




Walnut Avenue School
2016-2017

39-0980-110
UNION
CRANFORD TWP
370 WALNUT AVENUE
CRANFORD, NJ 07016

The **2016-17 School Performance Reports** are designed to share school and district information collected by the New Jersey Department of Education directly with parents, educators, and communities. The Department believes that the greatest potential to improve school performance and student outcomes is through parents, educators, and community members working together. These reports seek to make that process easier by providing information that can help people to:

- **Learn more:** The School Performance Reports contain a wealth of data, going far beyond a school's test scores to include information about the staff working in a school, student discipline rates, and the sports and clubs offered.
- **Ask questions:** These reports can help start a conversation, but they cannot answer all the questions you might have about schools in your community. Use the contact information provided to engage with faculty and administrators at your schools to ask about the data you see in these reports.
- **Get involved:** Schools need help from parents and communities to help students succeed. Contact your school to find out about school board meetings or parent and community groups.

Navigating through the reports:

- Download this report to a PDF by clicking the  icon at the top of the page.
- Search for specific text or words in these reports by using the search box at the top of the page.
- The menu bar at the top of the page or the table of contents at the left of the screen can be used to move between sections of the report.
- The arrow buttons at the top left of the screen can be used to move between pages of the report.

Other Resources:

- Review the [Parent Summary Report](#) for this school.
- For more detailed information about the data in these reports, where it comes from, and how to use it: [Reference Guide](#) or [Interpretive Video](#).

- Want to give us feedback? Take our feedback survey: [surveylink](#)
- Questions about the reports? Contact us at reportcard@doe.state.nj.us



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Enrollment Trends by Grade

This table shows the number of students enrolled by grade for the past three school years. Ungraded students are students who are "on roll" but are educated in ungraded classrooms.

Grade	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
PK	64	72	68
KG	79	73	74
1	87	90	91
2	85	93	90
3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
5	0	0	0
6	0	0	0
7	0	0	0
8	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0
Ungraded	8	6	2
Total	323	334	325

PreK and K - Full Day and Half Day

This table shows the full day and half day enrollment for Pre-Kindergarten (PK) and Kindergarten (KG) students in this school.

Grade	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
PK - Half Day	64	72	68
PK - Full Day	0	0	0
KG - Half Day	78	73	74
KG - Full Day	0	0	0

Enrollment Trends by Student Group

This table shows the percentage of students by student group for the past three school years. Data for some student groups was not available before 2016-17.

Student Group	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Female	45%	44%	47%
Male	55%	56%	53%
Economically Disadvantaged Students	3%	2%	2%
Students with Disabilities	21%	23%	22%
English Learners	0%	0%	0%
Homeless Students			0%
Students in Foster Care			0%
Military-Connected Students			1%
Migrant Students			0%

Enrollment by Racial and Ethnic Group

This table shows the percentage of students by racial and ethnic group.

Racial and Ethnic Group	% of Students
White	82.2%
Hispanic	8.6%
Asian	4.0%
Black or African American	3.1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.3%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%
Two or More Races	1.8%

Enrollment by Home Language

This table shows the percentage of students by primary home language. Only the top 5 languages with at least 1% of students are shown. All other students are included in Other Languages.

Home Language	% of Students
English	100.0%



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This section shows information about student absences which provides important information about a school's culture and climate. In addition, research shows that student absences impact a child's ability to succeed in school. The New Jersey Department of Education selected chronic absenteeism as its measure of school quality and student success for the *ESSA* accountability plan. **Chronic absenteeism** is defined as being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year. A student who is not present for any reason, excused, unexcused or for disciplinary action, is considered absent unless permitted by statute or regulation.

Chronic Absenteeism

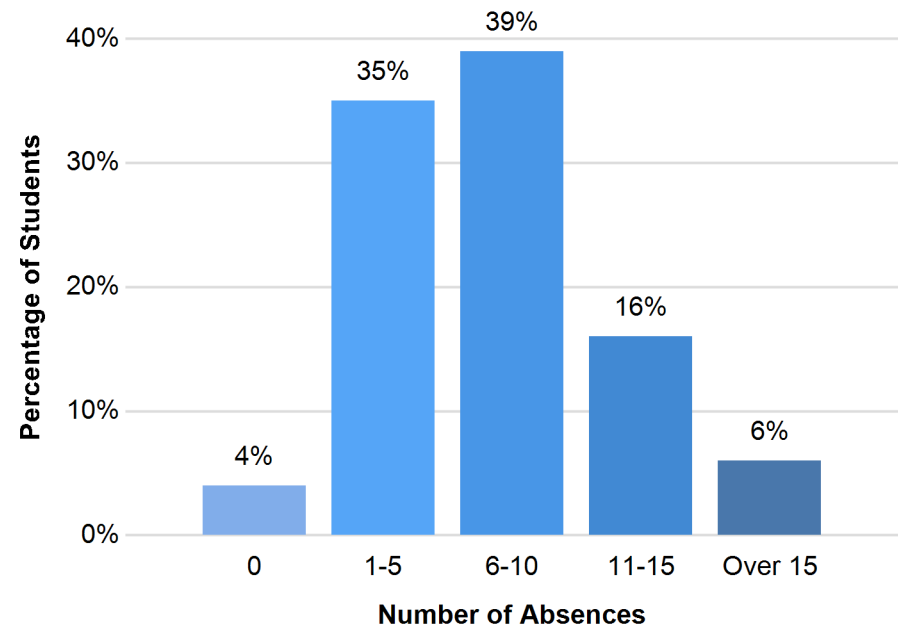
This table shows the percentage of students in grades K-12 in the school and each student group who were chronically absent. This table also shows whether the school and each student group met the *ESSA* accountability targets for 2016-17.

Student Group	% Chronically Absent	2016-17 Target	Met 2016-17 Target
Schoolwide	3.90	9.80	Met Target
White	3.80	9.80	Met Target
Hispanic	9.10	9.80	Met Target
Black or African American	N	**	**
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander	N	**	**
American Indian or Alaska Native	N	**	**
Two or More Races	N	**	**
Economically Disadvantaged Students	N	**	**
Students with Disabilities	10.70	9.80	Not Met
English Learners	N	**	**

** *ESSA* accountability targets are only included if data is available for at least 20 students.

Days Absent

The graph displays the percentage of K-12 students schoolwide by the number of days they were absent during the school year. An absence is defined as being 'not present' and includes both excused and unexcused absences.



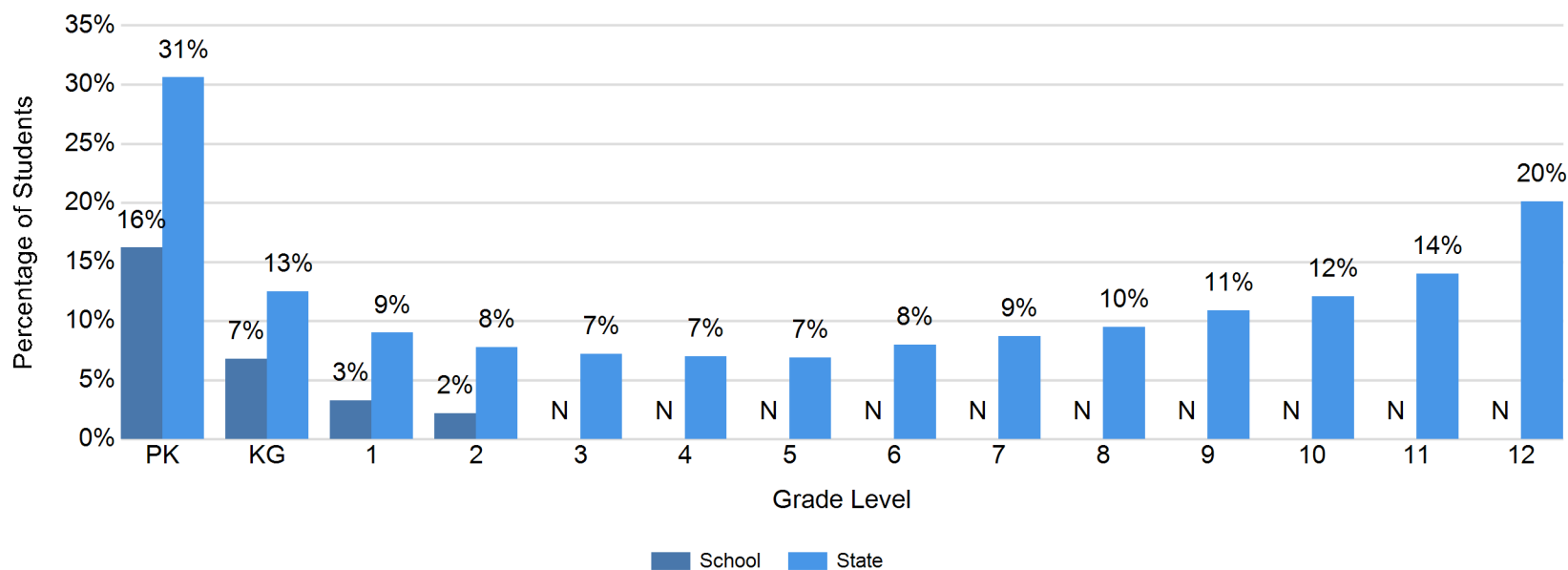


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Chronic Absenteeism by Grade

This graph shows the percentage of students in the school and across the state who were chronically absent for each grade level. **Chronic absenteeism** is defined as being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year. A student who is not present for any reason, excused, unexcused or for disciplinary action, is considered absent unless permitted by statute or regulation.





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School Day

This table shows the start and end times and length of school day for a typical student at this school. **Instructional time** is the amount of time that a typical student was engaged in instructional activities under the supervision of a certified teacher.

Category	School
Typical Start Time	8:35AM
Typical End Time	2:55PM
Length of School Day	6 Hrs 20 Mins
Full Time - Instructional Time	5 Hrs. 10 Mins.
Shared Time - Instructional Time	*

Violence, Vandalism, HIB, and Substance Offenses

This table shows the number of incidents reported by type. A single incident may be counted under multiple incident types. The total unique incidents provides a non-duplicated count of incidents. The final row shows a rate of incidents for every 100 students enrolled in the school.

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Violence	0
Vandalism	0
Weapons	0
Substances	0
Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)	0
Total Unique Incidents	0
Incidents Per 100 Students Enrolled	0.00

Student Suspension Rate

This table shows the percentage of students who received one or more in-school suspensions, one or more out-of-school suspensions, and one or more suspensions of any type during the school year. Students receiving both in-school and out-of-school suspensions will be counted in all rows of the table. Students who received more than one suspension are counted only one time in each category below.

Suspension Types	% of Students
In-School Suspensions	0.0%
Out-of-School Suspensions	0.0%
Any Suspension	0.0%

Student Expulsions

This table shows the number of students who were expelled from the school during the school year. An expulsion is when a student is removed from a school and does not receive any further educational services during the school year.

Category	Number of Students
Expulsions	0



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Per-Pupil Expenditures (District Level)

This table shows the total current expenses for regular and special education students taught within the district's schools. It includes expenditures for instruction, support services, administration, operations and maintenance, extra-curricular activities, and community service. More information about district and charter school spending can be found using districts' [User Friendly Budgets](#), or the NJDOE Finance [District Report Search](#) of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs) and Auditor's Management Reports (AMRs).

Per-Pupil Expenditures	Federal	State/ Local	Total
District Total	\$277	\$14,258	\$14,535



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This section contains information about staff that are assigned to the school and district. Here is an explanation of some of the **key terms used in the staff section**:

Faculty: All classroom teachers and educational support services personnel (such as Librarians, Nurses, Counselors, and Child Study Team members)

Teachers: All classroom teachers

Administrators: Principals, assistant principals, supervisors, coordinators, directors, and other central-office administrators, as well as superintendents and other district-level administrators

Full-Time Equivalent: In calculations, staff members are weighted based on the percentage of their time that they are assigned to a school or district. For example – a teacher assigned to a school half time would be weighted 50% in calculations, but a teacher assigned to a school full time would be weighted 100% in calculations.

Teachers – Experience and Certifications

This table shows information about experience and certifications for teachers assigned to this school and across the state.

Category	Teachers in Schools	Teachers in State
Total Number of teachers	24	121,048
Average years experience in public schools	13.9	11.8
Average years experience in district	10.4	10.5
Teachers in district for 4 or more years	79%	74%

Administrators – Experience (District Level)

This table shows information about experience for administrators assigned to this district and across the state.

Category	Admin. in District	Admin. in State
Total Number of administrators	26	9,533
Average years experience in public schools	21.8	15.9
Average years experience in district	11.4	11.6
Administrators in district for 4 or more years	62%	74%

Student to Staff Ratios

This table shows the number of students per staff member in the school and district. Ratios for librarians, nurses, counselors, and child study team members are only reported at the district level because many staff in these jobs are assigned only to the district and not to individual schools.

Staff Type	School Students: Staff	District Students: Staff
Teachers	14:1	11:1
Administrators	325:1	150:1
Librarian/Media Specialists		781:1
Nurses		488:1
Counselors		488:1
Child Study Team		244:1



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Teachers and Administrators - Level of Education

This chart shows the highest level of education attained by the teachers and administrators at this school. The Bachelor's category may include other degrees/certificates such as a Specialist's degree. Administrators are required to have a Master's degree or higher.

Bachelor's Degree



Master's Degree



Doctoral Degree

Teacher	N
Admin	N

Teachers and Administrators - One-Year Retention (District Level)

This table shows the percentage of teachers and administrators assigned to the district in 2015-16 that were still assigned to the district in 2016-17. Staff who are not retained may have changed districts or no longer work for the state (including retirements).

Job Type	District	State
2015-16 Teachers: Same district 2016-17	85%	89%
2015-16 Administrators: Same district 2016-17	88%	88%

Faculty Attendance

This table shows the percentage of days that school faculty members were present during the school year. Approved professional days, personal days, staff training days, bereavement days, jury duty, and absences due to extended illness are not counted against days present, and faculty members on long-term leave or disability are excluded from this calculation.

School Year	% Days Present
2016-17	98%



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School General Info

Principal:	Mr. Paternoster	Email Address:	paternos@cranfordschools.org
Address:	370 WALNUT AVENUE CRANFORD, NJ 07016	Website:	https://www.cranfordschools.org/Domain/11
Phone:	(908)709-6253	Facebook:	N/A
		Twitter:	N/A





School Narrative

This section allows schools and districts to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered in their own words. If there are questions about the information provided in the narrative section, please contact your school directly.

 <p>Highlights:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walnut Avenue School Community takes part in the beautification of the school through the Fall Haul and Spring Dig. • Google Classroom is used to enhance teaching and learning, especially in second grade. • Sphero, a mini-robot, was used to introduce coding. Students learned how to program Sphero through obstacle courses.
 <p>Mission, Vision, Theme:</p>	<p>Walnut Avenue School is committed to providing a child-centered, family oriented learning environment, that is caring and supportive of children, and that recognizes and values their individual needs. Our school community seeks to provide our students with the academic and social skills they will need to meet the challenge of the 21st century, using an approach that encourages cooperation, problem solving, creative thinking, respect for others and a love of learning.</p>
 <p>Awards, Recognition, Accomplishments:</p>	<p>The Walnut Avenue School was awarded the Union County Kids Dig In! Grant Award. The Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund recognized WAS for the gardens and the variety of produce that was grown and shared with the community. In the area of staff recognition, each year staff and parents/guardians are able to recommend an individual to be named WAS Educator of the Year. These recommendations are reviewed by a panel of parent/guardians, staff and administrators.</p>

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 Courses, Curriculum, Instruction:	<p>Our curriculum is comprehensive and aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. The Language Arts Literacy program is based on a balanced literacy approach within the Readers/Writers Workshop framework. Mathematics emphasizes developing number sense while focusing on concepts, skills, and problem solving strategies related to addition and subtraction. Science and Social Studies are taught in a manner that is interdisciplinary, interactive and hands on, with real world application.</p>
 Sports and Athletics:	<p>As a preschool, kindergarten, grade one, and grade two elementary school, Walnut Avenue School does not have school-affiliated sports programs. However, many students take advantage of recreation and club sports. In addition, each spring the students participate in a PTA sponsored field-Day event. Field Day is always a student highlight of the school year.</p>
 Clubs and Activities:	<p>Walnut Avenue School offers before and after school clubs for students. Students participate in Chorus, Math Club, and the Garden Club. Walnut Avenue School also participates in the annual Variety Show and Field Day. There are other school wide activities for the students, including Multicultural Appreciation Day, the annual Family Picnic, and Earth Day celebrations.</p>
 Before and After School Programs:	<p>Before and After School Child Care is available via outside providers that each offer different arrangements for drop off and pick up. Only before care is offered on school premises through a third-party provider. After Care is offered off site and bussing is provided by different programs.</p>







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 <p>Staff and Professional Learning:</p>	<p>The professional improvement and ongoing learning is a priority for all staff. Professional development opportunities are designed to enhance knowledge and professional skills. Professional development opportunities include but are not limited to: Personalized Learning, 21st Century Learning Skills and Standards Based Grading. In addition, the district's partnership with Seton Hall University, provides professional development opportunities.</p>
 <p>Student Supports and Services:</p>	<p>The Achieve program provides individual/small group support in reading and/or math using a push-in / pull-out model. Students with Individualized Education Plans receive in-class or replacement setting support. Speech, physical and occupational therapy, and a school counselor are available. Students experiencing academic or behavioral challenges may be referred to the Intervention & Referral Services Committee which creates classroom supports. Pathways to Excellence offers student enrichment.</p>
 <p>Student Health and Wellness:</p>	<p>The health and wellness of all students is integral to the educational program. Nurses, counselors, and social workers in collaboration with administration and educators provide a safe environment for all students. Students are regularly screened by school nurses and nurses maintain health records for students. Students receive physical education classes in accordance with the NJ Department of Education requirements and students participate in daily recess.</p>
 <p>Parent and Community Involvement:</p>	<p>The Parent Teacher Association, is an outstanding organization that provides a tremendous amount of support to the staff, students, and school community. The families volunteer time, resources, and their talents for school and community events. The PTA supports the school by enhancing academic programs, providing special programs, fundraising, and organizing and facilitating activities. The PTA and Cranford Community involvement add to the overall success of the school.</p>

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Climate Surveys:

Is a Climate Survey Used: Yes; Who is surveyed: Parents, Teachers

A survey was conducted at the end of the 2016-17 school year. This survey contained questions on the state of the school facilities, the overall learning environment, school safety, staff and students relationships, school communication, and academics. Results from the survey were extremely favorable.



Facilities:

There are thirteen regular education classrooms, four preschool classrooms, there is a multi-purpose room for assemblies, physical education and lunch. There is an art room and the media center. Other spaces include: a resource room/occupational therapy room; a room for basic skills instruction; speech room; a room for counseling services. Each classroom has laptops and/or iPads for student use. The grounds include a playground, wall ball court, gaga pit, and soccer/lacrosse fields.



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Other Information:

Walnut Avenue School's school day is six and a half hours long. The day starts at 8:35 A.M. and ends at 2:55 P.M. The students have a half hour lunch period and a half hour for recess. In addition to the study of academic subjects (math, social studies, science and language arts) the students attend classes in Art, Music, Spanish, Physical Education and Library/Media Center. A robust professional development program for teachers and staff helps our educators explore, practice and implement best practices. Technology skills are woven into all areas of study. Laptops, iPads, and Chromebooks are available for student use. Safety is a core value at Walnut Avenue School. In addition to monthly security and fire drills, the school enjoys a strong and supportive relationship with the Cranford Police Department. A strong home-to-school connection is extremely important and Walnut Avenue School strives for a strong and supportive relationship. The school website showcases classroom happenings, provides a school calendar, and other important information. The Family Picnic, Back to School Night, Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences, and PTA Meetings are a few ways we build the home-to-school connection. At Walnut Avenue School, we view education as a continuum, beginning with preschool/kindergarten and continuing throughout our students' lives. Accordingly, we place a high emphasis on our students' transition into their first school setting, as well as their exit, as they move to Grades 3-5 at Livingston Avenue School. To ease these transitions we engage in ongoing conversations with our students and families to understand and meet their needs upon entering and leaving Walnut Avenue School.