October 9, 2008

To: Members of the Geneseo Board of Education
From: Joni Swanson

Geneseo Community Unit School District #228

Assessment Results

Prairie State Achievement Exam (2000-2008)

Presented to
The Geneseo Board of Education
October 9, 2008

Prairie State Achievement Exam
(2001-2008)

District Prairie State Achievement Exam Results - 2001-2008

Reading:

Grade 11	AW/Below Standards		Meets/Exceeds Standards	
	District	Illinois	District	Illinois
2001	37%	42%	64%	58%
2002	37%	42%	62%	58%
2003	36%	44%	64%	56%
2004	36%	43%	64%	57%
2005	34%	41%	66%	59%
2006	38%	41%	62%	59%
2007	38%	46%	62%	54%
2008	33%	48%	67%	52%

Mathematics:

Grade 11	AW/Below Standards		Meets/Exceeds Standards	
	District	Illinois	District	Illinois
2001	44%	46%	56%	54%
2002	39%	46%	60%	53%
2003	33%	47%	67%	54%
2004	34%	47%	66%	54%
2005	39%	47%	61%	54%
2006	39%	47%	61%	54%
2007	36%	47%	64%	54%
2008	36%	47%	64%	54%

Writing:

Grade 11	AW/Below Standards		Meets/Exceeds Standards	
	District	Illinois	District	Illinois
2001	32%	41%	67%	59%
2002	35%	40%	65%	59%
2003	33%	41%	67%	59%
2004	36%	40%	64%	60%
2007	34%	43%	66%	57%
2008	37%	44%	63%	56%

Science:

Grade 11	AW/Below Standards		Meets/Exceeds Standards	
	District	Illinois	District	Illinois
2001	45%	50%	54%	50%
2002	39%	48%	60%	52%
2003	36%	49%	64%	51%
2004	40%	47%	60%	53%
2005	40%	48%	60%	52%
2006	37%	49%	63%	51%
2007	41%	49%	59%	51%
2008	31%	49%	69%	51%

Prairie State ACT Scores: (Average Scores)

(The ACT tests are scored on a 1-36 scale.)

2001	Reading:	District: 20	State: 20
2002	Reading:	District: 21	State: 20
2003	Reading:	District: 21	State: 20
2004	Reading:	District: 21	State: 20
2005	Reading:	District: 21	State: 20
2006	Reading:	District: 21	State: 20
2007	Reading:	District: 22	State: 20
2008	Reading:	District: 22	State: 20
2001	Math:	District: 20	State: 20
2002	Math:	District: 20	State: 20
2003	Math:	District: 21	State: 20
2004	Math:	District: 21	State: 20
2005	Math:	District: 20	State: 20
2006	Math:	District: 21	State: 20
2007	Math:	District: 21	State: 20
2008	Math:	District: 21	State: 20
2001	Science:	District: 20	State: 19
2002	Science:	District: 21	State: 20

2003	Science:	District: 21	State: 20
2004	Science:	District: 21	State: 20
2005	Science:	District: 20	State: 20
2006	Science:	District: 21	State: 20
2007	Science:	District: 21	State: 20
2008	Science:	District: 22	State: 20
2007	English:	District: 20	State: 20
2008	English:	District: 21	State: 20
2007	Writing	District: 7	State: 7
2008	Writing:	District: 7	State: 7

(The Writing exam is scored on a scale of 2-12)

COMPOSITE SCORES: ACT

2001	Composite:	District: 19.75	
		State:	19.25
2002	Composite:	District: 20.25	
		State:	19.75
2003	Composite:	District: 20.75	
		State:	19.75
2004	Composite:	District: 20.75	
		State:	19.75
2005	Composite:	District: 20.3	
		State:	20.0
2006	Composite:	District: 21.0	
		State:	20.0
2007	Composite:	District: 21.0	
		State:	20.0
2008	Composite:	District: 21.5	
		State:	20.0

Press Release

October 9, 2008
For Immediate Release

Results of Prairie State Testing Released

During the regular meeting of the Geneseo Board of Education on October 9, 2008, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Joni Swanson, reported on the results of the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE).

The Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) was completed in April of 2008. All juniors at Geneseo High School participated in the exam. The ACT college entrance test, including exams in English Language Usage, Mathematics, Reading (content area) and Science Reasoning, is given on the first day of the two-day PSAE examination. As a part of the ACT, a writing sample is required. Students complete two Work Keys exams as a part of the Prairie State Assessment - one assessment is in Math, the other in Reading. Finally, Science assessments, produced by the ISBE, are administered to students covering the topics of Life, Physical, Earth and Technological Sciences. Student results from all parts of the exam are combined to create a composite PSAE score, from which cut scores determine ranges of scores that meet or exceed Illinois standards for 11th grade students.

The average composite score for the junior class (2007-08) ACT portion of the Prairie State exam was 21.5. The overall class average Composite score and the average test scores for Science Reasoning are the highest scores earned by students in Geneseo since the inception of the PSAE, wherein all students in grade 11th have been required to complete the ACT examination. The English Usage test also saw an increase of one full point on the ACT test. This year, 17 of the 223 students in the junior class (7.6%) earned Composite scores ranging from 30 to 35 points on a 36-point scale. Last year, only 4 students met that level of competency on the ACT battery of tests. The State of Illinois average for the ACT tests, as a part of the PSAE testing, was 20.

The range of the Illinois State scores continue on a course of little or no increase in the numbers of students meeting the AYP standard of 62.5%. From 10% - 18% more Geneseo students than the state average showed competency in these subject areas and met or exceeded the Illinois standards. The eleventh grade scores in Math and Reading are currently above the 62.5% level as established by the NCLB legislation, with 65.75 % of the students meeting or exceeding standards. A word of caution: 70% will become the required level for meets and exceeds on Math, Reading, and Science assessments for the 2008-09 test. Without some type of realignment of the achievement levels needed to meet or exceed on the PSAE, or without successful interventions on the part of Geneseo teachers and resulting gains from our students, Geneseo High School will find it very hard to meet the NCLB adequate yearly progress goals for the 2008-09 school year.