

NECAP Results

How local school districts fared on the New England Common Assessment program tests.

Students in grades 3 through 8 took the test in fall 2007, and their performance was measured in mathematics and reading. Grades 5 through 8 were also tested on writing.

In the columns below, the numbers represent the percentage of students in local districts that were proficient or better in the subject area on the NECAP test.

District	Reading	Math	Writing
Chesterfield	81	66	53
Conval	73	62	32
Fall Mountain	63	53	41
Harrisville	80	68	N/A
Hinsdale	59	47	51
Jaffrey-Rindge	71	58	44
Keene	77	65	49
Marlborough	65	59	24
Marlow	63	42	N/A
Monadnock	68	57	43
Nelson	71	78	40
Stoddard	60	44	N/A
Surry Charter	78	50	N/A
Westmoreland	82	74	66
Winchester	50	48	30
State	73	66	48

*N/A indicates schools or districts that had too few students in grade 5 or 8 to release writing scores publicly.

Source of data: Keene Sentinel 1/30/08

From the Keene Sentinel Article 1/30/08- “For three years in a row, local school districts have performed poorly on the writing portion of the state test. But so has the rest of the state- with students making no significant progress year to year.”

MSTA Comment: Monadnock School District Budget has now doubled in 10 years, (1998-2008). We are over \$33 million dollars a year with this year’s proposed budget increase (includes all warrants). That is a tenth of a billion dollars every three years. We have added teachers and support staff, even as the student population has gone down 433 students in the same 10 years with another 70 from Surry out of the district next year. Increased spending, new facilities, accreditation, etc. are not the problem here. Other districts in the State of NH that are fully accredited, have the best facilities (many districts have facilities even older than ours) and pay the teachers well, have the same dismal test results. It is interesting that Surry Charter School, with a relatively small amount of State funding, has test scores comparable to other schools with much greater resources.

The problem here is systemic. It cannot be solved with new buildings, better pay, smaller classes or accreditation. These test results show a failure of the school board and school administrative unit to lead effectively. If this were a private school or private enterprise, they would have been fired long ago. The school board leadership and the school administration continually try to find someone or something to blame their failure on. This is called scapegoating. Taxpayers must hold the school board leadership, the administration and the teaching staff accountable for these abysmal test scores. Ultimately, the buck stops at the desk of the superintendent and the board chair.