

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2008-09

Elementary School K-6 Edition

**Rock Hill School
Wallingford School District**ALLYSON C. GLASS, Principal
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This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c) using data and narratives provided by the school district or testing services. Profiles and additional education data, including longitudinal data, are available on the internet at www.sde.ct.gov.

TYPE OF SCHOOL

School Type: Traditional/Regular Education

School Grade Range: K- 5

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Enrollment on October 1, 2008: 351

5-Year Enrollment Change: 6.4%

INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL NEED

Need Indicator	Number in School	Percent in School	Elementary Schools	
			% in District	% in State
Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	26	7.4	9.6	34.2
K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English	4	1.1	6.1	7.0
Students with Disabilities	29	8.3	11.2	10.9
Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented	23	6.6	4.4	2.3
Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	49	87.5	86.4	79.7
Students in Grades Above School's Entry Grade Who Attended Same School the Previous Year	261	88.5	89.6	84.8

PROGRAM AND INSTRUCTION

Instructional Time	School	State Elementary Schools
Total Days per Year	185	181
Total Hours per Year	1,012	988

State law requires that at least 180 days of school be offered to students in kindergarten through Grade 12, 900 hours of instruction to Grades 1-12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students.

Type of Kindergarten: This school offers half-day kindergarten.

Average Class Size	School	District	State
Kindergarten	18.7	17.0	18.3
Grade 2	20.0	18.6	19.3
Grade 5	19.0	20.4	21.0

Required Hours of Instruction Per Year in Selected Subject Areas		
Grade 5	School	State
Art ¹	28	30
Computer Education ¹	28	17
English Language Arts ¹	428	427
Family and Consumer Science	0	1
Health	30	22
Library Media Skills ¹	6	18
Mathematics ¹	215	198
Music	28	32
Physical Education	28	40
Science ¹	123	98
Social Studies ¹	98	91
Technology Education	0	2
World Languages	0	12

World Language

Formal instruction (at least 1 hour per week) in a world language is not offered in this school.

Lunch

An average of 25 minutes is provided for lunch during full school days.

¹Interdisciplinary approach

Special Programs	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
% of K-12 Students in Bilingual Education Program or Receiving English as a Second Language Services	1.1	6.1	7.0
% of Identified Gifted and/or Talented Students Who Received Services	91.3	91.7	78.7
% of Special Education Students Attending This School Who Spent Over 79% of Their Time with Their Non-Disabled Peers	96.6	77.4	80.3

LIBRARY AND COMPUTERS

Free on-line access to periodicals, newspapers, and other resources is available to all Connecticut schools through the Connecticut Digital Library at www.iconn.org.

Instructional Computers and Library Materials	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
# of Students Per Computer	3.8	3.6	3.3
% of Computers with Internet Access	100.0	100.0	99.0
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	100.0	100.0	94.6
# of Print Volumes Per Student*	40.7	42.6	28.2
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	10	8	13

*Because a certain number of volumes are needed for a library of adequate breadth and depth, a small school may need a higher number of volumes per student.

SCHOOL STAFF

Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff	
General Education: Teachers and Instructors	22.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	5.50
Special Education: Teachers and Instructors	2.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	7.50
Library/Media Specialists and/or Assistants	2.00
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs	1.12
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists)	0.00
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	1.40
School Nurses	1.00
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support	7.50

In the full-time equivalent count, staff members working part-time in the school are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in a school contributes 0.50 to the school's staff count.

Teachers and Instructors	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
Average Number of Years of Experience in Education	14.9	13.2	13.3
% with Master's Degree or Above	80.0	84.2	78.1
Attendance, 2007-08: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	8.5	8.6	8.6
% Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	83.3	82.0	83.3

HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Teacher E-Mail Addresses: All teachers at this school have been issued e-mail addresses.

Online Homework Information: A portion of the school's website is devoted to homework pages.

The following narrative about how this school promotes and supports parental involvement was submitted by this school.

Rock Hill School is committed to supporting the family's role in the education of our students.

Our Parent Teacher Action Committee created a three year master plan. The plan included improving student nutrition and fitness, environmental concerns, and instructional and building improvements.

The Rock Hill library is truly the hub of our school! Many parents volunteer to assist students with book selection and research, and cataloging and shelving books. The library is always alive with children reading, researching, blogging, and working on projects.

Tuesday Times is our weekly newsletter for parents from the office and teachers also forward classroom newsletters. In addition, the school and teacher's websites are updated to include upcoming events, messages, and to inform parents about specific activities within the classrooms. We also have a Mass Notification Communication system that we began using to be able to contact all parents.

Open House, K Orientation, parent/teacher conferences, and our standards-based report card continue to be very effective for communication with parents to share and discuss the curriculum and their child's progress and needs. Parents are very involved in their children's education. Ideas and Homework Tips are provided to parents as well as ideas about how parents can help their children to "chunk" long term assignments. As new curriculum is implemented, parents are informed about the changes so that they are able to understand and to help their children at home.

Rock Hill has many special programs and activities. Many are sponsored by our PTO as well as teachers and staff members! They include author and artist visits, field trips, book fairs, School Spirit Days, guest speakers, Field Day, Photo Auction, Craft Fair, Patriotic Day, Spring Dance, Plant Sale, PJ Day, Family Nutrition Night, Hat Day, Computer Bugs, Slipper Day, Variety Show, Wacky Wednesday Jump Day, DARE, Holiday Concerts... These many special activities involve parents, teachers, staff, and students. They bring the Rock Hill school community together in a wonderful way!

SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	1	0.3
Asian American	25	7.1
Black	15	4.3
Hispanic	19	5.4
White	291	82.9
Total Minority	60	17.1

Percent of Minority Professional Staff: 0.0%

Open Choice: 17 student(s) attended this school as part of the Open Choice program. Open Choice brings students from urban areas to attend school in suburban or rural towns, and students from non-urban areas to attend city schools.

Non-English Home Language: 2.0% of this school's students (excluding prekindergarten students) come from homes where English is not the primary language. The number of non-English home languages is 6.

EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

Below is the description submitted by this school of how it provides educational opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

During the 2008-09 school year, Rock Hill School had the opportunity to continue participation in the Open Choice program with the New Haven schools. Grade 1 through 5 students benefited from the addition of these students as part of our student body. Many families attended activities throughout the year.

The faculty and students at Rock Hill School use the Colors for Success program and the Don't Laugh at Me character education program throughout the school day. The goals of anti-bullying and acceptance of diversity are outlines in curriculum projects for each grade. Teachers included literature in their Don't Laugh at Me lessons. Over 300 students, including over 50 minority students were involved in this program. The school Social Worker continued the Ambassadors of Peace team. This ethnically diverse team presented lessons to students to assist with peer relationships. The team assisted with peer mediation, tutoring, and ran the Star Student store during lunch waves. Rock Hill students earned Star Student coupons for exemplary behavior and were able to use these coupons to purchase school supplies from the store. Fifth grade students presented programs based on a specific character trait and handed out color bracelets for students in each classroom to pass on to classmates who demonstrated the character trait. The student body recites the Star Student Pledge to begin each day.

The Project Wisdom program was also used this year featuring different faculty and student readers each morning. These daily messages focused on fostering an internal motivation to make wise choices and building character. The program's goals include helping students to understand and respect the similarities and differences among us, and increasing awareness of diversity and different cultures.

In addition, Rock Hill has an ESL teacher and program.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND BEHAVIOR

Physical Fitness: % Reaching Health Standard on All Four Tests*	School	District	State	% of Schools in State with Equal or Lower Percent Reaching Standard
Grade 4	47.8	43.9	33.6	79.3
Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Includes tests for flexibility, abdominal strength and endurance, upper-body strength and aerobic endurance.

Connecticut Mastery Test, Fourth Generation, % Meeting State Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards.

Grade and CMT Subject Area	School	District	State	% of Schools in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal
Grade 3 Reading	56.7	57.8	54.6	52.7
Writing	62.3	65.6	62.5	47.1
Mathematics	66.7	70.4	62.8	53.1
Grade 4 Reading	91.7	72.3	60.7	98.8
Writing	87.8	70.4	64.2	95.1
Mathematics	77.1	67.9	63.6	71.9
Grade 5 Reading	78.6	73.3	66.0	72.3
Writing	80.7	74.3	66.5	75.4
Mathematics	73.2	72.4	68.8	56.1
Science	71.9	69.4	58.1	71.1
Grade 6 Reading	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

These results reflect the performance of students with scoreable tests who were enrolled in the district at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the district. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

For more detailed CMT results, go to www.ctreports.

To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."

Student Attendance	School	District Elementary Sch.	State Elementary Sch.
% Present on October 1	95.4	94.7	96.2

Disciplinary Offenses

Disciplinary offenses committed by students include all serious offenses, offenses involving drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, and all incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion. For more information and data on disciplinary offenses, go to www.sde.ct.gov, click on "CEDaR" and then on "Student Data."

Number of Incidents by Disciplinary Offense Category, 2007-08		
Offense Category*	Location of Incident	
	School	Other Location
Violent Crimes Against Persons	N/A	N/A
Sexually Related Behavior	N/A	N/A
Personally Threatening Behavior	N/A	N/A
Theft	N/A	N/A
Physical/Verbal Confrontation	N/A	N/A
Fighting/Battery	N/A	N/A
Property Damage	N/A	N/A
Weapons	N/A	N/A
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	N/A	N/A
School Policy Violations	N/A	N/A
Total	0	0

* Counts by category may be suppressed to protect student privacy.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

The following narrative was submitted by this school.

The Rock Hill teachers met weekly to examine student work and analyze data. They continued using the curriculum map and common assessments they created last year to inform instruction. SMART Goals were developed and implemented based on CMT analysis. Results on the CMT in the %at/above GOAL range in Math were 66.7% to 74.5%, in Reading 56.7% to 91.7%, and in Writing 62.3% to 87.8%. On %at/above PROFICIENCY, results in Math were 85% to 97.9%, in Reading 75% to 93.8%, and in Writing 85.2% to 94.6%. Grade 5 Science results in the %at/above GOAL was 73.2% and PROFICIENCY was 94.6%.

Rock Hill has a very active PTO and a PTAC (Parent Teacher Advisory Council), in addition to many classroom parent volunteers. As a result, parents are engaged in both the planning and improvement of school programs, both formally and informally! There is a wonderful sense of school community at Rock Hill. Parents, teachers, staff, and students are very proud of their school!

Rock Hill began the implementation of RTI (Response to Intervention) within the EIP (Early Intervention Program). Through this model, more intensive instruction was provided for individual and small groups of children as needed throughout the school year with much success! In addition, inclusive practices, which included collaborative planning, co-teaching, and differentiated instruction, was the model used for our special education program and services.

Technology is an integral part of Rock Hill's programs. It included the use of smartboards, document cameras, blogging, digital photography to improve specificity and descriptive writing, and iPods to improve fluency and comprehension skills.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

The space below was optionally used by this school to describe aspects of the school not presented elsewhere in the profile.

Rock Hill School has a very strong PTO and PTAC. There is a wonderful sense of respect and community among teachers, parents, staff, and students, which in turn has created a strong school learning environment!

The PTO helps with school initiatives and activities. Goals are established at our first PTO meeting so that our events support and enrich the school's goals and initiatives for the year. The PTO offers many cultural arts programs to the students, in addition to providing resources for every classroom to attend field trips, bring special presentations to the classrooms, and/or to purchase enrichment materials for students.

School activities include a Welcome Back assembly, Open House, conflict and peacemaking initiatives, Healthy Living programs, Red Ribbon Week, US Constitution Day activities, Thanksgiving feasts and activities, Junior Achievement Day, many charitable fundraisers, Mothers' Day Plant Sale, yearbook, Read Aloud Day, Field Day, Grade 5 Recognition Day, DARE, Kindergarten and New Student Orientations, chorus, vocal, band, and instrumental concerts, RH Scholarship, School to Career initiatives, 100th Day celebrations, and many more enrichment activities.

This school year was very special at Rock Hill, because we celebrated its 50th birthday.
Happy Birthday Rock Hill!!!
