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Newton County School System Graduation Rate Surpasses State Average District Continues to Post Increases

The Newton County School System (NCSS) continues to surpass Georgia’s average graduation rate, with 84.2 percent of all NCSS high school seniors graduating in 2010, compared to only 80.8 percent statewide. In addition, NCSS has also continued to post yearly increases in the graduation rate for all students. According to the 2010 Adequate Yearly Progress Report, the NCSS graduation rate for all students increased by 1 percent in 2010—going from 83.2 percent in 2009 to 84.2 percent in 2010. The district’s graduation rate in 2008 was 80.1 percent for all students.

A breakdown of subgroups indicates that NCSS posted gains in five of the seven subgroups with at least 40 students. Those subgroups are: all students, white students, multi-racial students, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students. Two NCSS subgroups, black students and Hispanic students, posted decreases in their graduation rate in 2010. Graduation rate information by subgroup is posted below:

GROUP	2009 GRADUATION RATE	2010 GRADUATION RATE	PERCENT CHANGE IN 2010
ALL STUDENTS	83.2%	84.2%	+1%
BLACK STUDENTS	81.8%	80.7%	-1.1%
HISPANIC STUDENTS	88.5%	83.3%	-5.2%
WHITE STUDENTS	84.8%	89.4%	+4.6%
MULTI-RACIAL STUDENTS	82.6%	85%	+2.4%
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	35.9%	42.9%	+7%
ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS	84.5%	85.6%	+1.1%

“Naturally, we’re pleased to know that our graduation rates are higher than those of the state as we keep an eye on our two subgroups that declined in their rates,” said NCSS Superintendent Gary Mathews. “Moreover, our most immediate goal is to catch up with and surpass the state in other important areas of student achievement involving Georgia assessments, ACT, SAT, and the like.”
