



Community High School District 128 Annual Report 2009



“Excellence is Our Standard”



A Message from the Superintendent and Board of Education President



Prentiss Lea
Superintendent



Pat Groody
Board President

Dear District 128 Residents:

It is impossible to read the local newspapers or watch local television news without learning more about the dire financial situation in Illinois. It is clear that our state is in a severe financial crisis. The current financial crisis raises several critical questions regarding public education, including: 1) how will the financial crisis impact state public schools, 2) how will the financial crisis impact D128, and 3) how will we plan for and make decisions necessary to maintain our financial stability?

How will the financial crisis impact public schools across the state?

State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Chris Koch recently spoke to a group of Chicago area administrators at Vernon Hills High School. He made it clear that the reductions that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will be required to make in the 2010-2011 state education budget will have a dramatic impact on local districts. Such reductions will occur in general state aid and in reimbursement for categoricals such as title grants, transportation, and special education. As state aid and reimbursements for categoricals are reduced, local districts are forced to supplant the lost dollars and/or reduce their budgets to accommodate the loss of revenue.

How will the financial crisis impact D128?

Basic funding for Illinois public schools is provided through local property taxes with additional state funding provided to local districts through general state aid and reimbursement for categoricals. Due to our diverse local property tax base, D128 is considered a "property rich" district and, as a result, receives less general state aid than many districts across the state. However, D128 does receive approximately \$1 million a year in general state aid. In addition, D128 receives its legislated share of state reimbursement for all categoricals, which is substantial. The loss of approximately \$1 million in general state aid AND an unknown reduction in categorical funding will have an impact on our budget.

How will D128 plan for and adapt to the financial crisis?

First, it is important that we thank you for historically providing us with the financial resources necessary to support and sustain two high schools that consistently rank among the finest high schools in the nation in serving and meeting the needs of all students. Outstanding schools do not happen by chance, even in communities such as ours that highly value education. Outstanding schools happen as a result of a sustained community-wide vision for excellence, and the development of school-community partnerships to make that vision a reality. A consistent, adequate financial base to continue our work toward that vision is critical to making the vision a reality and sustaining it moving forward.

Second, prior to the current financial crisis, and as a primary objective of our third strategic plan goal, to Maintain the Financial Stability of the District, we began a comprehensive long-range financial planning process that involved the Board, District administration, building administration and staff. Our long-range planning process has resulted in a sophisticated, but easy to understand, rolling 10-year financial plan that: 1) identifies all revenue, reserves, and expenses; 2) is adjusted to reflect current and future economic data, including revenue, reserves, and expenses; 3) is utilized to make informed short- and long-term financial decisions; and 4) is shared with our stakeholders through the Board's committee and regular meetings and our School Finance 101 classes. We have adjusted our short and long range financial projections using the most conservative estimates possible, including lower property tax receipts, no general state aid and reduced state categorical aid. These conservative financial projections will frame our budgeting process in the months to come.

cont. on p. 2



*Libertyville High School
Vernon Hills High School*



Mission Statement

The mission of Community High School District 128 is to provide quality educational opportunities for all students, including developing within each student:

- ◆ Respectful, responsible and ethical attitudes and behaviors
- ◆ An awareness and appreciation of the diverse cultures in our learning community and our world
- ◆ An ability to think critically and solve problems
- ◆ An ability to communicate effectively
- ◆ An ability to appreciate and demonstrate creativity
- ◆ A life-long desire to pursue knowledge

“Excellence is our Standard”

Superintendent and President Message *cont. from p. 1*

Finally, as a result of our community vision for excellence in D128, the financial resources that you have provided to us to execute that vision, and our continued long-range planning to effectively and efficiently manage those resources, D128 is in a position to weather the current financial crisis without dramatic staff or program reductions at this time. While that is good news in light of the horrific staff and program cuts that other districts have announced, we will continue to be vigilant in modeling and monitoring our financial future and making the short- and long-term decisions necessary to meet the needs of our students now and into the future.

Thank you once again for your continued support of D128! Your partnership with us continues to sustain and build upon our shared vision of excellence. Future generations of D128 students will be the beneficiaries of our partnership to ensure that all D128 students have access to the world class education that current and past generations have enjoyed. As we face the difficult time ahead, we thank you for your continued support of Libertyville and Vernon Hills High Schools. We remain committed to having two world class high school while also remaining prudent stewards of your tax dollars.

Frank S. Rea

Patrick Crowley

Strategic Plan Update: Charting the Course for Continued Excellence

The District 128 Strategic Planning process continues to move ahead, as Board members, administrators, supervisors, teachers, support staff, parents, and students work collaboratively to further define the three high priority strategic planning initiatives and the supporting strategies and activities that are driving those initiatives. The three Strategic Planning Initiatives, and related strategies and activities for each, are:

Student Achievement **Ensure that all students meet and/or exceed district academic standards**

Primary Actions:

- Collect, analyze and interpret data to improve student performance
- Develop and implement a research based district improvement process (The Big Four)
 - Curriculum--well articulated standards and target
 - Instruction -- incorporate highly effective research strategies
 - Assessment--variety of methods to clarify learner status
 - Feedback--student and teacher progress toward learning targets
- Develop reading, writing and critical thinking initiatives across the curriculum
- Review and revise student placement



Over the past year, District 128 has established a relationship with well-known educational researcher and author Dr. Jane Pollock. Dr. Pollock is pictured here working with District 128 teachers on developing a research based district improvement process focusing on curriculum, instruction assessment and feedback, or, The Big Four.

Technology **Integrate technologies that enhance teaching, learning and communicating**

Primary Actions

- Implement technologies that support collection, interpretation and analysis of student performance data
- Implement technologies that enhance instructional planning, delivery and assessment
- Implement technologies that enhance parent, student, teacher and district communication

Finance **Maintain the financial stability of the district**

Primary Actions

- Establish and support a D128 Education Foundation
- Develop a long-range financial plan (including a long range capital plan)
- Establish and maintain parent and community partnerships for targeted capital projects
- Educate community on D128 finances

cont. on p. 12

District 128 Student Achievement Data at a Glance



District 128 Student Achievement Data At A Glance – Fall 2009

Enrollment Statistics – Fall Housing Numbers September 2009				
Official Fall Housing Enrollment	LHS	VHHS	DISTRICT	
Official 2009-2010 School Year(6 th Day)	2036	1356	3392	
Official 2008-2009 School Year	2049	1382	3431	
Official 2007-2008 School Year	2077	1345	3422	
Average Class Size – 2008-2009	20.0	19.2	19.7	
Attendance Rate – 2008-2009	95.1%	95.5%	95.3%	
Operating Expenditure Per Student 2007-2008	\$16,564.74	\$16,564.74	\$16,564.74	
Number of Graduates - Class of 2009	498	351	849	
Students Bound for College - Class of 2009	466 (93.6%)	318 (90.6%)	784 (92.3%)	
Graduation Rate – Class of 2009	94.7%	96.4%	95.5%	
Average National Composite ACT Score - Class of 2009 – 21.1				
No. of Seniors Taking Exam	463	323	786	
Average Composite ACT Score	24.9	24.7	24.8	
Mathematics	25.0	25.5	25.2	
English	25.0	24.9	25.0	
Reading	24.9	24.0	24.5	
Science Reasoning	24.1	24.0	24.0	
Average SAT Score - Class of 2009				
	State of Illinois	LHS	VHHS	District
Total Test Takers	8,857	54	31	85
Critical Reading Mean Score	588	611	655	627
Mathematics Mean Score	604	633	697	656
Writing Mean Score *	583	616	658	631
Advanced Placement – Test Taken in May of 2009				
Students Taking Exams	402	300	702	
Exams Written	775	697	1472	
Honor Grades Earned (Scored 3, 4 or 5)	702(90.5%)	624(89.5%)	1326(90.1%)	
Participation in Athletic Programs – 2008-2009				
Fall	682	438	1120	
Winter	421	311	732	
Spring	712	440	1152	
Data Related to Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Status for 2009				
PSAE – Prairie State Achievement Examination				
% Meeting or Exceeding State Standards (Tested April 2009) Current Seniors - Class of 2010				
Reading	86.9%	75.1%	82.4%	
Mathematics	86.9%	81.1%	84.7%	
Science Reasoning	86.5%	72.6%	81.2%	
Writing	86.4%	79.3%	83.7%	
Average Composite ACT Spring 2009 (Juniors) - Class of 2010				
No. of Juniors Taking Exam	499	312	811	
Average Composite ACT Score	24.6	23.7	24.3	
English	24.2	23.4	23.9	
Mathematics	24.5	24.3	24.4	
Reading	25.2	23.7	24.6	
Science Reasoning	23.8	22.7	23.4	
Writing**	7.7	7.6	7.67	
Did the school/district make AYP?	YES	YES	YES	
National Merit Recognition – PSAT – Class of 2010				
National Merit Semi-Finalists	2	11	13	
National Merit Commended Students	21	6	27	

*Test given beginning 2006

**Writing Test given beginning 2007; Writing Test SubScore Range 2-12

District 128 Foundation for Learning

The District 128 Foundation for Learning continues its mission to enhance and enrich the instructional program in District 128. Through its Innovation Grant Awards, teachers who propose projects that actively engage students and impact student learning receive grants up to a maximum of \$1,000. In November 2009, the Foundation awarded \$7,750 in grants. To date, the Foundation has awarded nearly \$20,000 in Innovation Grants to District 128 teachers.

In November 2009, grants were awarded for the following projects:

Latino Leadership Team
\$1000 awarded to **Tiffany Heinlein, Jodi Cusick-Acosta, Rebeca Garcia** (VHHS)

Social Thinking Curriculum
\$1000 awarded to **Andrea Townsend** (LHS/VHHS)

Culture, Identity, and Knowledge: Ernesto Mejia Student Lunch & Learn and Latino Parent/Student Evening Program
\$1000 awarded to **Wendy Meister-Louria, Tiffany Heinlein** (VHHS)

Orchestra Collaborative Composition Project
\$1000 awarded to **Jason Heath** (LHS)

Good Eats: The Chemistry of Food
\$1000 awarded to **Sherri Rukes** (LHS)

Introduction to Material Science Unit
\$1000 awarded to **Sherri Rukes** (LHS)

Elluminate in the Classroom: Using Synchronous and Asynchronous Virtual Meeting Space as Supplementary Education
\$1000 awarded to **Meredith Tarczynski, David Widzisz** (LHS)

Safe Navigation: G.P.S. Units (Go Places Safely)
\$750 awarded to **Bryan Wilcox** (LHS)



District 128 Foundation for Learning Trustees gathered with grant recipients at the Innovation Grants Presentation held Nov. 25, 2009, at the District 128 Administration Center. Pictured are: **Doug Schmidt, Dennis Manzardo, Jason Heath, Judy Nuernberger, Tiffany Heinlein, Meredith Tarczynski, Jodi Cusick-Acosta, Rebeca Garcia, Andrea Townsend, Bryan Wilcox, Sherri Rukes, Wendy Meister-Louria, Jeff Marnoch, David Widzisz, Judy Sugarman, Mike Starovich, Anne Landgraf, Prentiss Lea and Bill Skeens.**



On Oct. 28, 2009, the Vernon Hills High School Field House transformed into a "trade show" atmosphere to host a career expo. VHHS students had the opportunity to talk with representatives from many different companies, entrepreneurs, non-profits, post-high school training schools, colleges and the military. The business community was most generous, donating their time to have engaging career conversations with students. The Expo was sponsored by the Foundation, through funds generously donated by Ace Hardware Libertyville.

For additional information about the Foundation, visit www.d128foundation.org.

2009 Adequate Yearly Progress

34-049-1280-16-0000

CHSD 128

11

2009 ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) INFORMATION

Is this district making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in Reading?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in Mathematics?	Yes

Has this district been identified for District Improvement according to the AYP specifications of the federal No Child Left Behind Act?	No
2009-10 Federal Improvement Status	
2009-10 State Improvement Status	

	Percent Tested on State Tests				Percent Meeting/Exceeding Standards *						Other Indicators			
	Reading		Mathematics		Reading			Mathematics			Attendance Rate		Graduation Rate	
	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP
State AYP Minimum Target	95.0		95.0		70.0			70.0			90.0		78.0	
All	99.8	Yes	99.8	Yes	82.4		Yes	84.7		Yes			95.4	Yes
White	99.8	Yes	99.8	Yes	84.1		Yes	85.6		Yes				
Black														
Hispanic	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	83.0		Yes	85.2		Yes				
Asian/Pacific Islander	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	87.0		Yes	94.8		Yes				
Native American														
Multiracial /Ethnic														
LEP														
Students with Disabilities	98.1	Yes	98.1	Yes	50.5	48.6	Yes	45.3	45.6	Yes			91.9	
Economically Disadvantaged	98.0	Yes	98.0	Yes										

Four Conditions Are Required For Making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP):

1. At least 95% tested in reading and mathematics for every student group. If the current year participation rate is less than 95%, this condition may be met if the average of the current and preceding year rates is at least 95%, or if the average of the current and two preceding years is at least 95%. Only actual participation rates are printed. If the participation rate printed is less than 95% and yet this school makes AYP, it means that the 95% condition was met by averaging.
2. At least 70.0% meeting/exceeding standards in reading and mathematics for every group. For any group with less than 70.0% meeting/exceeding standards, a 95% confidence interval was applied. Subgroups may meet this condition through Safe Harbor provisions.***
3. For schools not making AYP solely because the IEP group fails to have 70.0% meeting/exceeding standards, 14% may be added to this variable in accordance with the federal 2% flexibility provision.
4. At least 90% attendance rate for non-high schools and at least 78% graduation rate for high schools.

* Includes only students enrolled as of 05/01/2008.

** Safe Harbor Targets of 70.0% or above are not printed.

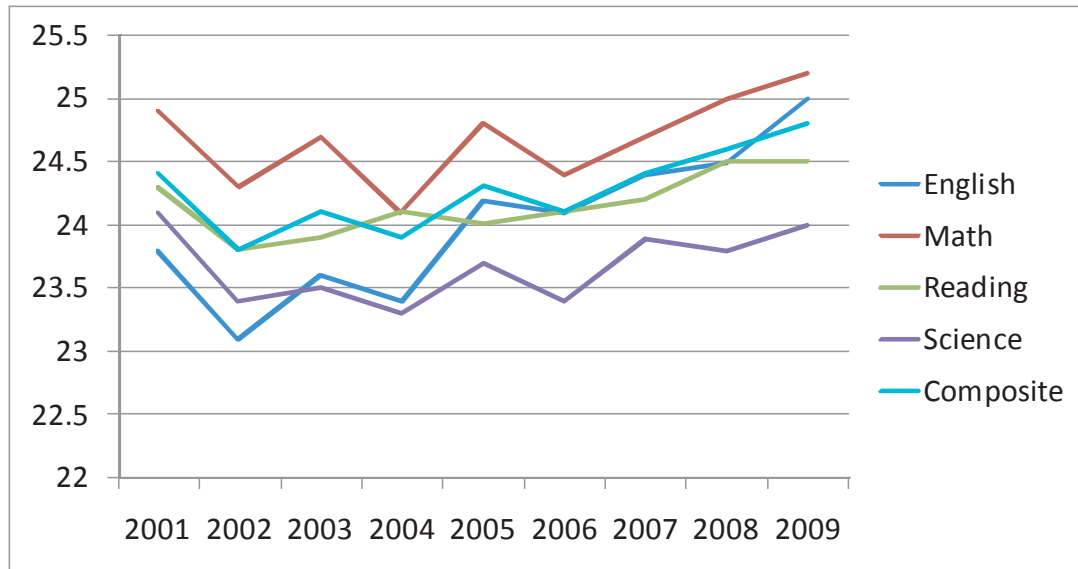
***Subgroups with fewer than 45 students are not reported. Safe Harbor only applies to subgroups of 45 or more. In order for Safe Harbor to apply, a subgroup must decrease by 10% the percentage of scores that did not meet standards from the previous year plus meet the other indicators (attendance rate for non-high schools and graduation rate for high schools) for the subgroup. For subgroups that do not meet their Safe Harbor Targets, a 75% confidence interval is applied. Safe Harbor allows schools an alternate method to meet subgroup minimum targets on achievement.

Nine-Year Summary of CHSD 128 Student Achievement Data

ACT

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
English	23.8	23.1	23.6	23.4	24.2	24.1	24.4	24.5	25
Math	24.9	24.3	24.7	24.1	24.8	24.4	24.7	25	25.2
Reading	24.3	23.8	23.9	24.1	24	24.1	24.2	24.5	24.5
Science	24.1	23.4	23.5	23.3	23.7	23.4	23.9	23.8	24
Composite	24.4	23.8	24.1	23.9	24.3	24.1	24.4	24.6	24.8

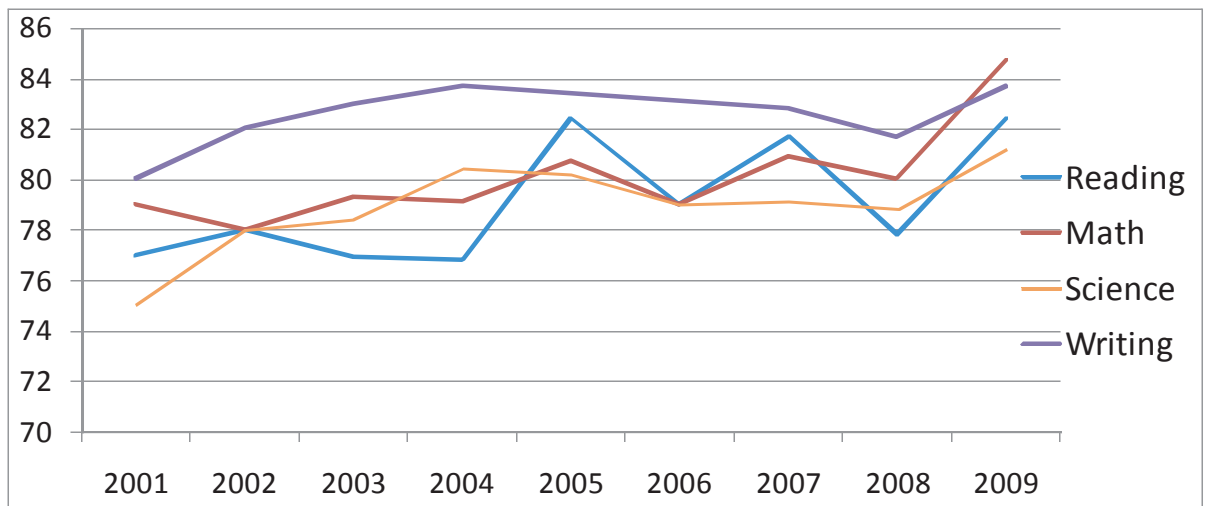
Average Composite ACT Score



PSAE

PSAE - PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS MEETING OR EXCEEDING STATE STANDARDS									
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Reading	77	78	76.9	76.8	82.4	79	81.7	77.8	82.4
Math	79	78	79.3	79.1	80.7	79	80.9	80	84.7
Science	75	78	78.4	80.4	80.2	79	79.1	78.8	81.2
Writing	80	82	83	83.7	*	*	82.8	81.7	83.7

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards



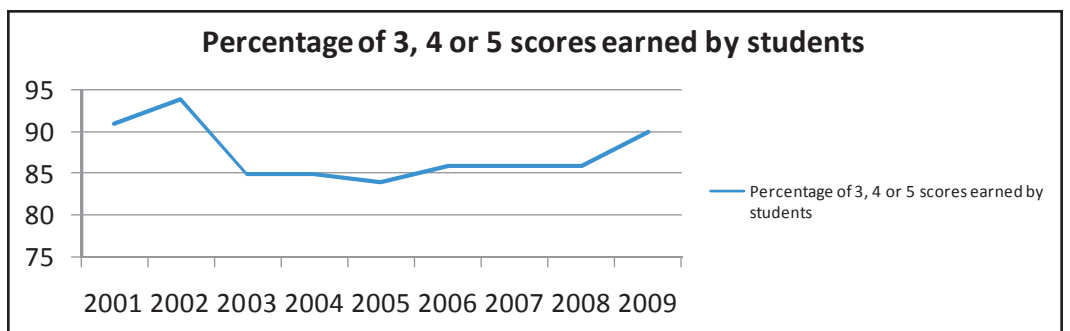
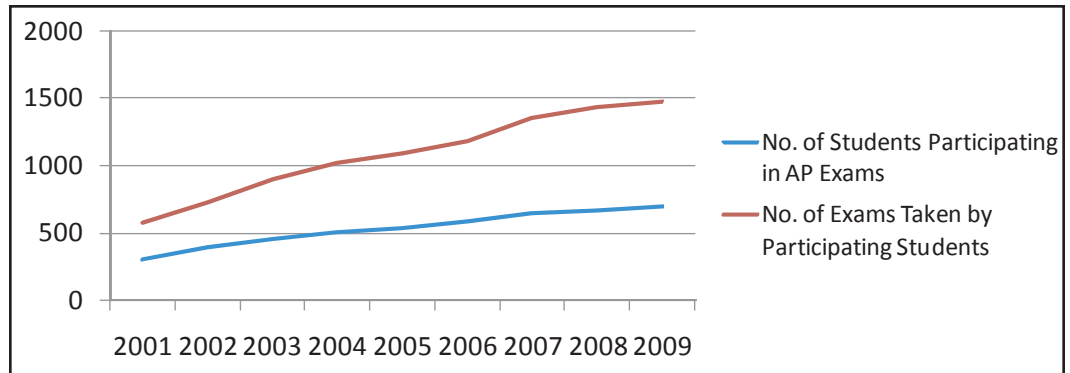
*Writing test not given in this year

Advanced Placement Exams

AP EXAMS		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
No. of Students Participating in AP Exams		299	392	453	502	537	590	647	676	702
No. of Exams Taken by Participating Students		577	727	896	1018	1088	1184	1356	1430	1472
Percentage of 3, 4 or 5 scores earned by students		91	94	85	85	84	86	86	86	90.1

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. Since its inception in 1955, the program has provided motivated high school students with the rare opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases also earn college credit while they are still in high school. AP course guidelines are developed and published by the College Board.

District 128 currently offers 22 different AP courses and students elect to take 23 different AP exams each year. Over the past five years, the District has doubled the enrollment in these courses and students continue to excel in the courses. More students are being challenged in high school and subsequently are better prepared for the opportunities after high school, whether it is college or other endeavors.



Advanced Placement Courses Currently Offered In District 128

AP Portfolio Art
 AP American Literature
 AP English Language and Composition
 AP English Literature and Composition
 AP French
 AP Latin
 AP Latin-Vergil
 AP Spanish
 AP German
 AP Calculus AB
 AP Calculus BC
 AP Statistics
 AP Computer Science
 AP Biology

AP Chemistry
 AP Physics B
 AP Physics C
 AP European History
 AP Government
 AP United States History
 AP Music Theory
 AP Macroeconomics
 Psychology*

*Students taking these courses are offered the opportunity to take AP Exams

District Financial Review and Forecast

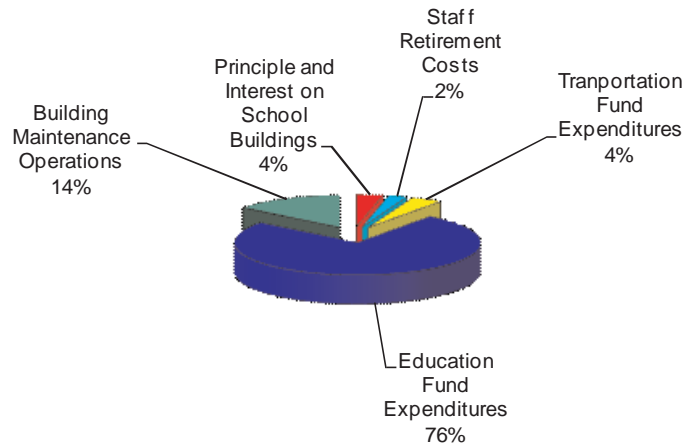
The independent audit firm of Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd., has released Community High School District 128's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and ending on June 30, 2009 to the Board of Education. The CAFR, comprised of more than 100 pages, contains audited financial statements, notes to the financial statements and additional schedules to give the reader an in-depth account of the District's finances. The CAFR has been prepared according to generally accepted accounting principles for government agencies and has an unqualified opinion from the auditors. The District converted its audit reporting method in Fiscal Year 03 to be in compliance with GASB 34.

Excellence in financial reporting

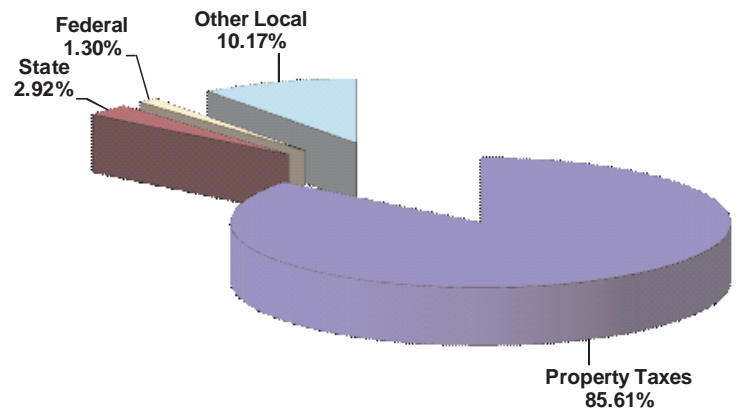
District 128 is consistently recognized for excellent financial reporting. For 15 consecutive years, the District has received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials. Additionally, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to District 128 for its comprehensive annual financial report for 14 consecutive years. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

In addition to being recognized for excellence in financial reporting, District 128's financial profile is classified in the highest category of recognition by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The ISBE has used its School District Financial Profile System for the last seven years. The profile is based on five financial indicators and, based on a sum of its five scores, a district can be placed in one of four categories. Districts placing in the highest category, Financial Recognition, have the highest level of financial strength and require little or no review or involvement by ISBE. District 128 has placed in this category for all five years. This year, District 128's profile scored 4.0 on a 4.0 scale.

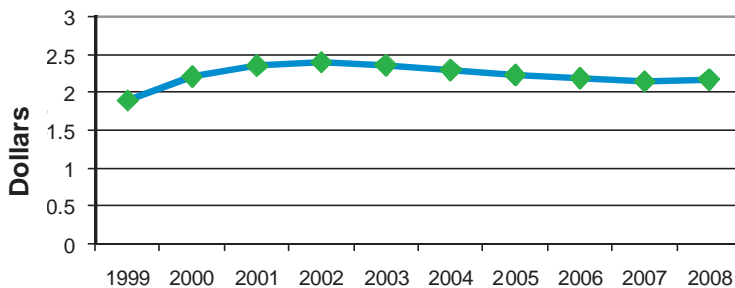
FY 09 Operating Costs Per Student = \$18,055



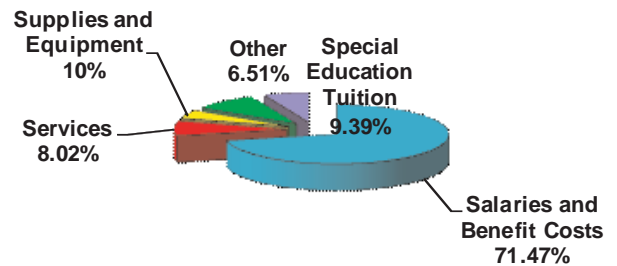
FY 09 Sources of Revenue Education Fund



Tax Rate Levy History



FY 09 Expenditures Education Fund



A look at the FY 09 financial picture

The fiscal year closed with the District in a positive cash position in all general funds. Total revenues for the District for FY 09 were \$83.2 million. Expenditures for the year were \$75.4 million. The FY 08 CAFR shows local sources, which include property taxes, user fees and interest, accounting for 91.52% of total revenues. State revenues accounted for 8.06%, whereas federal sources accounted for .42% of total revenues. On the expenditure side, the FY 09 CAFR shows that expenditures for instruction and pupil support services accounted for 75.7% of total expenditures, maintenance and operation of buildings, and facility additions were 15.3% of the expenditures, and transportation of students was 3.3% of total expenditures. Administration and business operations of the District accounted for 5.7% of total expenditures.

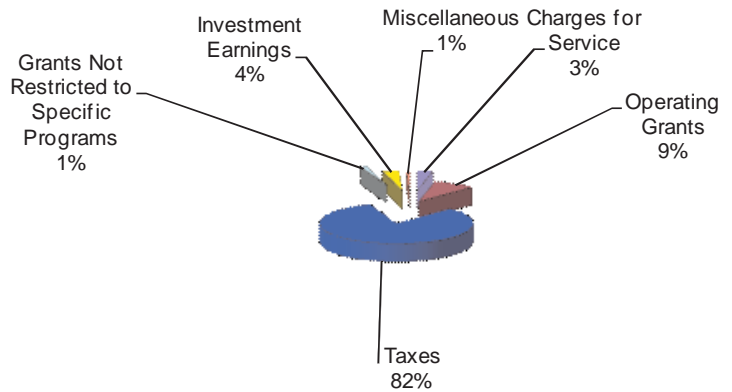
District 128 continues to allocate significant resources towards improving and expanding facilities. Improvements to playing fields and construction of a ticket booth and storage facility were completed at LHS in the 2008-09 school year. Additionally, the District continued work on Life Safety projects, roof replacement, and parking lot at LHS. The District funded these projects through existing operating dollars and community donations.

What does the District's financial future hold?

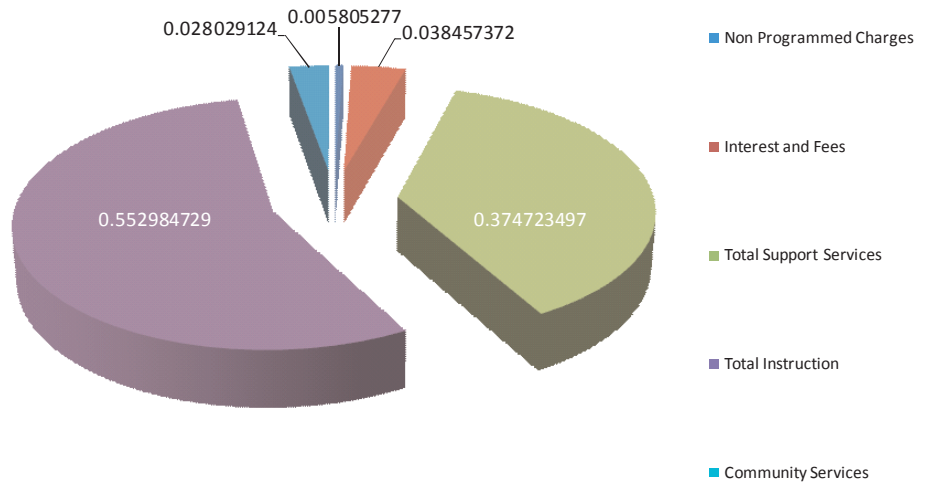
Even with a healthy fund balance, financial projections for District 128 indicate that the District's financial position will move downward as a result of tax caps, which limit the property tax increase to the annual CPI, and declining state and federal funding. State and federal mandates continue to increase, however, limited funding is provided for these new mandates. In 2001, District 128 taxpayers approved a rate increase in the Education Fund. The community group studying the District's financial condition expected the rate adjustment to allow the District to remain in the black for eight to 10 years.

Each year, as required by the Illinois School Code, the Board of Education holds a public hearing prior to adopting the annual budget. This year, the public hearing was held on August 10, 2009. The adopted budget shows revenues of \$77.0 million and expenditures of \$74.7 million for operating expenses. An additional \$4.0 million has been allocated for construction projects throughout the District. The FY 09 budget is available for review on the District web site (www.d128.org) and at the District Office located at 50 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 101, Vernon Hills, IL.

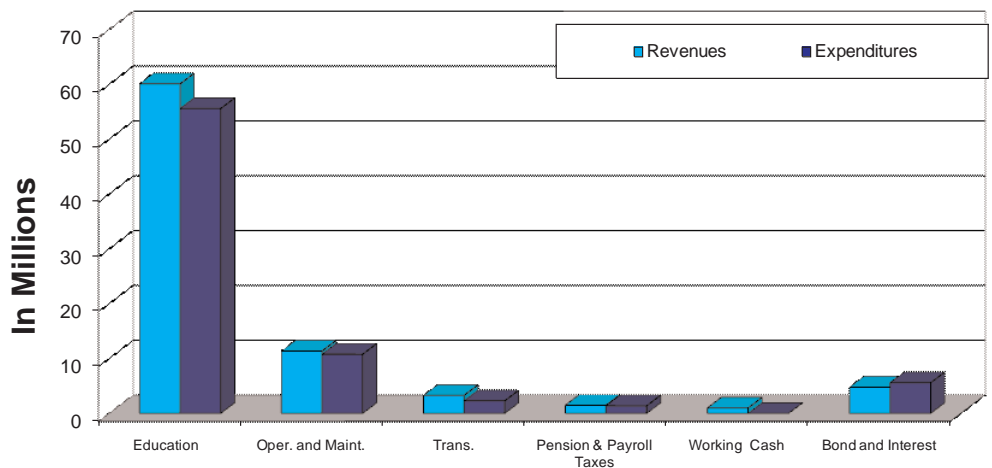
Composition of Revenues FY 09



Composition of Expenses FY 09



FY 09 Revenues and Expenditures



2008-09 District Achievements

The District is proud of the achievements, awards and recognition bestowed upon its staff, as well as those received by the District that are based on student achievement -- a direct reflection on the District's excellent staff. The following is a sample of the honors received by individuals, teams and the District during the 2008-09 school year:

Academic Honors

Illinois State Scholars - 216
Honor Graduates - 101
National Merit Scholars-
Commended - 27
National Merit Scholars-
Semifinalists-13
National Achievement Scholar
Program Finalist-1
3 Students named to the *Daily Herald* 2008-09 Academic Team

District Honors and Recognition

Both Libertyville High School and Vernon Hills High School received silver medal rankings in the 2009 *U.S. News & World Report's* second annual list of America's Best High Schools.

District 128 was named a recipient of the SchoolSearch 2009 Bright Red Apple Award for educational excellence. District 128 is one of only 81 Illinois school districts (out of 868) to receive this honor. The award is based on five key factors: academic performance, pupil/teacher ratio, expenditure per pupil, educational level of teachers, and average teacher salary. District 128 is strong in all five areas.

District 128 received a certificate of financial recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education. The award was based on the District's 2008 School Year Financial Date. This places the District in the Financial Recognition range, the highest category attainable for the School District Financial Profile.

LHS received the 2008 ACT Red Quill Award, which honors educational professionals who recognize the need for diligent analysis of data and a willingness to develop and enhance curriculum and instruction based on learning community needs.

Extra-curricular Honors

Four LHS students were named

quarterfinalists on the qualifying exams for the 2009 United States Physics Team. Their performance places them in the top 10% of students taking the exam nationwide.

The LHS Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) Team was ranked number one in the nation in its division for the second year in a row in the Junior Engineering Technical Society's TEAMS competition.

The VHHS Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) Team took first place in the 2009 state competition.

The VHHS Math Team captured the 2009 state championship.

The LHS student newspaper, *Drops of Ink*, placed in the top10 for the Best In Show competition at the National Scholastic Press Association conference.

The Scratching Post, the VHHS newspaper, earned a Gold Award for Excellence in Journalism from the Northern Illinois School Press Association. This is the highest award that NISPA confers, and the second year in a row that the paper earned that distinction.

Six VHHS students received awards for their entries in the annual statewide writing competition sponsored by the Illinois Association of Teachers of English (IATE). The competition recognizes the best student writers in Illinois.

Fine Arts Honors

The VHHS Music Department received its third consecutive IHSA State Championship in 2009.

LHS AND VHHS Wind Ensembles were named top bands in their respective classes at the 2009 Superstate Competition.

The VHHS Fall Play, "The Love of Three Oranges," was selected to be performed at the All-State Theatre Festival.

The LHS Jazz Band was named the Best Band of the Day among all Class AA Schools at the 2009 North Shore Jazz Festival.

A recording by the VHHS Symphony Orchestra was broadcast on WFMT Classical Radio 98.7FM.

Ten students were named Best of Show winners in the Great Frame Up's "LISA Show"

Students received one best of show, two first-place, and 10 honorable mention awards in the 9th Annual 4x5 Art Show

20 students received blue ribbon best of show honors at the North Suburban Conference Art Festival.

A painting by a VHHS student was one of three finalists in the 10th congressional art competition and will be exhibited in the Washington, D.C. office of Congressman Mark Kirk.

The LHS Concert Choir and Bel Canto received a Division I rating at the IHSA Music Contest.

Fifteen students were selected for the IMEA All-State Conference.

Five students were chosen for the Illinois Theater Festival All-State Musical pit orchestra, six were chosen for the crew, and two was chosen for the cast.

A dance choreographed and performed by LHS Orchesis students was selected to the Illinois High School Dance Festival.

cont. on p. 12

District Achievements *cont. from p. 11*

Athletic Honors	24 All-North Suburban Conference Honorable Mentions	North Suburban Conference Champions - Boys' Volleyball
283 students were named to the North Suburban Conference All-Academic team	195 students participated in 3 sports this year	NSC Lake Division Champions: Girls Cross Country, Wrestling
64 NSC All-Conference selections,	14 senior athletes participated in 3 sports all 4 years	NSC Conference Champions: Girls Cross Country, Wrestling
20 All-Area Selection, 17 All-Sectional Selection, 31 All-Sectional Medalists	6 District 128 Special Olympic Athletes qualified for the State Winter Games and 9 qualified for the State Summer Games	IHSA Regional Champions: Girls' Cross Country, Wrestling
121 students were named NSC Medalists	NSC Prairie Division Champions-Girls' Soccer	IHSA Sectional Champions: Girls' Swimming
57 students were Individual State Qualifiers	IHSA Regional Champions-Softball, Baseball, Girls' Soccer	IHSA State Championship, 15th Place: Cheerleading
4 All-State Medalists	IHSA Sectional Champions-Softball, Boys' Bowling	TDI State Championship, 6th Place Hip-Hop: Poms
1 All- State Individual Champion	First Place at TDI State - Pom Poms	TDI State Championship, 2nd Place Lyrical Dance: Poms
2 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Academic All-State Selection		

Strategic Plan Update *cont. from p. 3*

Among the success indicators for the District 128 Strategic Plan goals are the following:

District and Schools

USNews & World Report America's Best High Schools--3rd Year in a Row

Chicago Tribune and *Daily Herald* top Illinois High Schools--multiple years

School Search Bright Red Apple Award for Educational Excellence -- Multiple Years

ISBE Financial Recognition -- Highest category possible for school district financial profile--

Multiple Years

Individual Schools

LHS Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering -- First in National, Second Consecutive Year

VHHS Worldwide Youth in Science and engineering--First in State

VHHS Math Team--First in State

VHHS Fine Arts--First in State

LHS and VHHS Wind Ensembles--First in Class, Superstate Competition

ACT--Six perfect scores

National Merit Semi-Finalists--13

Illinois State Scholars (Top 1-% of Illinois Seniors) -- 206

Making a Difference Locally and Globally

Libertyville and Vernon Hills High Schools have a tradition of giving back to the community. In the 2008-09 school year, District 128 students and staff helped others locally and globally through the following service projects and activities:

- 1-Interact and First Class at both schools organized the annual Adopt-a-Family project. Nearly 200 families in need enjoyed dinner, gifts and entertainment at these events.
- 2-Food drives held at both schools helped those in our own area by helping stock the shelves of local food pantries.
- 3-Students and staff raised money to support many charities, including Chicago Bears Care, Susan G. Komen, Action Against Hunger, and others.
- 4-Students gave of their time to help those in our own community, including visiting residents of Winchester House, mentoring elementary students and
- 5-Students raised money to support the building of a school in Uganda.



5



1



2



4



3

District 128 Staff



Many staff members make District 128 schools their home for the duration of their careers. The District receives more than 1,000 applications annually from individuals wishing to be a part of the District 128 tradition of excellence. The District said good-bye to four certified staff members and one support staff member as they retired in the spring of 2009. Pictured above at the District's end-of-the-year celebration are 2009 retirees: (front row) **Ed Lamz, Barb Plohr, Judy Hays, Betty Williams, Donalee Frounfelter, Janet Weber, Kay Saxvik**, (back row) **Mickie Kirschbaum, Chris Trzyna, Sandy Cottrell, Harry Carlson, Bob Fox, Paul Blasko, Chuck Beach**. Not pictured: **Marti Gorun and Sharon Lloyd**.

Staff Statistics

Percentage of highly qualified teachers (those certified in their subject area)	100%
Average years of teaching experience	13.04 years
Number of certified teachers	223
Number of certified employees not working in the classroom*	72
Number of educational support personnel	152
Number of contracted employees:	
Aramark (custodial/maintenance)	47
Chartwells (food service)	20
SEDOL (Special Education District of Lake County)	25
District 128 also contracts transportation services through Lakeside.	

Degrees Held by District 128 Teachers	
BA	52
MA	167
Ph.D.	4

Years of Teaching in District 128	
1-5 Years	79
6-10 Years	60
11 - 15 Years	39
16 - 20 Years	9
21 - 25 Years	14
26+ Years	22

** This number includes psychologists, counselors, social workers, nurses, librarians, deans, administrators, and department supervisors who may teach part time but are not included in the number of certified teachers.*



50 N. Lakeview Parkway, Suite 101
Vernon Hills, IL 60048

Community High School District 128 Board of Education



Pat Groody
President



Judy Sugarman
Vice President



Marsha Oberrieder
Secretary



Stephen Arthur



Alex Delli Paoli Jr.



Karin Lundstedt



Ellen Mauer

Community High School District 128 Administration

Prentiss Lea, Superintendent

Al Fleming, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent

Yasmine Dada, CPA, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Deborah Larson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Ellen D. Cwick, Ed.D., Principal, Vernon Hills High School

Marina Scott, Ed.D., Principal, Libertyville High School

Buzz Perry, Ph.D., Director of Community Education/Grant Management

Mary Todoric, Director of Communications

Mick Torres, Director of Educational Technology

Kathleen Witt, Director of Special Services