

1820 McLaughlin Run Road
Upper St. Clair, PA 15241



Customizing Learning,
Nurturing Potential...
Delivering Excellence

Upper St. Clair School District Annual Report Fall 2011



Superintendent's ANNUAL REPORT Message

At the start of the 2010-11 school year, I connected with members of the first two graduating classes of Upper St. Clair High School, 1960 and 1961, when they invited me to participate in their 50th reunion celebration.

Reunion attendees shared with me the history of the founding of our high school. From my conversations with these alumni, it became clear to me how the culture of our School District started. Alumni told me how the community, in a very intentional way, decided that the schools in Upper St. Clair should be student-centered and focused on high quality teaching and learning.

2010-2011 Quick Facts

Number of Schools Earning Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)	6
Graduation Rate	99%
Continuing Post Secondary Education	92% Four-year College 6% Two-year Jr. College, Business/Technical 2% Armed Services/Employment
Total Student Population	1,425 Elementary 744 Boys 681 Girls 1,258 Middle School 665 Boys 593 Girls 1,427 High School 745 Boys 682 Girls
National Merit Finalists	5
National Merit Semi-Finalists	5
National Merit Commended	21
Professional Teaching Staff	295 Full Time / 6 Part Time
Percentage of Professional Staff With Advanced Degrees	76%
Paraprofessional Staff	66 Full Time / 6 Part Time
School District Tax Rate	24.10 mills
Allegheny County School District Millage Rank	20/42
Revenue	\$58,341,887
Expenditure	\$58,341,887
District per Pupil Expenditure/ Allegheny County Average per Pupil*	\$12,790.93/\$13,287.05

*2009-2010 Data

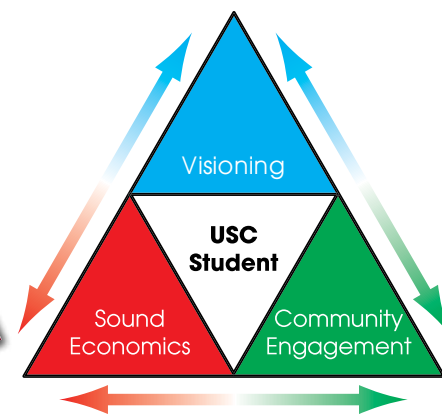
For the past fifty years, our School District has lived up to this legacy. As evidence, this report details our high level of student success on the PSSAs (see pages 4, 5 & 6). For the sixth consecutive year, our student achievement, as measured by these state exams, ranked highest in the state, as reported in the *Pittsburgh Business Times*.

We are proud of this success and celebrate the hard work of our students, teachers, and community. But we know that the future success of our students will be determined by more than just test scores. Therefore, we have implemented many 21st century skills initiatives, such as student leadership academics, designed to teach the critical skills that students will need to achieve success in college, career, and life.

Looking forward, we are proud to present in this report our new District Tagline: *Customizing Learning, Nurturing Potential, Delivering Excellence*. This new Tagline grew out of our long-standing Mission Statement and our present goal-setting processes. It focuses our District on meeting the needs of children, parents and the community in all that we do.

This report communicates the success of our School District and the many initiatives supported by the District this past year. I want to acknowledge and thank our students, staff, Board, and community for their contributions to the success of Upper St. Clair School District.

—Patrick T. O'Toole, Ed.D.
Superintendent



USCSD Mission

VISIONING

Objectives:

- Create a long-term planning system in which “visioning” will be an on-going, living process.
- Plan and execute the “Vision 2020” initiative by developing a vision for the kind of education our students will need over the next 12 to 15 years. Set short-, medium- and long-term goals to achieve this vision.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Objective:

- Increase community involvement in and awareness of the activities of the School District.

SOUND ECONOMICS

Objectives:

- Develop a year-round focus on the budget at the Board level, so that the Board and the Community thoroughly understand the components of the budget and the educational and financial impact of decisions made throughout the year.
- Implement a long-range financial planning system.
- Develop a plan for sustainability of our exceptional education system, within the limited financial resources of the community.

School District Administration Strategic Plan Implementation

To achieve comprehensive implementation of the District’s Strategic Plan, the following five mission teams have been established by the Superintendent of Schools:

- Student Needs
- Data & Development
- Leadership
- Safety
- Technology

The mission teams are working to specifically implement the following goals of the Strategic Plan:

- Develop the fullest potential of the whole child
- Foster thinking and learning among our students
- Challenge students to contribute and succeed in an increasingly interconnected world
- Develop student and staff competency in current technologies

To effectively implement the District’s Strategic Plan, the Board of School Directors established the following Board goals for the 2010-2011 school year:

- Continue to define and develop customized learning with a focus on the whole child; continue to develop an instructional delivery model for 21st Century Learning.
- Implement throughout the District the framework for Leadership Development that was created over the past two years, including:
 - ◆ Student leadership academies
 - ◆ Instructional development academy
- Launch the Office of District Advancement and set it up for success.
- Abbreviate the Mission Statement to better brand the District for the public at large and to motivate all District personnel to act with a common purpose.
- Continue to improve our community engagement with better use of Cable 19 and other avenues, using a “5 touches” approach to get the District’s messages out to the community.
- By September of this year, we will be half way through our Strategic Plan which takes us through 2014. We should:
 - ◆ conduct an assessment of the progress on implementing the Strategic Plan; and
 - ◆ try to make more overt linkages between our deliberations/decisions and the elements of the Strategic Plan.
- Complete the Middle School renovations, on time and within budget.
- In the area of Technology, we should:
 - ◆ continue professional development, including technology coaching, and
 - ◆ investigate online instruction where appropriate.
- Complete the review of Board policies and update and revise them where necessary.
- Continue the Board’s self-evaluation process and implement steps to improve our operations based on the self-evaluation.
- Increase professional development activities of the Board to stay informed on matters affecting public education and to engage in best practices.
- Expand briefings of the Board on educational issues and the legislative landscape.

The Upper St. Clair School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or any other legally protected classification in the employment or in the administration of any of its educational programs and activities. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.

Tagline Adopted

The District's Mission Statement has served the Upper St. Clair School District well since 1993. There was a need, however, to be able to articulate our organization's core functions and culture in fewer words.



After reviewing the Mission, Vision, and Belief Statements from the District's Strategic Plan and gathering community input through an on-line survey, the core mission of the District was winnowed down to three key ideals: **Customizing Learning, Nurturing Potential, Delivering Excellence.**

Customizing Learning for students and staff requires that instruction be designed at the appropriate learning level, matching individual learning styles, and using content of high interest to the learners.

Nurturing Potential of every child requires that staff recognize the uniqueness of the whole child and nurture his/her talents so that every learner grows to his or her fullest potential.

Delivering Excellence is the standard of performance that we must meet or exceed in all that we do at USC.

With the adoption of the District's tagline, the *eBlast's* flag has been revamped to include the tagline. The School District is proud to present the new District tagline statement and asks for your commitment to these high ideals for public education at Upper St. Clair.

Advancement Office Established

During the 2010-11 school year, the District Advancement function was established to develop and implement a Strategic Advancement Plan to assess the District's assets and needs. This was an important component to the District's goals and strategies. The plan called for the creation of a Director of Advancement with responsibilities to:

1. investigate and optimize outside sources of revenue;
2. engage and coordinate with the District's volunteer groups, such as alumni, PTA, PTSO and booster organizations;
3. enhance public affairs opportunities;
4. formalize the partnership with The Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair;
5. seek business relationships that support the District's short and long term goals; and
6. maintain accountability and compliance standards for Advancement activities.

On May 9, 2011, the Upper St. Clair School Board elected Liz Hall as the Director of Advancement for the School District. In the six months since being appointed, Ms. Hall has focused her efforts on several important initiatives and helped raise more than \$170,000 to enhance School District initiatives.

First on the agenda was to expand the number of School District programs eligible for Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) funding from the State of Pennsylvania. In previous years, only the IB program was eligible for these funds. The Director of Advancement worked with officials at The Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair to submit the necessary paperwork to designate the following programs as eligible for funding under EITC: USC Leads, Gifted Education, and the Innovative Science Curriculum at the District's elementary schools. Liz plans to further expand the number of programs eligible in coming years.

The position of Director of Advancement is also responsible for identifying grant opportunities. In June of this year, the District worked with officials at the Township of Upper St. Clair to submit



a proposal for funds under the Department of Justice's "Secure Our Schools" grant program. The Department of Justice contacted the School District in late August to award a grant for more than \$102,000 to install new video surveillance equipment at the High School.

The Advancement Office is tasked with solidifying the relationship between The Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair and the School District. The first Upper St. Clair Homecoming Gala was held on October 1, 2011, in partnership with The Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair. This inaugural event helped to raise more than \$55,000 for identified needs in the District. The costs for the Gala were underwritten by The Community Foundation to maximize the funds available for targeted School District programs.

Lastly, Ms. Hall has worked to establish beneficial relationships with the business community. More than thirty businesses signed on as sponsors of the Homecoming Gala and the available signs on the stadium scoreboard were sold to interested parties. Signs for the large gym in the High School are currently being marketed by the Advancement Office.

2011 PSSA Results

READING		Grade	Overall		Female		Male		White	
			Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
	District	3	283	91.9%	149	92.6%	134	91.0%	247	91.5%
	State			76.8%		80.3%		73.5%		82.7%
	District	4	304	91.1%	150	92.7%	154	89.6%	273	90.5%
	State			72.8%		76.3%		69.5%		79.0%
	District	5	294	88.1%	142	90.1%	152	86.2%	257	87.5%
	State			66.8%		70.5%		63.3%		72.9%
	District	6	329	91.2%	153	95.4%	176	87.5%	286	90.2%
	State			69.3%		72.5%		66.3%		76.6%
	District	7	291	96.9%	123	98.4%	168	95.8%	254	96.9%
	State			74.9%		79.9%		70.2%		80.8%
	District	8	313	96.5%	160	98.1%	153	94.8%	275	96.4%
	State			80.5%		84.8%		76.3%		85.9%
	District	11	363	93.1%	167	96.4%	196	90.3%	331	93.4%
	State			68.4%		72.4%		64.7%		74.6%

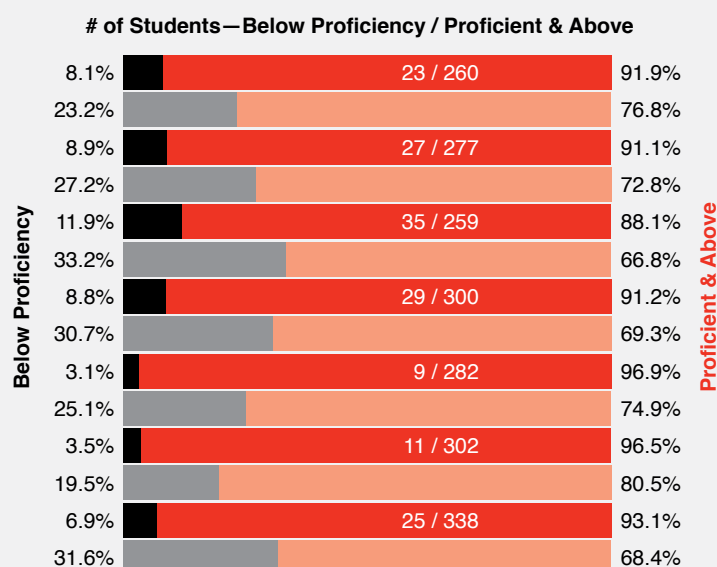
MATHEMATICS		Grade	Overall		Female		Male		White	
			Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
	District	3	283	97.2%	149	97.3%	134	97.0%	247	97.2%
	State			82.9%		82.6%		83.2%		88.0%
	District	4	304	95.4%	150	94.7%	154	96.1%	273	95.2%
	State			84.1%		84.3%		83.9%		88.8%
	District	5	294	90.5%	142	89.4%	152	91.4%	257	89.5%
	State			75.2%		74.9%		75.5%		80.9%
	District	6	329	93.9%	153	93.5%	176	94.3%	286	93.0%
	State			77.7%		78.8%		76.6%		83.1%
	District	7	291	97.9%	123	99.2%	168	97.0%	254	98.0%
	State			77.1%		78.3%		75.9%		82.6%
	District	8	313	94.6%	160	96.9%	153	92.2%	275	94.5%
	State			75.4%		76.6%		74.3%		81.2%
	District	11	363	92.8%	167	92.8%	196	92.9%	331	92.4%
	State			59.4%		59.2%		59.6%		55.4%

SCIENCE		Grade	Overall		Female		Male		White	
			Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
	District	4	301	96.4%	149	96.7%	152	96.1%	269	96.3%
	State			82.3%		82.6%		82.0%		89.4%
	District	8	285	88.6%	138	88.8%	147	88.5%	247	88.1%
	State			67.1%		74.6%		59.9%		73.1%
	District	11	360	77.8%	166	77.1%	194	78.4%	328	77.4%
	State			40.9%		37.5%		44.2%		47.5%

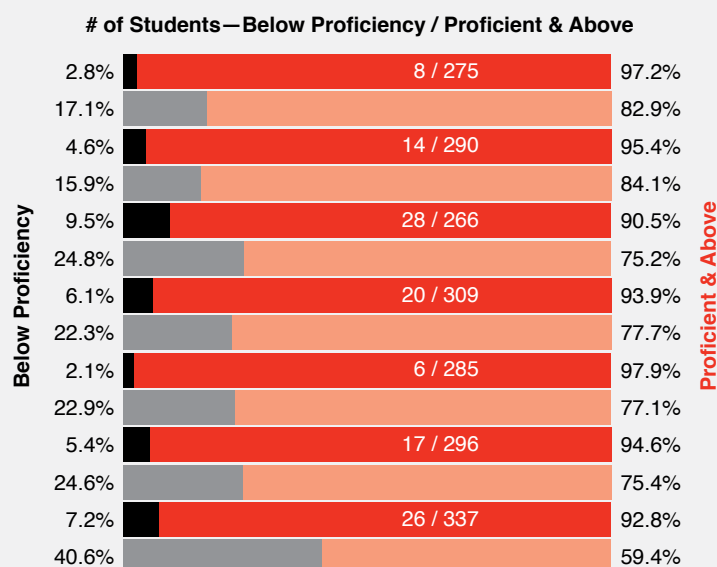
WRITING		Grade	Overall		Female		Male		White	
			Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
	District	5	294	89.8%	142	94.9%	152	85.0%	257	90.3%
	State			67.1%		74.6%		67.1%		73.1%
	District	8	310	90.3%	160	96.3%	150	84.0%	272	90.8%
	State			73.1%		81.1%		65.4%		78.5%
	District	11	362	97.2%	167	100.0%	195	94.9%	330	97.0%
	State			84.7%		90.3%		79.3%		88.0%

2011 PSSA Results

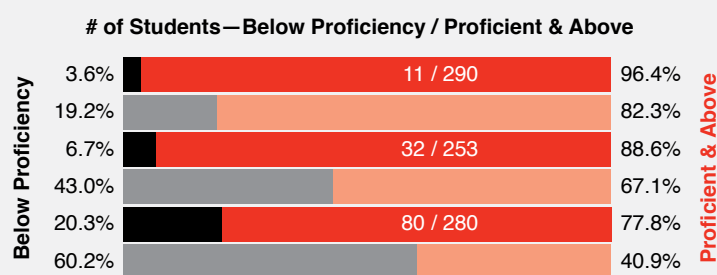
Asian		Econ. Disadvantaged		IEP	
Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
27	100.0%	14	64.3%	33	72.7%
	85.1%		64.4%		46.4%
23	100.0%	15	86.7%	45	77.8%
	84.7%		58.6%		47.6%
30	96.7%	16	31.3%	61	24.6%
	79.5%		51.6%		39.6%
30	96.7%	13	100.0%	41	68.3%
	79.5%		52.5%		38.7%
26	96.2%	16	93.8%	34	85.3%
	85.9%		59.9%		40.9%
28	100.0%	26	92.3%	48	77.1%
	88.2%		66.7%		46.8%
23	87.0%	20	85.0%	46	73.9%
	76.2%		50.8%		33.8%



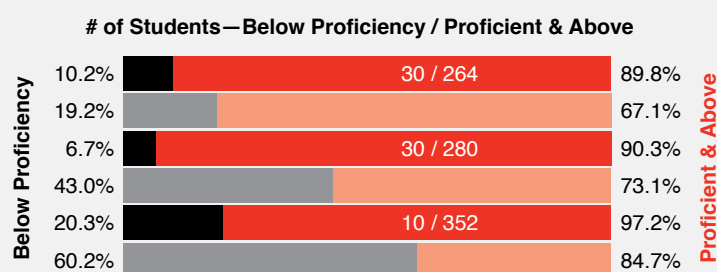
Asian		Econ. Disadvantaged		IEP	
Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
27	100.0%	14	100.0%	33	97.0%
	92.7%		72.9%		58.6%
23	100.0%	15	93.3%	45	80.0%
	92.7%		74.4%		51.9%
30	100.0%	16	62.5%	61	73.8%
	88.8%		62.3%		48.9%
30	100.0%	13	84.6%	41	70.7%
	91.0%		65.0%		47.0%
26	96.2%	16	100.0%	34	88.2%
	91.1%		63.7%		43.0%
28	100.0%	26	88.5%	48	75.0%
	89.6%		60.9%		41.6%
23	100.0%	20	70.0%	46	67.4%
	81.4%		41.1%		25.6%



Asian		Econ. Disadvantaged		IEP	
Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
24	95.8%	15	100.0%	41	86.7%
	88.1%		70.2%		60.5%
31	100.0%	26	84.6%	48	64.0%
	82.2%		51.2%		34.0%
23	91.3%	20	60.0%	46	43.5%
	51.6%		22.6%		20.0%



Asian		Econ. Disadvantaged		IEP	
Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient	Number of Students	% At/Above Proficient
30	90.3%	16	62.5%	61	64.7%
	82.2%		51.2%		34.0%
28	92.9%	26	59.2%	45	66.7%
	85.0%		58.3%		38.1%
23	100.0%	20	95.0%	45	86.7%
	91.6%		74.1%		51.6%

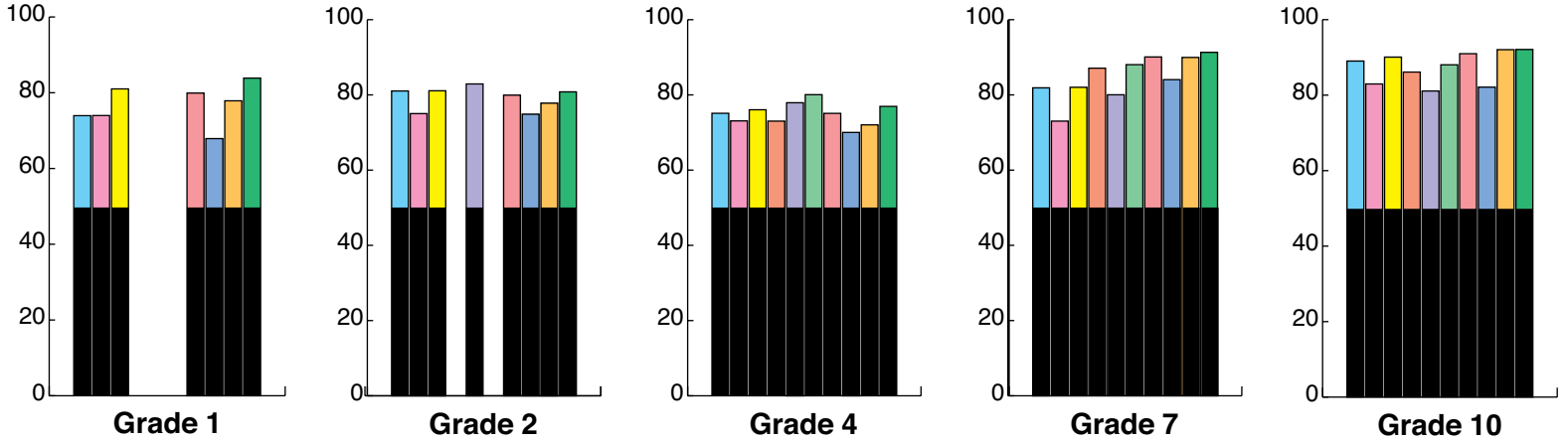


2010-2011 Terra Nova District Median National Percentile

Grade	Reading	Vocabulary	Reading Composite	Language	Language Mechanics	Language Composite	Mathematics	Mathematics Computation	Mathematics Composite	Total Score
First	74	74	81				80	68	78	84
Second	81	75	81		83		80	75	78	81
Fourth	75	73	76	73	78	80	75	70	72	77
Seventh	82	73	82	87	80	88	90	84	90	91
Tenth	89	83	90	86	81	88	91	82	92	92

The Median National Percentile for the nation is 50.

The Median National Percentile means that half of the percentile scores were above the median and the other half were below the median.

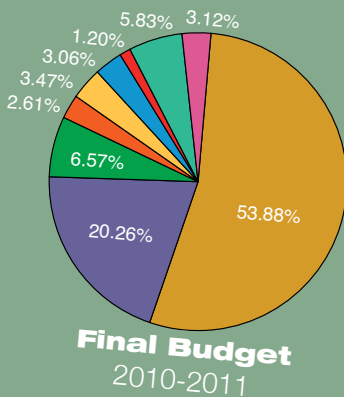


2010-2011 SAT

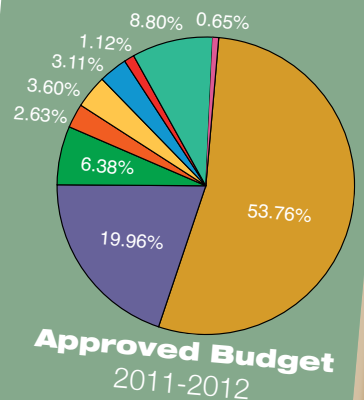
SAT TEST	SAT DISTRICT AVERAGE SCORE	SAT STATE COMPARISON	SAT NATIONAL COMPARISON
Critical Reading	574	493	497
Mathematics	594	501	514
Writing	580	479	489



Budget Analysis



Final 2010-11	Revenue	Approved 2011-12
\$58,341,887		\$59,252,638
\$31,433,697	Salaries	\$31,930,415
\$11,820,758	Benefits	\$11,854,502
\$3,835,847	Contracted Services	\$3,788,156
\$1,524,417	Purchased Services	\$1,560,475
\$2,021,754	Other Purchased Services	\$2,140,696
\$1,784,771	Books and Supplies	\$1,844,606
\$698,186	Equipment	\$662,263
\$3,404,190	Miscellaneous Fees	\$5,228,966
\$1,818,267	Other Expenses	\$385,515
\$58,341,887	Total Expenses	\$59,395,594




Colleges attended by 2011 Upper St. Clair Graduates

Institution	Number Attending
Allegheny College	4
American University	1
Art Institute of Pittsburgh	1
Baldwin-Wallace College	2
Bennington College	1
Bethany College	1
Boston University	2
Bowling Green State University	1
Brandeis University	1
Brigham Young University	1
Bucknell University	2
California State University, Fullerton	1
California University of Pennsylvania	5
Carlow University	1
Carnegie-Mellon University	9
Case Western Reserve University	3
Catholic University of America	1
Cedarville University	1
Chapman University	1
Chatham University	1
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	2
Clemson University	2
Coastal Carolina University	1
College of Wooster	1
Community College of Allegheny County	21
Cornell University	1
Denison University	5
Dickinson College	3
Drexel University	3
Duquesne University	19
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania	4
Elon University	1
Emerson College	1
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	1
Gannon University	1
Gardner-Webb University	1

Institution	Number Attending
George Mason University	1
Georgia Institute of Technology	1
Grove City College	5
High Point University	1
Indiana University of Pennsylvania	5
Indiana University, Bloomington	1
Ithaca College	2
John Carroll University	3
Juniata College	1
Kenyon College	1
Loyola University Maryland	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1
Mercyhurst College	1
Messiah College	1
Miami University (OH)	1
Michigan State University	3
Montana State University	1
Muskingum University	1
New York University	2
Ohio State University	9
Ohio University	3
Ohio Wesleyan University	1
Old Dominion University	1
Pennsylvania State University	46
Point Park University	2
Providence College	1
Purdue University	1
Rice University	1
Robert Morris University	7
Rochester Institute of Technology	2
Rosemont College	1
Saint Vincent College	2
Santa Clara University	1
Savanna College of Art and Design	1
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania	1

Institution	Number Attending
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	8
State College of Florida, Bradenton	1
State University of New York, Oneonta	1
Temple University	2
Texas A & M University	1
Thiel College	3
Tulane University	1
University North Carolina, Greensboro	1
University of Alabama	1
University of Arizona	1
University of California, Berkeley	1
University of Cincinnati	1
University of Colorado, Boulder	2
University of Dayton	12
University of Delaware	1
University of Kentucky	2
University of Maryland, College Park	2
University of Miami	1
University of Michigan	2
University of North Carolina, Wilmington	1
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	1
University of Notre Dame	3
University of Pennsylvania	1
University of Pittsburgh	25
University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown	3
University of Richmond	1
University of Rochester	4
University of South Carolina	1
University of Southern California	2
University of Texas, Austin	2
University of Texas, Dallas	1
University of Vermont	1
University of Virginia	1
University of West Florida	1
University of Wisconsin, Madison	1
Villanova University	2
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	1
Wake Forest University	1
Washington and Jefferson College	6
Washington University in St. Louis	1
West Virginia University	9
Westminster College	2
Wheaton College (IL)	1



e-BLAST

Get Connected with the District...

All Township Residents are encouraged to connect with the District to receive the electronic monthly newsletter; **e-Blast**.

It is easy to do!!! Register for the District's **E-Alerts** to receive notification of the monthly release of the **e-Blast** by going to www.uscsd.k12.pa.u and under the "Quick Links" section on the right side of the home page, click and follow the directions to subscribe.

Do It Now and Get Connected with the District!!!



Upper St. Clair SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT

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Upper St. Clair, PA 15241

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Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas
Mr. Frank J. Kerber
Mr. Bruce L. Kerman
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.
Mrs. Angela B. Petersen
Mr. Louis A. Piconi

Administrative Staff

Dr. Patrick T. O'Toole, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Sharon Suritsky, Acting Assistant to the Superintendent for
Curriculum & Instruction/Supervisor of Special Education
Dr. John Bornyas, Director of Operations, Community Relations
& Special Projects
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Literacy, Assessment &
Professional Development
Ms. Frosina Cordisco, Director of Business & Finance
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology
Ms. Eloise Stoehr, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Mark Miller, Baker & Eisenhower Elementary
Schools Principal
Dr. Claire Miller, Streams Elementary School Principal
Mrs. Karen Brown, Boyce Middle School Principal
Mr. Joseph DeMar, Fort Couch Middle School Principal
Mr. John Rozzo, Fort Couch Middle School Assistant Principal
Dr. Michael Ghilani, High School Principal
Mr. Jace Palmer, High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Louis Angelo, High School Assistant Principal
Dr. William Rullo, Director of High School Guidance

Contact Us
(412) 833-1600
www.uscsd.k12.pa.us

About the Upper St. Clair School District School Buildings

This is the third in a series of articles appearing in the School District's Annual Report about various aspects of the Upper St. Clair School District.

After the ribbon cutting ceremonies celebrating the recently renovated middle schools, the Upper St. Clair School District reached a milestone—the completion of a successful comprehensive renovation of all six of the District's school buildings. The key to the success of the renovation projects that began in 1997 with the high school was expending thoughtful consideration during the planning processes to insure that the renovated schools would serve the District and community well over their useful life. To signify the importance of the planning processes, professional consultants for facility and long-range planning were engaged by the School Board to direct the educational specification design development. Ingraham Planning Associates Inc. provided services for the elementary school facilities master plan, while DeJong Associates provided services for the high school and middle schools planning. During these processes, issues regarding school mission, grouping, program choice, technology, special education and whole child educational practices were reviewed related to facility needs. The major objective was to insure that each project would result in a facility that would successfully meet the District's needs.

After the educational specification design processes were completed, the respective architectural firms began the master plan and facility design process. Key to this task was the clarification and review of all programming needs and identified design elements. This required the architects of each project to conduct numerous meetings with District staff at each school building to review and finalize all elements of the projects. The following architectural firms were hired for the various school projects: Fanning/Howey Associates, Inc. – Upper St. Clair High School; WTW Architects – Baker Elementary School, Eisenhower Elementary School and Streams Elementary School; and Graves and McLean, Registered Architects, LLC – Boyce Middle School and Fort Couch Middle School.

Crucial to the design of the renovated facilities was adding the needed technological infrastructure for 21st century learning and instructional spaces for programs that did not exist when the school buildings first opened their doors some forty years ago. The mechanical infrastructures of all the schools now include HVAC systems. Furthermore, applications for Boyce and Fort Couch Middle Schools are being processed for LEED Silver Certification. In addition, the libraries in all six schools have design elements validating the fact that these facilities are the intellectual hub of the school community.

Research by the American Society of Civil Engineers and the National Education Association indicates that in order to bring the nation's schools into good repair, \$268.3 billion for infrastructure and \$53.7 billion for educational technology is needed, but few school boards are making that kind of investment. However, although this is the national norm, over the past decade or so, various Upper St. Clair Boards of School Directors have made the commitment of maintaining District schools.

The District's comprehensive modernization plan "bucks" the national trend of a decline in maintaining school facilities and reinforces the Upper St. Clair community's commitment to continuing the strong tradition of supporting excellent educational programming. Although school facilities are only part of the formula for successful educational programming, research indicates that districts with updated, attractive facilities maximize energy for learning and enhance the learning experience of every child.