



Home > News

Concord Academy Boyne makes the grade



Seventh grade science teacher at Concord Academy Boyne, Adrienne Dodd, demonstrates to Celestia McGeorge, 12, (left), Jasmine McGeorge, 12, (right), and Hillary Talboys, 12, on the proper way to measure the circumference of an object, on Monday at the [school](#) near Boyne City. The school scored in the 91.06 percentile in the state's Top to Bottom school rating list. (DAVID HOPKINS/NEWS-REVIEW)

27

0

tweets

Share

tweet

By David Hopkins News-Review Staff Writer
3:57 p.m. EDT, September 28, 2010

[E-mail](#) [Print](#) [Share](#) [Text Size](#)

Like

27 people like this.



BOYNE CITY -- The teachers and administration of Concord Academy Boyne celebrated after school Monday for ranking as one of the best schools in the state's top to bottom school list.

The new rating system, which includes every school in the state, uses data from several years of testing and places the schools on the list by which are scoring highly and showing improvement. They are placed in order from the most successful to the least successful so state education officials can determine which schools need to redevelop their program. Concord Academy Boyne scored in the 91.06 percentile, putting them in the top 9 percent of schools in the state.

"I'm so proud of our students and staff. This is a great accomplishment and an indication of everyone's hard work," said Lawrence Kubovchick, school administrator.

The Top to Bottom ranking system used student testing data for math and reading from the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and Michigan Merit Examination from 2006 through 2009. Schools were placed on the list by plugging the data into formulas that evaluated proficiency levels and yearly progress. Schools in the lowest 5 percent are required to develop and submit a plan to the state for redeveloping their programs.

Concord Academy's success on the rating is an indication the students are performing well and the school attributes that success to the students' dedication to learning and the abilities of their teachers.

"A number of factors lead to our success. We have a very dedicated staff. We are also a small school with small class sizes so we know the students well and can tailor our classes to them," Kubovchick said.

The kindergarten through 12th grade school has 195 students and 25 teachers who are a mix of full-time and part-time. The teachers are hired for their educational achievement and experience in the teaching field, but they are held accountable for their teaching performance through a non-union employment system, according to Karen Kubovchick, curriculum [director](#).

"We don't have a teacher's union. Our teachers have a one-year contract and their job is based on their performance. They have to perform well from year to year. We consider what we have as more of a student union. It's all about what is best for the students," she said.

The students are motivated by the dedicated teaching staff, but they also have a theme each year that helps them focus on a goal, and their success shows they are reaching those goals.

"This year's theme is 'Aim High.' We want the kids to know they can aim high and achieve success. The Top to Bottom list shows it's working," Lawrence Kubovchick said.

Other area schools who rated highly on the Top to Bottom list include: Harbor Springs' Shay Elementary School with a 91.60 percent, Petoskey's Central Elementary School with a 90.96 percent, Charlevoix Middle School with a 90.20 percent, East Jordan Middle School with a 88.96 percent and Petoskey Ottawa Elementary School with 87.13 percent.

For more information about Concord Academy check their [web site](#) at www.concordacademyboyne.org, or for detailed information about the Top to Bottom list check www.michigan.gov/mde.

David Hopkins