

Analysis of NBHS Graduation Rate for the Class of 2011

According to the 2011 NBHS School Report Card, the graduation rate in North Boone has tumbled significantly. One must understand that the graduation rate is calculated by taking the number of high school freshmen in the Class of 2011 (on Oct. 1, 2007) and then comparing that with the number of graduates in the Class of 2011 (in May 2011). Due to the flawed process for reporting graduation rates, NBHS obtained 100% graduation rates in 2004 & 2005, as many students were moving into the district in that period. Beginning this year, students remaining in high school beyond four years are counted against the graduation rate. This appears to include special needs students along with traditional “fifth year seniors.”

Our reported graduation rate on the 2011 School Report Card will be 75.4% according to the ISBE. However, I can't justify that number with the information we have regarding the Class of 2011. I spoke with an ISBE representative, but she eventually articulated that we must have submitted inaccurate data. So, I decided to review the records and came up with a traditional graduation rate of 85.7% based upon the 114 graduates that ISBE is reporting. In fact, the number of Class of 2011 graduates is only 111.

	No. of Students	Percentage Completing High School
Graduates from the Class of 2011	111	83.4%
Graduates from the Class of 2010 & 2012	3	2.25%
Alternative School Graduates	3	2.25%
Received a GED prior to May 2011	1	0.75%
Total Completing in 4 years		88.65%
Dropouts	6	4.5%

Historical Graduation Rates as reported by ISBE for NBHS

2010	89.1	2005	100
2009	89.3	2004	100
2008	89.2	2003	88.0
2007	90.9	2002	98.8
2006	86.7	2001	81.5

Review of the Data

The Class of 2011 included 137 students in October 2007. (*We had 141 for 6th day enrollment and 137 9th graders for the 2007 Fall Housing Report (the official enrollment report).*) The Class of 2011 included 111 graduates last spring. Plus three additional graduates from the classes of 2010 & 2012. Any students who take more than four years to graduate do not count toward the reported graduation rate.

	No. of Students	Potential Graduates
Members of the Class of 2011 on 10/1/2007	137	137
Transferred into the district after 10/1/2007	22	159
Transferred out of district to another high school.	25	134
Died prior to graduation	1	133
Dropped out from NBHS	5	
Dropped out from ROE alternative school	1	
Graduated in May 2011	111	133
Late graduates from the Class of 2010	2	
Graduated Early from the Class of 2012	1	
Obtained a GED through Lincoln's Challenge	1	
Graduated from alternative programs in the summer of 2011	3	
Still attending NBHS as 5 th year seniors	10	
Still attending Special Education Programs under the district's auspices	5	
Still attending ROE alternative school	2	