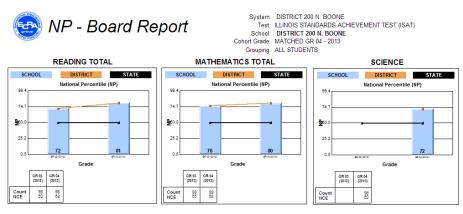
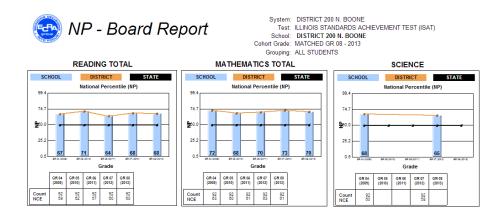
Superintendent's Report

NCLB & AYP

According to the AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) Data provided by the ISBE, Capron and Poplar Grove are both required to offer school choice. None of the buildings, K-8 made AYP. This is compounded by the fact the ISBE significantly raised the achievement standards for the ISAT scores (which isn't a bad thing, but timing was poor). They did this before the state has received a waiver for the sanctions of NCLB from the US Department of Education. However, since none of the buildings have made AYP and none of the local districts have responded to our request to take our choice students, we will not be able to offer choice. Last year, we had one fourth grade student use choice to transfer from Poplar Grove to Manchester.

The positive news is that NBHS did in fact make AYP. I think that the work over the past several years has started to show a return on the investment. As we move to a student growth statistical method from the current arbitrary annual standard, I think that we will appear to be performing more effectively as a district. The current ECRA growth data shows positive (or expected) growth for nearly all of our grade levels, subjects and sub-groups. Attached are the AYP status forms for the district and the individual schools.





ECRA Data Dashboard

Along with the data from the ISAT matched growth comparisons above, the ECRA organization

is in the process of providing more visual data for our review. I am using the graduate rate as an example, since our graduation rate was artificially low last year due to poor reporting on our part in 2007 to 2010. Kathy Gustafson fixed the issue for 2013, but the state won't let us modify previous years' data. Effectively, when students left NBHS in 2008, 2009, & 2010, they weren't necessarily properly exited in the ISBE's SIS system. Similarly some students were listed twice, etc. Our actual graduation rate for



2013 should be just shy of 90%. Our five year cohort graduation rate for the Class of 2012 improved to 82.98%.

New Teacher & Staff Orientation

Lindsay Abbeduto again organized this year's new teacher orientation day. We had ten new teachers or long term substitutes involved in the training this year. They went over the district's evaluation system, benefits, and technology training. The new teachers then worked with their mentors after lunch. Melissa Geyman held a half day orientation on Wednesday, August 14 for the new teacher assistants. I think this was a valuable addition to our programming to ensure staff are able to start off on the right foot.

August 16 In-service Day

Mrs. Abbeduto and Mrs. Geyman organized the institute day and the schedule is attached. Michael Gorman did three targeted sessions on digital resources; one for each grade span. He did an excellent job and Jake Hubert actually used one of the videos from Gorman's presentation in his opening remarks to the NBHS students on Monday. Thanks to Gallagher Benefits who provided breakfast and lunch for the staff. The presentation I gave to the staff is attached.

Opening Day

I believe that the first day of school went extremely well. I was really happy to see instruction going on in classrooms by the afternoon. Becky Giesecke's "What I didn't do over the summer" writing assignment is an example of the creativity of our staff to expand our students. The buildings really looked good and Jim Novak and the custodial staff did a great job this summer.

Enrollment

This year's enrollment is similar to last year's with a few shifts. We are waiting to see if NBMS and NBHS enrollment is actually increasing or will some students be no shows on day one. The informal enrollment number from August 6 was 1692. We will most likely be over 1700 for the 1^{st} and 6^{th} Day enrollment numbers.

Recovering Unpaid Fees

We are doing better this year with regard to unpaid fees. We are more strictly enforcing the rules that students cannot participate or park unless their fees are up to date or they are up to date on payment plan. Rhonda Boeke has really taken control of the fee issue and is working hard to collect those outstanding balances.

AP Scores

North Boone had 12 AP students score 3 or better which is 16% of the students. By comparison, in 2012, 43% of the students scored a 3 or higher. The Illinois average for 3 or better scores is 66%. We didn't have a great showing this year, but we did increase the number of students taking the test, which I believe is a positive (in fact it is the only criteria US NEWS & WORLD REPORT uses to determine its list of the best high schools). 2012 was the first year for requiring all AP students to take the test. Attached is Heather Walsh's complete report.

<u>iFiber & MapleNet</u>

Jerry Rudolph did an exceptional job this summer shepherding the installation and connection of the new WAN to the iFiber connection. The project came in on deadline even though there were a number of construction and regulatory hurdles to have to overcome.

Capital Development Board

We were notified Thursday afternoon that the Capital Development Board will be funding our 2003 building programs up to a cost of \$13,545,489. Attached is the letter from the CDB. I will pass on more information when it becomes available from the CDB.

Additional Staffing

Due to additional student needs, we will be needing to hire an additional bilingual assistant, a special education assistant and an additional bus aide. These are all tied to new student needs that

couldn't have been anticipated in the spring. These modifications will be made prior to presenting the final draft of the budget in September.

Green & White Night

The Green & White Night is scheduled for August 23 beginning at 4:30.