

## 2013-14 Quality Profile

Dear Residents,

Kenston Local Schools have joined with 60 school districts throughout Ohio to release a companion to the state's Local Report Card called a Quality Profile. The Profile is a report that includes additional accountability measures that we believe define a high-quality education. This report is supported by the Alliance for High Quality Education, an education consortium that works to improve educational opportunities for students and represents member districts on matters of educational policy and funding.

While we agree that state test scores are important for benchmarking and continuous improvement, we believe that our students' success in life goes beyond test scores. Time and time again, we have heard from parents and students that special projects and hands-on educational lessons inspire a passion for learning that serve our students beyond Kenston's walls. These opportunities cannot be measured with a single test score or grade.

In many areas, we are doing very well, while in others we have room to improve. In the upcoming months, you will hear about strategic planning for the district that will address where we are, where we are going and how we will get there. We are proud of the Kenston Schools and our accomplishments while always striving to improve.

Nancy R. Santilli  
Superintendent of Schools

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*A successful school district places a high degree of importance on ensuring that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. This profile helps characterize the overall educational value of your school district in areas that matter most in our community.*

**Kenston Local Schools**  
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## Mission Statement

The Mission of the Kenston Local School District is for each student to achieve individual academic excellence and to maximize personal growth in a community which demonstrates and develops mutual respect, responsibility, and life-long learning.

## Vision Statement

The Kenston Local School District believes that to sustain and exceed its exemplary status, there must be a clear sense of goals in which all stakeholders have an investment. In order to transform ideals into reality, the following Vision Statement is intended to provide the standards that the Kenston Local School District shall strive to achieve and continuously seek to improve.

## Academics

*Our district's academic program provides opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.*

15 National Merit Finalists/ Commended Students in the past three years.

Average SAT for the past three years:

- Verbal: 537
- Math: 546
- Writing: 526

Average ACT for the past three years:

- Composite: 23.8
- English: 23.5
- Math: 23.3
- Reading: 24.3
- Science: 23.8

92% of 2014 graduating seniors reported plans to go to a two-year or four-year college or university.



12 Summa Cum Laude 2014 graduates earned all A's for all coursework awarded high school credit.

28 Magna Cum Laude 2014 graduates earned all A's with four credits of "B" or fewer for all coursework awarded high school credit.

28 Cum Laude 2014 graduates earned all A's with eight credits of "B" or fewer for all coursework awarded high school credit.

43% of 2014 graduates earned an Honors Diploma by completing a college preparatory curriculum and maintaining at least a 3.5 grade point average and obtaining a composite score of 27 on the American College Tests (ACT) or an equivalent composite score of 1210 on the Scholastic Assessment Tests (SAT).

20 Advanced Placement courses offered at the high school. 336 students took AP exams in 2014 and 72% scored a 3 or higher on their exams, earning college credit.

13 Honors courses are offered at the high school.

World languages offered at high school and middle school — Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian.

63% of 8th grade students earned a high school foreign language credit during the 2013/2014 school year.

High school students have the opportunity to transition from passive lectures to immersed learners as they observe first hand, and participate in, travel experiences to France, Spain, Russia and the western United States.

20% of 8th grade students earned a high school mathematics credit during the 2013/2014 school year.

Over the past three years, an average of 41 students have participated in partnerships with local colleges and universities to earn high school and college credit simultaneously.

Thirteen students earned a Perfect Attendance Award in the Class of 2014. They were not absent during any part of the school day throughout high school, from the beginning of ninth grade to the end of twelfth grade.



A Science Technology Engineering and Math night (STEM) was night held for all Kenston families with grade

appropriate hands-on activities and presentations from a variety of local corporations and non-profits including: American Chemical Society, ASM International, Avaya Labs, Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute, CWRU, FIRST Lego League Robotics, Geauga Park District, Kenston Science Olympiad teams, Beth Krause, Ph.D., Lake County Environmental Center, Lubrizol Corporation, Moen, Nestle, Rockwell Automation and The Renaissance Group.

Timmons Elementary School annually participated in the One School, One Book program with a selection of *Poppy* by Avi. One School, One Book is a shared reading experience for the entire school and families. For one month, activities are coordinated to promote and enrich the shared reading experience.

Kenston Intermediate School introduced fourth and fifth graders to over 75 different careers during their 2014 Student Career Fair.

Over 129,500 documents were created in Google Apps for Education for grades 4 - 12.

Multi-year winner of Ohio Gold Excellence in Physical Education Award. This program recognizes schools whose policies and practices reflect a high priority and quality for Physical Education.

## Arts

*Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills.*

Every May, the District hosts an annual Art Show, showcasing the artwork of all Kenston students.

14 high school fine and performing arts course offerings, including AP Studio Art 2-D.

Our district arts programs received over 30 regional and state art awards over the past year, in addition to having artwork showcased in exhibitions throughout Ohio.



Approximately 40 musical and drama performances are held each year in the middle and high schools combined.

Kenston students earn top honors annually in juried band and choral music competitions.

High school students were selected to participate in the OMEA (Ohio Music Educator Association) State Honors Band and Choir.

Students at Kenston Intermediate School and Timmons Elementary School receive at least 80 minutes a week of each Art and Music instruction. Each grade level has a musical performance with two performances in fifth grade.



Timmons Elementary School 3rd Graders annually honor and recognize area Veterans with a musical salute.

### Student Leadership and Activities

*A well-rounded education includes a wide variety of opportunities.*



Kenston High School offers more than 25 athletic sports, and more than 22 co-curricular clubs and activities earning League Championships in Volleyball, Girl's Golf, Boy's Cross Country, Ice Hockey, Gymnastics, Baseball, Boy's and Girl's Track.

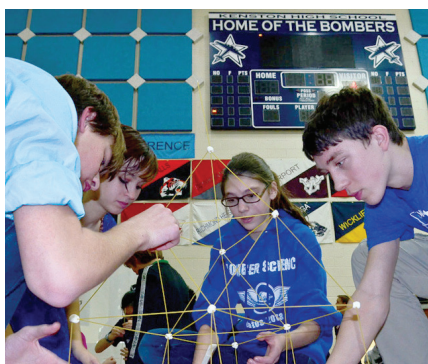
Creating Exceptional Character is an elective class and club at Kenston High School where typical peers work with exceptional students to include them in all facets of high school life. The middle school has a similar Peer Buddy Program.



For the eighth year in a row, the Bomberette Dance team took home two first place National Championship awards in Pom and Kick routines at the Champion Cheer and Dance Competition held in Cleveland. This earned them a bid to perform in the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Florida on New Year's Day 2015.

The high school Science Olympiad team placed fifth at the Ohio State Science Olympiad Tournament comprised of the top forty teams from nine regions of Ohio.

Middle School students are encouraged to participate in at least one of the 11 co-curricular clubs and/or 16 athletic teams offered.



The middle school Science Olympiad team placed 10th at the Ohio State Science Olympiad Tournament comprised of the top forty teams from nine regions of Ohio.

2 students from the middle school Power of the Pen team competed at the State Tournament.

86 Community Service Awards were given to graduating seniors for successfully completing 60 hours of community service during their high school career. The Class of 2014 completed and turned in over 11,500 hours.

National Honor Society annually hosts an American Red Cross Blood Drive.



Community service projects across the district include: Adopt-a-Family, American Heart Association, Bainbridge Food for Friends, Big Brother, Big Sister, Chagrin Falls Park Community Center, City Mission, Geauga County Dog Warden, Great Lakes Alliance, Habitat for Humanity, Harvest for Hunger, Leukemia/Lymphoma Society - Penny Wars, Relay for Life, Salvation Army, Toys for Tots, United Way and Womensafe Shelter.

In addition to Community Service activities that raise money and awareness for local organizations, Kenston Intermediate and Timmons Elementary Schools participate in an annual service project as part of their Valentine's Day celebration.



All students and staff participated in the International Day of Peace activities as part of Kenston's Peaceful Environment at Kenston (PEAK).



### Fiscal Stewardship

*Financial responsibility ensures that the majority of funding is spent on classroom instruction.*

District cost per pupil . . . . . \$10,881  
State Average . . . . . \$10,446  
County Average . . . . . \$10,989

Percentage spent on Instruction:  
\$19,389,446 or 56% of budget.

Excellent stewards of taxpayer money  
– 9 years since our last Operating  
Levy request.

Strong accountability as demonstrated  
by numerous Auditor of State awards  
and recognitions including:

- Ohio Auditor of State Award with Distinction
- Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Award of Financial Reporting Achievement
- Auditor of State – Making Your Tax Dollars Count Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

### Where the money comes from:

*In Ohio, the funding of schools is shared by the state and local communities. The Ohio General Assembly determines what an adequate education costs in the State's biennial education budget.*

Local Revenue . . . . . 72.23%  
State Revenue . . . . . 26.66%  
Other . . . . . 1.11%

### Parent & Community Involvement

*Educational experiences are enhanced by partnerships between the school district and community.*

Kenston PTOs and Booster Organizations disburse more than \$100,000 annually to the schools and involve hundreds of parent and community volunteers.

As an integral part of the educational experience, hundreds of parent volunteers provide countless hours of service.

The Kenston Foundation distributes on average \$22,000 annually to be used for teacher grants and student scholarships.

Annual holiday parties and field days for all students in grades K-5.



K-5 students are offered a variety of after-school activities for academic enrichment and social interaction, many of which are managed and organized by Kenston Community Education.

### Student Services

*A variety of services provide options to ensure all students receive individualized instruction, enrichment and support.*

Gifted students are offered a range of innovative and challenging courses and services. Elementary and middle school students are often taught by classroom teachers who are dual licensed and trained in regular and gifted education.

Exceptional students are provided with customized instruction to best meet their diverse needs. A full range of services from speech pathology and occupational and physical therapy are offered to all students who qualify. At each level, we work to instruct our students in an inclusive environment.

8 Students are identified and served as Limited English Proficient (LEP).

Full-time counselors are available for students in grades K-12; school psychologists are provided to the district by the Geauga County Educational Service Center.

Health aides are available in all buildings.

3 full-time counselors are available at Kenston High School to guide students and parents through the college decision process.



### Kenston Board of Education

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