Connecticut State Department of Education

DISTRICT PROFILE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2015–16



Seymour School District

Ms. Christine Syriac, Superintendent • 203-888-4564 • www.seymourschools.org/

District Information

| Grade Range | PK-12 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Number of Schools/Programs | 4 |
| Enrollment | 2,215 |
| Per Pupil Expenditures ¹ | \$14,362 |
| Total Expenditures ¹ | \$34,038,417 |

¹Expenditure data reflect the 2014-15 year.



Community Information

<u>CERC Town Profiles</u> provide summary demographic and economic information for Connecticut's municipalities

Related Reports/Publications

CT Reports (CMT/CAPT)

District and School Performance Reports

Special Education Annual Performance Reports

SAT®, AP®, PSAT® Report by High School (Class of 2016)

(2016® The College Board)

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Notes

Unless otherwise noted, all data are for 2015-16 and include all grades offered by the district.

In most tables, data are displayed only for the three major race/ethnicity categories. For additional race/ethnicity categories, please visit edsight.ct.gov.

State totals are not displayed as they are not comparable to district totals.

Special Education tables reflect only students for whom the district is fiscally responsible.

* When an asterisk is displayed, data have been

suppressed to ensure student confidentiality. N/A is displayed when a category is not applicable for a district or school.

Students

| October 1, 2015 Enrollment | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | District | State | | | |
| | Count | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) | | | |
| Female | 1,094 | 49.4 | 48.3 | | | |
| Male | 1,121 | 50.6 | 51.6 | | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | 0.2 | | | |
| Asian | 69 | 3.1 | 4.9 | | | |
| Black or African American | 82 | 3.7 | 12.8 | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 278 | 12.6 | 23.0 | | | |
| Pacific Islander | * | * | 0.0 | | | |
| Two or More Races | 28 | 1.3 | 2.7 | | | |
| White | 1,752 | 79.1 | 55.9 | | | |
| English Learners | 54 | 2.4 | 6.4 | | | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 654 | 29.5 | 38.0 | | | |
| Students with Disabilities ¹ | 282 | 12.7 | 13.7 | | | |

¹Students in this category are students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) only. This category does not include students with Section 504 Plans.

Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension/Expulsion

| | Chronic | | Suspe | ension/ |
|--|--------------------------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Absenteeism ² | | Expu | ılsion³ |
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 92 | 8.5 | 51 | 4.7 |
| Male | 98 | 8.8 | 106 | 9.3 |
| Black or African American | 9 | 10.3 | 12 | 13.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 51 | 18.2 | 29 | 10.2 |
| White | 123 | 7.1 | 111 | 6.3 |
| English Learners | * | * | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 108 | 17.2 | 84 | 12.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 48 | 17.5 | 41 | 12.9 |
| District | 190 | 8.6 | 157 | 7.0 |
| State | | 9.6 | | 7.0 |

Number of students in 2014-15 qualified as truant under state statute: 11

Number of school-based arrests: Fewer than 6

²A student is chronically absent if he/she misses ten percent or greater of the total number of days enrolled in the school year for any reason. Pre-Kindergarten students are excluded from this calculation.

³The count and percentage of students who receive at least one in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Educators

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)1 Staff

| | FTE |
|--|-------|
| General Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 140.3 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 15.0 |
| Special Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 18.7 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 35.0 |
| Administrators, Coordinators and Department Chairs | |
| District Central Office | 4.0 |
| School Level | 9.0 |
| Library/Media | |
| Specialists (Certified) | 3.0 |
| Support Staff | 1.4 |
| Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers | 7.5 |
| Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists | 15.0 |
| School Nurses | 4.0 |
| Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services/Support | 99.0 |

¹In the full-time equivalent count, staff members working part-time in the school are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in a school contributes 0.50 to the school's staff count.

Educators by Race/Ethnicity

| | | District | State |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| | Count Percent of Total (%) | | Percent of Total (%) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 1 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Asian | 2 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Black or African American | 0 | 0.0 | 3.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 1 | 0.5 | 3.5 |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Two or More Races | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| White | 196 | 98.0 | 91.7 |

Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers²

| | Percent of Total (%) | | |
|--|----------------------|--|--|
| District | 100.0 | | |
| District Poverty Quartile: Middle | | | |
| State High Poverty Quartile Schools 97.6 | | | |
| State Low Poverty Quartile Schools 99.6 | | | |

²Core academic classes taught by teachers who are fully certified to teach in that subject area.

Classroom Teacher Attendance: 2014-15

| | District | State |
|---|----------|-------|
| Average Number of FTE Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 12.0 | 9.4 |

Instruction and Resources

11th and 12th Graders Enrolled in College-and-Career-Readiness Courses during High School³

| | 11th | | 12th | |
|--|-------|----------------|------|----------|
| | Count | Count Rate (%) | | Rate (%) |
| Black or African American | * | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | 8 | * | 14 | * |
| White | 84 | 62.7 | 109 | 75.7 |
| English Learners | 0 | 0.0 | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 30 | 56.6 | 34 | 81.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 9 | * | 12 | 60.0 |
| District | 100 | 60.6 | 130 | 74.3 |
| State | | 61.2 | | 73.9 |

³College-and-Career-Readiness Courses include Advanced Placement®(AP), International Baccalaureate®(IB), Career and Technical Education(CTE), workplace experience and dual enrollment courses.

Students with Disabilities Who Spend 79.1 to 100 Percent of Time with Nondisabled Peers⁴

| | Count | Rate (%) |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|
| Autism | 18 | 50.0 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 9 | * |
| Intellectual Disability | * | * |
| Learning Disability | 120 | 94.5 |
| Other Health Impairment | 27 | 87.1 |
| Other Disabilities | * | * |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 25 | 100.0 |
| District | 208 | 81.6 |
| State | | 68.8 |
| | | |

⁴Ages 6-21

Students with Disabilities by Primary Disability¹

| | Dis | State | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Autism | 37 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 18 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Intellectual Disability | 7 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Learning Disability | 127 | 5.6 | 4.6 |
| Other Health Impairment | 31 | 1.4 | 2.8 |
| Other Disabilities | 14 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 34 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
| All Disabilities | 268 | 11.8 | 13.4 |

¹Grades K-12

Overall Expenditures: 2014-15

| | | Per Pupil | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| | Total (\$) | District (\$) | State (\$) |
| Instructional Staff and Services | 17,736,420 | 7,800 | 9,387 |
| Instructional Supplies and Equipment | 371,996 | 164 | 318 |
| Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services | 927,339 | 408 | 541 |
| Student Support Services | 2,327,539 | 1,024 | 1,048 |
| Administration and Support Services | 4,324,714 | 1,902 | 1,790 |
| Plant Operation and Maintenance | 3,786,444 | 1,665 | 1,608 |
| Transportation | 1,935,525 | 787 | 845 |
| Costs of Students Tuitioned Out | 2,145,886 | N/A | N/A |
| Other | 482,554 | 212 | 194 |
| Total | 34,038,417 | 14,362 | 15,762 |
| Additiona | al Expenditures | | |
| Land, Buildings, and Debt Service | 3,762,142 | 1,654 | 1,524 |

³Expenditures may be supported by local tax revenues, state grants, federal grants, municipal in-kind services, tuition and other sources.

Special Education Expenditures: 2014-15

| | Dist | rict | State |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total (\$) | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) |
| Certified Personnel | 2,762,840 | 37.9 | 35.1 |
| Noncertified Personnel | 785,120 | 10.8 | 14.5 |
| Purchased Services | 273,487 | 3.8 | 5.5 |
| Tuition to Other Schools | 1,797,423 | 24.7 | 21.6 |
| Special Ed. Transportation | 773,132 | 10.6 | 8.3 |
| Other Expenditures | 890,144 | 12.2 | 15.0 |
| Total Expenditures | 7,282,146 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Expenditures by Revenue Source:4 2014-15

| | Percent of Total (%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| | Including Excluding | | | | |
| | School | School | | | |
| | Construction | Construction | | | |
| Local | 67.3 | 64.4 | | | |
| State | 30.2 | 32.9 | | | |
| Federal | 2.4 | 2.7 | | | |
| Tuition & Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | | | |

⁴Revenue 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 Correction).

Performance and Accountability

District Performance Index (DPI)

A District Performance Index (DPI) is the average performance of students in a subject area (i.e., ELA, Mathematics or Science) on the state summative assessments. The DPI ranges from 0-100. A DPI is reported for all students tested in a district and for students in each individual student group. Connecticut's ultimate target for a DPI is 75.

| | English Language Arts(ELA) | | Mat | h | Scien | ce |
|--|----------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| | Count | DPI | Count | DPI | Count | DPI |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Asian | 44 | 74.0 | 44 | 75.3 | 18 | * |
| Black or African American | 49 | 58.1 | 49 | 51.2 | 21 | 50.0 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 143 | 62.3 | 143 | 57.5 | 62 | 52.8 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| Two or More Races | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| White | 938 | 67.9 | 937 | 64.6 | 404 | 58.0 |
| English Learners | 50 | 57.6 | 50 | 57.3 | 16 | * |
| Non-English Learners | 1142 | 67.5 | 1141 | 64.0 | 494 | 57.5 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 349 | 60.2 | 349 | 57.3 | 133 | 49.2 |
| Not Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 843 | 69.9 | 842 | 66.3 | 377 | 59.8 |
| Students with Disabilities | 174 | 48.1 | 174 | 43.7 | 85 | 40.5 |
| Students without Disabilities | 1018 | 70.3 | 1017 | 67.1 | 425 | 60.3 |
| High Needs | 467 | 58.5 | 467 | 55.6 | 187 | 48.1 |
| Non-High Needs | 725 | 72.6 | 724 | 68.9 | 323 | 62.2 |
| District | 1192 | 67.1 | 1191 | 63.7 | 510 | 57.0 |

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP): Percent At or Above Proficient¹

| | NAEP | NAEP 2013 | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| READING | Grade 4 Grade 8 | | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 43% | 43% | 50% |
| National Public | 35% | 33% | 36% |
| MATH | Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 41% | 36% | 32% |
| National Public | 39% | 32% | 25% |

¹NAEP is often called the "Nation's Report Card." It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. This table compares Connecticut's performance to that of national public school students. Performance standards for state assessments and NAEP are set independently. Therefore, one should not expect performance results to be the same across Smarter Balanced and NAEP. Instead, NAEP results are meant to complement other state assessment data. To view student subgroup performance on NAEP, click here.

Physical Fitness Tests: Students Reaching Health Standard²

| | Percent of Students by Grade ³ (%) | | | | All Teste | d Grades |
|----------------------|---|------|------|------|-----------|----------|
| | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | Count | Rate (%) |
| Sit & Reach | 81.6 | 63.1 | 58.7 | 87.3 | 660 | 71.5 |
| Curl Up | 84.4 | 83.8 | 82.6 | 82.0 | 660 | 83.2 |
| Push Up | 83.0 | 62.6 | 71.2 | 84.0 | 660 | 74.4 |
| Mile Run/PACER | 79.6 | 86.6 | 81.0 | 72.7 | 660 | 80.3 |
| All Tests - District | 74.1 | 47.5 | 44.6 | 53.3 | 660 | 53.9 |
| All Tests - State | 50.6 | 49.8 | 50.6 | 51.1 | | 50.5 |

²The Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) is administered to all students in Grades 4, 6, 8 and 10. The health-related fitness scores gathered through the CPFA should be used to educate and motivate children and their families to increase physical activity and develop lifetime fitness habits.

³Only students assessed in all four areas are included in this calculation.

Cohort Graduation: Four-Year¹

| | | 2015-16 | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Cohort Count ² | Rate (%) | Target ³ (%) | Target Achieved | Target³ (%) |
| Black or African American | * | * | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * | | | |
| English Learners | * | * | | | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 56 | 78.6 | 68.3 | Yes | 71.5 |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * | | | |
| District | 148 | 89.2 | 86.7 | Yes | 87.6 |
| State ⁴ | | 87.2 | | | |

¹The four-year cohort graduation rate represents the percentage of first-time 9th graders who earn a standard high school diploma within four years. Statewide, district and school results for cohorts of 2010 through 2014 are available online.

11th and 12th Graders Meeting Benchmark on at Least One College Readiness Exam⁵

| | Participation ⁶ | Meeting B | enchmark |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 97.0 | 67 | 40.1 |
| Male | 97.1 | 55 | 31.8 |
| Black or African American | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | 97.1 | * | * |
| White | 96.8 | 104 | 37.4 |
| English Learners | * | 0 | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 97.9 | 21 | 22.1 |
| Students with Disabilities | * | 0 | * |
| District | 97.1 | 122 | 35.9 |
| State | 95.6 | | 40.7 |

⁵College readiness exams and benchmark scores are as follows:

- SAT® meets benchmark score on SAT, Revised SAT or Connecticut School Day SAT
- ACT® meets benchmark score on 3 of 4 exams (benchmark score varies by subject)
- AP® 3 or higher on any one AP® exam
- IB® 4 or higher on any one IB® exam
- Smarter Balanced Level 3 or higher on both ELA and math

⁶Participation Rate equals the number of test-takers in 11th and 12th grade divided by the number of students enrolled in those grades, as a percent. Sources:

SAT® and AP® statistics derived from data provided by the College Board.

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ACT® statistics derived from data provided by ACT, Inc.

Copyright © 2016 ACT, Inc. www.act.org

IB® statistics derived from data provided by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

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College Entrance and Persistence

| | Class of 2015 | Class of 2014 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | Entrance ⁷ | Persistence ⁸ |
| | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Female | 82.1 | 94.5 |
| Male | 67.1 | 85.0 |
| Black or African American | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * |
| White | 76.6 | 91.4 |
| English Learners | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 55.6 | 76.2 |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * |
| District | 73.3 | 90.5 |
| State | 71.9 | 88.3 |

⁷College entrance refers to the percent of high school graduates from the year who enrolled in college any time during the first year after high school.

Source: National Student Clearinghouse

²Cohort count includes all students in the cohort as of the end of the 2014-15 school year.

³Targets are calculated when there are at least 20 students in a cohort in the base year (i.e., 2010-11).

⁴Targets are not displayed at the state level.

⁸College persistence refers to the percent of students who enrolled in college the first year after high school and returned for a second year (Freshman to Sophomore persistence).

Next Generation Accountability Results

These statistics are the results from Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System for districts and schools. This system is a broad set of 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a school is preparing its students for success in college, careers and life. It moves beyond test scores and graduation rates and instead provides a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance and incorporates student growth over time.

| Indicator | | Index/Rate | Target | Points | Max | % Points | State Average |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|------|----------|---------------|
| ELA Performance Index | All Students | 67.1 | 75 | 44.7 | 50 | 89.5 | 67.7 |
| LLA FEHOIHIance muex | High Needs Students | 58.5 | 75 | 39.0 | 50 | 78.0 | 56.7 |
| | All Students | 63.7 | 75 | 42.5 | 50 | 84.9 | 61.4 |
| Math Performance Index | High Needs Students | 55.6 | 75 | 37.0 | 50 | 74.1 | 49.9 |
| Science Performance Index | All Students | 57.0 | 75 | 38.0 | 50 | 76.0 | 57.5 |
| Science Performance muex | High Needs Students | 48.1 | 75 | 32.1 | 50 | 64.2 | 47.0 |
| ELA Academic Growth | All Students | 57.5% | 100% | 57.5 | 100 | 57.5 | 63.8% |
| ELA ACAGEMIC Growth | High Needs Students | 53.8% | 100% | 53.8 | 100 | 53.8 | 58.3% |
| Math Academic Growth | All Students | 70.3% | 100% | 70.3 | 100 | 70.3 | 65.0% |
| Watti Academic Growth | High Needs Students | 64.5% | 100% | 64.5 | 100 | 64.5 | 57.4% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | All Students | 8.6% | <=5% | 42.7 | 50 | 85.5 | 9.6% |
| Cilionic Absenteeisin | High Needs Students | 16.1% | <=5% | 27.8 | 50 | 55.7 | 15.6% |
| Droparation for CCB | % Taking Courses | 67.6% | 75% | 45.1 | 50 | 90.2 | 67.6% |
| Preparation for CCR | % Passing Exams | 35.9% | 75% | 23.9 | 50 | 47.8 | 40.7% |
| On-track to High School Gra | duation | 94.7% | 94% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 85.1% |
| 4-year Graduation All Stude | nts (2015 Cohort) | 89.2% | 94% | 94.9 | 100 | 94.9 | 87.2% |
| 6-year Graduation - High Needs Students (2013 Cohort) | | 75.7% | 94% | 80.5 | 100 | 80.5 | 78.6% |
| Postsecondary Entrance (Class of 2015) | | 73.3% | 75% | 97.8 | 100 | 97.8 | 71.9% |
| Physical Fitness (estimated p | part rate) and (fitness rate) | 97.6% 53.9% | 75% | 36.0 | 50 | 71.9 | 89.2% 50.5% |
| Arts Access | | 59.1% | 60% | 49.2 | 50 | 98.4 | 47.5% |
| Accountability Index | | | | 1027.3 | 1350 | 76.1 | |

| Gap Indicators | Non-High Needs Rate ¹ | High Needs Rate | Size of Gap | State Gap Mean + 1 Stdev² | Is Gap an Outlier?2 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Achievement Gap Size Outlier? | | | | | N |
| ELA Performance Index Gap | 72.6 | 58.5 | 14.1 | 16.5 | |
| Math Performance Index Gap | 68.9 | 55.6 | 13.4 | 18.9 | |
| Science Performance Index Gap | 62.2 | 48.1 | 14.0 | 17.2 | |
| Graduation Rate Gap | 94.0% | 75.7% | 18.3% | 15.3% | Υ |

¹ If the Non-High Needs Rate exceeds the ultimate target (75 for Performance Index and 94% for graduation rate), the ultimate target is used for gap calculations.

 $^{^{2}}$ If the size of the gap exceeds the state mean gap plus one standard deviation, the gap is an outlier.

| Sul | oject/Subgroup | Participation Rate (%) ³ | |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ELA | All Students | 98.2 | ³ Minimum |
| ELA | High Needs Students | 97.4 | participation standard is 95%. |
| Math | All Students | 98.1 | |
| IVIALII | High Needs Students | 97.4 | |
| Science | All Students | 99.2 | |
| Science | High Needs Students | 99.0 | |

Connecticut's State Identified Measurable Goal for Children with Disabilities (SIMR)

Increase the reading performance of all 3rd grade students with disabilities statewide, as measured by Connecticut's English Language Arts (ELA) Performance Index.

Grade 3 ELA Performance Index for Students with Disabilities:

District: 52.6 State: 51.4

Supporting Resources

Two-page FAQ

Detailed Presentation

Using Accountability Results to Guide Improvement: comprehensive documentation and supports

Narratives

School District Improvement Plans and Parental Outreach Activities

The Seymour School District has aligned its English Language Arts and mathematics curriculum grades K-12 with the Core State Standards. Seymour is committed to Reader's Workshop as the model of instructional delivery for Language Arts in grades K-8. Through the guidance of the district Data Team the staff and students across our district address weaknesses in the area of Reading through our School Improvement Plans designed specifically for each building by the Building Data Teams. The Data Teams examine data and set school improvement goals. Teachers use data to drive instruction and improve student achievement. Teachers meet bi-monthly in grades K-5 as grade level teams, and 2 times per week in grades 6-12 by content area to collaboratively discuss, plan, and analyze student work. Teachers use Scientifically Researched Based Interventions to provide support to students identified through the use of universal screenings and by the Progress Monitoring Team (PMT). Seymour Middle School's schedule is designed to include a Language Arts block as well as the opportunity to take Spanish during 7th and 8th grade. Seymour High School currently offers 13 AP courses including Environmental Science, Comparative Government and Chemistry. The Seymour School District is a completely wireless district which allows teachers and students to easily and quickly access technology resources to enhance student learning. The Seymour School District is always seeking ways to improve internal and external communication in order to unite parents, educators, students and the community in working collaboratively to achieve our mission and goals for learning. In order to facilitate communication with our parent population as well as the community, Seymour has a District webpage and additionally each teacher is required to have a webpage. School employees are also able to communicate with parents through the email system. Each teacher has access to a phone in the classroom to communicate more readily with parents. Parents are able to access information on their child's academic progress in grades 6-12 via Edline. School-wide positive behavior support has been implemented at each level. In the elementary schools Responsive Classroom has been implemented. At the middle and high school level, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) have been implemented to provide students with multiple levels of support to encourage social, behavioral and academic support. We believe family involvement is a critical factor in the academic and personal growth of children. Our efforts to promote a home-school partnership include parent conferences, a commitment to increasing the number of parent volunteers, and we are proud to have both senior citizens and military veterans as reading mentors who visit our schools weekly to work with our primary grade students. Administration sends weekly updates home to all parents via eblasts. Our teachers and administration invite parents to evening sessions to share strategies for assisting their children with reading, mathematics, and other topics. Many of the evenings are interactive including both parents and students engaging in activities and learning facilitated by teachers and paraprofessionals. Poetry nights, math nights, literacy nights are a few examples of planned events.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation

Seymour is a district that values, respects and welcomes diversity. This learning organization works attentively in its efforts to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation. The Seymour School District has an excellent sense of priorities and high expectations for all students. Our mission is to educate and to encourage all students, to enhance their experiences, to prepare them with 21st century skills and to meet the challenges of a global society. The district promotes the importance of individuality and originality in the learning process in a safe school climate. Seymour Public Schools continues to educate our students in cultural, ethnic and religious diversity through our curriculum; school-based clubs and inter-district sister school grants as well as countless enrichment activities throughout the school year. The four schools in the district have school based activities, clubs and events to benefit people in need.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools

The Seymour Public School budgeting process begins in November of each school year. The Central Office administration begins by collaborating with building level administration to assess their needs as related to their school improvement plans as well as the District Strategic Plan. Input from the parent community is obtained whereby budget direction and various initiatives are discussed prior to formal budget preparation. Throughout December and January, Central Office develops a Superintendent's recommended budget that is then presented to the Board of Education at a budget workshop. The conversations take place in the context of long term goals and initiatives, with an emphasis on the linkage to the district goals and the impact on student learning. Information is presented to various stakeholders at formal meetings during the annual town budget process. Once the formal budget is completed and filed at the town hall, the entire budget is posted on the district website for the public to view and provide feedback. The budget process concludes with the passage of the education budget referendum.