

## STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2009-10

Elementary School K-6 Edition  
 Bishop School  
 Norwich School District  
 REBECCA PELLERIN, Principal Location: 526 Main Street  
 Telephone: (860) 823-4201 Norwich, Connecticut

Website: [www.norwichschools.org/bishop/index.html](http://www.norwichschools.org/bishop/index.html)

This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c) using data and narratives provided by the school district or testing services. Profiles and additional education data, including longitudinal data, are available on the internet at [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov).

## TYPE OF SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

School Type: Traditional/Regular Education Enrollment on October 1, 2009: 173  
 School Grade Range: PK - 5 5-Year Enrollment Change: 3.0%

## INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL NEED

Need Indicator Number in  
 School  
 Percent in  
 School Elementary Schools  
 % in District % in State  
 Students Eligible For Free/Reduced-Price Meals 144 84.4 66.7 36.7  
 K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English 16 9.2 12.4 7.4  
 Students with Disabilities 22 12.7 12.5 10.9  
 Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented 0 0.0 0.0 2.4  
 Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool,  
 Nursery School or Headstart  
 16 61.5 73.9 80.5  
 Students in Grades Above School's Entry Grade  
 Who Attended Same School the Previous Year  
 112 85.5 87.1 91.6

## PROGRAM AND INSTRUCTION

## Instructional Time School State Elementary

Schools  
 Total Days per Year 181 181  
 Total Hours per Year 955 992

State law requires that at least 180 days of school be offered to students in kindergarten through Grade 12, 900 hours of instruction to Grades 1-12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students.

Type of Kindergarten: This school offers half-day kindergarten.

104 - 01 Page 2 Page 2

## Average Class Size School District State

Kindergarten 13.0 18.4 18.5  
 Grade 2 14.0 18.1 19.7  
 Grade 5 22.0 21.2 21.1

## Required Hours of Instruction Per Year in Selected Subject Areas

Grade 5 School State  
 Art 24 31  
 Computer Education 0 18  
 English Language Arts \*\* 503 422  
 Family and Consumer Science 0 1  
 Health 19 22  
 Library Media Skills \*\* 24 19  
 Mathematics \*\* 181 199  
 Music \*\* 24 33  
 Physical Education \*\* 24 41  
 Science \*\* 78 97  
 Social Studies \*\* 78 88  
 Technology Education 0 2  
 World Languages 0 14

## World Language

Formal instruction (at least 1 hour per week) in a world language is not offered in this school.

## Lunch

An average of 25 minutes is provided for lunch during full school days.

## \*\* Interdisciplinary approach

## Special Programs School Elementary Schools

District State  
 % of K-12 Students in Bilingual Education Program or Receiving English as a Second Language Services  
 9.2 12.1 7.4  
 % of Identified Gifted and/or Talented Students Who Received Services  
 N/A N/A N/A  
 % of Special Education Students Attending This School Who Spent Over 79% of Their Time with Their Non-Disabled Peers  
 77.3 57.0 80.9

## LIBRARY AND

## COMPUTERS

Free on-line access to periodicals, newspapers, and other resources is available to all Connecticut schools through the Connecticut Digital Library at [www.iconn.org](http://www.iconn.org).

## Instructional Computers and Library

Materials  
 School Elementary Schools  
 District State  
 # of Students Per Computer 2.4 2.9 3.2  
 % of Computers with Internet Access 100.0 100.0 99.1  
 % of Computers that are High or Moderate Power

26.4 22.7 89.9  
# of Print Volumes Per Student\* 46.0 31.8 28.9  
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions 1 1 12

\*Because a certain number of volumes are needed for a library of adequate breadth and depth, a small school may need a higher number of volumes per student.

104 - 01 Page 3 Page 3

#### SCHOOL STAFF

Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff  
General Education: Teachers and Instructors  
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants  
8,956.00  
Special Education: Teachers and Instructors  
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants  
1,000.00  
Library/Media Specialists and/or Assistants 1.30  
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs 1.00  
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists) 0.50  
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists 0.70  
School Nurses 1.00  
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support 5.50

In the full-time equivalent count, staff members working part-time in the school are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in a school contributes

0.50 to the school's staff count.  
Teachers and Instructors School Elementary Schools  
District State  
Average Number of Years of Experience in Education 6.8 12.0 13.6  
% with Master's Degree or Above 53.8 77.8 79.9  
Attendance, 2008-09: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time  
8.6 6.3 8.2  
% Assigned to Same School the Previous Year 76.9 89.8 86.9

#### HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Teacher E-Mail Addresses: All teachers at this school have been issued e-mail addresses.  
Online Homework Information: A portion of the school website is devoted to homepages.

The following narrative about how this school promotes and supports parental involvement was submitted by this school.

Bishop School is proud of its students, staff and families. The staff, administration, and P.T.O. work together to support the goals and initiatives of our school. Strong parent and community leadership provided supplemental and financial support for programs, field trips, and enrichment opportunities. The P.T.O. sponsored monthly meetings that incorporated family activities such as a reading night, a sock hop, and a harvest dance. The P.T.O. funds educational enrichment programs and field trips throughout the year. The group sponsors an Attendance Celebration yearly, which includes parents, students, staff, and our neighborhood families. The P.T.O. organizes two book fairs that include day and evening events to accommodate all families. Parents are invited to meetings to discuss reading strategies and interpret CMT scores. Classroom teachers have scheduled before and after school monthly Office Hours to address parents' concerns and questions about their children. School-home communication also is provided through the school newsletter, which is published and distributed on a bi-monthly basis. R.S.V.P. volunteers are an integral part of our school day providing assistance in reading and tutoring in several classrooms including our Family Resource Center, the kindergarten, grade 3, and Resource Room. Volunteers from the community visit classrooms and collaborate with teachers to share with students their areas of expertise. Students have been afforded the opportunity of hands-on natural science activities as well as learning and practicing several cultural dances. Bishop School's highly attended Open House is scheduled the night before school begins for students. Families are sent notices in three languages at the end of the school year with a reminder before school begins. Open House is an opportunity for parents and students to meet teachers and staff. Parents are given information about the curriculum, goals, and expectations. Our kindergarten orientation provided parents support for developing early literacy skills. The kindergarten teacher, early intervention teacher, and the principal provided parents with materials and suggestions for age appropriate activities.

104 - 01 Page 4 Page 4

#### SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity  
Race/Ethnicity Number Percent  
American Indian  
Asian American  
Black  
Hispanic  
White  
9  
13  
46  
37  
68  
5.8  
7.5  
28.3  
22.5  
45.1  
Total Minority 105 54.9

Percent of Minority Professional Staff: 5.6%

Non-English Home Language :

21.7% of this school's students (excluding prekindergarten students) come from homes where English is not the primary language. The number of non-English home languages is 8.

#### EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

Below is the description submitted by this school of how it provides educational opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.

Bishop School is a small neighborhood school, rich with economic and ethnic diversity, of approximately 170 students. All students find opportunities to celebrate their cultural heritage and the accomplishments of many races and cultures in their classrooms, in displays, and through enrichment activities. Additionally, school signs are posted in Spanish, Haitian Creole, and English. A partnership with Millstone provided our grade four students the opportunity to experience hands on workshops science experiments, and inquiry-based activities. Another partnership was developed between the local high school and our students in grades K-1. The N.F.A. Buddy Readers visited the school two times

a week to read one on one with students. Through grants, Bishop students were afforded the opportunity to attend performances at the Garde Theater and the Coast Guard Academy. Fundraising and grants allowed our 4th and 5th graders to visit the Museum of Natural History in New York City. Our fifth graders continue our tradition of raising and lowering the American Flag daily. Community mentors and R.S.V.P. volunteers provided role models for our students on a weekly basis. The Joy of Reading, a service-learning program, was continued in a partnership of grade four and grade one. The goal of the program is to strengthen the younger students' language and literacy skills, as the older students work on fluency and comprehension skills. The program culminated with a celebration joining the two grade levels. Technology has played an important role in providing visual and factual information in the classroom. Our grade 4 students utilize a SMART Board within their classroom. Fifth grade students are responsible for the production of our daily Morning News Show. Parents are invited to Bishop School to view the Morning News production.

#### STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND BEHAVIOR

Physical Fitness: %  
Reaching Health Standard  
on All Four Tests\*  
School District State % of Schools in State with  
Equal or Lower Percent  
Reaching Standard  
Grade 4 40.9 34.6 50.3 33.0  
Grade 6 N/A N/A N/A N/A

\*Includes tests for flexibility, abdominal strength and endurance, upper-body strength and aerobic endurance.

104 - 01 Page 5 Page 5

Connecticut Mastery Test, Fourth Generation, % Meeting State Goal. The Goal level is more demanding than the Proficient level, but not as high as the Advanced level, reported in the No Child Left Behind Report Cards.

Grade and OMT Subject  
Area  
School District State % of Schools in State  
with Equal or Lower  
Percent Meeting Goal  
Grade 3 Reading 44.4 42.7 57.0 31.8  
Writing 40.7 33.6 58.3 23.8  
Mathematics 55.6 47.9 62.4 37.8  
Grade 4 Reading 40.0 40.9 59.9 25.2  
Writing 52.4 39.9 63.6 33.0  
Mathematics 38.1 42.0 67.0 15.1  
Grade 5 Reading 68.2 44.1 61.8 61.2  
Writing 77.3 49.1 68.2 64.2  
Mathematics 72.7 53.4 72.4 47.8  
Science 54.5 31.5 59.4 41.4  
Grade 6 Reading N/A N/A N/A N/A  
Writing N/A N/A N/A N/A  
Mathematics N/A N/A N/A N/A

These results reflect the performance of students with scoreable tests who were enrolled in the district at the time of testing, regardless of the length of time they were enrolled in the district. Results for fewer than 20 students are not presented.

For more detailed OMT results, go to [www.ctreports.com](http://www.ctreports.com). To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov) and click on the No Child Left Behind link.

Student Attendance School District Elementary Sch. State Elementary Sch.  
% Present on October 1 88.4 95.9 96.2

#### Disciplinary Offenses

Disciplinary offenses committed by students include all serious offenses, offenses involving drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, and all incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion. In the 2008-09 school year, 3 students were responsible for these incidents. These students represent 1.6% of the estimated number of students who attended this school at some point during the 2008-09 school year.

#### Number of Incidents by Disciplinary Offense Category, 2008-09

Offense Category\* Location of Incident  
School Other Location  
Violent Crimes Against Persons N/A N/A  
Sexually Related Behavior N/A N/A  
Personally Threatening Behavior N/A N/A  
Theft N/A N/A  
Physical/Verbal Confrontation N/A N/A  
Fighting/Battery N/A N/A  
Property Damage N/A N/A  
Weapons N/A N/A  
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco N/A N/A  
School Policy Violations N/A N/A  
Total 4 0

\* Counts by category may be suppressed to protect student privacy.

104 - 01 Page 6 Page 6

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

The following narrative was submitted by this school.

The staff at Bishop school has high expectations for all of its students. The staff developed building goals in math, reading and writing using data team planning. The School Wide Data Team and Grade Level Data Teams identified student needs by analyzing multiple data sources to modify and differentiate instruction to improve student learning. Data was discussed at weekly team collaboration meetings and monthly meetings with the principal to identify strategies, resources, and materials. Data walls displayed classroom progress with identified goals. Action plans were developed and modified throughout the year using data to plan for student instruction. Bishop School has developed an improvement plan that includes improving the consistency in the quality of teaching, expanding parent involvement in their children's learning, deepening the understanding of school-wide data, and ensuring that technology is used throughout the school to provide breadth and variety to lessons. Strategies to achieve these goals have been developed and implemented throughout the year. Plans coordinate with the Norwich Public Schools District Improvement Plan. All classrooms have a scheduled 90 minute uninterrupted literacy block. A 45 minute reading enrichment block has been established to extend explicit instruction based on students' needs. Students with disabilities are included in the first hour of the literacy block for whole group instruction and thematic activities. Modifications are made across content areas to differentiate instruction and address students' needs. The district writing curriculum addresses process writing at developmental stages. All students in grades 1-5 have participated in after-school free tutorial modules and enrichment programs. The academic modules were offered to students in need of extended time for reading, writing, and/or mathematics. Many of Bishop Schools grade 1-5 teachers and staff

participated in the development and instruction of the academic after school modules. Enrichment opportunities were provided to all grade 1-5 students.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

The space below was optionally used by this school to describe aspects of the school not presented elsewhere in the profile.

Bishop Schools staff, administration, and P.T.O. work together to support the goals and initiatives of our school. Our Character Education program is the foundation for our caring school community. Second Step: A Violence Prevention weekly classroom program teaches tolerance, social skills, and anger management in grades kindergarten to grade 5. Monthly school assemblies and Spirit Day activities are held to promote character traits. The program includes staff as Mentors to reach out to children that need additional adult contact. Students met with their mentors daily, weekly, and/or monthly. The iKid of Character program celebrated students daily from each classroom in grades one to five who demonstrated the character trait of the month and were spotlighted on the Morning News Show. The year culminated with a Character Assembly highlighting the year's traits and recognizing outstanding student role models. Our fourth and fifth grade math team attended after school coaching sessions and placed competitively in our district Team Math Competition. Many students had artwork selected for display at Norwich's All City Elementary Art Show. Students' artwork was displayed throughout the year at the Central Office and in our school building. Bishop students also performed in the All City Concert, the All City Band, and at school assemblies. Students in all grades use a variety of technology resources to provide additional math, reading and writing support, including using Power Point, Microsoft Word, and the Internet. A SMART Board has been incorporated for classroom instruction in grade four and additional teachers are receiving professional development in the use of SMART Boards this summer.