

Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) Data Center

datacenter.spps.org

The goal of the SPPS Data Center is to provide a professional one-stop website that is highly useful to school staff, parents, and community members.

The conceptual design and construction of the SPPS Data Center website started in early 2005 and went 'live' later that year. Improvements are continually being made to improve district-wide usability for all users. The intent of the SPPS Data Center was to avoid replication of information and to integrate several SPPS websites into one primary site. The design and construction of the data center was completed through SPPS staff from the Office of Research and Development. Staff from this department also maintains this website.

SPPS Data Center is designed to serve as the single web-based repository for all data based decision-making and analysis regarding SPPS. To help users navigate smoothly through the SPPS Data Center website the main page is divided into three sections—Student, School, and District. Throughout this website, eight sidebar links provide useful information and tools for the user. These sites are as follows:

- **Purpose, User's Guide and Glossary.** The *User's Guide* provides SPPS staff information about current state tests and other information that would help them in their job. The *Glossary* is a dictionary of terms used throughout the SPPS website to help the user better understand typical terminology used in the research and testing world.
- **School Recognitions.** This is a list of some of the major recognitions received by schools in the district (check with the Communications Office for more information)
- **Issue Briefs and Research Reports** consists of 14 categories where issue briefs, research reports, or web sites have been included about SPPS or research that is nationally recognized in one of these topic areas.
- **External Research Links** provides links to relevant educational websites for our users.
- **ViewPoint and SwiftKnowledge** are on-line tools used by teachers and school administrators to look up and analyze student data (ViewPoint and SwiftKnowledge are password protected sites).
- **Site Map**
- **Superintendent's Bulletin** is a weekly electronic bulletin sent through district e-mail that informs SPPS staff of news in the district. For instance, this bulletin may include information about standardized testing, enrollment, and specific department or staffing items.
- Link to the official **SPPS website** (www.spps.org)

SPPS Data Center (Home Page):

The home page provides three main sections - School, Student, and District users can select to find information more quickly.

I. **SCHOOL SECTION:** This section is where school staff such as principals, teachers, staff, and community members can go to find specific school data.

1. **Select a SCHOOL.** The user selects the *school* they are interested in (Elementary, Middle/Junior High, Senior High, Alternative Learning Programs).
2. **Select a TOPIC.** Next, the user selects the *topic* they are interested. A wide-range of topics are provided to ensure the user finds the information they need to make informed decisions about their school. In addition, topics change according to the type of school selected (Elementary, Middle/Junior, or High School).
 - The following reports link to the Minnesota Department of Education website (School Report Card data, BST, MCA-II, and TEAE/MNSOLOM)
 - Other data topics include: Data Dashboard for 2006, School Report Card and AYP (2006), SAT10, College Preparation, Attendance, Discipline, Enrollment, Home Language, Staff Diversity, Mobility/Stability Rates, Gifted and Talented, Advanced



Courses, Smaller Learning Communities, Graduation Rate, Six-Year Plan, Student Attitudes Toward School, School Plans, School Budgets, and Password Protected Custom Reports.

3. **Select a REPORT.** After the user chooses the school and topic they want, the next step is to select the type of *report*. Staff must use their Campus user ID and password to access these reports. Data are provided in one of two formats: (1) PDF reports, or (2) dynamic reports. The topic of the report drives the way reports are presented on the website. These reports are a culmination of reports that are reported regularly.
 - o **NEW! Password Protected Reports** were added in 2006 for principals, administrators, teachers, and staff to access confidential reports including BST, MCA-II, and SAT10 results, discipline reports, AYP progress, and free/reduced lunch comparisons, and AYP status reports.

II. STUDENT SECTION: This section contains the parent portal (password protected) where parents can go to find information about their children who are attending the Saint Paul Public Schools. Some of the information available is attendance, class schedule, assignments (in some cases), lunch balance, overdue books, and more.

III. DISTRICT SECTION: This section provides existing district reports on achievement, other performance indicators, and demographics. In this section, users can link to the SPPS glossary to help them define terms throughout this website.

- a) **Achievement Reports** section includes a District Achievement Report and testing analyses (BST, MCA-II, and SAT10) which is updated yearly. In addition, these analyses are reported in four levels: District, school, student groups, and "Apples to Apples" comparisons, but also include trend data and growth data disaggregated by ethnicity, income, ELL, and special education.
- b) **Other Performance Indicators** section includes information on graduation rates, attendance, higher education enrollment, honors courses, and discipline.
- c) **Demographics** section includes enrollment data at the district and school-level and by student group; residential maps that illustrate the location of SPPS students by ethnicity, low income status, and ELL status; mobility and stability indices by school; and the class size section provides information about average elementary class size by grade and the average secondary class size by subject.