

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2011-12**Suffield School District**

KAREN BALDWIN, Superintendent

Location: 350 Mountain Road
Suffield,
Connecticut

Telephone: (860) 668-3800

Website: www.suffield.org/

This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c) using data and narratives provided by the school district, testing services, or the US Census. Profiles and additional education data, including longitudinal data, are available on the internet at www.sde.ct.gov.

COMMUNITY DATA

County: Hartford

Town Population in 2000: 13,552

1990-2000 Population Growth: 18.6%

Number of Public Schools: 4

Per Capita Income in 2000: \$28,171

Percent of Adults without a High School Diploma in 2000*: 14.8%

Percent of Adults Who Were Not Fluent in English in 2000*: 0.9%

District Enrollment as % of Estimated. Student Population: 94.5%

*To view the Adult Education Program Profiles online, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on Adult Education, then Reports.

District Reference Group (DRG): C DRG is a classification of districts whose students' families are similar in education, income, occupation, and need, and that have roughly similar enrollment. The Connecticut State Board of Education approved DRG classification for purposes of reporting data other than student performance.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Enrollment on October 1, 2011 2,479
5-Year Enrollment Change -4.5%

DISTRICT GRADE RANGE

Grade Range PK - 12

INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL NEED

Need Indicator	Number in District	Percent		
		District	DRG	State
Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	261	10.5	8.2	35.2
K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English	13	0.5	0.7	5.6
Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented*	67	2.7	4.5	4.0
PK-12 Students Receiving Special Education Services in District	255	10.3	10.9	11.5
Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	120	87.0	86.7	79.8
Homeless	1	0.0	0.0	0.3
Juniors and Seniors Working 16 or More Hours Per Week	60	14.2	13.4	13.0

*0.0 % of the identified gifted and/or talented students received services.

SCHOOL DISTRICT DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	2	0.1
Asian American	57	2.3
Black	74	3.0
Hispanic	88	3.5
Pacific Islander	0	0.0
White	2,252	90.8
Two or more races	6	0.2
Total Minority	227	9.2

Percent of Minority Professional Staff: 4.9%

Open Choice:

50 student(s) attended this district as part of the Open Choice program. Open Choice brings students from urban areas to attend school in suburban or rural towns, and students from non-urban areas to attend city schools.

Non-English Home Language:

2.8% of this district's students (excluding prekindergarten students) come from homes where English is not the primary language. The number of non-English home languages is 17.

EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

Below is the description submitted by this school of how it provides educational opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

The Suffield Public Schools is an active participant in the Open Choice program and has increased its participation rate in this program meeting established State benchmarks for student enrollment figures annually. The district also operates a Regional Agri Science program for students in grades 9-12 and currently enrolls students from 9 other districts including Hartford. The district has also participated in grant programs that provide for inter-district collaboration with students from Hartford that build awareness of cultural differences and promotes positive relationships and tolerance. Our high school and middle school have both utilized programs sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League, specifically Bridges, Names Can Really Hurt Us and Let's Get Real. All schools host various enrichment programs with themes designed to appreciate cultural differences and foster cultural awareness and each school employs a home-school liaison to provide support and enhanced communication to families of our students from Hartford.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Connecticut Mastery Test, Fourth Generation, % Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards.

Grade and CMT Subject Area	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal	<p>These results reflect the performance of students with scoreable tests who were enrolled in the district at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the district. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.</p> <p>For more detailed CMT results, go to www.ctreports.com.</p> <p>To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."</p>
Grade 3 Reading	77.7	59.2	81.3	
Writing	76.0	62.7	73.8	
Mathematics	82.3	66.5	73.1	
Grade 4 Reading	80.5	64.1	77.5	
Writing	90.5	65.3	98.1	
Mathematics	89.3	68.0	85.0	
Grade 5 Reading	86.0	67.6	81.9	
Writing	79.1	68.1	61.3	
Mathematics	87.7	71.6	76.8	
Science	87.4	63.9	89.3	
Grade 6 Reading	90.9	74.1	83.7	
Writing	85.5	67.4	82.5	
Mathematics	89.9	69.3	84.3	
Grade 7 Reading	88.9	79.8	59.7	
Writing	76.6	65.6	59.0	
Mathematics	82.4	68.1	69.4	
Grade 8 Reading	88.5	76.8	67.9	
Writing	86.1	68.3	81.9	
Mathematics	90.0	67.2	87.4	
Science	84.7	61.9	85.0	

Connecticut Academic Performance Test, Third Generation, % Meeting State Goal. The CAPT is administered to Grade 10 students. The Goal level is more demanding than the state Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards. The following results reflect the performance of students with scorable tests who were enrolled in the school at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the school. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

CAPT Subject Area	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal	<p>For more detailed CAPT results, go to www.ctreports.com.</p> <p>To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."</p>
Reading Across the Disciplines	67.8	47.5	79.7	
Writing Across the Disciplines	79.7	63.0	69.4	
Mathematics	69.4	49.2	78.9	
Science	65.4	47.1	75.4	

Physical Fitness. The assessment includes tests for flexibility, abdominal strength and endurance, upper-body strength and aerobic endurance.

Physical Fitness: % of Students Reaching Health Standard on All Four Tests	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Percent Reaching Standard
	57.1	50.6	63.9

SAT® I: Reasoning Test Class of 2011		District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Lower Scores
% of Graduates Tested		83.3	77.3	
Average Score	Mathematics	550	505	84.0
	Critical Reading	534	502	74.8
	Writing	531	506	70.2

SAT® I. The lowest possible score on each SAT® I subtest is 200; the highest possible score is 800.

Graduation and Dropout Rates	District	State	% of Districts in State with Equal or Less Desirable Rates
Graduation Rate, Adjusted Cohort Rate 2011	94.9	82.7	85.0
2010-11 Annual Dropout Rate for Grade 9 through 12	0.4	2.6	79.7

Activities of Graduates	District	State
% Pursuing Higher Education (Degree and Non-Degree Programs)	91.7	84.5
% Employed (Civilian Employment and in Armed Services)	5.9	9.7

RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURES

DISTRICT STAFF

Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff	
General Education	
Teachers and Instructors	161.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	30.51
Special Education	
Teachers and Instructors	21.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	35.90
Library/Media Specialists and/or Assistants	7.37
Staff Devoted to Adult Education	0.00
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs	
District Central Office	4.00
School Level	9.00
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists)	4.30
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	11.00
School Nurses	4.00
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support	88.22

In the full-time equivalent (FTE) count, staff members working part-time in the school district are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in the district contributes 0.50 to the district's staff count.

Teachers and Instructors	District	DRG	State
Average Years of Experience in Education	13.0	14.6	13.9
% with Master's Degree or Above	85.5	82.0	79.6

Average Class Size	District	DRG	State
Grade K	17.3	16.7	18.5
Grade 2	19.0	18.5	19.7
Grade 5	22.6	21.3	21.6
Grade 7	19.1	20.0	20.3
High School	19.9	18.6	19.6

Hours of Instruction Per Year*	Dist	DRG	State
Elementary School	985	994	993
Middle School	1,045	1,023	1,024
High School	1,006	1,022	1,024

*State law requires that at least 900 hours of instruction be offered to students in grade 1-12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students.

Students Per Academic Computer	Dist	DRG	State
Elementary School*	3.0	2.8	2.8
Middle School	2.2	2.1	2.2
High School	1.9	2.1	2.1

*Excludes schools with no grades above kindergarten.

DISTRICT EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES, 2010-11

Expenditures may be supported by local tax revenues, state grants, federal grants, municipal in-kind services, tuition and other sources. DRG and state figures will not be comparable to the district if the school district does not teach both elementary and secondary students.

Expenditures All figures are unaudited.	Total (in 1000s)	Expenditures Per Pupil			
		District	PK-12 Districts	DRG	State
Instructional Staff and Services	\$19,798	\$7,900	\$8,464	\$7,839	\$8,469
Instructional Supplies and Equipment	\$624	\$249	\$267	\$244	\$271
Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services	\$224	\$90	\$487	\$393	\$482
Student Support Services	\$1,864	\$744	\$901	\$940	\$901
Administration and Support Services	\$4,036	\$1,611	\$1,468	\$1,430	\$1,490
Plant Operation and Maintenance	\$2,161	\$862	\$1,471	\$1,407	\$1,463
Transportation	\$1,204	\$504	\$735	\$707	\$724
Costs for Students Tuitioned Out	\$1,898	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	\$135	\$54	\$165	\$183	\$165
Total	\$31,945	\$12,681	\$14,238	\$13,684	\$14,140
Additional Expenditures					
Land, Buildings, and Debt Service	\$2,231	\$890	\$1,290	\$1,165	\$1,331

Special Education Expenditures	District Total	Percent of PK-12 Expenditures Used for Special Education		
		District	DRG	State
	\$6,345,586	19.9	21.2	21.7

Revenue Sources, % of Expenditures from Source. Revenue sources do not include state funded Teachers' Retirement Board contributions, vocational-technical school operations, SDE budgeted costs for salaries and leadership activities and other state-funded school districts (e.g., Dept. of Children and Families and Dept. of Corrections).

District Expenditures	Local Revenue	State Revenue	Federal Revenue	Tuition & Other
Including School Construction	73.8	18.4	5.2	2.5
Excluding School Construction	72.0	19.7	5.6	2.7

EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AMONG DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Below is the description submitted by this district of how it allocates resources to insure equity and address needs.

The Suffield Board of Education and the administration of the Suffield Public Schools work diligently to review budget requests and to ensure that each school and each program in the district receive an equitable share of financial resources. The district administration works collaboratively with the Board to communicate priorities and to demonstrate alignment with budget priorities and the school-based district improvement plans.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Number of K-12 Students with Disabilities for Whom the District is Financially Responsible	247
Of All K-12 Students for Whom the District is Financially Responsible, the Percent with Disabilities	10.3%

Of All K-12 Students for Whom District is Financially Responsible, Number and Percentage with Disabilities				
Disability	Count	District Percent	DRG Percent	State Percent
Autism	37	1.5	1.2	1.2
Learning Disability	96	4.0	3.9	3.9
Intellectual Disability	9	0.4	0.4	0.4
Emotional Disturbance	8	0.3	0.7	1.0
Speech Impairment	42	1.8	1.8	2.1
Other Health Impairment*	49	2.0	2.2	2.2
Other Disabilities**	6	0.3	0.7	1.0
Total	247	10.3	10.9	11.7

*Includes chronic health problems such as attention deficit disorders and epilepsy

**Includes hearing, visual, and orthopedic impairments, deaf-blindness, multiple disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and developmental delay

Graduation and Dropout Rates of Students with Disabilities for Whom District is Financially Responsible	District	State
% Who Graduated in 2010-11 with a Standard Diploma	92.3	62.4
2010-11 Annual Dropout Rate for Students Aged 14 to 21	N/A	5.1

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Percent of Students with Disabilities Meeting State Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards. These results are for students attending district schools who participated in the standard assessment with or without accommodations for their disabilities. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

- **Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT), Fourth Generation.** The CMT reading, writing and mathematics tests are administered to students in Grades 3 through 8, and the CMT science test to students in Grades 5 and 8.
- **Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT), Third Generation.** The CAPT is administered to Grade 10 students.

State Assessment		Students with Disabilities		All Students	
		District	State	District	State
CMT	Reading	44.7	36.0	85.6	70.4
	Writing	34.7	21.5	82.4	66.3
	Mathematics	38.1	31.8	87.1	68.4
	Science	46.8	23.0	86.0	62.9
CAPT	Reading Across the Disciplines	5.3	14.5	67.8	47.5
	Writing Across the Disciplines	22.7	18.2	79.7	63.0
	Mathematics	9.5	15.4	69.4	49.2
	Science	4.5	13.6	65.4	47.1

For more detailed CMT or CAPT results, go to www.ctreports.com. To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on “No Child Left Behind.”

Participation in State Assessments of Students with Disabilities Attending District Schools

CMT	% Without Accommodations	39.1
	% With Accommodations	60.9
CAPT	% Without Accommodations	23.1
	% With Accommodations	76.9
% Assessed Using Skills Checklist		5.9

Accommodations for a student's disability may be made to allow him or her to participate in testing. Students whose disabilities prevent them from taking the test even with accommodations are assessed by means of a list of skills aligned to the same content and grade level standards as the CMT and CAPT.

Federal law requires that students with disabilities be educated with their non-disabled peers as much as is appropriate. Placement in separate educational facilities tends to reduce the chances of students with disabilities interacting with non-disabled peers, and of receiving the same education.

K-12 Students with Disabilities Placed in Educational Settings Other Than This District's Schools

Placement	Count	Percent
Public Schools in Other Districts	1	0.4
Private Schools or Other Settings	22	8.9

Number and Percentage of K-12 Students with Disabilities for Whom District is Financially Responsible by the Percentage of Time They Spent with Their Non-Disabled Peers

Time Spent with Non-Disabled Peers	Count of Students	Percent of Students		
		District	DRG	State
79.1 to 100 Percent of Time	212	85.8	75.0	72.1
40.1 to 79.0 Percent of Time	15	6.1	17.9	16.3
0.0 to 40.0 Percent of Time	20	8.1	7.1	11.7

SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

The following narrative was submitted by this district.

The Suffield Public Schools are aggressively pursuing excellence in all aspects of the teaching and learning continuum in order to prepare all students for success in a rapidly changing world. The Board of Education and the district's leaders have committed to maintaining an educational program which balances academic rigor with the joy of learning and a positive attitude towards school. The district is revising and implementing units of study aligned with the Common Core State Standards so that all children will leave with the skills of college and career readiness. The district theory of action emphasizes the use of data to drive instructional decision making in all classrooms and includes job embedded professional development as a vehicle for teacher collaboration and continuous improvement. The anchor standards of the CCSS serve as the vision for student learning outcomes and instructional strategies that lead to student independence, increased content knowledge, research, and personalized learning are emphasized. The district has developed vertical teams, a literacy council and a Council for Teaching and learning to build lateral capacity in the district and build upon the knowledge and expertise of teachers to strengthen the strategies for continuous improvement. School and district improvement plans align with district goals and focus on improving learner outcomes for all students, implementing SRBI, and providing challenging and enjoyable learning opportunities PK-12.
