

STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2009-10

Elementary School K-6 Edition

Norfeldt School**West Hartford School District**

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Location: 35 Barksdale Road
West Hartford,
Connecticut

Website: www.whps.org/school/norfeldt/norfeldtwebsite/index.htm

This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c) using data and narratives provided by the school district or testing services. Profiles and additional education data, including longitudinal data, are available on the internet at www.sde.ct.gov.

TYPE OF SCHOOL

School Type: Traditional/Regular Education
School Grade Range: K - 5

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Enrollment on October 1, 2009: 427
5-Year Enrollment Change: -3.2%

INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL NEED

Need Indicator	Number in School	Percent in School	Elementary Schools	
			% in District	% in State
Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals	19	4.4	15.9	36.7
K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English	30	7.0	9.5	7.4
Students with Disabilities	46	10.8	10.4	10.9
Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented	28	6.6	5.2	2.4
Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	63	92.6	89.6	80.5
Students in Grades Above School's Entry Grade Who Attended Same School the Previous Year	340	94.7	93.7	91.6

PROGRAM AND INSTRUCTION

Instructional Time	School	State Elementary Schools
Total Days per Year	183	181
Total Hours per Year	983	992

State law requires that at least 180 days of school be offered to students in kindergarten through Grade 12, 900 hours of instruction to Grades 1-12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students.

Type of Kindergarten: This school offers full-day kindergarten.

Average Class Size	School	District	State
Kindergarten	22.7	19.8	18.5
Grade 2	18.5	20.3	19.7
Grade 5	21.5	21.0	21.1

Required Hours of Instruction Per Year in Selected Subject Areas		
Grade 5	School	State
Art	36	31
Computer Education	0	18
English Language Arts	422	422
Family and Consumer Science	0	1
Health	32	22
Library Media Skills	18	19
Mathematics	200	199
Music	36	33
Physical Education	54	41
Science	75	97
Social Studies	74	88
Technology Education	0	2
World Languages	36	14

World Language

Formal instruction (at least 1 hour per week) in French starts in Grade K in this school. Statewide, 6.2% of elementary and middle schools that serve Grade K start world language instruction by this grade.

Lunch

An average of 30 minutes is provided for lunch during full school days.

Special Programs	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
% of K-12 Students in Bilingual Education Program or Receiving English as a Second Language Services	7.0	9.5	7.4
% of Identified Gifted and/or Talented Students Who Received Services	100.0	100.0	76.7
% of Special Education Students Attending This School Who Spent Over 79% of Their Time with Their Non-Disabled Peers	73.9	75.7	80.9

LIBRARY AND COMPUTERS

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

Instructional Computers and Library Materials	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
# of Students Per Computer	3.4	2.9	3.2
% of Computers with Internet Access	100.0	100.0	99.1
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	100.0	98.6	89.9
# of Print Volumes Per Student*	36.1	35.7	28.9
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	12	22	12

*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.

SCHOOL STAFF

Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff	
General Education: Teachers and Instructors	29.30
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	3.60
Special Education: Teachers and Instructors	5.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	22.00
Library/Media Specialists and/or Assistants	1.40
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs	1.00
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists)	1.00
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	1.40
School Nurses	1.00
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support	8.50

In the full-time equivalent count, staff members working part-time in the school are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in a school contributes 0.50 to the school's staff count.

Teachers and Instructors	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
Average Number of Years of Experience in Education	12.6	12.0	13.6
% with Master's Degree or Above	63.2	80.1	79.9
Attendance, 2008-09: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	6.4	7.1	8.2
% Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	81.6	82.8	86.9

HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Teacher E-Mail Addresses: All teachers at this school have been issued e-mail addresses.

Online Homework Information: A portion of the school website is devoted to homepages.

The following narrative about how this school promotes and supports parental involvement was submitted by this school.

Throughout the year, Norfeldt School provided a variety of opportunities for parents to participate in curriculum-based activities. For example, in 2009-2010 kindergarten children and parents attended Walk With the Masters, an exhibition of students' interpretations of works of artists they had studied. Kindergarten parents attended an outstanding performance of "The Three Piggy Opera." First grade parents attended their children's Harambee Festival, a culmination of the students' study of Kenya. Grade 2 children and their parents worked side by side at different centers during our Family Math Night. Parents of third graders participated with their children in Caribbean Night. Grade 4 students and parents spent time reading together at the Four on the Floor Event. Other opportunities for community involvement at the school included Grandparents/Special Persons Day; Voice & Vision— An Exhibition of Student Art and QuEST Type III Projects, a Veteran's Day Ceremony at which relatives and friends of students who have served in the armed forces were recognized, a Fall Family Picnic, a Spring Fair, and a Kindergarten Popsicle Social to welcome our youngest students and their families. In order to help parents better understand the curriculum content and expectations, Curriculum Night was held in early fall. Norfeldt's early intervention teacher and the first grade team provided a literacy workshop, also in the fall, for parents of children receiving reading support services. The principal provided a workshop for parents of third graders who were receiving after-school support in mathematics. The principal also presented information to parents at a PTO meeting about the CMTs. Norfeldt is proud of the support it receives from parents. Parents provide the school with support as volunteers in the classrooms and library, and with support for extra-curricular activities. One hundred percent of our children had at least one parent who attended parent/teacher conferences during the year. Parents and teachers are encouraged to communicate with each other regularly by e-mail and by phone between the regularly schedule conference times.

SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	0	0.0
Asian American	60	14.1
Black	23	5.4
Hispanic	30	7.0
White	314	73.5
Total Minority	113	26.5

Percent of Minority Professional Staff: 4.4%

Open Choice:

1 student(s) attended this school as part of the Open Choice program. Open Choice brings students from urban areas to attend school in suburban or rural towns, and students from non-urban areas to attend city schools

Non-English Home Language :

16.2% of this school's students (excluding prekindergarten students) come from homes where English is not the primary language. The number of non-English home languages is 18.

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.

Norfeldt School, formerly an intra-district magnet school, continued its "Classical Education" theme, with children beginning their study of world language (French) and culture in kindergarten. This provided students with the opportunity to engage in a variety of learning experiences that broadened their understanding of cultural differences. Starting in 2010, French instruction will begin in 3rd grade. Grades 1 and 2 students will have the opportunity to maintain their skills in and understanding of French language and culture through Morning French Club. In addition to neighborhood children, children from throughout the district attend Norfeldt school as participants in Norfeldt's learning center program designed for children with special needs. Attendance by students from throughout the district enriches the cultural and ethnic diversity of the school and enhances opportunities for students to broaden their understanding of and appreciation for others. The social studies program incorporates multiple opportunities to explore the cultures of Mexico, Kenya, Japan, and The West Indies, as well as diverse key religious holidays. Norfeldt students consistently participate in several outreach programs throughout the broader community and beyond. This past year as in years past, students organized food drives for a local food bank as well as a drive for school supplies for students with financial needs. In response to the disaster in Haiti, students in West Hartford's Norfeldt, Aiken, and Webster Hill Schools students participated in "Hearts Across West Hartford," a fund raising event sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Schools and The Governor's Office, raising in excess of \$9,000.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND BEHAVIOR

Physical Fitness: % Reaching Health Standard on All Four Tests*	School	District	State	% of Schools in State with Equal or Lower Percent Reaching Standard
Grade 4	70.9	65.6	50.3	85.9
Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Includes tests for flexibility, abdominal strength and endurance, upper-body strength and aerobic endurance.

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 Schools in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal
Grade 3 Reading	81.4	70.9	57.0	91.9
Writing	79.7	71.4	58.3	88.0
Mathematics	85.9	75.4	62.4	90.2
Grade 4 Reading	84.3	68.6	59.9	91.9
Writing	87.3	74.7	63.6	94.6
Mathematics	96.2	77.6	67.0	99.3
Grade 5 Reading	83.8	76.0	61.8	89.1
Writing	80.5	80.2	68.2	72.8
Mathematics	90.5	85.4	72.4	87.5
Science	69.5	70.7	59.4	65.6
Grade 6 Reading	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics	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.com.

To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to www.sde.ct.gov and click on "No Child Left Behind."

Student Attendance	School	District Elementary Sch.	State Elementary Sch.
% Present on October 1	98.6	97.8	96.5

Disciplinary Offenses

Disciplinary offenses committed by students include all serious offenses, offenses involving drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, and all incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion. In the 2008-09 school year, 3 students were responsible for these incidents. These students represent 0.7% of the estimated number of students who attended this school at some point during the 2008-09 school year.

Number of Incidents by Disciplinary Offense Category, 2008-09		
Offense Category*	Location of Incident	
	School	Other Location
Violent Crimes Against Persons	N/A	N/A
Sexually Related Behavior	N/A	N/A
Personally Threatening Behavior	N/A	N/A
Theft	N/A	N/A
Physical/Verbal Confrontation	N/A	N/A
Fighting/Battery	N/A	N/A
Property Damage	N/A	N/A
Weapons	N/A	N/A
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	N/A	N/A
School Policy Violations	N/A	N/A
Total	3	0

* Counts by category may be suppressed to protect student privacy.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

The following narrative was submitted by this school.

Faculty members continued to work collaboratively in grade level teams, in vertical teams which spanned all grades and special areas, and as a whole school to develop and revise the School Improvement Plan. The plan is regularly reviewed and revised to meet the changing needs of our students. Norfeldt's plans for improvement focused on having all students not only reach but exceed performance standards as defined by federal, state and district guidelines. During the 2009 - 2010 school year, the Plan targeted specific areas of reading comprehension and numeracy skills. The use of a new scientifically research-based reading anthology, Storytown, was implemented in grades 3 and 4 in 2008-2009 and in grade 5 in 2009 - 2010. In 2010 - 2011, implementation will continue in grades 1 and 2. Kindergarten teachers will receive training in the use of this anthology in spring 2011, for implementation the following year. Since 2004-2005, classroom teachers have met regularly with the principal and the curriculum specialist in order to develop goals and plans designed to ensure greater success by those students who have demonstrated academic, social, and/or emotional needs. During the 2009-2010 school-year, Norfeldt implemented grade level data teams, and will continue with these teams going forward. Each team consists of general education classroom teachers and at least one special education teacher /related services staff member (e.g. Speech and language pathologist, psychologist, social worker, occupational therapist, physical therapist). The early intervention reading and ESOL teachers also participated in these Data Teams. In order to better meet the learning needs of our children, we provided two after-school math programs. One program focused on children in grade 3, and ran from October through February. The second program was for students in grades 3, 4, and 5, and ran during the later spring. Norfeldt School, and the greater West Hartford Public Schools, provides special opportunities to meet the needs of children who demonstrate talent in different academic and artistic areas. Students participate in Art QuEST, Math QuEST (grades 4 and 5, taught at grade levels 6 and 7), and QuEST (general gifted and talented program).

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

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

The driving force behind Norfeldt's mission is to promote and nurture individuals who are lifelong learners. The school community maintains high expectations for student performance and achievement. Instruction is enhanced through the inclusion of French instruction, classical literature, art and music. Finally, the heart and soul of the school are enriched through its district-wide program for children with special needs (multipl-disabled), which is located at Norfeldt. The Norfeldt community continues to focus on its climate of kindness through the establishment of a Wall of Honor, which displays certificates acknowledging students' academic, social, or emotional growth. Every Norfeldt student has been acknowledged in this fashion during the past six years. Teachers have been trained in Love and Logic and in the Second Step Curriculum. Norfeldt students have engaged in Unified Physical Education programs that promote greater understanding and sensitivity between students in the regular education program and students with special needs. The many opportunities, activities, and initiatives described above are evidence of Norfeldt School's commitment to fostering respect and responsibility for self and others within a safe environment.
