

The Value of a Butler Education

To gauge the value of an education in Butler School District 53, we looked at a number of variables: Student achievement, finances and investment in the buildings and program.



Student Achievement

Butler District 53 ranked 2nd on recent state tests of 18 high-performing schools with similar achievement and demographics in the Chicago region.



Finances

The District continues to improve its efficiency and reduce its instructional cost per student while investing in facility improvements.



Investment in Program & Facilities

Butler District 53 continues to invest in its curricular program so that students can achieve their personal best and in its facilities so the schools can remain a valued commodity in the community.



Student Achievement and Performance



Historically Comparable School Districts

These are the most recent scores available from the state

2017 PARCC Readiness %

Lincolnshire-Prairie View 103	80.7
Butler School District 53	77.6
Northbrook/Glenview 30	77.3
Western Springs District 101	76.0
Avoca School District 37	74.9
Kenilworth District 38	74.9
Sunset Ridge District 29	73.3
Kildeer District 96	72.7
(Hinsdale) CCSD 181	71.8
Bannockburn District 106	71.3
Aptakisic-Tripp District 102	70.0
Winnetka District 36	69.0
River Forest District 90	68.0
Wilmette District 39	67.5
Lake Forest District 67	66.6
Glencoe District 35	66.5
Gower District 62	62.6
Glen Ellyn District 41	57.8
Pleasantdale District 107	57.2

State PARCC Exam



Butler Junior High and Brook Forest are among the top performing schools in the state. Both in 2016 and 2017, Butler District 53 ranked No. 2 on PARCC readiness scores compared to 18 school districts of a similar size and demographic. The 18 comparable schools are also among the highest ranking public school systems in Illinois. (See chart at left)

NWEA MAP



Butler graduating 8th grade students scored, on average, in the 99th percentile nationally in both math and English Language Arts (ELA), demonstrating exemplary preparation for high school. Students at all grade levels, on average, are performing one to two grade levels ahead of their peers nationally, based on results of the 2017-18 NWEA MAP test. On average, 69 percent of students in ELA and 60 percent in math met or exceeded growth targets. This compares to a national average of 50 percent.

5Essentials



The 5Essentials survey examines areas of the schools related to organization and climate. Overall, results of surveys to Butler District 53 parents, teachers and students show that classes are challenging and engaging, families are highly involved, and the school is safe and supportive. The highest performing indicators were involved families, supportive environment and ambitious instruction. Butler Junior High scored among the top in the state for its climate and culture, based on results of student, staff and parent surveys.

Progressive Education

Here are some recent areas of focus to strengthen our curriculum, personalize learning and help students be successful in school and beyond.

English Language Arts Development

We have built a strong, balanced literacy program with a Reader's and Writer's Workshop model. Students are being exposed to a robust and well-rounded ELA curriculum that emphasizes speaking, listening, reading, writing and vocabulary.

Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM)

Changes and additions in our program, practices and tools are helping students develop the knowledge, skills and dispositions to become tomorrow's innovators, researchers, educators and leaders.

Digital Literacy

To help students navigate in today's complex ever-changing digital world, we've targeted more skill development within the English Language Arts curriculum, expanded teachers' professional development and provided students expanded access to proven resources.

Personalized Learning

In modern classrooms, with students who have varying interests, backgrounds, abilities and learning needs, we are focused on meeting the needs of learners anywhere, anytime, at any pace and any place, thus assuring each child can achieve their personal best.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Butler District 53 has heightened its focus on supporting students' social and emotional growth. Our new programs help students recognize and manage emotions, establish healthy relationships, set positive goals, behave ethically and responsibly and avoid negative behaviors.

Student Choice

Student empowerment translates to greater engagement, passion and learning. We've implemented student choice in classroom projects, art curriculum, student-led fundraising, extracurricular activities and junior high exploratories.

ELA

- Proven Reader's and Writer's Workshop model
- Vocabulary development, word work
- Comprehension strategies
 - Nurturing student engagement

STEM

- STEM curriculum 6-8
- Enhanced curricular resources for problem solving
 - Hour of Code
- STEM, science enrichment
- Developing STEM curriculum in grades K-5.

Digital literacy

- Digital devices for all students K-8
- Digital tools for collaboration and communications
- Google Apps for education
 - Chromebooks in grades 3-8; iPads in K-2
 - Digital citizenship classes

Personalized learning

- Shift toward personal responsibility for learning
- Connect learning to interests, talents, passions, aspirations
 - Multi-tiered supports
- Target learning pathways
- Create interest-based learning opportunities
- Provide online learning to support core curricula

Student choice

- More extracurriculars
 - Choice-based art
- Student-led fundraisers
 - Classroom projects
- Variety of exploratories

Social emotional

- Create supportive, nurturing environment using Quantum Learning Strategies
- Guidance programming
 - RULER Program for emotional intelligence
- Increase in social work and guidance support

Financial Planning

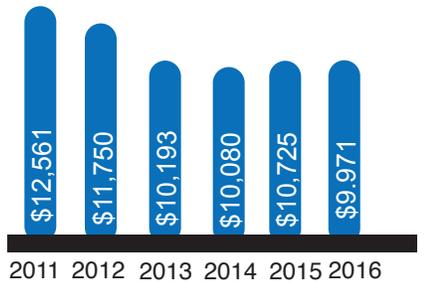
Reducing costs



While achievement gains in the schools have been great, the operating cost per pupil has gone down from \$20,100 per pupil in 2010 to \$17,500 in 2014 and again down to \$17,295 in 2015-16. Also, a *DuPage Policy Journal* analysis noted that spending per pupil is down 13 percent from five years ago. At the same time, the District continued to invest in its facilities.

Butler District 53

Instructional cost per pupil



Instructional expense per pupil compared to 18 similar school districts

Sunset Ridge District 29	\$17,148
Kenilworth District 38	\$13,552
Winnetka District 36	\$12,454
Bannockburn District 106	\$12,972
Northbrook/Glenview 30	\$11,620
Hinsdale District 181	\$10,776
Avoca District 37	\$10,746
Glencoe District 35	\$10,358
Lake Forest District 67	\$10,313
Butler District 53	\$9,971
Gower District 62	\$9,516
Lincolnshire District 103	\$9,411
Aptakisic-Tripp District 102	\$9,377
River Forest District 90	\$9,125
Wilmette District 39	\$9,074
Pleasantdale District 107	\$9,000
Glen Ellyn District 41	\$8,855
Kildeer District 96	\$8,291
Western Springs District 101	\$6,579

Multi-year investment in the facilities

Butler Junior High

- Renovating old and outdated locker rooms
- Regrading the outdoor playing fields and improving field drainage
- Adding a safety vestibule for the gym, additional parking and connecting the drive to the front circle driveway at BJH
- Redesigning and replacing the parking lot
- Creating a secure lobby for the District office
- Installing a new security system
- Updating and correcting drainage in the courtyard

Brook Forest

- Redesigning and replacing driveway and improving drop-off areas
- Replacing the boiler
- Adding shelving and cabinetry and painting the school
- Installing a new security system
- Improving playing field drainage
- Installing a new roof
- Updating flooring
- Installing new lockers