

**STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2006-07**

Elementary School K-6 Edition

**Aiken School**  
**West Hartford School District**

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This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c).

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**STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

Total Enrollment: 453

5-Year Enrollment Change: 11.3%

**TYPE OF SCHOOL**

School Type: Traditional/Regular

School Grade Range: PK- 5

**SCHOOL NEED**

<b>Current and Past School Need</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>District K-6 Schools</b>	<b>State K-6 Schools</b>
% of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	2006-07	6.0	13.9	27.7
	2002-03	3.6	13.0	28.8
% of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language	2006-07	20.9	17.6	13.5
	2001-02	13.3	15.1	14.1
% of Students above Entry Grade who Attended this School the Previous Year	2006-07	93.2	90.2	87.7
	2001-02	92.7	89.6	86.2
	<b>Year</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>
% of Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	2006-07	87.5	85.0	79.3
	2001-02	93.8	85.7	75.1

<b>Enrollment in Special Programs</b>	<b>Students in School</b>	<b>Percent in School</b>	<b>% in District K-6 Schools</b>	<b>% in State K-6 Schools</b>
Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language Services (K-12)	41	10.0	9.9	6.9
Compensatory Education	27	6.0	13.1	23.6
Full or Extended Day Kindergarten	72	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gifted and Talented Program	16	3.5	3.8	1.8
Special Education	54	11.9	11.3	10.8
Prekindergarten	42	N/A	N/A	N/A

Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	6	1.3
Asian American	80	17.7
Black	41	9.1
Hispanic	25	5.5
White	301	66.4

## STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

<b>Total Minority 2006-07</b>	33.6%
<b>Total Minority 2001-02</b>	18.7%

### 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.

Aiken School has undertaken a variety of community service projects during this school year. "I Care" kits were assembled with personal care items and donated to a shelter in an urban community. Students donated food and toys for pets in a local humane society. In addition, a book and clothing collection drive provided needed books and clothing for a local hospital. Mittens, hats and scarves were collected to benefit a local community center. The Student Council held a "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser to assist cancer victims. Additionally, other funds were raised to support cancer research through walk-a-thons and community parades.

Outreach to Aiken's diverse family population was initiated through an evening supper and presentation on homework hosted by the Charter Oak Family Resource Center staff. Families were invited to participate in several community activities sponsored by the FRC as a follow-up to this presentation. Students celebrated their cultural heritage through sharing class presentations on customs, food and clothing focused on their native country. Parents also participated in these presentations through preparing ethnic food and sharing with the students in each classroom.

The West Hartford social studies curriculum provides many opportunities for increasing awareness of diversity and the rich cultural background of our community. Each grade level has activities that promote awareness of diversity of cultures. One example occurred at the first grade level this year in their study of Kenya. Students and teachers participated in workshops and demonstrations focused on integrating African language, movement and music through the Bi-Okoto Drum and Dance Theatre. In addition, the district's cultural council offered an African drum presentation to the entire school, providing a wonderful opportunity for students to understand and participate in the richness of African culture.

### SCHOOL RESOURCES

Instructional Time*	School	District K-6	State K-6
Total Hours of Instruction Per Year	988	988	985

\*State law requires at least 900 hours for grades 1 through 12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours for half-day kindergarten.

### TECHNOLOGY



% of Classrooms, Libraries, and Laboratories Wired for:	School	District K-6	State K-6
Video	100.0	98.5	64.6
Voice	100.0	100.0	74.8
Internet Access	100.0	100.0	97.3
Multi-Room Network (LAN)	100.0	100.0	81.3

Computers	School	Dist K-6	State K-6
# of Students Per Academic Computer	4.8	4.0	3.6
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	98.9	97.1	89.5
% of Computers with Internet Access, All Speeds	62.1	97.0	97.3
% of Computers with High Speed Internet Access	62.1	97.0	96.1
% of Internet Computers with Filtering Software	69.5	98.5	98.6

This school does not have a functional satellite link.

## SCHOOL RESOURCES, continued

### LIBRARY MATERIALS

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

Print and Non-Print Materials	School	Dist K-6	State K-6
# of Print Volumes Per Student*	33.5	32.8	28.0
% of Print Volumes Purchased in the Last Three Years	19.8	12.2	12.2
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	13	20.0	15.1
# of Non-Print Materials	80	275.9	406.8

\*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.

### STAFFING RESOURCES



Average Class Size		School	District	State
Gr. K	2006-07	24.0	19.6	18.2
	2001-02	21.3	20.3	18.3
Gr. 2	2006-07	23.3	20.2	19.5
	2001-02	18.0	19.6	19.6
Gr. 5	2006-07	21.7	22.1	21.2
	2001-02	22.7	21.4	21.5

School Staff Count Full-Time Equivalent	2006-07	2005-06
# of Certified Staff		
Teachers	28.0	27.9
Administrators	1.0	1.0
Department Chairs	0.0	0.0
Library/Media Staff	1.0	1.0
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	1.0	0.3
Other Professionals	2.4	1.5
# of Non-Certified Instructional	3.0	3.0

Professional Staff Race/Ethnicity	2006-07	2005-06	2001-02
% Minority	2.6	2.7	2.6
Professional Staff Experience and Training	School	District K-6	State K-6
Average Years of Experience in Connecticut and Other Locations	11.7	12.2	14.0
% with Master's Degree or Above	76.9	80.6	81.0

## SCHOOL PROCESSES

Selected Subject Areas, Grade 5	Estimated Hours of Instruction Per Year			Computer/Technology Supported
	School	District	State	
Art	36	36	31	No
Computer Education	0	2	17	N/A
English Language Arts*	427	421	427	Yes
Family and Consumer Science	0	0	1	N/A
Health	28	28	23	No
Library Media Skills	18	18	18	Yes
Mathematics*	202	200	195	Yes
Music	36	36	32	Yes
Physical Education	54	54	40	No
Science*	76	79	97	Yes
Social Studies*	75	74	92	No
Technology Education	0	0	1	N/A
World Languages	36	41	11	No

\*Interdisciplinary Approach

## SCHOOL PROCESSES, continued



<b>Types of Remedial Instructional Services Provided to Students Lacking Basic Skills</b>	<b>Available in Mathematics</b>	<b>Available in Language Arts</b>
Pull-Out Instruction	No	Yes
In-Class Tutorial	Yes	Yes
After School Program	No	No
Summer School (2006)	No	No
Other	No	No

**World Language** Formal instruction (at least 1 hour per week) in a world language starts in grade 3 in this school. In Connecticut, 13.3% of K-6 schools have started world language instruction at this grade or earlier.

<b>Student and Teacher Statistics</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>District K-6</b>	<b>State K-6</b>
% of Students Retained in Grade after 2005-06 School Year	0.2	0.2	1.5
Teacher Attendance, 2005-06: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	5.5	6.4	8.7
% Certified Staff Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	79.5	80.5	83.3

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### HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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The following narrative was submitted by this school.

Aiken Elementary School values and promotes family involvement in the education of our students. During our Open House and Curriculum Night presentations, parents and guardians are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the Aiken community, including participation in the PTO and volunteering in classrooms. A volunteer orientation is held in September to orient new parents to the volunteering process.

Teachers communicate regularly with families regarding students' progress within the curriculum, through newsletters, e-mails, notes and phone calls. In addition, teachers meet with parents in conferences to review progress in report cards in November and March. Teachers provide detailed information regarding homework, school curriculum themes, projects and events that occur at each grade level. This information is also highlighted on our school website. Our school newsletter is also available for families on the website.

During the 2006-2007 school year, Aiken staff celebrated the rich diversity of our community by providing an outreach presentation and supper for families whose native language is not English. This presentation was given in collaboration with the Charter Oak Family Resource Center. Families also had the opportunity to participate in other activities sponsored by the Resource Center.

Parents and community volunteers also serve as mentors and tutors at Aiken School. In addition, our PTO Cultural Council sponsors outstanding music and movement presentations for the students. This year, the Bi-Okoto Drum and Movement presentation, the Wing Masters Program and the Hartford Stage Actors' Theatre were a few of the programs funded by our PTO to benefit students.

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## STUDENT PERFORMANCE

**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 All Schools in State	
				Lowest %	Highest %
Grade 3 Reading	62.1	67.5	52.3	1.6	92.6
Writing	76.9	72.6	60.8	0.0	93.9
Mathematics	60.6	71.5	59.4	0.0	96.0
Grade 4 Reading	80.3	65.9	57.0	0.0	95.2
Writing	82.9	76.9	65.1	0.0	96.8
Mathematics	86.8	73.1	62.3	0.0	100.0
Grade 5 Reading	83.6	75.9	61.4	2.6	98.7
Writing	82.1	77.8	64.6	2.3	98.5
Mathematics	83.6	78.8	66.0	4.5	95.8
Grade 6 Reading	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics	N/A	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](http://www.ctreports).

To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov) and click on "No Child Left Behind."

Student Attendance	School	District K-6	State K-6
% on October 1, 2006	95.4	97.4	96.3



Physical Fitness % Passing All 4 Tests	School	District	State	Of All Schools in State	
				Lowest %	Highest %
Grade 4	61.8	40.0	33.5	0.0	86.6
Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	93.8

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**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES**

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The following narrative was submitted by this school.

During the past school year, Aiken School focused on improving student performance in math. Comprehensive instruction targeting district and CMT math objectives occurred at all grade levels, Kindergarten through fifth grade. A parent presentation on CMT performance occurred in the fall. Additional small group instruction was also provided through our building teaching assistant, paraprofessional and curriculum specialist. Building-level professional development workshops addressed implementation of best practices and key math objectives that students needed work in. As a result, our students at the fourth and fifth grade levels met or exceeded district and state goals. Additional work will be spent at the third grade level in the coming year providing focused instruction in reading and math so that students meet district objectives.

A new software system, IEP Direct, has been implemented during this year to facilitate the development and modification of Individual Education Plans (IEP) for students with special education needs. Parents are actively involved in the framing of the IEP and in the Planning and Placement Team process. The focus of the PPT is to provide appropriate support in academic, social, language, fine and gross motor areas to students in the least restrictive environment. Consistent collaboration between general and special educators is a key element to the effective delivery of services and the successful achievement of educational goals.

Parent feedback and collaboration are integral components to the Aiken School community. Parents are actively involved in volunteering in our classrooms at all grade levels. Principal's coffees are held to encourage conversations with parents on topics of interest. Our Parent Teacher Organization develops numerous activities throughout the year to engage and support families. Bi-monthly parent presentations on topics of concern are offered at PTO meetings. Child care is provided so that parents can actively participate. This past year, a special dinner presentation was held for parents from second language backgrounds in collaboration with the Charter Oak Family Resource Center as a means of providing outreach to Aiken's uniquely diverse community.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION**

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

During this year Aiken School has focused on caring, respect and responsibility through developing the leadership competencies of our fourth and fifth grade students. Through our Safety Patrol and Student Council, we have enhanced opportunities to act as role models and mentors for younger students through assistance in classrooms and creating a safe and orderly dismissal routine at the close of each school day. Students have created puppet skits focused on how to be good friends and understanding differences in others. Our fifth grade class presented an all school assembly on the topic of nutrition in a fun-filled rendition of various food groups. A special assembly was held to recognize school bus drivers and safe bus behavior. In addition, our students have raised funds for important medical and community related concerns, such as "Pennies for Patients", local food pantries and animal shelters. Numerous projects were initiated to celebrate students' diverse backgrounds through our English as a Second Language Program. Students were able to research the history and background of their native land to create a presentation for classmates and teachers. Parents assisted in the projects by sharing special food dishes from the students' native countries.

Aiken staff continues to expand their knowledge of curriculum and instruction through attendance at professional development workshops focused on math, literacy, social studies and science. In addition, opportunities for grade level and vertical grade articulation have assisted teachers in developing rubrics, interpreting assessment data and planning instruction in a cohesive way to support student learning. This will continue to be an area of focus in the upcoming school year.

To view Strategic School Profiles on the internet, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov) and click on Connecticut Education Data and Research. Additional education data are also available at this site.

For the school/district website, see [www.whps.org/school/aiken/homepage.htm](http://www.whps.org/school/aiken/homepage.htm)



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