

**Annual Report to the Public**  
**Corning School District**  
**2016-17**

The Corning School District Board of Education, Superintendent, and district administrators hosted the Annual Report to the Public on September 27<sup>th</sup> in the CHS Library during its monthly session with all members present.

Mr. Chad Hovis, principal at Park Elementary opened the discussion by providing updates from the Park Campus. He reported that scores from the Iowa Test of Basic Skills identified significant strengths in Grade 2 in particular where students ranked #1 in math and #2 in reading compared to other schools in our region. He identified vocabulary and math concepts as areas needing improvement. Mr. Hovis also explained that Park School provides targeted small group instruction to meet individual student needs and deficit areas. These small groups are determined by analyzing student data from many sources. Park Elementary School has also replaced all classroom SmartBoards with new interactive smart tv's. This technology adds enhanced digital learning experiences for all students. Additionally, ChromeBooks have been purchased for each Kindergarten classroom this year.

Mrs. Heather Clifton offered the yearly update from Central Elementary beginning with an update of the many renovations at Central over the summer. All bathrooms were completely renovated and new color-blocked tile was patterned throughout one hallway. In compliance with state policy, all paneling was removed and replaced with drywall and new paint. Also, the counselor's building and nurse's office was fully remodeled. Academically, Mrs. Clifton explained that Central took the new state-mandated assessment, ACT Aspire last year. She reported that while most scores were above state and national averages, writing proved to be an area of concern. Because the test is online, keyboarding skills are a concern. To address this need, writing will be integrated more uniformly throughout the curriculum and keyboarding instruction will be increased in all grades.

A shared report from Corning High School was given by Mrs. Jennifer Woolard and Mr. Chris Eubanks. Mrs. Woolard reported that CHS students well-exceeded the national average on the PSAT assessment with 93% of students meeting the test benchmarks. Advanced Placement students also posted their highest scores ever achieved at CHS. Fifteen students of the 42 tested will receive college credit for their excellent AP test scores. CHS is also offering an abundance of concurrent classes through BRTC and ASU. While ACT Aspire scores weren't as high as expected, Mrs. Woolard explained many initiatives have been planned to address the deficit areas including added technology, paperless writing projects, and curriculum alignment. Mr. Eubanks added that Corning School

District now has a comprehensive monitoring program to better protect students from online dangers while helping keep them more focused on instructional goals. Mr. Eubanks also reported a Community Service class has been added this school year and remodeling was completed in the Art and Band building as well as the Self-Contained Special Education classroom.

Following the principals' presentations Corning School District Superintendent, Ms. Kellee Smith, reported that in accordance with ESEA requirements, all schools will be allowed a 'stay put' provision because 2015-2016 was the first year to administer the ACT Aspire assessment. All schools in the district are fully accredited and community stakeholders can access the entire school report card online at [www.arkansas.ed.org](http://www.arkansas.ed.org). Superintendent Smith also informed the audience about the design of the new district website. Mrs. Smith explained that Corning School District participates in school choice and all applications must be submitted to the district no later than May 1st each year. Corning Schools strictly adheres to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) to protect minors from pornography or dangerous online activities. A report was offered explaining the district Gifted and Talented program is represented at all three campuses. GT students are identified through a formal process and are presented various opportunities to extend their learning through projects, competitions, and other unique and challenging experiences. Ms. Smith added that a task force meets and discusses ways to close the achievement gaps in all subpopulations. Leadership teams meet monthly and administrative leadership teams meet weekly to discuss progress toward meeting district goals.

Ms. Smith reported the local budget is approximately \$13 million. Teacher salaries and maintenance are two primary expenditures from this budget. Restricted categorical and federal funds will be received. The approximate \$1,750,000 must be spent according to mandated guidelines.

School district facilities updates included replacing all wood paneling in the district, painting the walls, bathroom renovations at Central, and artwork added to walls. The CHS gymnasium was modernized with an upgraded floor and new bleachers. Plans are underway for the construction of a new weight lifting facility.