



Message from Dr. Barnes:

Another school year is behind us and we believe much progress was made again in the 2015-2016 academic year. Thank you for taking the time to review our Annual Report for the 2015-2016 academic year. We are very proud of the many accomplishments our students have achieved along with the help of teachers, staff members, parents, and patrons.

Our strategic planning goals progress continues as we have been focused on building and district level improvements. We continue those efforts because we want The School District of Seward to be a better school tomorrow than it is today. We want our school to be a better school next year than it is this year. We know that if we aren't improving we will fall behind.

As you look through this report you will see that progress has been made in terms of state testing results, yet that isn't the only stick we use to measure success. We look at our graduation rate, college going rate, course offerings, survey data, and so on. We also want students to experience the fine arts, vocational programs, technology integration, sports, speech, drama, and so forth. We want Seward High School graduates to be well-rounded, critical thinking, hardworking people.

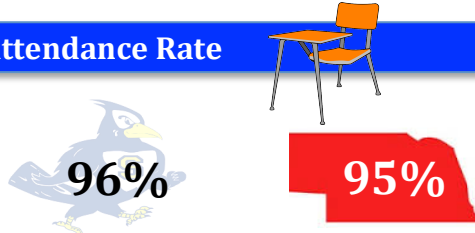
If you are interested in seeing more information on our school district you may review our district profile at <http://nep.education.ne.gov/Home/>. There is also more information on our district website at www.sewardpublicschools.org.

Characteristics

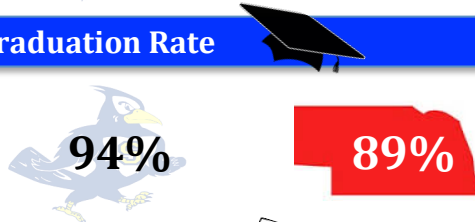
Student Enrollment



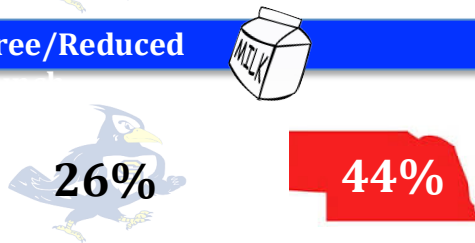
Attendance Rate



Graduation Rate



Free/Reduced



Special Education



Strategic Goal No. 1: We will develop plans to engage students, staff, family and community.

- 23,000 visits/ month on our new district and school websites
- 1,600 Facebook Likes
- 440 Twitter Followers
- Added two new AP Courses
- 3rd year of 9-12 iPad one-to-one initiative
- 84% of our parents from the 2016 parent survey gave Seward Public Schools an A or B.



Strategic Goal No. 2: We will establish and implement plans to model and develop positive character, citizenship, and leadership skills for all students.

- Implementation of Building Wide Character Building Programs at each level.
- Development of Service Learning Opportunities at our elementary, middle, and high schools.

Strategic Goal No. 3: We will develop and implement consistent district wide processes for instructional decisions.

- Implementation of new Social Studies Curriculum
- Seward Public Schools NeSA Scores are above the state average in all areas for students meeting or exceeding the state standards.
- In math and science we had 87% meet or exceed the state standards. In reading we had 92% meet or exceed the state standards and in writing we had 78% meet or exceed.



Strategic Goal No. 4: We will develop and support the implementation of academic programs and curriculum that drive each student to reach his or her full potential.

- Nearly 92% of our 2016 graduating seniors attended college after high school, an additional four percent entered the armed services.
- 5-year plan for all high school students
- District Wide College Week
- 23.4 ACT Composite

BUDGET INFORMATION

Tax dollars are a very important resource for school districts and their efforts to educate children. Nebraska schools receive taxes and other receipts from local, county, state, and federal sources. In the eyes of the state aid formula we are considered a wealthy school district so the formula doesn't generate much state support for us. We realize the burden on local taxpayers, but we don't really have many options if we want to offer quality education to our students.

If you visit our website, you will see a great deal of information relative to the 2015-2016 budget. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or make an appointment with Dr. Barnes to discuss in more detail.

Thank you for your support of the School District of Seward!

