

OFFICE OF EDUCATION PERFORMANCE AUDITS



FINAL EDUCATION PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR

RITCHIE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

RITCHIE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

MARCH 2006

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

The West Virginia Office of Education Performance Audits conducted an Education Performance Audit of Ritchie County High School in Ritchie County on April 7, 2005.

A Follow-up Education Performance Audit of Ritchie County High School in Ritchie County was conducted January 26, 2006. The purpose of the follow-up was to verify correction of the findings identified during the original Education Performance Audit. The review was in accordance with West Virginia Code §18-2E-5 and West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2320 which specify that a school that meets or exceeds the performance and progress standards but has other deficiencies shall remain on full accreditation status and a county school district shall remain on full approval status for the remainder of the accreditation period and shall have an opportunity to correct those deficiencies. The Code and policy include the provision that a school "... does not have any deficiencies which would endanger student health or safety or other extraordinary circumstances as defined by the West Virginia Board of Education."

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE 2003-2004

77 RITCHIE COUNTY
Dr. Richard N. Butler, Superintendent

501 RITCHIE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL - Needs Improvement

April D. Haught, Principal
Grades 09 - 12
Enrollment 464

Group	Number Enrolled for FAY	Number Enrolled on April 20	Number Tested	Participation Rate	Percent Proficient	Met Part. Rate Standard	Met Assessment Standard	Met Subgroup Standard
Mathematics								
All	94	99	99	100.00	73.40	Yes	Yes	✓
White	93	97	97	100.00	73.11	Yes	Yes	✓
Black	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Low SES	35	38	38	100.00	62.85	NA	NA	NA
Spec. Ed.	17	18	18	100.00	35.29	NA	NA	NA
LEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reading/Language Arts								
All	94	99	99	100.00	81.91	Yes	Yes	✓
White	93	97	97	100.00	81.72	Yes	Yes	✓
Black	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Low SES	35	38	38	100.00	65.71	NA	NA	NA
Spec. Ed.	17	18	18	100.00	41.17	NA	NA	NA
LEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

FAY -- Full Academic Year

* -- 0 students in subgroup

** -- Less than 10 students in subgroup

**Needs to Improve
Graduation Rate = 77.4%**

**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE
2004-2005**

This section presents the performance measures and the Follow-up Education Performance Audit Team's findings. The high quality educational standards and performance measures were investigated through the examination of documents; observation of practices; and interviews with personnel, students, and parents.

77 RITCHIE COUNTY

Dr. Richard N. Butler, Superintendent

501 RITCHIE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL - Passed

April Haight, Principal

Grades 09 - 12

Enrollment 464

Group	Number Enrolled for FAY	Number Enrolled on Test Week	Number Tested	Participation Rate	Percent Proficient	Met Part. Rate Standard	Met Assessment Standard	Met Subgroup Standard
Mathematics								
All	106	108	102	94.44	64.00	By Average	Yes	✓
White	106	108	102	94.44	64.00	By Average	Yes	✓
Black	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Low SES	46	47	45	95.74	54.54	NA	NA	NA
Spec. Ed.	16	16	11	68.75	27.27	NA	NA	NA
LEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reading/Language Arts								
All	106	108	102	94.44	77.00	By Average	Yes	✓
White	106	108	102	94.44	77.00	By Average	Yes	✓
Black	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Indian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Low SES	46	47	45	95.74	68.18	NA	NA	NA
Spec. Ed.	16	16	11	68.75	18.18	NA	NA	NA
LEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

FAY -- Full Academic Year

* -- 0 students in subgroup

** -- Less than 10 students in subgroup

**Passed
Graduation Rate = 93.3%**

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Achieved Standard

5.1.1. Achievement

Ritchie County High School achieved adequately yearly progress (AYP) for Achievement. However, the number of students enrolled for the full academic year (FAY) considered for the achievement standard was below the number (N) 50, which is considered for accountability in the economically disadvantaged (SES) and special education (SE) subgroups. These subgroups performed below the State's proficiency level. Ritchie County's curriculum staff and school staff are urged to vigorously address the low performance of these subgroups.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

The economically disadvantaged (SES) and special education (SE) subgroups remained below the level of proficiency even though the N was below 50.

Below Standard

5.1.4. Graduation rate.

Ritchie County High School failed to achieve adequately yearly progress (AYP) in 5.1.4. Graduation rate. In accordance with Section 9.5 of West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2320, *A Process for Improving Education: Performance Based Accreditation System*, the West Virginia Board of Education issued the school Temporary Accreditation status at the September 10, 2004 State Board meeting.

In accordance with Section 9.4. of the policy, the Unified School Improvement Plan (USIP) had been revised to address 5.1.4. Graduation Rate, the plan was approved by the West Virginia Board of Education, and the school was meeting the objectives and time line specified in the revised USIP. Consequently, the West Virginia Board of Education upgraded the school to Conditional Accreditation status at the February 10, 2005 meeting.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

COMPLIANCE. The graduation rate increased to 93.3 percent.

EDUCATION PERFORMANCE AUDIT

NONCOMPLIANCES

6.1. Curriculum

- 6.1.2. High expectations. Through curricular offerings, instructional practices, and administrative practices, staff demonstrates high expectations for the learning and achieving of all students and all students have equal education opportunities including reteaching, enrichment, and acceleration. (Policy 2510)**

Two teachers did not exhibit high expectations for their students. Students were not engaged and not paying attention to the teachers. Both teachers were observed to be grading papers while the students were sitting at their desks. Students in the CATS-9 class were grading each others papers while the students who were not finished with the assignment were told to sit quietly and listen.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

COMPLIANCE. The Team observed classrooms and noted that teachers kept their students fully engaged and active in the learning process.

6.7. Safe, Drug Free, Violence Free, and Disciplined Schools

- 6.7.1. School rules, procedures, and expectations. School rules, procedures, and expectations are written; clearly communicated to students, parents, and staff; and enforced. (Policy 2510; Policy 4373)**

Tobacco use was evident in the student rest rooms.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

COMPLIANCE. Tobacco use was not evident during the Follow-up Education Performance Audit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1.12. Multicultural activities.** While numerous multicultural activities were taking place throughout the school, a formal county multicultural plan was not in place. The Team recommended that the school implement schoolwide multicultural activities based on the county plan.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWED. A county multicultural plan had been developed and the students and staff were fully aware of the plan.

- 6.2.3. Lesson plans and principal feedback.** Three teachers' lesson plans were not as thorough as they could have been. The Team recommended that these three teachers develop more complete lesson plans.

FOLLOW-UP REVIEW

RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWED. The Team reviewed teachers' lesson plans and determined that they were clear, concise, and could easily be utilized by a substitute teacher.

BUILDING CAPACITY TO CORRECT DEFICIENCIES

- 16.1. Capacity building is a process for targeting resources strategically to improve the teaching and learning process. School and county Unified Improvement Plan development is intended, in part, to provide mechanisms to target resources strategically to the teaching and learning process to improve student, school, and school system performance.**

The Team determined that Ritchie County High School and Ritchie County have the capacity to correct the identified deficiencies.

FOLLOW-UP CONCLUSION

The school and county have worked diligently to correct the noted deficiencies in the original Education Performance Audit Report.

SCHOOL SYSTEM APPROVAL AND SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STATUS

School	Accreditation Status	Education Performance Audit High Quality Standards	Annual Performance Measures Needing Improvement	Date Certain
77-501 Ritchie County High	Full Accreditation			

Education Performance Audit Summary

The Office of Education Performance Audits recommends that the West Virginia Board of Education continue the Full Approval status of the Ritchie County School System and continue the Full Accreditation status of Ritchie County High School.