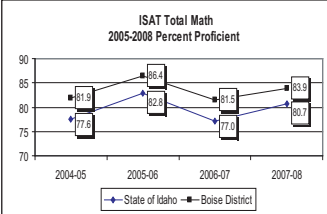
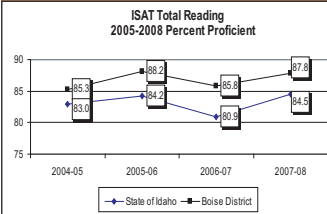


BSD STUDENTS TOP STATE AVERAGES ON ISAT

FACT: Students in the Boise School District (BSD) continue to outperform Idaho as a whole on the State's standardized achievement tests in every subject. These scores are significant when factoring in the changing student demographic of District enrollment. Currently, 42% of the BSD student population consists of low income students. In addition, the percentage of limited-English speaking students has doubled since 2001; presently 8% of the District student population is defined as Limited English Proficient. Still, BSD students achieve higher on the Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT) than the State as a whole.

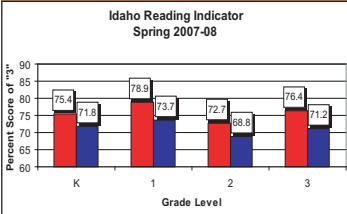
The ISAT consists of three multiple-choice tests in the core subject areas of reading, math, and language usage. In 2008, ISAT exams were administered to 98% of all Idaho school children. Results for BSD students compare to the State of Idaho as follows:



BSD STUDENTS READING ON AND ABOVE GRADE LEVEL

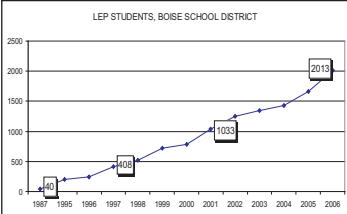
FACT: The percentage of District students reading at grade level on the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) continues to surpass State results at each of the grades in which it is administered (K, 1, 2, and 3).

The IRI is a state test that assesses younger student's fluency, comprehension, and other skills deemed important to reading success. Again, BSD records scores above the State of Idaho's IRI results as follows:



BOISE ENROLLMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

FACT: Without question, the Boise School District stands as one of the most diverse school systems in Idaho. In the last 20 years, the number of Limited English Proficient students enrolled in the District has jumped from 40 students in 1987 to just over 2000 students today. LEP is a federal program that qualifies students for services defined as "limited" in their English ability.



BSD NATIONAL MERIT TOTALS BEST IN IDAHO

FACT: Boise School District continues as the state leader in the number of students qualifying for the National Merit Scholarship Program. This is a national academic competition for recognition and scholarships. BSD typically recognize 15-20 National Merit Finalists, 20 Semi-finalists and dozens of commended students annually.

Annually, a total of some 55,000 high school students are honored in the National Merit Program and the National Achievement Program; more than 10,500 of the most outstanding participants receive scholarships worth a total of \$50 million for college undergraduate study.

Since its inception in 1955, NMSC has recognized 3 million students and provided over 355,000 scholarships worth more than \$1.3 billion. The honors awarded by NMSC to exceptionally able students are viewed as definitive marks of excellence. Recipients of Merit Scholarship awards, Achievement Scholarship awards, and corporate-sponsored Special Scholarships have increased the nation's respect for intellectual accomplishments and have contributed significantly to its talent pool of future leaders.



How's Boise Doing?

A Community Update on Achievement in the Boise School District

Look closely at your Boise School District and you will see great things happening! From highly successful students, great teachers/staff members, and increasing state and national honors, Boise School District continues Educating Today for a Better Tomorrow!

The proof of our success can be found in this annual achievement report. It also can be found in each and every classroom in every school. At BSD, we believe all students can learn and we provide the tools, support, and connections students need to reach their full potential. We also:

- believe a rigorous instructional program tied to high standards builds student knowledge and strengthens critical thinking skills, while fair assessments monitor progress and truly measure what students know and can do.
- support parents and community members who are actively engaged in supporting their schools in constructive ways.
- believe student achievement is the measure of school success. Resources and teaching strategies are tied to this goal at our public schools.
- support safe, sound facilities and believe student enrichment activities create an environment where students can learn and grow.
- believe students and staff have access to timely, relevant resources including up-to-date textbooks and current technology.
- believe principals are empowered to lead and make informed decisions that promote learning at the school level.

You won't find this way of educating in other parts of the country. Across America, public schools receive constant criticism from all sides – by the press, special interest groups, community organizations, politicians, and the courts. Urban schools in our country continue to be faced with difficult questions about how to teach all students, basic, advanced and real world skills and how to gain community support necessary to achieve these goals.

Fortunately, this is not the case in Boise School District. Despite growing urbanization, major increases in low income and non-English speaking students, and increasing state and national requirements, BSD continues to produce remarkable success in student academic growth and achievement.

An example of changes impacting the District, the percentage of limited-English speaking students continues to grow substantially, as does the percentage of low-income students, up from 27% in 1990 to 42% today. Despite ongoing changes, BSD continues to rank at or near the top of Idaho's 114 school districts in virtually every state and national measure.

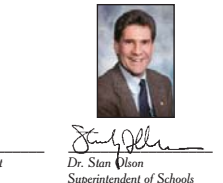
To appreciate and understand student achievement in BSD you need to know the complete facts. This report contains many. It's a continuing story of hard-earned success both in terms of academic growth and achievement, all in the face of changing and challenging student demographics.

Idaho's highest number of students qualifying for the National Merit Scholarship Program, Newsweek magazine's selection of Boise, Borah and Timberline high schools as national standouts, and BSD's continued dominance of the State's Advanced Placement (AP) program are but just a few examples of how Boise compares in performance to other school districts, and how Boise taxpayer support continues to be more than justified.

We realize there's much work to do. In our efforts to reach success with every student, we know there are many challenges ahead and we pledge our commitment to meet each of them. Included in this update are numerous examples of how BSD students compare on major state and national achievement indicators. There's much more to tell.

If you want to learn more about how Boise is doing, please contact us through our Public Affairs Office at 854-4066 or log on to www.boiseschools.org.

Our sincere thanks to our entire community for supporting our efforts to provide an exceptional educational experience for all of our children!



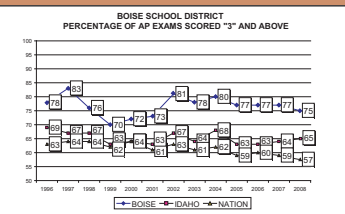
THERE'S MORE TO TELL!

From our state and nationally recognized GATE (Gifted & Talented Education) program, outstanding music offerings, to our innovative Treasure Valley Mathematics & Science Center, and Dennis Technical Education Center, BSD has a program to help every student succeed. We also offer:

- Southwest Idaho's first public Montessori educational program at Liberty Elementary;
- Idaho's first public Harbor Method Elementary School at Owyhee-Harbor Elementary;
- Dual Immersion Language program in Spanish and English at Whittier and Whitney Elementary;
- International School offered at Longfellow and Perce Park elementary schools, which teaches students Spanish starting in kindergarten;
- AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), a program that prepares students for college eligibility and success;
- Special Education services assisting students from preschool to age 21;
- Award-winning college and career planning including Boise National College Fair and Boise Career Fair;
- All-day tuition-based kindergarten program at some schools;
- Extensive Parent Education program and Volunteer program;
- Community Education program offering a variety of affordable classes, led by volunteer instructors, available during evening hours.

BSD A NATIONAL LEADER IN AP RESULTS

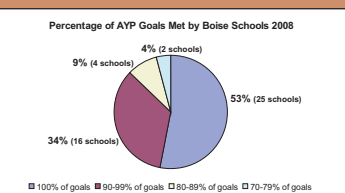
FACT: The District's Advanced Placement (AP) Program not only provides challenging college-level coursework for high school students, it remains the model for the state and nation. In 1980, BSD's program began at Boise High School and nearly 30 years later, the AP program has been expanded to all BSD high schools with 24 AP classes being offered to students. While the BSD student population is approximately 9% of the state total, in 2008, District students took 33% of the AP exams administered in the state. In addition, the number of exams taken by BSD students has increased dramatically; from just under 500 in 1995 to 2156 tests taken in 2008. As AP exam participation has grown, average proficiency rates have dropped slightly, but continue to outpace state and national proficiency rates as shown by the chart below:



BSD A LEADER IN PERFORMANCE

FACT: No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the federal education law enacted in 2002, requires that schools meet participation and proficiency benchmarks in 41 or more different areas called subgroups. These subgroups include the school's total student population, low income students, six ethnic groups, special education students, and students learning to speak English.

If a school misses the mark in even one subgroup, the whole school is labeled as "needing improvement" by NCLB. In 2008, 23 BSD schools were reported as having missed Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), (in 2007, 33 schools were given that designation). However, it is important to note, this one number simply does not tell the complete story. These 23 BSD schools did meet the overwhelming majority of AYP goals, anywhere from 79% to 98%.



BSD SCORES SURPASS IDAHO, U.S. ON ACT/SAT EXAMS

FACT: Boise School District students again come out on top when comparing their scores to students on both the state and national levels for the American College Test (ACT) and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

Since a smaller percentage of students opt to take the ACT in Boise (53%) versus the state (58%), some difference in average scores might be expected. However, the difference between Boise and the State scores remains impressive: Boise students' composite scores were 22.5, Idaho students earned 21.5, nationally students earned 21.1 (see first chart below).

Additionally, the percentage of BSD senior class students taking the SAT decreased in 2007-2008. Previously, many students opted to take both the ACT and SAT, however it appears many students are now taking just the ACT exam. SAT participation percentages dropped at all four high schools in BSD; these numbers correlate with a drop in participation on the state and national levels, as well.

With changes in the number of students taking the exam, scores typically increase or decrease, because a larger or smaller percentage of the highest achieving District students take the test. Predictably, SAT performance has followed the decline in participation. 2008 BSD average scores in Critical Reading and Math are up slightly from 2006-07 as shown by the charts below.

