

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

This is the final section of the school report card in which your school and district provide information below on areas of success and areas for planned improvement based on your school's improvement plan.

(For report cards disseminated electronically, this information may be provided in a separate document due to differences in the software used. If you are unable to locate this document, please contact your local school or district office.)

The No Child Left Behind Act requires public schools across the country to test its students for achievement. This act sets minimum requirements that schools must achieve and raises those requirements each year through the year 2014.

At Prophetstown High School, 11th graders are given the PSAE (Prairie State Achievement Exam), which includes the ACT. The Illinois School Report Card shows that our students are meeting or exceeding these targets. Individual scores for ACT for this year's seniors are not in at this time, however, we have the overall scores of the PSAE.

On the PSAE administered in April of 2006, our school met or exceeded the minimum target percentages set for AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress). NCLB requires testing a minimum of 95 % of 11th graders. We tested 100 % of our students. NCLB also requires that a minimum of 47 % of our tested students meets or exceeds standards in math and reading. I'm pleased to report that **65.3 %** of our students met or exceeded the standard in reading (last year it was **54.5%--a significant gain**) and **44.9%** in math. While this appears to be a large drop, in reality, this is only a difference of one point more incorrect overall between last year and this year. This law also sets a minimum percentage for graduation rate at 67%; our rate is 75.3% for the 2005-2006 school year. PHS met or exceeded all the standards set by NCLB and therefore met AYP. This also means that our school is not labeled a school in need of improvement.

Looking at PSAE overall scores, **48.1 %** of our students met or exceeded the standard, compared with the State average of 54.3%. This is a decline for PHS over 2004-2005 of 6.2 % while the State decreased by .7%.

As NCLB target percentages will be raised each year, it is clear that we as a staff must seek out additional ways to meet the educational needs of ALL our students. It is our goal to help the students who are meeting the standards to exceed the standards and the students who are below the standards or on academic warning to meet the standards. The Prophetstown teaching and support staff will continue to strive for excellence in teaching and to provide our students with learning opportunities that will ultimately raise their overall achievement. The PHS teaching staff is dedicated to providing our students with an excellent education. Through professional development and implementation of research-based teaching strategies, it is our goal to reach all students and to meet or exceed standards each year.

During the 2005-2006 school year, we implemented an on-line tutorial called LearningExpress Advantage, and we revamped how we do test preparation. We also had our first year of Least Restrictive Environment for our students with special education needs, in order to comply with NCLB and IDEIA requirements. A great deal of change occurred in our school in regards to how we deliver instruction. In the reading, we saw great gains. In math we did not; however, research shows that when such changes are made it is not uncommon for the scores to go down in the beginning. We are confident that this is the reason for our dip in math scores.

Rochelle Streeter, Principal
Prophetstown High School