

Local CSAP details, progress analyzed

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

A thorough review of 2010 Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) results from Holyoke students was presented by district assessment coordinator Kimberlee Bennett at the Sept. 7 school board meeting.

Analysis of the data gives valuable teacher input for weak and strong areas for each individual student, as well as classes as a whole.

In her extensive presentation, Bennett highlighted historical performance on CSAP testing, proficient and advanced scores, growth, achievement gaps and local targets and progress.

She explained once targeted goals are reached, they're reassessed and changed.

Growth progress in each of the testing areas has just begun in Colorado, and gives a different picture of how students are moving forward.

Instead of simply stating where the student ranks in terms of other students taking the same test in the whole state, growth details take a look at how much the student progressed from the previous year.

That growth may be significant and gives the student and teacher a positive focus, even if the student isn't quite at the proficient or advanced level.

CSAP tests administered in 2010 did not change from the previous year. They started with third grade reading tests in February. March tests included reading, writing and math for grades 4-10; writing and math for third graders; and science for grades 5, 8 and 10.

In a Standard of Excellence summary at the close of her presentation, Bennett emphasized three points.

Five of 27 tests met their proficient and advanced target. These included 10th grade reading,

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third writing, fourth math, eighth math and 10th math.

One of 21 tests (10th grade math) met its growth target.

Nineteen of 48 are closer to targets than last year at this same time.

Bennett cited the positive input and support from teachers when they received the CSAP data at the Sept. 3 first-Friday staff meeting.

There is work to be done in the district, and the data will assist in directing the educational process.

Bennett will report on NWEA and ACT testing data at an upcoming meeting of the Board of Education.

Other business

In other business Sept. 7, the Re-1J board:

—heard from Andrea Kammer, the newly-elected president of Holyoke Education Association. She reported on HEA's recent application for a grant to go towards the school mill levy election campaign.

—accepted the resignation of second grade teacher Susan Renquist, effective at the end of the 2010-11 school year.

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—approved application for Type V substitute teaching authorization for Mallory Smith and Sonia Lemmon.

—accepted non-resident student Bailey Hamaker and approved the out-of-district transportation request to pick her up in the Haxtun School District.

—held a one-hour executive session at the close of the meeting for an informal conference with the superintendent to start his evaluation process.