



Elementary School Field Trip

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



*Middle School Students Measure Hole Depth for
Arbor Day Tree Planting*

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Oversight and Administration

The Weston School Committee sets the budget, establishes educational policy, and hires the superintendent for the Weston Public Schools. The committee is composed of five residents who are elected by the town to staggered three-year terms. The School Committee usually meets at least twice a month to conduct its regular business, with dates and times posted at the Town Hall, the Weston Public Library and Weston High School. These meetings are open to the public. Dr. Alan Oliff, Superintendent of the Weston Public Schools since 1998, is responsible for supervising and managing the daily operations of the schools.

Schools and Enrollment

The Weston schools are situated on two campuses. Weston Middle School, serving students in grades 6-8, and Weston High School, serving students in grades 9-12, are on one campus on the south side of Weston. The elementary schools are clustered near Weston center with the School Administration building, the Recreation Center and the Public Library. The Country and Woodland Schools serve students from kindergarten through third grade and the Field School serves students in fourth and fifth grade. Since 1999, Weston has also operated an integrated pre-school, called Weston Windows, to fulfill its mandate to educate children with special needs from the age of three. Weston Windows is located in the Country School.

Enrollment for the 2005-2006 school year, as of October 1, 2005, was 2,301 students. This represents an overall decrease of 18 students, or a -.8% change from the previous school year:

	Change in enrollment	% change
Elementary Grades K-5	- 7 Students	-.7%
Middle School Grades 6-8	- 17 Students	-3.2%
High School Grades 9-12	+ 6 Students	+ .9%

Overall, enrollment is projected to decline over the next several years but the cohorts with peak enrollment levels will continue to affect staffing and the budget particularly at the High School level.

Academic Achievement and College Placement

The School Committee believes that many factors contribute to academic achievement. Some of these factors are class size; teaching quality; the variety and types of academic, artistic, civic, athletic and social experiences offered to students; performance on standardized tests; and college placements. Committee members consider and are guided by all of these considerations in making budget and policy decisions affecting the schools.

In the spring of 2005 students in grades three through ten participated in MCAS testing in several disciplines, including English Language Arts (3, 4, 7, & 10), Mathematics (4,6, 8, & 10), and Science/Technology (5 & 8). With the exception of grade three, student results are ranked into four performance levels: Advanced, Proficient, Needs Improvement, and Warning/Failing. Overall the MCAS results were consistent with previous exemplary performances. All Weston High School students passed the tenth grade examinations, a state requirement for graduation, with over 94% in Mathematics and 95% in English Language Arts scoring in the Proficient and Advanced categories. The federal government, through the No Child Left Behind legislation, has set the year 2014 for implementation of the requirement that all students score annually in the Advanced and Proficient ranges on statewide standardized tests in Mathematics and English

Language Arts. Weston's tenth grade scores came within five or six percentage points of meeting that requirement in 2006, but, in looking to the future, students who struggle with Mathematics and English Language Arts are receiving additional support beginning in first grade to help them meet that goal.

Over the last nineteen years, the Weston Public Schools has utilized the testing program of the Educational Records Bureau (ERB) to assess our ability to maintain high standards for our students. These standardized tests evaluate ability, skill, and knowledge in Language Arts and Mathematics and provide scores and rankings for participating urban and suburban public and private schools across the United States. The results of the 2005 ERB examinations, which are given in grades three through seven, indicate a strong performance by students throughout our district. In all categories of the Reading Comprehension and Mathematics in grades three through seven, Weston students scored higher or equal to the suburban and independent norm groups. On the Mathematics test, Weston students ranged from five to eighteen percentage points higher than their suburban and independent school counterparts across all five grades. Further information on our district's performance is available on the Curriculum and Instruction website.

The Class of 2005 comprised 162 students. The average scores for this class on the SAT I (scale of 200 to 800) were 622 on the Verbal test (compared to a national average score of 508) and 630 on the Mathematics test (compared to a national average score of 520). Ninety-eight percent of the class took the examination and 12% of the class qualified as either National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists or Commended Students.

The SAT II achievement exams test knowledge and skill in specific subjects. The more competitive colleges and universities typically require their applicants to take the Writing and English Composition and Math SAT II tests. Performance by the Class of 2005 on these tests was very good. The average score on the Writing/English Test was 663, compared to the national average of 605, with 70% of the class taking the test. The average score on the Math L1C was 609, compared to national average of 586, with 41% of the class participating; and on the Math L2C was (a more advanced level of the test) was 721 versus 670 nationally, with 25% of the class taking the test.

Participation and test results in Advanced Placement courses is another widely accepted measure of academic performance, and here, too, Weston High School students did very well. Our participation rates are high. In 2005, 52% of juniors and 63% of seniors took at least one Advanced Placement course. Those students took a combined total of 335 AP tests. Eighty-seven percent of exams earned scores that would qualify for college or university credit.

While we are understandably proud of the achievements of the district and our students, as teachers and administrators, we know that effectively educating students for the 21st century cannot be measured by test results alone; it means producing curious life long learners eager to take on the challenges of our world. Fifty-one percent of the Class of 2005 will be attending the top 11% of the colleges and universities evaluated in terms of competition to gain admission as listed in Barron's Profile of American Colleges. Furthermore, 75% of the middle fifth of the class will also be attending these schools.

Facilities

The school community is very grateful to the Town for supporting the upgrade of our school buildings. The High School, Middle School, Country School and Woodland School have undergone significant renovations and expansion resulting in modern, bright educational facilities.

In May, 2005 the Town approved a warrant article for a feasibility study of the Field School, which houses grades 4 and 5. The study will establish a comprehensive plan for building improvements, including capital needs, space reconfiguration and programmatic upgrades.

Curriculum and Other Initiatives

As part of the Learning Standards Initiative the School Committee approved a plan presented by the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Cheryl Maloney, in the fall that established a ten-year schedule for reviewing the curriculum in all disciplines and special programs. The plan includes two types of reviews: 1) program reviews that will be conducted by outside teams of professionals given a charge by the School Committee and 2) internal progress reports designed to focus on new initiatives and overall programs. In January 2006 a team of six professionals from outside the district will conduct a review of the Technology Integration program. The team will consist of two university professors, two public school technology faculty members, a private school technology director, and a Weston High School graduate attending college, who operates a technology consultant business. They will visit classes in all five schools, interview parents, students, principals, faculty and paraprofessionals and reviewed documents. The Chair, Dr. Isa Zimmerman, will present the committee's findings to the School Committee in the spring of 2006.

Under Dr. Maloney's leadership the district launched an innovative instructional initiative in response to specific needs of our elementary students. The Early Mathematics Intervention Program in grade one is aimed at helping all students access grade level mathematics. Students are screened for areas of weaknesses and then supported in the necessary skill and conceptual development so that they can keep pace with their classmates in the grade level mathematics. Also in the area of mathematics, over thirty elementary teachers and administrators completed the "Math Fundamentals on the Way to Algebraic Thinking in Elementary School" course offered through the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The participants completed work on line, collaborated in teams to complete assignments, and utilized new knowledge and practices in their teaching of mathematics. The Elementary Math Curriculum Specialist, Debra Shein-Gerson, and the Chair of the Mathematics Department, Dennis McCowan, will present a progress report on the K-12 mathematics curriculum and current initiatives in March of 2006.

Several new courses were added to the Middle and High School Program of Study for the fall of 2006, which support our district wide global education initiative. Mandarin will be a Foreign Language option in the seventh grade. With each successive year, an additional level will be added so that in five years, the course will extend into the eleventh grade. In addition, two new history courses have been added at the High School, Contemporary Asia and Africa and Contemporary Middle East and Latin America.

The focus of the district wide professional development this year is our ongoing work on pre-assessment strategies, differentiated instruction, and collaboration on curriculum standards and benchmarks. In addition, over 50 teachers and administrators will be participating in an anti-bias, anti-racist teaching course sponsored by the district. Other important areas of professional development include the Weston Professional Development Academy, which this year sponsored over thirty courses for teachers and staff. These courses, taught by Weston faculty and staff, meet in the late afternoon and range in subject matter from "Writing in Mathematics" to "Introduction to Blogging" and "Hatha Yoga." Teachers also have participated in the Teachers As Scholars program, EDCO professional development programs, Primary Source workshops, ASCD conferences, and numerous other out-of-district conferences. Professional development continues to be one of the district's particular strengths both as a means of ensuring excellence in teaching, and also as an efficient use of our personnel resources.

Special Education

Weston Public Schools remain committed to the inclusion of children with special needs in the general education classroom. We support an inclusion model with the necessary resources to provide a successful experience for all students. The result is cost effective programs for students in special education that are consistent with the high quality educational programs provided to all students in the district.

The pre-school special education population continues to increase and the severity of their needs has also grown. In response to this increase, the Weston Public Schools established an integrated pre-school for both typically developing and special needs children in 1999-2000. Now in its seventh year, the program is well regarded by parents of both regular and special education children and its quality has been noted by the Department of Education. This program is one of the single best initiatives for offering a long-term cost-containment strategy with corresponding program effectiveness. The classrooms occupy a wing of the Country School with space that conforms to the age and needs of the pre-school students.

School Budget

The School Committee's 2005-2006 Budget was \$25,821,087, a 5.1% increase over the previous year. This budget increase was driven substantially by five principal needs:

- Increase in Salaries of 3.57%, as determined by collective bargaining agreements.
- Growth in amount and intensity of Special Education services
- Shift in enrollment to the high school level
- Additional cost of meeting state and federal mandates, most notably No Child Left Behind
- Increase in the cost of utilities

Program improvements contributed less than a 1% increase over the FY 2005 budget. These improvements fall into the following major areas: updating course offerings, and implementing key library and technology operational improvements from the Long Range Plan.

In addition, the School Committee again approved a "Student Activity Fee", although at a reduced level from the prior year, to partially offset the budget increase needed to preserve key academic programs. The School Committee continues to believe that a blanket fee should not be levied to fund school activities and is continuing to find ways to reduce or eliminate it in future years.

The School Committee believes that this budget adequately met the educational needs of the Town's children while reflecting the economic climate and fiscal constraints of the Town.

METCO

This year marks the 38th year of the Town of Weston's participation in the METCO Program. METCO was founded in 1966 and is the second oldest voluntary school desegregation program in the nation. It is funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the state's Racial Imbalance Act. The mission of the program is to provide access to quality suburban public school education for students of color from Boston, while enhancing the educational and social experience of suburban students by providing an integrated learning environment.

The Weston/METCO Program currently enrolls 160 students from grades Kindergarten to twelfth grade and is supported by staff and volunteers, including a dedicated METCO administrator, academic counselors, a parent organization, which consists of parents of Boston students, a local Community Coordinating Committee, which includes representative from Weston and Boston, faculty, and administration. These groups assist the program in the areas of strategic planning, fundraising, social events, and the lobbying process.

Weston's METCO students have historically enjoyed success in academics and athletics, as well as in the areas of music and the arts. Many members of the 2005 senior class gained early admission to the colleges of their choice, with 78% attending four-year colleges and 98% continuing their education in post-secondary institutions. Our middle school and elementary schools' "Homework Club," which was instituted last year, has enjoyed success in assisting both Weston and METCO students who have academic or organizational needs. Our Family Friends/Host Family Program has been a highlight of the METCO Program. It offers families from Boston Communities opportunities to share their urban and suburban experiences and the program provides a local center of contacts in case of an emergency. This program has participated in several successful fundraising events, as well as a variety of social events both in the Weston and Boston communities.

Volunteer Organizations

The school system benefits from private financial and volunteer support, all of which enhance the variety or quality of education in Weston. The Weston Education Enrichment Fund Committee (WEEFC) is a subcommittee of the Weston School Committee. It provides financial grants to teachers, administrators, students and parents for projects and equipment that are beyond the scope of the operating budget. In 2005, its nineteenth year, WEEFC raised record funds at its auction fundraiser and through its regular campaign. Contributions of more than \$500,000 were used to fund approximately 130 grants. Given the very challenging budget climate, WEEFC has ensured the special quality of experiences for Weston students through enrichment activities. Since its inception, WEEFC has received contributions of more than \$2.5 million and funded more than 2,000 projects.

The Weston Boosters Organization continued its unfailing support for Weston's athletic and co-curricular programs. The successes of our athletic teams are due in part to the Boosters' contributions to purchase such items as scoreboards, uniforms and equipment to name just a few.

Finally, the schools benefited greatly from the efforts of the Weston Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The PTO serves as a vital link between parents and the schools, facilitating communication and providing volunteers and resources to enhance school programs. Curriculum was enriched by programs brought in by the Creative Arts and Science Council committees, organized and funded by the PTO. A Parent Education effort was introduced this year in conjunction with the town-wide wellness initiative. The PTO organized programs such as Active Parenting, and other forums addressing numerous issues of interest to parents. Weston is fortunate to have large numbers of eager volunteers at every grade level who spent time in classrooms, planned and carried out special events, and served on committees and School Councils.

Notable Events of 2005

Retirements

The following long-term, valued members of the school community retired during 2005. Their contributions have significantly enhanced and supported the education of our students.

Barrineau, Jean, Bus Driver and Cafeteria Worker since 1/21/1986;

Bazile, Gabriel, General Maintenance Custodian Painter since 8/10/1987;

Briskman, Susan, MS Librarian since 9/1/92

Dunipace, Rita, GS Art Teacher since 9/1/1975;

Furey, Janet, MS Computer and English teacher since 1/1/1969;

Haggerty, Barbara, WS ESL Teacher and MS French Teacher since 9/1/1972;

Marks, Judith, WS Guidance Counselor since 9/1/1976;

Moran, James, HS art Teacher since 9/1/1971;
Walsh, Patricia, Special Education Placement Specialist since 9/1/1998;
Warren, Patricia, FS Grade 4 Teacher since 9/1/1977

Community Service Projects

Students in every school participated in community service projects during 2005. At the high school, 235 students who completed at least twenty hours of volunteer work received certificates of recognition for their work.

Recognition and Awards

Many students and staff were recognized in 2005 for excellence for a wide variety of activities and endeavors. Some of them were:

Administration and Faculty

- Mary O'Brien was voted Golf Team Coach of the year by the Boston Globe.
- Janis Townsend, Woodland School Nurse was named Massachusetts School Nurse of the Year.
- Judy Moro, Middle School Teacher, was chosen to attend the Space Academy for teachers at NASA in Huntsville, Alabama.
- Elizabeth Wright, Middle School Teacher, was accepted in the Dynamic Life Program at the Museum of Science.
- John Minigan and the Weston High Theater Company was nominated to represent the United States at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland the Summer of 2006.
- Riola Lazo, Elementary Metco Liaison has been selected to receive a Music Advocacy Award.

Student Awards

Art

- Kim Obusek, Alan Yee, Margareg Davies and Naomi Zeidman received honorable mentions in the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards.

Drama & English

- Lindsay Sousa, won the Boston Shakespeare Competition, and was selected to travel to New York and perform in the National Semi-finals at Lincoln Center.
- Theater Company's original play, Escaping Alcestis was the overall winner in the 110-school Massachusetts High School drama Festival. In addition Weston picked up more than fifty awards along the way.
- Robert Slotnick won the Bronze Medal for the New England and the team of Robert Slotnick and Natalie Birren won the Silver for Set Design at the New England Theater Conference Olympiad.
- Alexandra Siegel was one of the winners of the Massachusetts High School Drama Guild Acting Scholarship auditions. Hannah Sweet was given an honorable mention.

Music

- The following students were selected for the 2005 Massachusetts All-State Band, Orchestra and Chorus; Joseph Wynant(Band), Dric Stix, Dylan Wood(Orchestra), John Condakes, John Dryden, Daniel Helfer (Chorus) performed at Boston Symphony Hall on March 18th, 2005.
- The High School Dance Team was voted #1 varsity Hip-Hop Dance Team in New England.

Sports

It was another outstanding year for Weston High School athletics:

- Wrestling - Freshman Tyler Wong won the State Division III Wrestling Championship.
- Swimming - The boy's team won their seventh consecutive state championship and set three state records in the process. Senior Eric Nilsson was named as a high school All American in six individual events in addition to being a member of three All American relays, he was also named as Massachusetts High School Swimmer of the Year. Senior Trevor Frankel was also honored as an academic All American in swimming.
- Swimming - The girl's team were the North Sectional champions for the seventh time in the past eight years and were also state runners up for Globe Swimmer of the Year and was named as a high School All American in five events.
- Indoor Track - Senior Trevor Frankel earned a prestigious Boston Globe Scholar Athlete award. Also Indoor Track - Senior Allison Ritter won the New England Indoor Track Championship.

Conclusion

The Weston Public Schools maintains its reputation as an outstanding public school system and continues to provide an excellent education for its students amidst growing fiscal constraints. The commitment of the town to education and the focus of the School Committee on high standards enable our students to excel. The challenges ahead, both short- and long-term, include recruitment and retention of qualified staff, continued uncertainty about federal and state funding and mandates, and negotiations of all union contracts under difficult fiscal conditions. The School Committee, however, is committed to maintaining a high quality of education for all students in the community and will continue to focus its resources to meet those challenges.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS*

	Oct. 1 <u>1998</u>	Oct. 1 <u>1999</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2000</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2001</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2002</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2003</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2004</u>	Oct. 1 <u>2005</u>
Kdg	168	177	172	181	160	166	167	138
Grade 1	176	177	186	181	185	173	172	175
Grade 2	181	177	183	182	184	201	180	187
Grade 3	184	189	183	187	171	188	203	183
Grade 4	190	191	197	185	193	175	184	206
Grade 5	184	196	193	196	188	196	171	181
Grade 6	179	183	198	190	192	179	194	177
Grade 7	185	177	181	193	193	192	179	186
Grade 8	140	185	179	176	197	196	187	180
Grade 9	113	143	174	169	164	185	182	172
Grade 10	116	106	143	167	171	155	182	187
Grade 11	136	120	106	139	161	164	155	174
Grade 12	<u>110</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>155</u>
TOTAL	2,062	2,149	2,215	2,254	2,299	2,330	2,319	2,301

*These enrollments include nonresident as well as resident pupils registered in the schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>
Residents in Private School	351	364	416	419	440	441	411
% of Residents in Private School	15.8	15.7	17.2	17.0	17.3	16.9	16.4

**Source: annual January 1 census conducted by the Town.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PUPILS PER CLASS - Grades K-8

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Standards</u>		<u>Actual</u>				
	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>2001-02</u>	<u>2002-03</u>	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2005-06</u>
K	17	23	20.1	17.8	20.8	20.9	19.7
1	17	23	20.1	20.6	19.2	19.1	19.4
2	18	24	20.2	20.4	22.3	20.0	20.8
3	19	25	20.8	19.0	20.9	20.3	20.3
4	20	26	20.6	21.5	21.9	20.4	20.6
5	20	26	21.8	23.5	21.8	21.4	22.6
6	21	27	21.1	21.3	19.9	21.6	22.1
7	20	26	21.5	21.5	21.3	19.9	20.7
8	21	27	22.0	21.9	21.8	20.8	20.0

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF BY SCHOOL LEVEL - 2005-2006

	<u>High School</u> <i>(Grades 9-12)</i>	<u>Middle School</u> <i>(Grades 6-8)</i>	<u>Elementary Schools</u> <i>(Grades K-5)</i>
Administration	2.00	1.00	3.00
Supervisors	3.10	3.10	.40
Art	4.10	1.60	2.25
Business	1.00	--	--
English, Drama, & Dance	9.80	10.00	--
Foreign Language	8.75	4.00	2.30
Grades K-5	--	--	50.95
Guidance	3.80	3.00	3.00
Home Economics	1.00	--	--
Industrial Arts	--	1.05	--
Math & Computers	11.38	8.5	2.0
Media Services	1.00	1.00	3.00
Music	1.80	1.50	3.88
Phys Ed./Athletics/Health	5.05	4.40	3.53
Reading Specialist	--	--	2.60
Science	9.00	6.10	.5
Social Studies	8.50	6.10	.5
Special Education	2.60	2.90	11.10
Student Activities	--	--	--
TOTAL SCHOOLS	72.88	54.25	89.01

In addition, there are 21.12 positions serving all schools and the pre-school, and 8.39 positions funded by State or Federal grants, for a total professional staff of 245.65

RECORD OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION PLACEMENT

Class	Number of Graduates	% to 4 Year Colleges	% to Other Education	% of Total Continuing
1995	121	87	10	97
1996	110	86	10	96
1997	100	86	7	96
1998	92	95	2	97
1999	108	93	3	96
2000	130	91	6	97
2001	119	89	4	93
2002	111	84	10	94
2003	140	91	5	96
2004	161	93	5	98
2005	162	95	2	97
10 Yr. Avg.	123	90	5	96

PROFESSIONAL STAFF STATISTICS - 2005-06

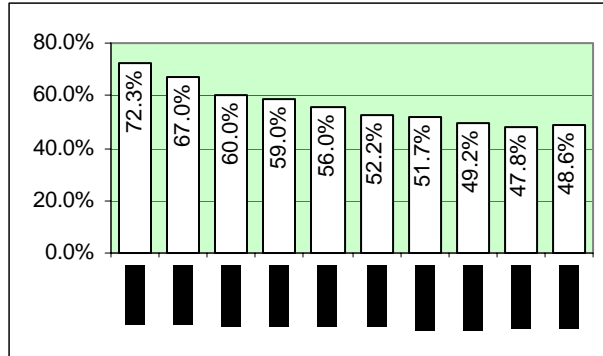
Two hundred forty-seven full- and part-time professionals teachers, guidance counselors, psychologists, librarians, specialists, and nurses provide educational services to Weston students. Each one is a unique person with special talents and knowledge. With the data below, we attempt to present a statistical picture of the Weston staff.

1. **Education:** Weston teachers and specialists are well educated. 75.7% have earned master's and doctoral degrees and among teachers who have earned post-graduate degrees, 40% have studied at least one year beyond the Master's (Master's + 30 credits).

2. **Experience:** Approximately 48.6% of Weston teachers have twelve or more years of experience. Of the thirty-two new teachers we hired this year, six were hired at Step 1. About 40% were hired at the Bachelor degree level. (See Table 1 & 2)

% Teachers at Top Step

Fall 1996	72.3%	Fall 2001	52.2%
Fall 1997	67.0%	Fall 2002	51.7%
Fall 1998	60.0%	Fall 2003	49.2%
Fall 1999	59.0%	Fall 2004	47.8%
Fall 2000	56.0%	Fall 2005	48.6%

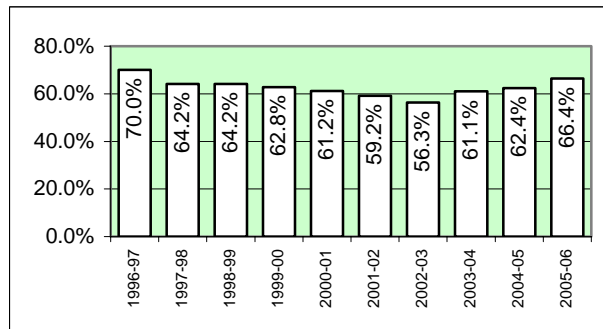


3. **Professional** The percentage of staff with "professional teacher status" has gone up slightly this year.

Teacher Status: This year, we added 32 new professional staff. Twenty-seven departed (five were due to leaves-of-absence) (Table 1-4b). Twenty teachers gained professional teacher status at the beginning of the school year. The nurses and athletic trainer who joined the WEA recently are not governed by the rules of the Professional Teacher Status.

% Teachers with Professional Teacher Status

Fall 1996	70.0%	Fall 2001	59.2%
Fall 1997	64.2%	Fall 2002	56.3%
Fall 1998	64.2%	Fall 2003	61.1%
Fall 1999	62.8%	Fall 2004	62.4%
Fall 2000	61.2%	Fall 2005	66.4%



4. **Turnover:** 13.1% of the total number of teachers left at the close of 2004-05, and of those who left, 75% left voluntarily.

Staff Turnover

	<u>Left</u>	Left Voluntarily <i>(as % of those who left)</i>
1997-98	10.8%	90.0%
1998-99	11.9%	82.6%
1999-00	15.6%	80.1%
2000-01	10.5%	90.9%
2001-02	14.3%	90.9%
2002-03	10.0%	85.2%
2003-04	13.5%	78.8%
2004-05	13.1%	5.0%

CENSUS OF RESIDENTS AGE 0 - 5
As of January 1

BIRTH YEAR	CENSUS YEAR, JANUARY OF									
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1991	129									
1992	150	169								
1993	128	134	160							
1994	120	127	135	153						
1995	134	137	144	152	173					
1996		103	113	121	145	156				
1997			133	144	157	187	187			
1998				119	141	163	170	177		
1999					119	135	143	145	161	
2000						100	105	117	119	138
2001							121	127	140	157
2002								98	106	116
2003									90	98
2004										92
TOTALS	652	670	685	689	735	741	726	664	616	601

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, PROFESSIONAL STAFF, AND EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL DATA

SCHOOL YEAR	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
HIGH SCHOOL											
October 1 Enrollment	433	451	460	475	497	543	583	636	664	682	688
No. of Staff*	41.75	43.1	44.1	51.85	53.2	55.95	63.75	67.3	70.1	71.0	72.9
Pupil-Staff Ratio	10.4	10.5	10.4	9.2	9.3	9.7	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.4
MIDDLE SCHOOL											
October 1 Enrollment	422	400	455	504	545	558	559	582	567	560	543
No. of Staff*	37.2	36.1	40.35	44.4	49.75	51.00	54.15	55.6	55.1	55.2	54.3
Pupil-Staff Ratio	11.3	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.0	10.9	10.3	10.5	10.3	10.2	10.0
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS											
October 1 Enrollment	962	1,016	1,056	1,083	1,107	1,114	1,112	1,081	1,099	1,077	1,070
No. of Staff*	67.95	70.5	72.95	74.8	77.55	83.75	87.5	86.75	85.15	87.1	89.0
Pupil-Staff Ratio	14.2	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.3	13.3	12.7	12.5	12.9	12.4	12.0
ALL SCHOOLS											
October 1 Enrollment	1,817	1,867	1,971	2,062	2,149	2,215	2,254	2,299	2,330	2,319	2,301
Total Prof. Staff**^	154.45	157.8	165.55	179.5	190.6	201.3	215.8	221.7	222.7	226.0	222.1
Total Pupil-Staff Ratio	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.5	11.3	11.0	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.2	10.4
Expenditure Per Student	\$7,784	\$8,009	\$8,170	\$8,469	\$8,740	\$9,223	\$9,724	\$10,083	\$10,132	\$10,592	11222/

*Includes Teachers, Specialists, and Building Administrators


**Includes Central Office Personnel

^Not including positions funded by State and Federal Grants

/Based on Estimated Expenditure for year in progress

REPORT OF WESTON INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

Established in 1950 by Town Meeting, the affiliation oversees the town's two international student exchange programs, one with the town of Rombas, France, and one with a preparatory school in Porto Alegre, Brazil. We also help welcome any student from abroad who attends Weston High School.

	<p>Every year, the committee selects one Weston student to go to each of the two countries, and welcomes one student from each of our affiliated communities. The affiliation pays round trip airfare for the Weston students. We assist our visitors by finding homes for them and helping with academic and social adjustments and with expenses incurred while in Weston. These expenses include school accident insurance, some of the cost of the Close-Up trip to Washington, DC, or the full cost of the eighth grade trip there, yearbooks, special books and classroom supplies, sports deposits and other miscellaneous expenses. In 2005, we also helped to sponsor a group of Russian students and their teacher for a ten-day trip here.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Gabe Fizer, the 2005-2006 WIA Exchange Student to Rombas, France.</i></p>	

Although we are an official town committee, we receive no tax money. Our funds come from an annual town-wide appeal, and from our spring brunch. Townspeople were generous as always in 2005, and we raised about seven thousand dollars from these two sources. Contributions are tax deductible.

The affiliation is also grateful for the support we receive from the community in the form of housing for our visitors. Approximately ten families a year open their homes and hearts to these teenagers. Lasting ties often form, some of which now extend thirty or forty years. Each student usually stays about two months with five different families, thus seeing several versions of what an American family looks like. New host families are welcomed by the affiliation. We encourage families who cannot serve as hosts to participate by inviting our international students to a dinner, weekend trip, sport event, the movies, or another family activity.

Highlights of 2005:

*Our visiting scholars for the current school year are:

Livia Silva from Porto Alegre, who has stayed with the families of Anwar Bhamla and Fareeda Osman, Henriette and John Power, and Peg and Rick Golden

Juliette Lebrun from Rombas, whose hosts have been the families of Carol and Henry Fizer, Wendy and Jon Spector, and Patty and Paul Stiehl

Juliette and Livia were honored at the annual reception in September at which they were officially welcomed to the town by Superintendent Alan Oliff as well as Acting High School Principal Robert Desaulniers and Assistant Principal Natalie Cohen.

*In 2004-05, our exchange students were:

Etienne Galvez from Rombas, whose hosts in 2004 were the Eagles, the Fizers, the Spectors, and the Endicotts.

Mariana Ribeiro from Porto Alegre, who stayed with the Phelans, Angiollilos, and Teplows.

*Weston students abroad:

Gabe Fizer is spending the 2005-06 school year in Rombas.



Current Weston International Affiliation exchange students: (from left) Juliette Lebrun of Rombas, France; Fred Stiehl, Weston's '04-'05 exchange student to France; and Livia Silva of Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Other highlights of the year:

* Jim Smith, member of WIA and history teacher at the high school, helped organize a ten-day trip to Weston for a group of Russian students and their teacher. WIA sponsored the group and welcomed them at our spring brunch.

The committee extends special thanks to the host families in all three participating countries. They provide the most essential ingredient for the success of this cultural exchange.

WESTON WAR MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE

The Weston War Memorial Educational Fund Committee awarded eight scholarships to Weston High School graduates in 2005. These awards, totaling \$13,000, were based on need, scholastic ability and good character.

Each fall the Committee solicits tax-deductible donations through a town-wide mailing to residents and businesses. Only the interest on the principal balance of the fund can be used for these awards. Although we have noticed a slight decrease in donations in the past few years, the Committee appreciates the continued support we receive.

The Committee extends our deepest sympathy to the families and many friends of Dr. Vera Laska, a longtime WWMEFC member, who passed away in December of 2005.

Principal Balance, June 30, 2004:	\$ 246,076.47
Annual Fund Appeal:	5,520.00
Gain on Sale of Investments:	<u>37,576.71</u>
Principal Balance, June 30, 2005	\$ 289,173.18

REPORT OF THE MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL School of Applied Arts & Sciences

Class of 2005 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 91% of the Class of 2005 graduated into college, employment in their field of study or the US military.
- Commercial & Human Services graduates achieved 94% placement rate with 25 of 48 (52%) enrolled in college and 20 of 48 (42%) employed in their field of study.
- Science Technology graduates achieved 92% placement with 53 of 64 (83%) enrolled in college, 2 of 64 (3%) employed in their field of study and 3 of 64 (6%) enlisted in the US military with 100% of electromechanical engineering, environmental science and graphic communications students attending college.
- Construction-Trades graduates achieved 89% placement rate with 16 of 72 enrolled in college, 47 entering the workplace in their field of study and 1 enlisting in the US military.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Childhood Education graduates were certified by the Office for Child Care Services.
- 96% of Cosmetology graduates passed the state board examination.
- Medical Occupations graduates achieved 100% placement in college.
- The 2005 Valedictorian, an Environmental Science student earned the prestigious University Scholar status for enrollment at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.
- Weston resident Tyler Schwartz graduated in June 2005 in the HVAC department.

Academic Division Highlights

- Minuteman sophomores tied for third place in Massachusetts among regional technical schools on MCAS test performance.
- Forty-five students took advantage of college level pre-calculus and calculus courses under an articulation agreement with Middlesex Community College.
- Minuteman students on the Math Team finished the year in first place in the state vocational conference for the third year in a row.
- A Latin course was expanded to serve the growing number of students interested in medical careers, biotechnology and science.
- The Minuteman Players, the school's drama students, produced and performed a full production of Neil Simon's, "*The Odd Couple*".
- The Special Education Department teamed with mainstream teachers to help students achieve one of the highest levels of special education MCAS "pass" scores in the state.
- Faculty members from English, Guidance, Social Studies and several vocational fields designed another series of Character Education curriculum for use throughout the school.

Science & Technology Division Highlights

- The Biotechnology Academy formed a new partnership with Harvard University Molecular Biology Laboratory and Children's Hospital and added bioethics, cell graphing and forensic science into its curriculum.
- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its sixth year and graduated its second class of students, again with 100% attending college.
- Electromechanical Robotics students took National Third Place in Skills USA National Competition on Team Robotics and Automation.
- Many new business/industry projects were achieved, including: Verizon supporting after-school technology training for middle school students, Cognex Corporation of Natick

providing weekly on-line interactive training on Visions Systems, GTE helping with new physics units for biotechnology, the Northeast Center for Telecommunications providing grant assistance, and an \$80,000 gift from Adept Robots for the Electromechanical Engineering/Robotics program.

- Environmental Technology students' off-campus included service projects for such agencies as the MWRA, Cambridge Water Department, Bolton Conservation Commission, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Northeastern University Marine Biology Research Laboratory, and the United States National Park Service, Minuteman National Historic Park.
- Minuteman staff members are taking a leadership role in working with the Department of Education to develop the vocational Certification of Occupational Proficiency (C.O.P.).

Construction - Power Mechanics - Building Trades Division Highlights

- The Automotive Technology Department won the industry's Most Outstanding Automotive Program in Massachusetts award for the sixth year in a row.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of the three-bedroom colonial home for the Lexington Housing Authority in partnership with the Lexington Rotary Club.
- Carpentry and Drafting students designed and constructed classroom improvements for the Brooks Elementary and Middle School in Lincoln.
- Drafting & Design Technology students completed plans for a large garage to be built by Minuteman's construction students in Lexington.
- Underclassmen created four scaled New England style homes for display at the New England Home Show in Boston. Minuteman is the only participating vocational high school in MA.
- The Automotive Technology program earned the top honors 5-year recertification through the National Automotive Technical Education Foundation (NATEF).
- The Automotive Collision Repair program also earned the NATEF certification.
- The Landscape Management Department won several award, including their seventh consecutive First Place at the Annual New England Flower Show in Boston.

Commercial & Human Services Division Highlights

- The Child Development Center and the Early Childhood Education Department was recertified by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
- The Culinary Arts Department became a certification site by the American Culinary Federation.
- For the third year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first-place in the annual culinary competition at Newbury College and in so doing earned \$7,000 in scholarships for enrollment at Newbury College.
- As a community service project a team of junior Graphic Communications students worked with the Lahey Clinic in designing and printing a 2005 calendar incorporating artwork drawn by elementary age students who are patients in the "young hearts" clinic.
- A sophomore Culinary Arts Baking student won National First Place in the Skills USA skills competition. In 2003, she earned National Second Place in the same national competition.

Overall School Highlights

- A new Freshmen Exploratory program was designed and implemented as a means to ensure that members of the Class of 2009 have a full opportunity to experience each of Minuteman's twenty-two technical programs before choosing a major.
- New and/or updated college articulation and advance credit agreements with numerous top colleges in 26 different career areas.

- Minuteman programs and camps provided to member town residents continued at one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- The Facilities Management Department completed major campus renovation and facility improvement projects including conversion to gas heating, upgrading athletic fields, and renovation of the school's administrative offices.
- Numerous staff development efforts focused on obtaining national rather than just state certification in graphics & digital media, culinary arts, and collision repair.
- Several of the school's students who participated in the National SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, MO came home with medals or with top ten placements. These awards included a gold medal in Commercial Baking and a bronze in Robotic and Automation Technology. Recognition was also received in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) Related Technical Math
- Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps left on their 40-state summer tour with a new food trailer, thanks to the work of Minuteman Students enrolled in electrical, plumbing, HVAC, welding and carpentry career majors who transformed an empty trailer into a state-of-the-art mobile kitchen. Since the kitchen is traveling through many states, the students were required to follow Department of Transportation regulations. The trailer kitchen, an 18 wheeler which also carries equipment for the bugle corps is expected kitchen to serve 56,000 meals to more than 200 touring members and volunteers.
- Minuteman's Art & Literary Magazine published its 20th Anniversary edition, and as usual, the publication contains many outstanding examples of student-generated poetry and art. This year's magazine showcases 21 poets and 16 artists.

After several years of dedicated service, three members left the Regional School Committee in 2005. The entire Minuteman Regional School District thanks Dr. Erin Phelps of Arlington, Dr. Michael Rudd of Concord and Mary Shaw of Weston for their years of service and leadership. David Harmon has replaced Ms. Shaw as Weston's representative to the Committee.

MINUTEMAN FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenues	Fy 04 Actual	Fy05 Budget	Fy05 Actual/ Encumbered	Transfer/ Receipts	Available
District Assessments	7,956,233	7,990,324	7,990,324	-	-
Chapter 70 Aid	2,064,385	2,047,550	2,045,500	-	(2,050)
Current Tuition	445,369	507,340	670,807	-	163,467
Transportation Reimb.	471,879	445,532	653,811	-	208,279
Choice	110,000	156,633	156,633	-	-
Other Program Income	242,021	191,553	222,201	-	30,648
Certified E&D/ App.Surplus	93,873	322,349	322,349	-	-
Land Sale	-	400,344	-	-	(400,344)
Previous Year's Tuition	<u>3,757,593</u>	<u>3,282,714</u>	<u>3,282,714</u>	-	-
Total	15,141,353	15,344,339	5,344,339	-	-
Expenses					
Instructional Programs		1,071,713	1,024,201	21,350	24,686
Administration	511,910	449,858	473,462	636	(22,968)
Building & Services	1,978,175	2,023,808	2,216,787	76,677	(116,302)
Salaries And Benefits	<u>11,605,919</u>	<u>1,798,960</u>	<u>11,673,431</u>	<u>127,908</u>	-
Total	15,141,353	15,344,339	15,387,881	226,571	66,727
Excess Revenue	-	-	(43,542)	226,571	66,727