students to be competitive and successful in an increasingly global society. Communication with our families is of primary importance to our school community. This School Progress Report will keep you informed about our students' academic progress, our staff and our school culture.

In 2008-2009, Myers Park was named the 43rd Best High School in America by *Newsweek* magazine. Our senior class received many accolades and more than \$16 million in scholarship monies. Seven of our students were named National Merit Scholars, the most of any school in CMS. Once again, we are extremely proud of our school's accomplishments.

Our composite proficiency rate on last year's End-of-Course tests was 84 percent, an increase of four points from the previous year. The overall data shows successful results, and we are well on our way to meeting CMS 2010 goals. We have made significant strides in reducing the disparity between subgroups, and we met or exceeded most academic ABC goals including End-of-Course tests and state writing scores. In turn, we are thrilled to be named a School of Distinction for 2008-2009. While this designation reflects our efforts in reaching all students, we also realize that there is more we can do.

Unfortunately, we did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the standard set for schools by the No Child Left Behind Act. All of our student subgroups performed adequately, but because of new state and federal guidelines, several of our students counted as not tested, causing us to miss out on certain AYP targets. We are disappointed this occurred because it does not accurately reflect the efforts of our teachers in preparing all students for success.

(Principal's message continued on back)

KEY FACTS

Data effective as of spring 2009

Principal

Thomas L. Spivey
email: t.spivey@cms.k12.nc.us

Myers Park High School is a partial International Baccalaureate magnet.

Grades

9 - 12

School Population

- 2,767 Students
- 187 Teachers
- 5 Assistant Principals
- 9 Counselors
- 2 Social Workers
- 63 Support Staff

Student Demographics

- 22.0% African American
- 61.1% White
- 8.4% Hispanic
- 6.4% Asian
- 2.2% Other
- 24.5% of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch

Learning Community

Central

Area Superintendent: Joel Ritchie
324 N. McDowell Street
Suite 100
Charlotte, NC 28204
980-343-1465
email: j.ritchie@cms.k12.nc.us

Myers Park High School

2400 Colony Road
Charlotte, NC 28209
980-343-5800

<http://pages.cms.k12.nc.us/mphs>



CMS 2010 Strategic Plan Goals	Key Performance Measures	CMS 2010 Goal	CMS Result 2008 - 2009	School Result 2008 - 2009
High Academic Achievement <i>Disparity between socioeconomic groups is shown as a positive percentage when non-economically disadvantaged students outscore economically disadvantaged students; a negative percentage indicates the reverse.</i> <i>Data effective as of 7/14/09</i>	Students performing at or above standard on EOC composite tests	80%	76%	84.0%
	Students performing at or above standard in English 1 ^{1,2}	—	76%	85.8%
	Students performing at or above standard in Algebra 1 ^{1,2}	—	79%	78.2%
	Students performing at or above standard in Civics & Economics ^{1,2}	—	77%	88.3%
	Students performing at or above standard in U.S. History ^{1,2}	—	79%	87.0%
	Students performing at or above standard in Biology ^{1,2}	—	78%	78.3%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in English 1 ¹	—	25%	31.3%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Algebra 1 ¹	—	24%	37.9%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Civics & Economics ¹	—	25%	27.3%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in U.S. History ¹	—	24%	31.8%
	Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in Biology ¹	—	24%	42.0%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in English 1 ¹	—	21%	28.7%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Algebra 1 ¹	—	16%	30.6%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Civics & Economics ¹	—	20%	28.0%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in U.S. History ¹	—	19%	24.2%
	Disparity between socioeconomic groups in Biology ¹	—	17%	34.8%
Effective Educators	Teachers deemed highly qualified, having appropriate educational backgrounds and state certification(s) for the grade levels and subjects they are teaching	99%	96%	98%
	National Board-certified teachers	10%	7%	17%
	Teachers with graduate degrees	46%	35%	40%
	Teachers' average years of experience	14.9	11.2	13.0
Adequate Resources & Facilities	Student/Computer Ratio	5:1	3:1	4:1
Safe & Orderly Schools	Passed the CMS safe school audit	YES	YES	YES
	Parents who indicate this is a safe school ³	70%	96%	Insufficient Response
	Students who indicate this is a safe school ³	80%	85%	90.3%
	Teachers who indicate this is a safe school ^{1,3}	—	89%	94.5%
	Number of incidents resulting in in-school suspensions ^{1,4}	—	—	11.6
	Number of incidents resulting in out-of-school suspensions ^{1,4}	—	—	18.1
Freedom & Flexibility with Accountability	Principal has been granted additional freedom and flexibility ¹	—	—	YES
World-Class Service	Parents who indicate satisfaction with the responsiveness of staff at this school ³	80%	88%	Insufficient Response
Strong Parent & Community Connections	Parents who indicate satisfaction overall with this school ^{1,3}	—	86%	Insufficient Response
	Number of volunteer hours ⁵	Increase by 25% district-wide	—	325
	Number of business and community partnerships	Increase by 25% district-wide	—	6

¹Not a CMS 2010 goal

²Required for graduation

³Based on responses to 2008-09 survey; multiple survey items may have been used to create a composite

⁴Incidents per 100 students

⁵Per 100 students

CMS Accountability Measures

The learning of students in public education is measured in multiple ways. There are assessments given at regular intervals by CMS—tests that we use to measure how students are learning as the school year progresses. Other tests are required by the state and given once or twice a year, such as End-of-Course and End-of-Grade tests. Some of the state test results are also used to calculate district progress on the federal standard of Adequate Yearly Progress for each student. This page provides brief explanations of some of the measures and tests used in CMS.

► Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Our school **DID NOT** make AYP (*18 of 23 goals met*)

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that every school make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). AYP is an all-or-nothing standard: Every target must be met.

State test results are used to set AYP targets. There are separate targets for the school as a whole and for nine subgroups of students: white, black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, multiracial, economically disadvantaged students, students with limited English proficiency and students with disabilities. Subgroups of students are measured separately so that an overall score for a class or a school does not mask poor results within a subgroup.

Some schools are more diverse than others, so the number of subgroups varies by school. Therefore, the number of AYP targets varies by school, too. Some schools may have only a few targets to meet; others may have the maximum, which is 41. School attendance and graduation rates are also measured for AYP.

For a more complete overview of AYP, visit www.dpi.state.nc.us/nclb/abcayp/overview/ayp

For details of AYP results for our school and its student groups, visit <http://ayp.ncpublicschools.org>

► ABC Designation

Our school's designation: **School of Distinction**
(*DID meet growth expectations*) **Proficiency: 84.4%**

The North Carolina ABCs program was introduced more than a decade ago to help schools improve. It uses two basic measures to assess a school's performance: the Average Growth of students (below); and the Performance Composite, which measures how well students performed against a state-set standard of academic achievement.

Schools are given one of seven designations. In descending order, they are: Honor School of Excellence, School of Excellence, School of Distinction, School of Progress, No Recognition, Priority School, and Low Performing.

For more information about ABCs, visit <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org/abcs>

► Average Growth

State Standard: 80% **Our School: 83.1%**

Did our students meet the state's expectation for academic growth? Each student is expected to perform as well (or better) on the End-of-Grade assessment as he or she did, on average, during the previous two years. Average Growth for a school is calculated by comparing actual performance to expected performance and then averaging the difference across all students and all subjects. The score above reflects the combined growth rate of all of our students. To make expected growth, a school must have a score of 80% or higher.

► Students Making or Exceeding a Year's Worth of Growth

State Standard: 60% **Our School: 61.0%**

Did our students learn as much as they were expected to learn this year? As described above, the state sets expectations for each student based on individual performance for the previous two years. Across the state, about half of students typically meet or exceed this growth expectation. To earn the high-growth designation, a school must meet the average-growth standard described above and also have more than 60% of its students make expected growth.

► Adjusted Pass Rate on Advanced Placement (AP) Tests

Expectation: 100% **Our School: 75.7%**

AP tests are administered by the College Board and give students the opportunity to earn college credit. Some high school students are predicted to pass AP tests, based on their performance on the Preliminary SAT (PSAT).

This measurement reflects the cumulative AP test success rate among those seniors predicted to pass. It is important to note that all students are encouraged to take AP tests, but in order not to penalize schools for having high expectations for all students, all scores are not included in this measurement.

► Participation Rate in Weighted Courses

Expectation: 100% **Our School: 96.3%**

Students with the skills to be successful are defined as those on grade level when entering high school. We offer weighted courses to those students as a means of challenging them academically and encouraging in-depth study within a single subject. The proportion of students who started high school on grade level, and who take three or more weighted courses by the end of senior year, measures how much a school encourages students to push themselves.

► Participation Rate in Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Courses

Expectation: 100% **Our School: 93.2%**

AP and IB courses are the most challenging programs available in high school. The International Baccalaureate is a global educational program recognized for its rigor. Some high school students are predicted to be successful in AP courses, based on their performance on the Preliminary SAT (PSAT). This measures how many of these identified seniors have actually enrolled in AP and IB courses.

► Graduation Rate for Students who Enter Ninth Grade

State Comparison: 70.2% **Our School: 79.6%**

Students completing kindergarten through 12th grade is a goal for everyone involved in education. We compare the number of students who start ninth grade with those who earn a diploma within four years, taking into account that some students transfer in from other schools and some transfer out of our school.

► SAT Rates and Results

Percentage of seniors taking the SAT:	Nation	46%
	State	63%
	Our School	72.7%
Average SAT Score:	Nation	1509
	State	1486
	Our School	1691

The SAT is a nationally used assessment of high-level math, reading and writing skills. It is used to assess college readiness and the results are calculated by the state. (*Data provided by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.*)

► Positive Responses to Multiple Student Survey Items

Our School's Results:	Safety	90%
	Encouragement	96%
	Engagement	95%

Do our students perceive this school as safe and welcoming?
This measure is subjective—it is taken from a student survey.

For more information on our school's performance, visit <http://pmd.cms.k12.nc.us>

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS

REACH FURTHER. **Global competitiveness starts here.**

► Myers Park High School

(Principal's message continued)

Our School Improvement Plan addresses specific goals in the areas of diagnostic/prescriptive learning, improvement of test scores and enhancement of curriculum and ongoing program evaluation.

We offer 26 Advanced Placement (AP) courses and 21 International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. The percentage of students receiving the IB diploma has exceeded U.S. and international averages for 15 consecutive years. AP scores continue to be outstanding. In addition, Myers Park has been awarded numerous local, state, national and world awards for our speech and debate, arts, Odyssey of the Mind, chess and academic competitions.

Our faculty is highly qualified, and as always, our staff works diligently to help all students reach their potential. I am one of the principals selected to participate in CMS' Freedom and Flexibility with Accountability program, and we have used my additional autonomy to effect changes that will help keep Myers Park ahead of the curve.

No Child Left Behind mandates will be addressed by expanding our literacy program and continuing our ninth-grade End-of-Course cohort. Students will also be provided after-school opportunities to reinforce classroom learning, meet graduation requirements, review for End-of-Course tests and recover excessive class absences. Staff development for 2009-2010 will focus on building strong professional learning communities that apply research-based principles to support students academically and increase school effectiveness and efficiency.

Myers Park High School exists to inspire in our students a passion for learning and a commitment to personal integrity and academic excellence. We believe that all students can be successful and look forward to preparing every child to lead a rich, rewarding and productive life.

Sincerely,
Thomas L. Spivey
Principal

What is the School Progress Report?

In 2006, we introduced the *Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Strategic Plan 2010* outlining our vision and strategy to educate our students to compete locally, nationally and internationally.

The plan outlines seven areas of concentration: high academic achievement; effective educators; adequate resources and facilities; safe and orderly schools; freedom and flexibility with accountability; world-class service, and strong parent and community connections. This report summarizes how our school performed in the 2008-09 school year in making progress on these seven goals. On page 3, you will also find an explanation of federal and state accountability measures.

Educators and parents have a common goal of preparing our children to compete in an ever-growing global community. Working together requires frequent dialogue between school and parents, so please feel free to contact the principal or any staff member at our school.

