

HAMLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28-3

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2015-2016 District Report Card

Dear Parents or Guardians,

We would like to share some information about how our students and schools are doing in the areas of student achievement. As some of you may know, the state of South Dakota changed the way student achievement is calculated and considered. More emphasis has been placed on how kids are growing academically through the entire school year, instead of how they perform on a test one time a year. This new system was put in place a piece at a time with input from the United States Department of Education and other educational groups. Last spring (2016), students took the Dakota STEP test in science, only, in grades 5, 8, and 11. These scores are on the site below. Last spring (2016), our students also took the online Smarter Balanced Test in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 in the areas of reading and math. Those scores, along with other information, are being used to help determine a School Performance Index, or SPI, that allows our schools to be compared to others in the state to see how we are doing. The SPI also considers such things as school attendance and graduation and drop-out rates of students in the school district. Academic Growth is in place as a new indicator for elementary and middle school. Student Achievement scores are based on multi-year performance. College and Career Readiness incorporates new assessments to better measure how prepared students are for post-secondary or the workforce.

Detailed reports of how all students in South Dakota scored may be found by going to the Department of Education's Webpage at: <http://doe.sd.gov/NCLB/reports/2016/reportcard/2016district28003.pdf> to view state level reports. (If you do not have internet access, please come to the Hamlin Education Center and internet access will be provided to you.) These reports also include information about how our students did at the state level on the National Assessment of Education Progress, or NAEP, test compared to students in the rest of the United States.

District and school level reports may also be found on the same web site by selecting the school, year, and the type of report you would like to look at. Full copies of the Hamlin School District reports are found in the Superintendent's, Elementary Principal/Title I Director's, or the Middle School/High School Principal's offices, along with the School Board meeting room at HEC. For help in getting to these reports or understanding what is in these reports, please call the Hamlin School District and talk to Superintendent, Pat Kraning, Elementary Principal/Title I Director, Gail Krause, or Middle School/High School Principal, Jeff Sheehan.

Sincerely,

Gail Krause, Elementary Principal/Title I Director

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