

**WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE
2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ACHIEVEMENT ISSUES

The Wappingers Central School District includes two Junior High Schools which have been labeled as SRAP schools in ELA. The challenge is to raise our level of achievement so that all schools in the district are high achieving schools. One school came within one point from making AYP and the other within three points from making AYP last year. We believe the improvement over past years' performance in these schools is because of several initiatives implemented last year. This year, we would like to target feeder schools and high schools as well as the junior high schools in order to better meet the standards in junior high and to remediate students who have already passed through the junior high schools. The program we have designed for next year is multi-faceted, with a strong AIS program, an early intervention program, use of literacy coaches, differentiated instruction, seamless integration of Special Education with Regular Education, use of technology, and staff development in intervention strategies, technology integration, the writing process, character education, critical thinking and reading/writing across all content areas. These topics were identified through a professional development survey of all staff and some were recommended for improvement through our Tri-States evaluation in ELA in April 2007.

CONTRACT PLAN

The Wappingers Central School District will be targeting ELA across all content areas. To make sure this is a coordinated and focused effort in all 15 schools in the Wappingers District, we included in the 2007-08 budget a K-8 ELA Coordinator who will be working with principals and staff as well as three elementary literacy coaches – two of which are new in this year's budget. These two new literacy coaches will mentor teachers, provide in-service workshops, and provide model lessons to improve instruction in elementary classrooms. The long-term plan is to continue adding literacy coaches to the staff over the next few years until there is one literacy coach per building.

The new AIS program will add additional staff so that we will be able to provide more types of intervention support, such as push-in programs, one-to-one tutoring, small group instruction, guidance services, and project-based programs. A new reporting system will use technology to keep parents informed and involved in the process. We will be adding a Project-Based Academic Intervention Program at the 8th grade level at one of the junior high schools, replicating and expanding the success of a similar program at the other

school. To do so, we will be hiring two additional math teachers and two additional ELA teachers. These teachers will provide an extra period of instruction to 8th grade students alternating math and ELA classes using ELA-based projects.

Summer curriculum work will focus on developing a K-12 ELA Scope and Sequence. Teacher representatives K-12 will be working alongside administration to align curriculum with NYS standards and provide a continuum whereby teachers throughout the district know when ELA skills will be introduced, continued, and mastered. Kindergarten teachers, AIS teachers, and Special Ed teachers will have the opportunity to participate in a week-long Summer Institute that we have created to review and analyze best practices in instructing kindergarten students by reviewing research pertaining to ELA. At the Summer Institute we will be aligning subjects, creating benchmarks, thematic units and timelines. Various screening processes and assessments will be reviewed and standards for advancement discussed.

Although we have been able to secure grant funding for a *Literacy in the Content Areas Institute* for teachers in grades 5-12, this training will continue for additional participants and be enhanced throughout the school year through staff development funded through Contract for Excellence monies. The Institute will include training sessions from the University of Kansas, designed specifically for middle and high school students. The program is designed to improve reading comprehension in the content areas and has been developed specifically for middle and high school students who struggle with reading and writing and content area demands in general education classes.

Technology funding will focus on three key areas. First, the district will install SmartBoards in 21 classrooms and provide teacher training in effective methods of using interactive whiteboards in ELA instruction. Second, the district will install a general purpose computer lab at one junior high school to enable teachers to bring students in for project-based and other technology enhanced lessons. Third, the district will install mobile computer labs at two elementary schools and provide training that focuses on effective use of those labs in project-based learning across all content areas.

Through all of the above efforts we expect that the percentage of students scoring a level 3 and 4 throughout the district on the New York State assessments will increase and that all buildings will meet AYP.

FISCAL OVERVIEW

DISTRICT SUMMARY

School District	WAPPINGERS CSD	06-07 Foundation Aid	\$27,533,595
District Code	132101060000	07-08 Foundation Aid	\$31,548,672
Street	167 Myers Corners Road	\$ Increase	\$4,015,077
City/State/Zip	Wappingers Falls, NY 12590-3296	% Increase	14.58%
Phone	8452985000	Final Contract Amount	\$3,189,070
Superintendent	Richard A. Powell	Maximum Allowable Experimental Program	\$478,360
Submission Status	Certified and Submitted	Maximum Allowable Continuation of Existing Programs	\$797,267

ALLOCATION BY SCHOOL

<u>School Name</u>	<u>2007-08 Projected Allocation</u>	<u>Performance Level</u>
Brinckerhoff Elementary School	\$89,336	In Good Standing
Fishkill Elementary School	\$129,179	In Good Standing
Fishkill Plains Elementary School	\$112,922	In Good Standing
Gayhead School	\$232,868	In Good Standing
James S. Evans Elementary School	\$201,792	In Good Standing
John Jay Senior High School	\$299,637	In Good Standing
Kinry Road Elementary School	\$98,830	In Good Standing
Myers Corners School	\$251,660	In Good Standing
Oak Grove Elementary School	\$71,330	In Good Standing
Orchard View Alternative High School	\$509,731	In Good Standing
Roy C Ketcham Senior High School	\$135,951	In Good Standing
Sheafe Road Elementary School	\$168,292	In Good Standing
Vassar Road Elementary School	\$151,795	In Good Standing
Van Wyck Junior High School	\$446,063	Requiring Academic Progress – Year 2
Wappingers Falls Junior High School	\$289,684	Requiring Academic Progress – Year 2
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Wappingers CSD Final Contract Amount	\$3,189,070	