A REPORT ON THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION (OR LACK THEREOF) IN NEVADA AND AT THE WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (WCSD)

Updated February 2025

PREVIEW

This Presentation is backed with sources, stats and charts all consistent

The Report looks at both WCSD and Nevada

Please forward this as desired

Nevada and Washoe Education is failing and action needed

Covid cannot be blamed, decrease in Quality of Education has been a steady decline, especially since 2015. Since 2020, nothing has improved.

Drug Abuse and Absenteeism are out of control

Jeff Church, WatchDogJeff.Com is responsible for the material herein. (WatchDogJeff on Twitter)

This Changes Everything!

US Department of Education Directive

Page 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

THE ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY

February 14, 2025

Dear Colleague:

Discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin is illegal and morally reprehensible. Accordingly, I write to clarify and reaffirm the nondiscrimination obligations of schools and other entities that receive federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Education (Department).[1] This letter explains and reiterates existing legal requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,[2] the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution, and other relevant authorities.[3]

In recent years, American educational institutions have discriminated against students on the basis of race, including white and Asian students, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds and low-income families. These institutions' embrace of pervasive and repugnant race-based preferences and other forms of racial discrimination have emanated throughout every facet of academia. For example, colleges, universities, and K-12 schools have routinely used race as a factor in admissions, financial aid, hiring, training, and other institutional programming. In a shameful echo of a darker period in this country's history, many American schools and universities even encourage segregation by race at graduation ceremonies and in dormitories and other facilities.

[1] Throughout this letter, "school" is used generally to refer to preschool, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance from the Department.
[2] Title VI provides that: "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, *et seq.*; 34 C.F.R. § 100, *et seq.*
[3] This document provides significant guidance under the Office of Management and Budget's Final Bulletin for Agency Good Guidance Practices, 72 Fed. Reg. 3432 (Jan. 25, 2007). This guidance does not have the force and effect of law and does not bind the public or create new legal standards. This document is designed to provide clarity to the public regarding existing legal requirements under Title VI, the Equal Protection Clause, and other federal civil rights and constitutional law principles. If you are interested in commenting on this guidance, please email your comment to OCR@ed.gov or write to the following address: Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. For further information about the Department's guidance processes, please visit the Department's webpage here.

400 MARYLAND AVE. S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202-1100
www.ed.gov

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

Presidential Executive Order on K-12 DEI

Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling
EXECUTIVE ORDER
January 29, 2025

(Edited for brevity)

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:
Section 1. Purpose and Policy. Parents trust America's schools to provide their children with a rigorous education and to instill a patriotic admiration for our incredible Nation and the values for which we stand.
In recent years, however, parents have witnessed schools indoctrinate their children in radical, anti-American ideologies while deliberately blocking parental oversight. Such an environment operates as an echo chamber, in which students are forced to accept these ideologies without question or critical examination. In many cases, innocent children are compelled to adopt identities as either victims or oppressors solely based on their skin color and other immutable characteristics. In other instances, young men and women are made to question whether they were born in the wrong body and whether to view their parents and their reality as enemies to be blamed. These practices not only erode critical thinking but also sow division, confusion, and distrust, which undermine the very foundations of personal identity and family unity.

Imprinting anti-American, subversive, harmful, and false ideologies on our Nation's children not only violates longstanding anti-discrimination civil rights law in many cases, but usurps basic parental authority. For example, steering students toward surgical and chemical mutilation without parental consent or involvement or allowing males access to private spaces designated for females may contravene Federal laws that protect parental rights, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), and sex-based equality and opportunity, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX). Similarly, demanding acquiescence to "White Privilege" or "unconscious bias," actually promotes racial discrimination and undermines national unity.
...
Sec. 2. Definitions. As used herein:
(a) The definitions in the Executive Order "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" (January 20, 2025) shall apply to this order.
(b) "Discriminatory equity ideology" means an ideology that treats individuals as members of preferred or disfavored groups, rather than as individuals, and minimizes agency, merit, and capability in favor of immoral generalizations, including that:
(i) Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally or inherently superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin;
(ii) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;
(iii) An individual's moral character or status as privileged, oppressing, or oppressed is primarily determined by the individual's race, color, sex, or national origin;
(iv) Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to their race, color, sex, or national origin;
(v) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, should feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of, should be discriminated against, blamed, or stereotyped for, or should receive adverse treatment because of actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin, in which the individual played no part;

DEI/ CRT and Transgender Practices at the Washoe County School District
*This is the tip of the iceberg

WCSD: TRANSGENDER AND PARENTAL NON-NOTIFICATION:
Administrative Regulation 5161 GENDER IDENTITY AND GENDER NONCONFORMITY –
https://wcsdpolicy.net/pdf_files/administrative_regulations/5161_Reg-Gender_Identify-v2.pdf
Transgender and gender non-conforming students have a right to privacy, including keeping private their sexual orientation, … including parents/guardians
b. Names/Pronouns – Students have the right to be addressed by the names and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity…
c. Restroom Access – Students shall have access to the restroom that corresponds to their gender identity …
d. Locker Rooms or Other Facilities – Students shall have access to use facilities that correspond to their gender identity …
Physical Education Class and Athletics – Transgender …students shall be permitted to participate in physical education classes and intramural sports …consistent with their gender identity….
*Note: Likewise parents are NOT noticed if a biological male is sharing lodging with a female.

Mandatory DEI Indoctrination: Policy- BP 9210 Equity and Diversity: Includes mandatory “will” training and note terms unconscious bias and systemic barriers, etc
“District employees **will** participate in professional development addressing equity and inclusion, cultural competency, disproportionality, and culturally responsive teaching and reflective practices as they pertain to the achievement gap, unconscious bias, and systemic barriers.”

WCSD (rounded)

	2022	2023	2024
Graduation:	82.48%	84.36%	81.42%
Enrollment:	62,540	61,171 (-1,369)	60,091*

*Enrollment fluxuates based on reporting but decreases as Charters, private and home schooling increases.

Math: (High school)	26%	22%	23.6%
ELA:	50%	45%	43%
Absenteeism:	25%	31%	28%

*

ACT 17.1 in 2023 11% college ready

*Was 17.4 in 2022, 13% college ready

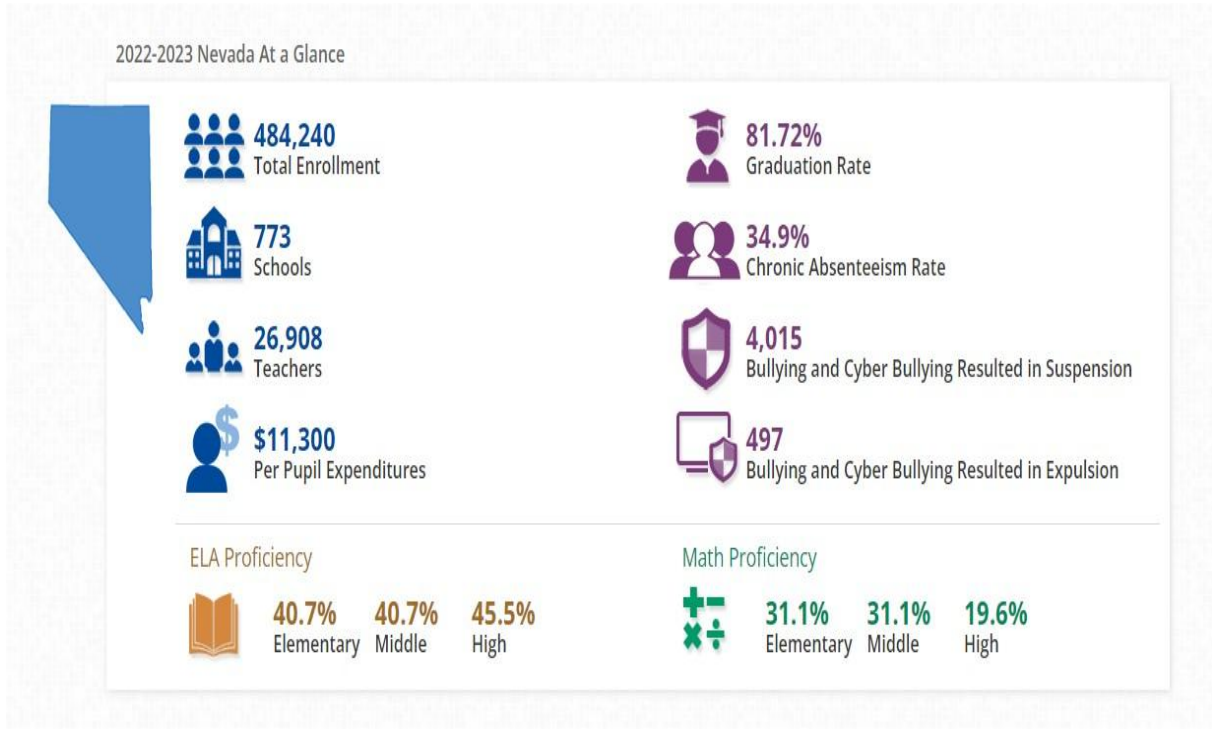
STATE OF NEVADA

	2022	2023	2024
Graduation:	83.3%	81.72%	81.39
Math:	21%	19%	19%
ELA:	45%	45% (.2 decrease)	45%
Absenteeism:	36%	35%	25.9%
ACT Scores: 2022-23		17.3 (worst in nation)	17.2

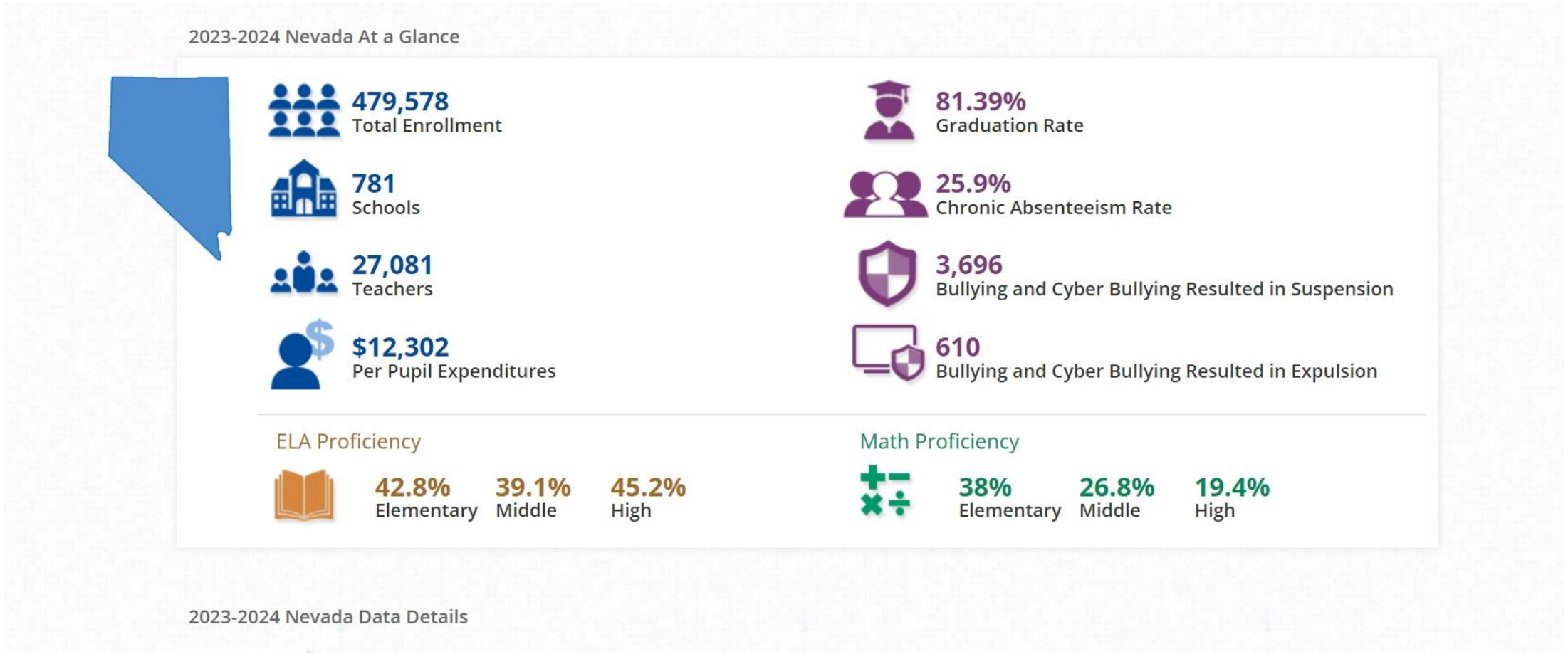
Nevada 2022 vs 2023

Proficiency down

Please Explain How One Can Have 35% Absenteeism and 82% Graduate? Do We Mail Them their Diploma?



2023-2024 Nevada Flat



Nevada Ranks Last

Note the Source is the Nevada Department of Education!

Nevada's Overall and Category Specific Quality Counts Rankings

https://doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Boards_Commissions_Councils/State_Board_of_Education/2022/July/Guinn_Center_Nevada_Education_Rankings_Phase_I_and_II_Report_June_2022.pdf

Source: NV DOE based on respected Guinn Institute.

Category National Rank

Chance for Success 50

School Finance 49

K-12 Achievement 18

Overall 50

The DOE points to K-12 Achievement ignoring the overall 50th (Last Place of 50 states). How can we improve if we are in denial?

Other Studies:

World Pop Review: 48th worst. Scholaroo ranks us at 43. US News 33.

Check out The Nevada Report Card Statewide or by the County-School District of your choice

http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/di/

Statewide Issues
The Nevada Department of Education
If this organization were any good we wouldn't be last or near last!
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BUDGET 2025: $13,135,540,022

You can't polish a turd

The hodgepodge biased make up of the board that meets occasionally (about 9x yearly) is an unfixable recipe for disaster!

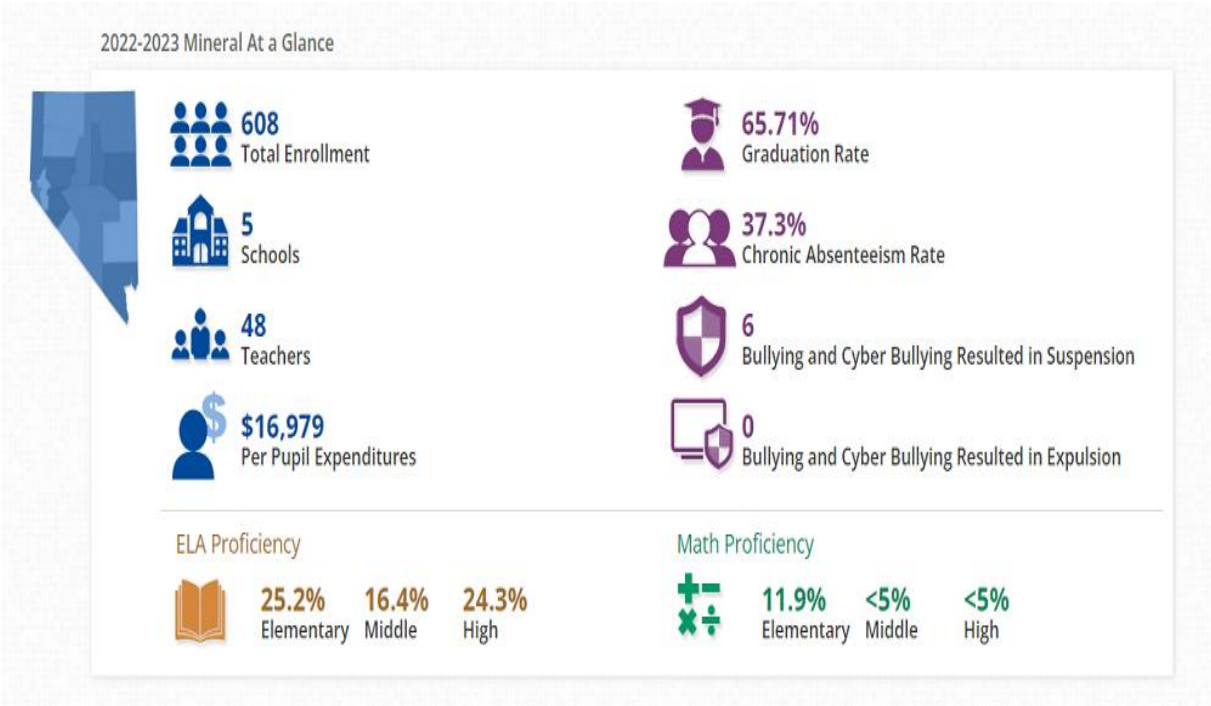
Reform Oriented Leadership is needed

Most the State mandated committees need to go

If the entire DoE were eliminated, things would improve.

The State Board of Education is composed of eleven members; four members are elected from the four congressional districts in Nevada, and seven members are appointed. The Board is authorized under Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 385.021

The Governor should step in as an example and take over the worst performing small rural school district and turn it around! Look at Mineral County- a disaster!



Must Fix Issues:

* Competition Works: Support Vouchers, School Choice and ESAs

* Credit Recovery is a failed experiment where truant/ chronically absent kids watch a video, et quick tutoring and take a test to pass and graduate along side those that attended and worked hard. "D is for Diploma". Solution: Attend (i.e. 75%) or don't pass- period!

* Restorative Discipline is another failed experiment that allows for violent and disruptive behavior favoring a kinder gentler approach. Problem is that it doesn't work. Good kids need to be protected from violent and disruptive kids.

*Drug Abuse: You can't learn if you are stoned. Drug abuse must be addressed. That applies to staff and students.

*State takeover of a failing school or District

*Complete Overhaul of Nevada Department of Education

**Fixing these will solve 85-95% of the problems in our schools

What are NASS and NASB and Why Do They Have Seats on the State Board of Education?

NASS and NASB both enjoy seats on the dysfunctional State Board of Education

Both are advocacy groups (non-profits) that wield too much power

Both are made up of liberal, status quo biased membership

NASS: Nevada Association of School Superintendents

NASB: Nevada Association of School Boards

- The days of good citizens joining a school board (pay $500-$750 a month) are long gone.
- Unions and pro-building forces join to spend millions on the 13 school boards in Nevada. Yes millions of dollars. They fund their own bosses that dole out generous rewards and ignore any reform such as real school choice.
- Then they sit on the State Department of Education- what could go wrong?

Now Let's Look at the Washoe County School District

Continued Declines!

Significant Increase in Chronic absenteeism

Internal School Violence has become a hot button issue

The community booms but enrollment declines = lost per pupil funding

I'll point out that official DoE stats show Hug HS and Wooster HS over 59% absenteeism, Sparks HS over 54%, and North Valley over 51%.

A snapshot in time from a teacher:

"I would like to make a note that at the time of the bell (0745) this morning I had 6/34 in their seats. That is unfortunately the norm for seniors in my room.“ (eventually he /she had 16 of 33)

Their End of day class had 17 of 34 students

WCSD 2023!

From 2022:

ELA Proficiency down by 5%

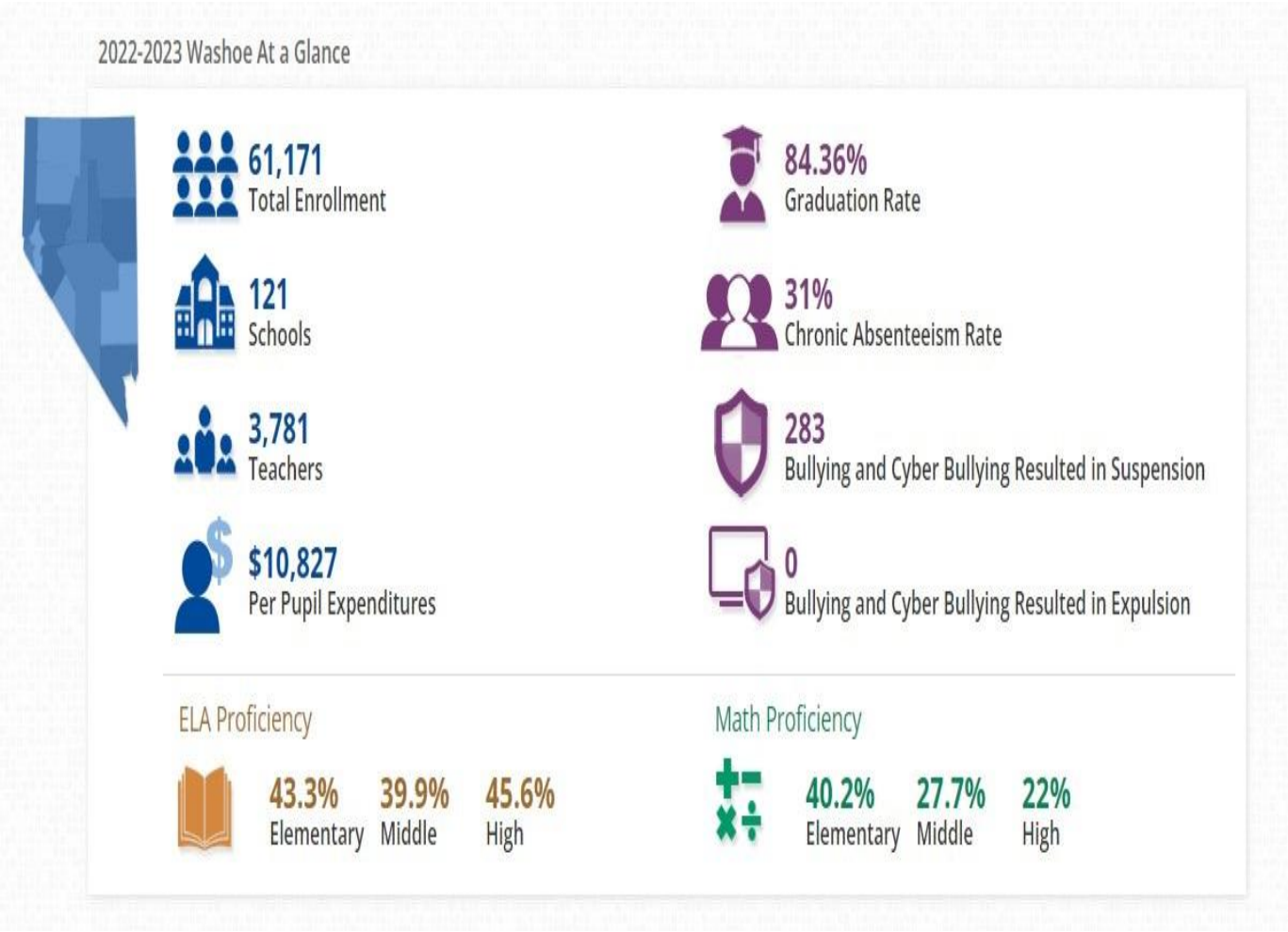
Math Proficiency down by 5%

Chronic Absenteeism UP by 6%

***Dec 2023: WCSD reports .89% increase in High School Chronic Absenteeism 33%**

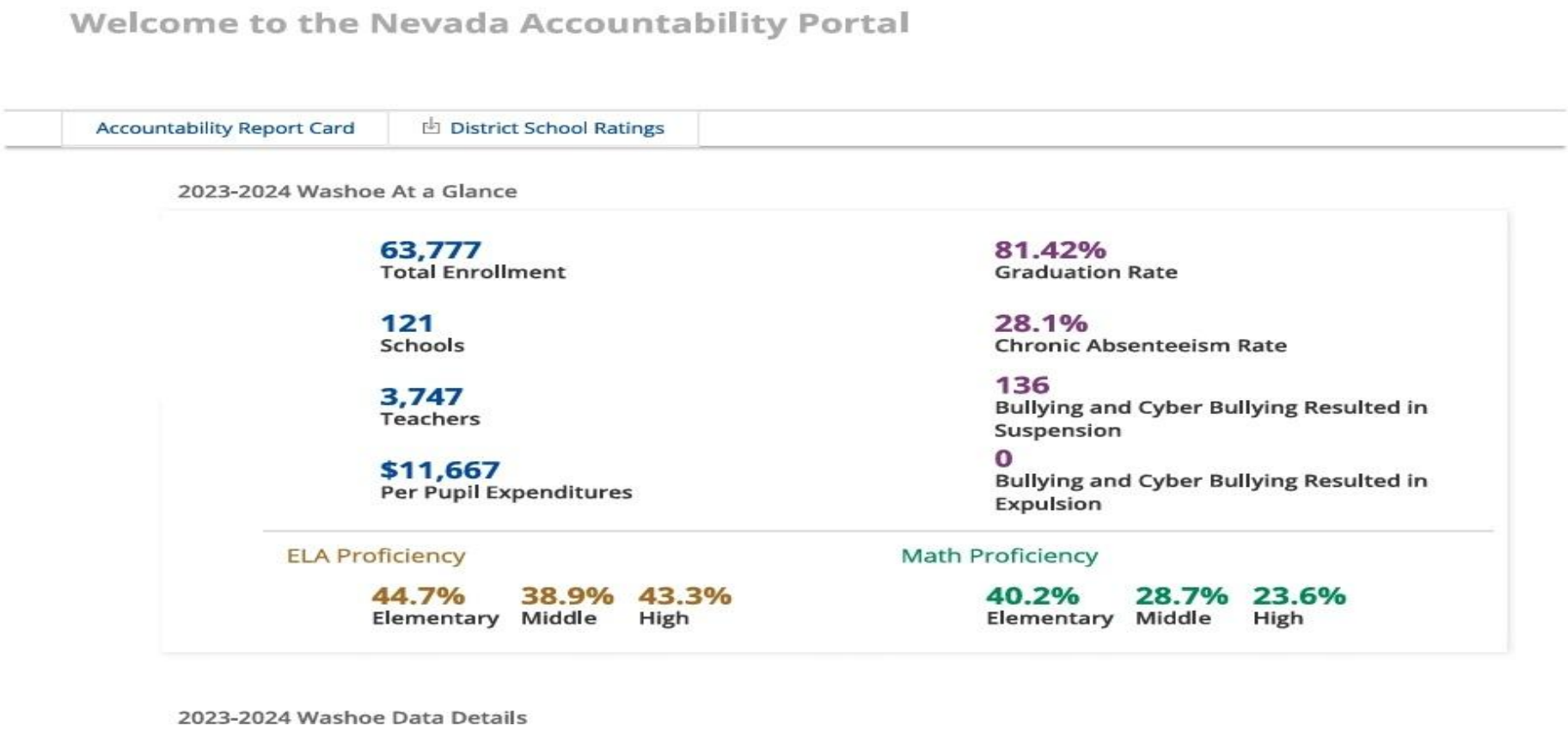
Enrollment own, 2023 school year reported at approx. 60,054

But Wait there's more!



WCSD 2023-2024

*Enrollment counts Charters, actual @ 59,000
Decreases in Graduation rates and proficiency scores



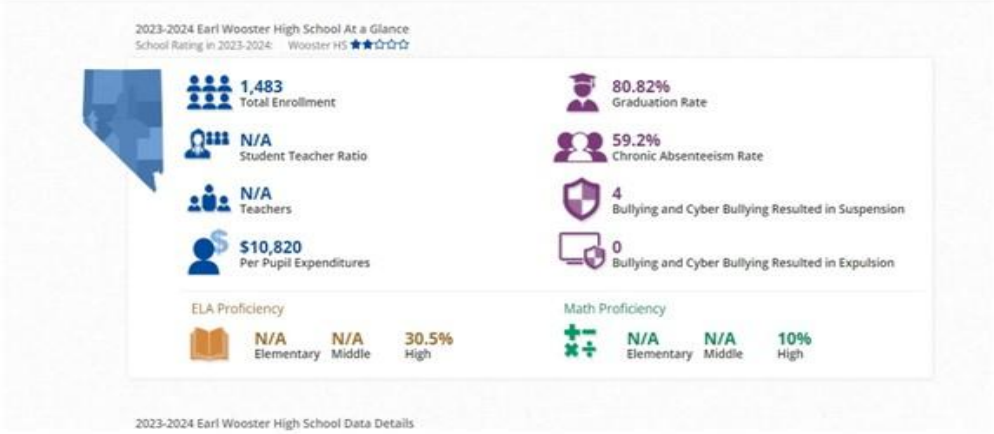
WCSD: Wooster & Hug High
59% Chronic Absenteeism
Yet 80% graduate?

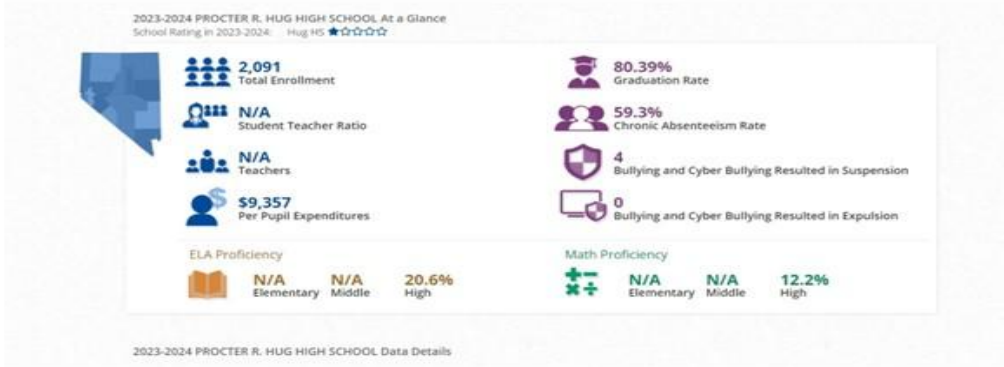
Absenteeism Ignored Where it Matters

*You don't see the media or WCSD reporting these dismal figures

Over 3,500 Students total and over 59% absenteeism at both schools!

Note the terrible proficiency ratings and yet 80% graduate? Do they mail them their diplomas that only 30% can read? 10-12% math proficiency!





Incline High School
The BEST Public High School in the State of Nevada!
Facing the Facts- Eyes Wide Open

26.5% Chronic Absenteeism!

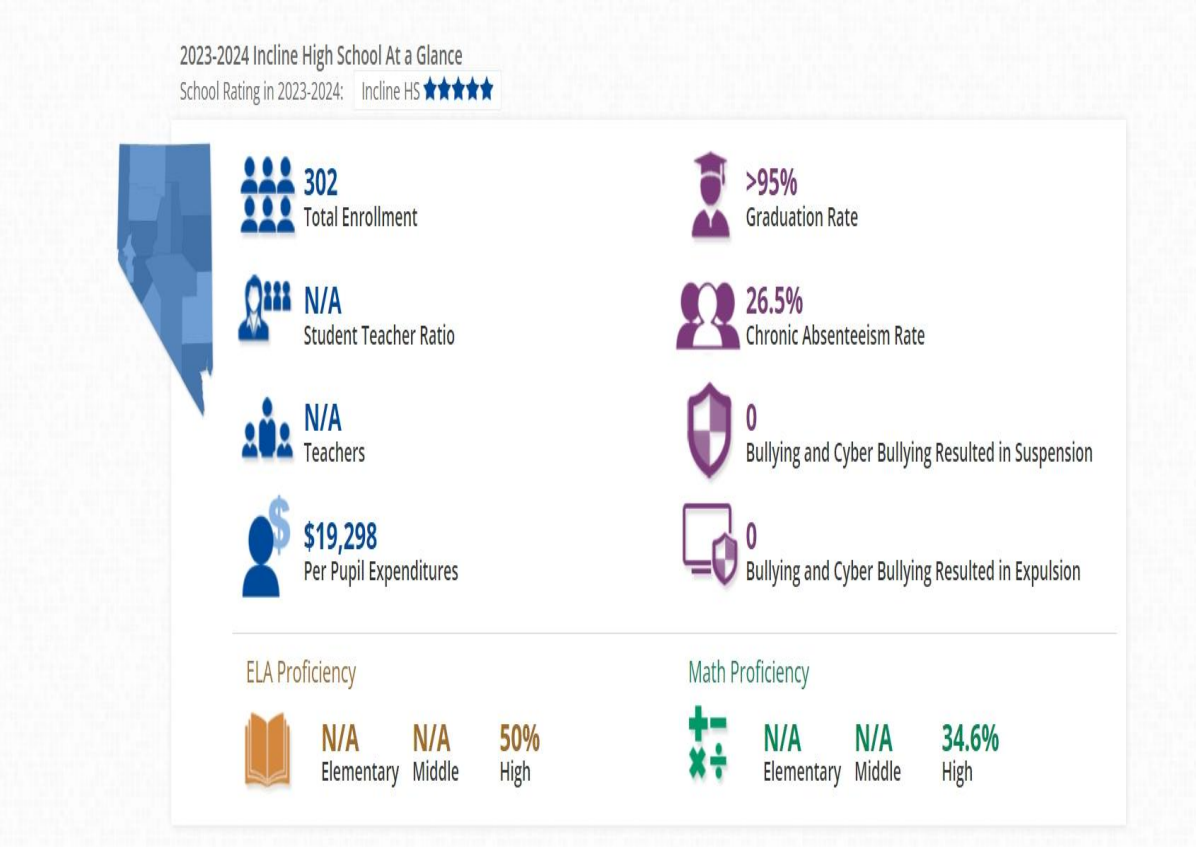
34.5% meet minimum Math Proficiency! (61.7% do not)

50% English Proficiency

Yet 95+% Graduate

Overall declines in proficiency from 2022-2023

And this is the best?



WCSD ACT Scores (2023) Down Again to 17.1 from 17.4
(Below 49th Mississippi)
11% College Ready (89% NOT ready)
*2024 scores unknown

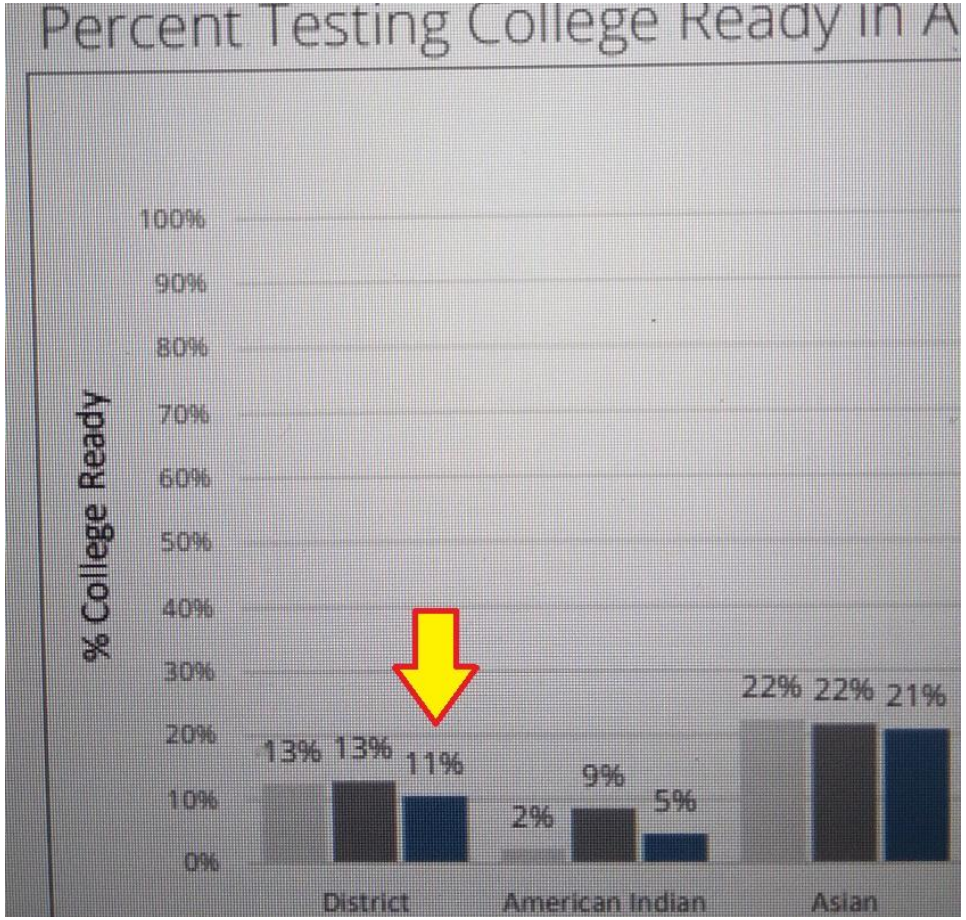
Table 1. Average WCSD composite ACT scores and percentage of WCSD 11th grade students who met the national college readiness benchmark score.

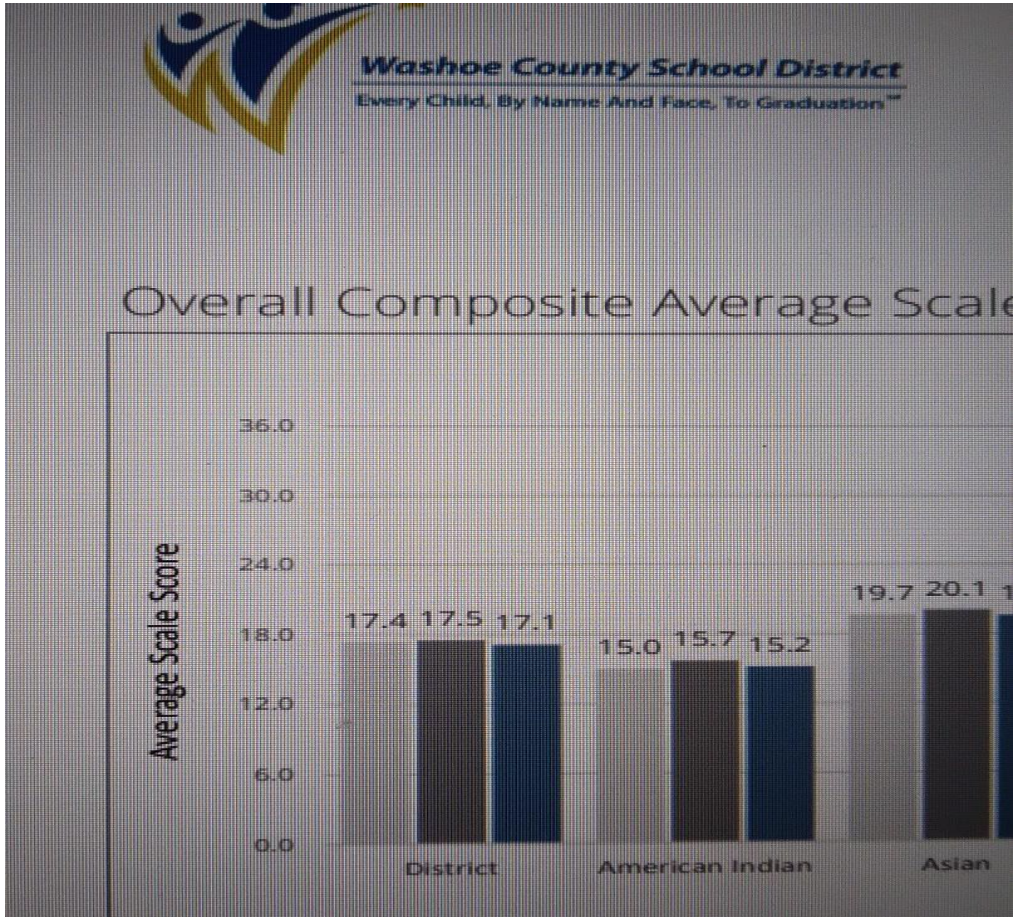
	February 2020 (2019-2020 SY)	February 2021 (2020-2021 SY)
Average Score	18.2	17.4
% College-ready	15%	13%
% ELA college-ready	32%	29%
% English college-ready	37%	33%
% Math college-ready	25%	20%
% Reading college-ready	31%	28%
% Science college-ready	23%	19%

2023

17.1
11%

Here it is 11% Ready/ 17.1 ACT at WCSD

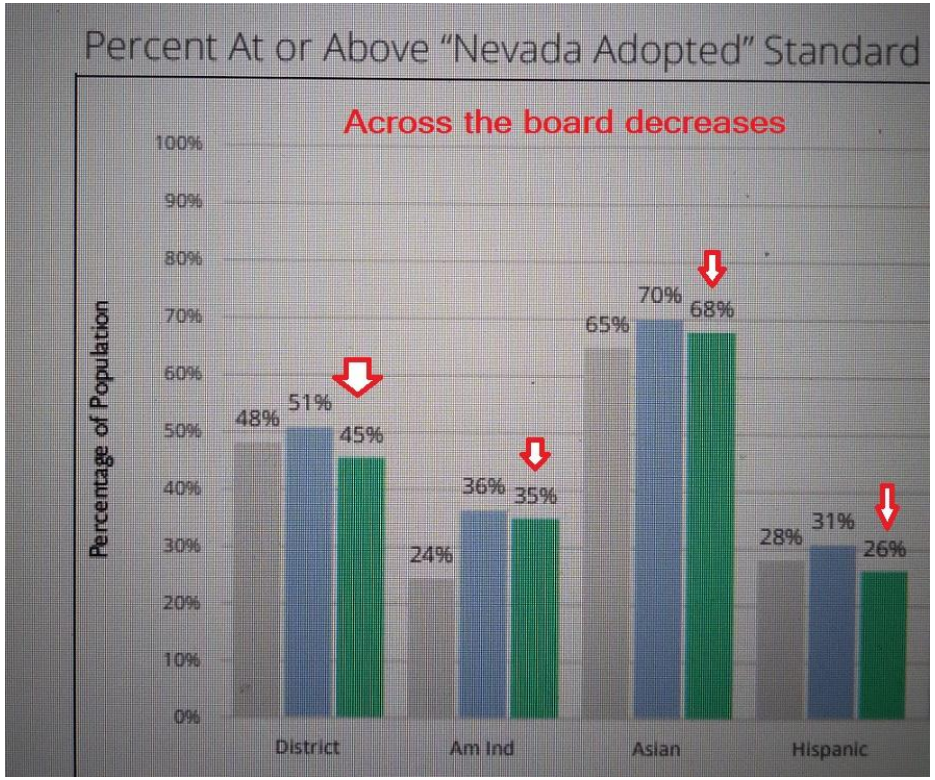




Nevada SBAC Standards: Declining Scores

45% above/ 54% below / 1% MIA

A decline from 51% Districtwide to 45%



WCSD Massive Declines per State 5-Star Rating System

Oh My!

From 9 to 34 bottom rung 1 Star schools

From 18 to 6 top tier schools

*2024 showed some improvement such as 5 star increases

WCSD Star Ratings: 2018-2019 and 2022-2023

2018-19				
Designation	All	ES	MS	HS
1 Star	9	5	2	2
2 Star	26	20	4	2
3 Star	28	15	8	5
4 Star	16	13	1	2
5 Star	18	11	2	5

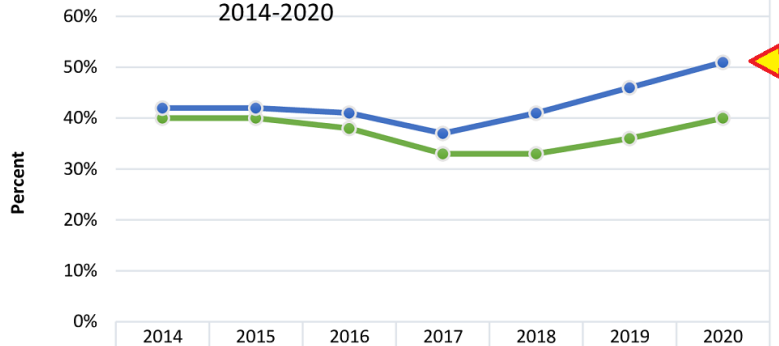
2022-23				
Designation	All	ES	MS	HS
1 Star	34	24	8	2
2 Star	27	18	5	4
3 Star	21	12	6	3
4 Star	16	13	0	3
5 Star	6	1	1	4

Washoe County School District

From bad to worse to worser! (WCSD)
Drug Use is a Major Problem!
Latest Study Shows Improvement but still a big issue

Over 50% perceived substance abuse at WCSD in High School!

Figure 50: Teachers and Staff that Perceive Substance Use Among High School Students to be Moderately or Very Common, Washoe County, 2014-2020

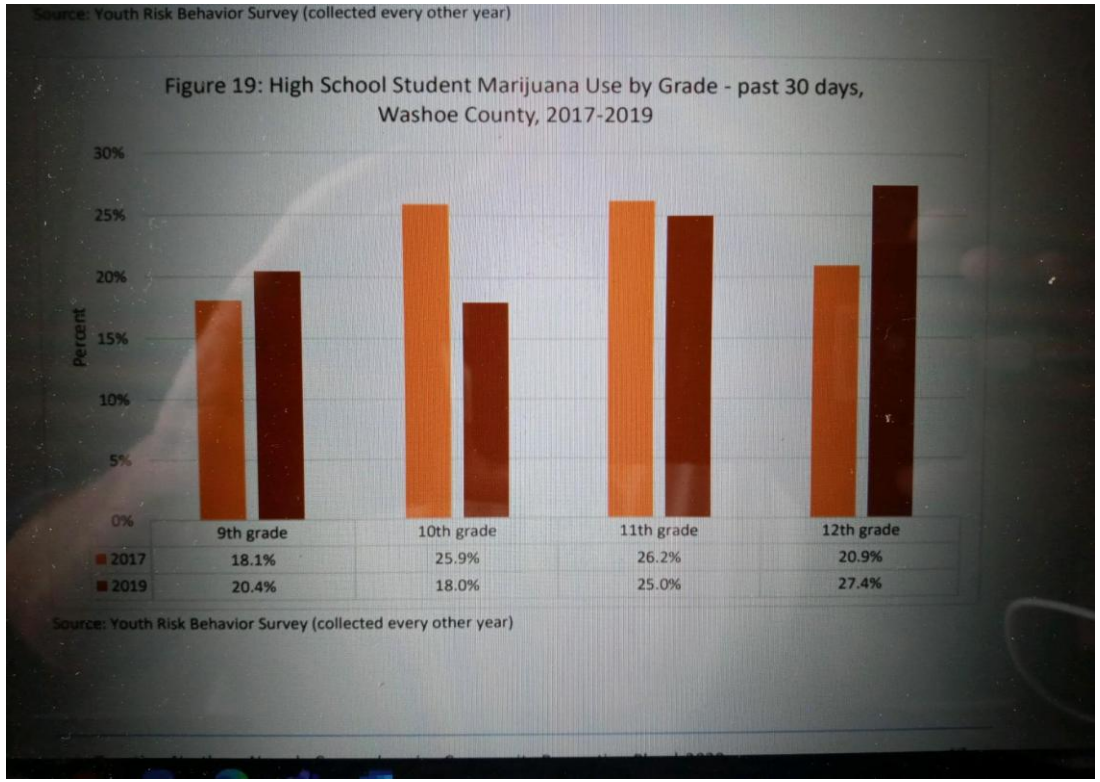


	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Alcohol Use; Moderately/Very Common	40%	40%	38%	33%	33%	36%	40%
Drug Use; Moderately/Very Common	42%	42%	41%	37%	41%	46%	51%

Source: Washoe County School District – School Climate Survey

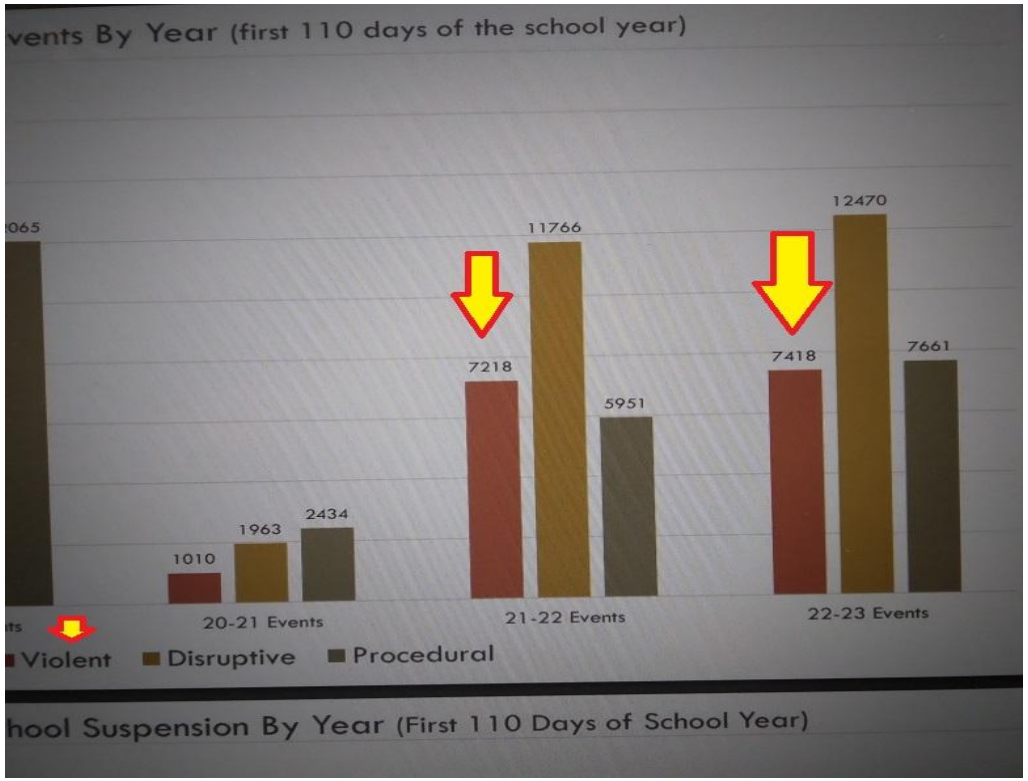
Drug Use out of control (admitted 27% in 12th grade)

You can't learn if you are stoned!

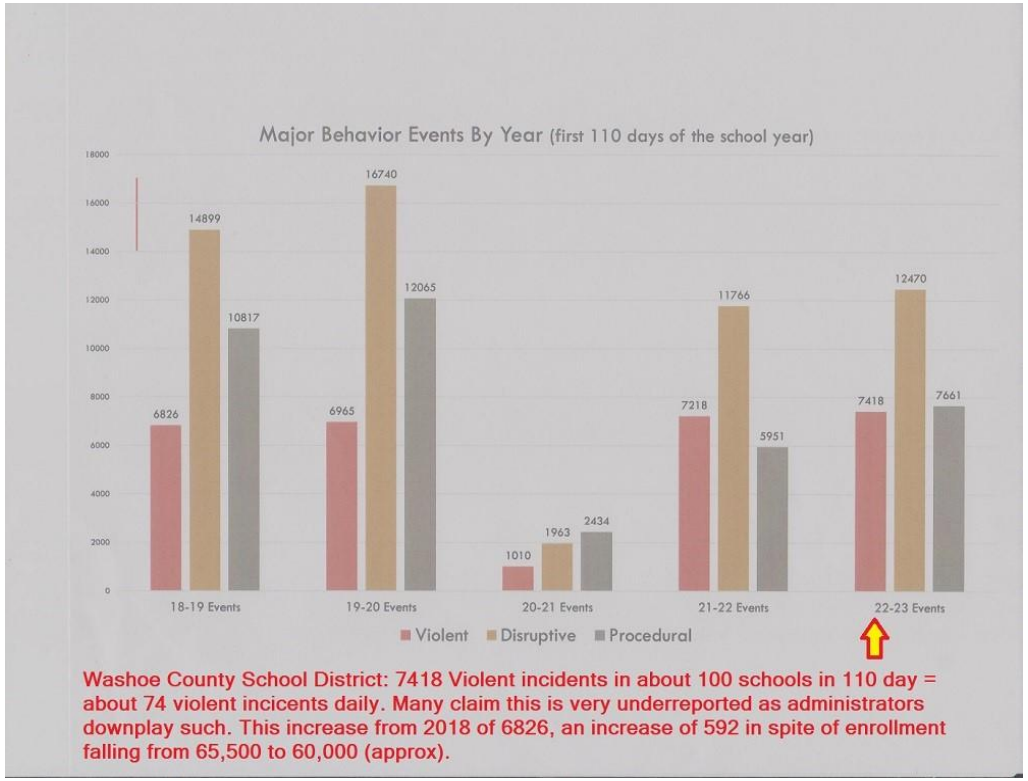


Violence In Schools Has Become a Major Concern Student vs Student and vs Staff incidents

WCSD Declines requests to release updated stats. Why? Because it is likely getting worse.



These represent just the first 110 days of SY 2022-2023.



HUG HIGH SURVEY 2024

Q.4: I sometimes stay home because I don't feel safe at school. (29% agree)

Agree 21% Strongly Agree 8%

Q.4: Students at this school think it is important to follow the rules. (65% disagree)

Disagree 44% Strongly Disagree 21%

Q.3: At school, how many times this year have you...been in a physical fight? 14% yes to various degrees

1-2 times 7% 3-4 times 3% 5-6 times 1% 7+ times 3%

Massive Increase in Home Schooling

“In government schools, kids are told what happened, they’re told what to believe and they’re told what to memorize. But in homeschooling, we have the ability to teach our children how to learn and how to critically think,” Holderman said.

Though the reasons for choosing to homeschool children vary widely, Holderman isn’t alone. According to data gathered by The Washington Post, the number of children being homeschooled in the United States has increased by about 50 percent since the 2017-18 school year.

*Even if 1% of kids at WCSD are home schooled, that’s 6,000 students.

**If my math is right $7300 per student x 6000 = over $44 million loss in revenue per year.

***This doesn’t count those flocking to private or charter schools or simply not reporting.

Source: https://voiceofsandiego.org/2023/12/06/number-of-san-diego-kids-homeschooled-has-nearly-doubled-since-2017/?utm_source=Voice+of+San+Diego+Master+List&utm_campaign=b6a7240ff8-Morning_Report&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c2357fd0a3-b6a7240ff8-84180717&goal=0_c2357fd0a3-b6a7240ff8-84180717

Declining Enrollment at WCSD

WCSD-sponsored charter schools, the total average weighted enrollment of those schools in FY23 was **3,126.5**. If the question is how much does that represents in terms of lost revenue, at $7,318 per pupil in FY23, it was ***$22,879,332***.

If just 1% of eligible students are Home Schooled per national estimate that's about $44,000,000

Then how many in non affiliated private schools?

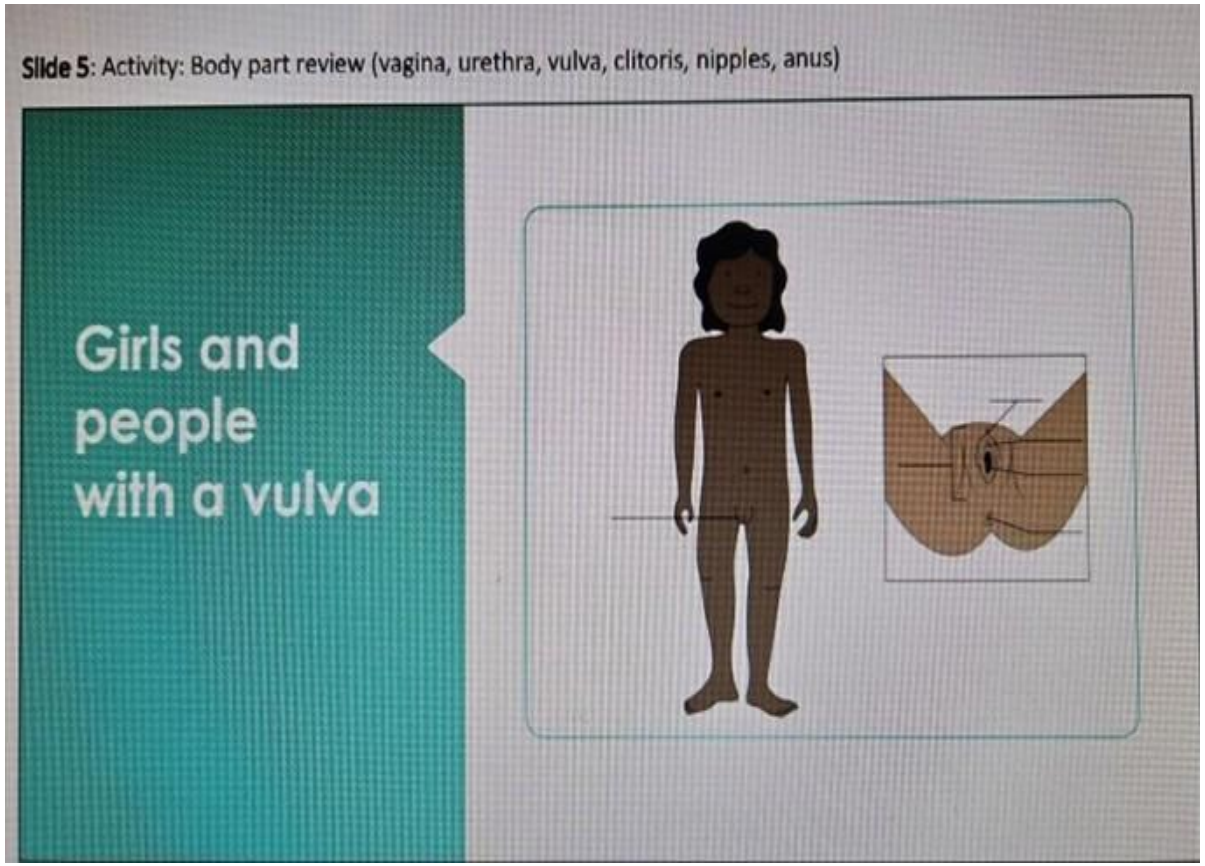
Estimate is WCSD loses $70 Million per year from students educated elsewhere. Do you blame the parents? I don't!

Sex Ed: SHARE

No Longer Boys & Girls

or Male and Female

Can’t Make This Up!



Campaign Spending just for WCSD as reported January 2025

We Told You so!

Total Amounts reported

Beth Smith: $107,349

Alex Woodley: $76,134

Diane Nicolet: $26,376

Joe Rodriguez: (resigned in 2024): $34,200.09

Adam Mayberry: $97,091.75

Christine Hull: (won at primary, no general): $65,669.59

*Perry Rosenstein (union backed but lost in 2024!) $134,427.37

A ballpark **$375,000** was spent in these elections for a school board seat paying $750 a month! Where do you think this money came from?

*Election terms are staggered

SUMMARY

Both Nevada and WCSD show extremely high levels of Chronic Absenteeism

Both show over declines in educational proficiency via SBAC or ACT or the Star Rating System

WCSD: Absenteeism, violence and test scores all a major concern

It is very hard (but they'll try) to argue with these when all indicators point in the same direction

- Yeah But: More money, Nationwide Trends (hey we're last!), there is more to education than Stats (except when the suit our narrative), so many great kids (yes we agree but what about the others?)
- The Presidential Directives could impact WCSD

Massive Decisive Action is Needed!

Minor tweaks to a failed system is a waste of energy

We need to take decisive action- a must!

Anything else is re-arranging deck chairs on a sinking ship

Address Violence, Drug Abuse, Absenteeism, Politically Driven Agendas and concentrate on Education.

Yes to School Choice- ESAs

Complete Overhaul of State Dept of Ed

No to Credit Recovery- Attend or don't graduate

No to Restorative Discipline- tried and failed

WATCHDOGJEFF.COM

Jeff Church is responsible for this presentation.

He runs a website:

WatchDogJeff.com

WatchdogJeff on X (Twitter)

Jeff was an elected Trustee at WCSD 2021- (January) 2025

Jeff may be contacted at RenoTaxRevolt@Sbcglobal.net