

Press Release -September 29, 2016

RE: Student Achievement in the Paris Independent School District

**Student Achievement Data Released: Paris Independent School District is Rated Proficient**

All 2016 Kentucky State Assessment scores were released this week, and the Paris Independent School District was labeled a Proficient District. All schools in the Paris School District saw growth in student achievement, with the greatest improvement coming from Paris Elementary School.

Superintendent Ken Bicknell gave praise to the students, the teachers and staff, and all school leaders. Bicknell said, "In Paris, we all work together as a team for our kids, and our kids are some of the finest young people you will find anywhere. When adults in our school system show students we care, and are willing to give our best for them, good things happen. All of our teachers and staff in the Paris Independent School District are doing that. We are working hard to make our schools the best they can be for our students. Our principals, teachers, and all adults in our school district are here to help with student achievement. This community embraces this school district, and I am blessed to be a part of it."

Paris Elementary saw tremendous growth this year with an overall score gain of 16.9 points. The prior year overall score was 52.7; PES achieved an overall score for 2015-2016 of 69.6. Paris Elementary students achieved success in Achievement, Gap, and Growth that make up their Overall Learner's Score. Not only did Paris Elementary receive a proficient rating, but because of the outstanding growth made from the previous year, Paris Elementary was rated as a High Progress School. High Progress indicates growth achieved was in the top 10% of growth state wide.

Paris High School was rated proficient for the second year in a row and saw an increase in the achievement score supported by substantial growth with students that often struggle. Paris High School also saw an outstanding graduation rate of above 97%, which is much higher than the state average graduation rate. Paris Middle School achieved an increase in the overall score from the previous year, but fell just short of a proficiency rating. Program Review scores for elementary, middle and high were rated either proficient or distinguished in every area. Program Review scores are part of the overall score for each school.

Patrice Thompson, Chief Academic Officer for Paris Independent shared, "Our district is focused with a sense of urgency and commitment to continuous improvement to prepare our kids for college, careers, and life. A lot of hard work by our students, teachers and leaders in our schools resulted in success – one by one and school by school. We believe in the potential of every child in our schools and are committed to their success; it is a labor of love and our moral imperative as educators."

Superintendent Bicknell added, "A lot of hard work and commitment happened over the last several years. I'm very proud of where we are and of the folks who got us here. I am also extremely excited about where we are headed as a school district and the efforts I'm seeing to move us forward. Paris Pride is alive and well, and as our mission states, Paris Independent Schools are helping students succeed one by one."