

▶ Clear Creek Elementary School



A Message from the Principal

To our Clear Creek Elementary School families:

This is the third School Progress Report for Clear Creek Elementary. It is part of our effort to keep families fully informed about our students' academic progress, our staff and our school environment. Clear Creek Elementary has been serving the Clear Creek community and the surrounding area for more than 80 years.

Clear Creek Elementary was recognized by the state as a School of Distinction and achieved a status of High Growth following the 2009-2010 End-of-Grade tests. We had a composite proficiency rate of more than 86 percent on the reading, math and science tests. We also made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the standard set for schools by the No Child Left Behind Act. We met all 25 of our targets.

While we are a School of Distinction and made AYP, we are not satisfied with our students' academic progress. We will continue to improve student achievement by adapting the state curriculum to meet our students' needs based on their levels of learning.

Our faculty is strong, competent and compassionate, with the vast majority of our teachers highly qualified and experienced. We have several National Board-certified teachers. Our excellent staff will continue to focus on raising our academic achievement levels.

I was one of 50 principals chosen three years ago to pilot an initiative called Freedom and Flexibility with Accountability. This means that I have been given some additional autonomy to keep Clear Creek Elementary, and our students, moving forward.

All of us will continue to work on raising achievement. We will offer special End-of-Grade interventions beginning this spring, where our teachers provide before-school tutoring to help students master the essential End-of-Grade material.

(Principal's message continued on next page)

2009-2010 KEY FACTS

Data effective as of spring 2010

Grades

K - 5

School Population

- Students: **709**
- Classroom Teachers: **36**
- Support Staff:
 - 1 Assistant Principal
 - 1 English as a Second Language Teacher
 - 1 Speech Pathologist
 - 2 Exceptional Children Teachers
 - 2 Academic Facilitators
 - 1 Talent Development Teacher
 - 1 Counselor
 - 31 Other

Student Demographics

- African-American.....**30.3%**
- White.....**46.4%**
- Hispanic.....**15.1%**
- Asian.....**2%**
- Other.....**6.2%**
- Economically.....**50%**
disadvantaged students

Additional Facts*

- Per-pupil expenditure **\$5,368**
- Teacher-to-pupil ratio **1:20**
- Student-mobility rate **16%**

**Click here for more information.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Clear Creek Elementary School

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(Principal's message continued)

I am confident that we will continue to see improvement in student achievement. Clear Creek Elementary has a supportive, orderly environment in which students and teachers treat each other with respect. That will continue.

We have very low staff turnover at Clear Creek. We have had only three principals since 1990. Faculty and staff stay at Clear Creek because this is a successful elementary school that values its staff and students.

At Clear Creek Elementary, we are keeping first things first—and that means we are focused on student learning, strong teaching and continued high academic achievement in a safe and orderly environment.

Sincerely,
T. Dale Ritchie, Ph.D
Principal

- [Click to view our School Quality Review](#)
- [Click to view our School Improvement Plan](#)

Even parents can learn a thing or two.

The most successful students have parents, grandparents or caretakers who are actively involved in their education. These students earn better grades, achieve higher test scores and have better attendance records.

How can you be an active participant in your child's education? Our community has banded together to help answer your questions on parenting awareness, helping your child learn, health and wellness and personal growth and development.

Learn more at www.cms.k12.nc.us.

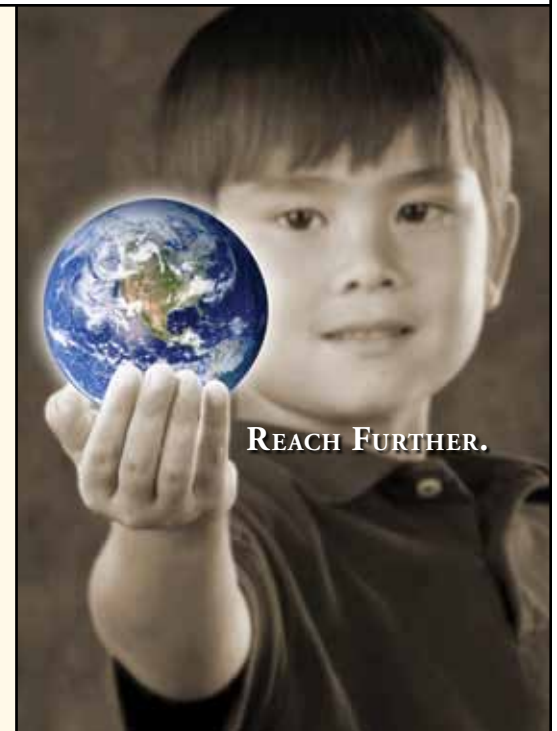


What is the School Progress Report?

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 2009-10 school year in making progress on these seven goals. On the final page, 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.



REACH FURTHER.



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PROGRESS REPORT

| CMS 2010 Strategic Plan Goals | Key Performance Measures | CMS 2010 Goal | CMS Elem. Schools 2009 - 2010 | Our School 2008 - 2009 | Our School 2009 - 2010 |
|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <p>High Academic Achievement</p> <p>▶ Because of federal privacy regulations, the actual values for these measures are not shown if the percentage is greater than 95 percent or less than 5 percent.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Data effective as of 8/27/10</i></p> | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level overall ¹ | — | 75.2% | 86.2% | 86.7% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in reading | 95% | 70.2% | 82.6% | 81.8% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in math | 88% | 82.3% | 92.3% | 92.6% |
| | ▶ Students performing at or above grade level in science | 80% | 68.6% | 78.6% | 83.5% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in reading | 10% | 33.5% | 14.8% | 24.2% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in math | 10% | 22.9% | 9.2% | 16.7% |
| | Disparity between racial/ethnic groups in science | 10% | 36.8% | 62.5% | 22.4% |
| | Disparity between socioeconomic groups in reading | 10% | 31% | 0.6% | 22.3% |
| | Disparity between socioeconomic groups in math | 10% | 19.1% | 3.1% | 11% |
| | Disparity between socioeconomic groups in science | 10% | 32.2% | 19% | 21.8% |
| <p>Effective Educators</p> <p>Click to view teacher survey results</p> | Teachers deemed highly qualified, having appropriate educational backgrounds and state certification(s) for the grade levels and subjects they are teaching | 99% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | National Board-certified teachers | 18% | 15% | 12% | 15% |
| | Teachers with graduate degrees | 38% | 38% | 39% | 37% |
| | Teachers' average years of experience | 11.1 | 10.6 | 17 | 16.6 |
| <p>Adequate Resources & Facilities</p> | Student/Computer Ratio | 5:1 | 4:1 | 4:1 | 4:1 |
| | Teachers who indicate satisfaction with school facilities | — | 72.7% | — | 66.8% |
| <p>Safe & Orderly Schools</p> | Passed the CMS safe school audit | 100% | 69% | YES | YES |
| | Parents who indicate this is a safe school ² | 70% | 96.8% | 99.4% | 95.3% |
| | Students who indicate this is a safe school ² | 80% | 91.8% | 94.7% | 93.2% |
| | Teachers who indicate this is a safe school ^{1,2} | — | 90.4% | 97% | 97.4% |
| | Number of incidents resulting in in-school suspensions ^{1,3} | — | 0.6 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of incidents resulting in out-of-school suspensions ^{1,3} | — | 7.2 | 0.9 | 1 |
| <p>Freedom & Flexibility with Accountability</p> | Principal has been granted additional freedom and flexibility ¹ | — | 56% | YES | YES |
| <p>World-Class Service</p> | Parents who indicate satisfaction with the responsiveness of staff at this school ² | 80% | 88.6% | 88% | 88.4% |
| <p>Strong Parent & Community Connections</p> <p>Click to view parent survey results</p> | Parents who indicate satisfaction overall with this school ^{1,2} | — | 88.4% | 88.6% | 86.5% |
| | Number of volunteer hours ⁴ | Increase by 25% district-wide | 235 | 1,166 | 309 |
| | Number of business and community partnerships | Increase by 25% district-wide | 580 | 3 | 6 |

¹Not a CMS 2010 goal

²Based on responses to surveys; multiple survey items may have been used to create a composite

³Incidents per 100 students

⁴Per 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** make AYP
(25 of 25 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 high growth expectations)**

| Proficiency: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| | 86.2% | 86.7% |

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 (at right); 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 | Our School: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|----------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 80 | | 83 | 84.2 |

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.

▶ Amount of Growth for Students in the Lowest-Achieving Group

Our School 2008-09: 83.5 **Our School 2009-10: 83.5**

Are we helping our low achievers catch up? Historically, some economically disadvantaged and minority students have trailed their classmates in academic achievement. This is called the achievement gap, and closing it is one of the biggest challenges in public education. If the lower-achieving students at a school show academic growth at a faster rate than higher-achieving students, the achievement gap is narrowed. When the score for this measure is higher than the Average Growth for the school, the school is closing the achievement gap.

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

| State Standard | Our School: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|----------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 60% | | 63.7% | 68.7% |

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.

▶ Positive Responses to Student Survey Items

| Our School's Results: | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Safety | 94.7% | 93.2% |
| Encouragement | 98.9% | 99.2% |
| Engagement | 96.9% | 93.4% |

Is our school environment conducive to learning? This measure is subjective—it is taken from a student survey.

[Click to view student survey results.](#)

▶ Return-on-Investment Index

CMS Elementary School Index: 50.9 **Our School Index: 55.7**



Return on Investment is calculated by comparing students' academic growth to the per-pupil expenditure. This measure is intended to help parents and community members understand how money is spent in our schools. [Click here for more information.](#)

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