



## *Learning, Growing and Performing at All-Time Highs* **Mooreville Schools Focus on Every Child, Every Day**

At Mooreville Schools, the mission is to create a student-friendly, learning-centered culture and continuously find ways to make better happen for students. Today's release of school grades by the Indiana Department of Education is one measure that signals state assessment accomplishments to celebrate and performance data to utilize for the remainder of the current academic year.

"We have completed eleven weeks of this academic year and we welcome the positive information several of our schools received as well as the specific data regarding areas to improve based on last school year's state assessment," said Superintendent Brad Lindsay. "Our purpose is to positively influence the heart, mind, behavior and learning habits of each student, each day, preparing our students to make significant lifelong contributions to our global society."

Lindsay outlined the district's educational systems approach to enhanced teaching and engaged student learning:

We will increasingly improve our systems approach by:

1. Finding ways to inspire our students to be actively engaged in their own learning
2. Ensuring the curriculum we are delivering has content that is relevant, engaging, and academically rigorous to our students
3. Increasingly incorporating teaching practices that promote relevancy to our students' futures!

We commit to creating a culture that inspires best performance by:

1. Establishing a supportive and inviting learning environment for our students
2. Encouraging the hearts of all of our student learners
3. Inviting and engaging all learners
4. Providing ongoing performance feedback to fuel our students' performance
5. Recognizing and complimenting best attitude, effort and achievement of our students!

We will focus on continuous improvement and the district-wide implementation of best instructional and innovative practices and programs through the analysis of these four questions:

1. What educational programs and practices need to be improved?
2. What educational programs and practices need to be eliminated?
3. What worthwhile and successful educational programs and practices need to be copied?
4. What innovative programs and practices need to be considered that others are not doing?

Our Next Step Challenge is to become a premier student-friendly school community committed to continuous improvement and innovation by:

1. Incorporating practices that other schools are doing and doing them as well or better;
2. Innovating practices that others are not doing and doing them well; and
3. Implementing practices that others say can't be done, but we as a school community accomplish through collective intelligence and creative synergy!

Grades released today for each school are based upon last spring's ISTEP data. While the IDOE had a grading system in place in 2011, the system was reorganized for 2012. Schools did not receive letter grades in 2010; however, 2010 grades were assigned for today's IDOE release. It was noted in the IDOE press statement that the state has 440 data points for every Indiana student, however, not all data points are used to determine school grades.

"Mooresville Schools have experienced significant growth on the state assessment from Spring 2008 to Spring 2012. Our students have produced our highest performance scores in our history on this high-stakes, state-mandated assessment," said Mooresville Superintendent Brad Lindsay. Based on the Spring of 2011 State Assessment, five Mooresville schools received an "A" IDOE grade while two schools received a "C" and Mooresville received a district grade of "A."

The 2012 grades assigned today by the IDOE are based on the Spring 2012 State Assessment. Mooresville Schools had three schools receiving an "A," two receiving a "B," one school receiving a "C" and one school receiving a "D." The two schools receiving a "C" or "D" each received "A" ratings in both 2011 and 2010, prior to the state's redesign of the grade criteria. Two schools which received "C" grades last year received "A" and "B" grades this year.

Mooresville's ISTEP scores in 2012 are the highest the district has ever seen, including the highest math scores ever with 87 percent of students passing and the second highest English with 83 percent of students passing. Mooresville Schools have now established four consecutive years of all-time student performance highs in the state assessment and continue the trend of improved student achievement.

Based upon the newest IDOE grading scales, Mooresville Schools received the following:

- Mooresville High School – A
- Paul Hadley Middle School – B
- Neil Armstrong Elementary School – B
- Newby Elementary School – D
- North Madison Elementary School – A
- Northwood Elementary School – C\*
- Waverly Elementary School – A

\*Mooresville received information from the IDOE on Tuesday stating that the school's appeal was correct and the school's accurate grade should be a C. The school had originally had its grade deducted for a group of students not taking their IMAST tests (a version of the ISTEP for students enrolled in special education) and also charged for the same group of students scoring too low on IMAST. Unfortunately, the media release from the IDOE showed Northwood was not updated and had been assigned a grade of D. An IDOE representative has apologized for the error and has committed to correcting the score to a letter grade of C.