

Date: September 5, 2019
To: Press Release
From: Superintendent Jeremy Schmidt
RE: Becker School District 2019 Test Scores

Becker School District Test Scores Continue to Shine

Minnesota Department of Education Commissioner, Mary Cathryn Ricker in her State of Our Students report promised to “Continue seeing their strengths, persist alongside them and tackle the barriers that stand in their way.” The release of test scores from the state on August 29th came with a large number of questions. With the limited number of school days prior to testing season due to a difficult winter weather pattern, school districts were excited, but hesitant to see test results. The overall results for the state of Minnesota students saw another slight decline in year over year results, however, Becker Public Schools continued to progress and maintain some of the top test results in the area.

Students in all grade levels at Becker Schools were able to provide test scores that outshined the state averages by almost 20 percentage points in some areas. It is no secret Becker Public Schools provides some of the best educational opportunities in the region as they continuously score higher than the state averages year in and year out.

During Superintendent Jeremy Schmidt’s State of the District presentation to all staff, scores were shared to highlight many of the positive outcomes from student MCA test scores. Among these included a Middle School math rate score of 72.8% compared to the statewide score of 53.9%, a nearly 19% difference.

The District overall Math rate came in nearly 12% higher than state averages.

Becker Public Schools also scored over 12% higher than the state average on 4-Year Graduation Rate with over 95% of students graduating on-time. These scores and others were carried by a math progress and maintain score of 82.7% at the middle school level, again nearly 20% above the state score of 62.8%, the entire district scored at 73.4% of students maintaining or increasing a passing level on the statewide assessment.

“While we can certainly celebrate these scores and growth in a number of areas, we cannot become complacent and satisfied,” said Superintendent Schmidt. “It is evident Becker Public School District and staff have placed a great focus on continuing to improve learning outcomes for all students. We will continue this focus and all of the great things we have done here in Becker. This is a testament to our staff and community as we work to support each other in the education of our children,” Schmidt added. In a recent press release Commissioner Ricker stated, “The way we use data influences the decisions that we make. By looking at a more complete picture of our students, I am dedicated to find ways to best serve every student”. “The State of Our Students report clearly tells me that our students take advantage of every opportunity brought to them. When we open the doors, our students bust through them. Our students’ potential, and their determination to succeed, is more than ambitious—it is promising for our future and meeting their ambition with our support that will turn Minnesota into the Education State.” New Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for Becker Public Schools, Minda Anderson adds, “We have a wonderful tradition here at Becker. Our staff will continue to work hard to make sure students needs are being met and provide the opportunities for them to succeed in a changing global community.”

Scores are available for public view through the Minnesota Department of Education website or through the following site: <http://rc.education.state.mn.us>.