

Local schools bring home report card from 2025-26 state assessments

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COMMONWEALTH JOURNAL

With Fall Break in the rear view mirror, local schools moved on to the next major milestone on the school calendar: state assessment results. The Kentucky School Report Card information was released this past week by the Kentucky Department of Education. The annual report shows how each school around the state is doing compared to each other as well as the state average, based on statewide testing, or the Kentucky Summative Assessment — in this case, that which was done during the 2025-26 school year.

The simplest way to understand the performance is probably by the color-coding system the state uses to indicate a school's performance overall or in certain areas. The five color-coded levels are: Blue for Very High, Green for High, Yellow for Medium, Orange for Low and Red for Very Low.

Each district receives an overall score for three school levels (elementary, middle school and high school), as well as scores for each individual school in districts that have more than one school.

Student performance is measured in the areas of reading, mathematics, science, social studies, and writing. The accountability system also holds schools accountable for the English language proficiency of English learners and the quality of school climate and safety.

Data relating to subpopulations in the school, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness were measured as well, meaning each school was given individual scores based on subcategories – race, gender, housed or unhoused status, foster care situation, and students with disabilities being a few of those categories.

The full report card information can be found at the Kentucky Department of Education's Assessment and Accountability Datasets website, report-card.kyschools.us/home.

The county's largest district is the Pulaski County School System, which has two high schools, two middle schools and eight elemen-

tary schools, among other facilities.

All three levels — elementary, middle, and high schools — were in the green, or “high,” category for the county school district.

In particular, Pulaski County High School was green overall and a little more varied, placing yellow in Reading and Mathematics; green in Graduation Rate; and blue in Science, Social Studies and Combined Writing; School Climate and Safety; and Postsecondary Readiness. It was also the highest-ranked high school in the county, top 24% in the state.

Southwestern High School was green, and was green in Reading and Mathematics; Science, Social Studies & Combined Writing; Quality of School Climate and Safety; and Graduation Rate, and Blue for Postsecondary Readiness. It was in the top 39% high schools in the state.

Southern Middle School was green overall and in Reading and Mathematics, with the Science/Social Studies/Combined Writing and School Climate/Safety categories in the blue. So too was Northern Middle green, as it was in School Climate/Safety, and blue in Reading/Mathematics and Science/Social Studies/Combined Writing.

With a blue rating, Northern Elementary was the highest-ranking elementary school in Pulaski County, finishing in the top 4% of the state. Oak Hill Elementary was also blue, Nancy Elementary and Pulaski Elementary were green, Shopville Elementary and Southern Elementary were yellow, and Eubank Elementary was orange.

Kent Mayfield, Pulaski Schools Superintendent, noted that Kentucky Summative Assessment, or KSA, results can be challenging to interpret because they measure many aspects of school performance, not just academic achievement.

"I am proud that, year after year, Pulaski County Schools continues to perform among Kentucky's highest-performing school districts," he said. "While we celebrate our successes, we also remain committed to continuous improvement and ensuring every student has the opportunity to succeed."



METRO PHOTO

Statewide testing results have been released for Kentucky schools, including those in Pulaski County.

said Mayfield. “The hard work of our students, teachers, staff, and families is reflected in this year’s results.”

“Across Kentucky, our elementary schools rank in the top 17%, our middle schools in the top 11%, and our high schools in the top 29%,” he added. “These accomplishments represent countless hours of learning, teaching, mentoring, and support. Please join me in congratulating our students, teachers, and staff, and thanking them for representing Pulaski County and our community so well.”

In the city district, Somerset Independent Schools, there are three individual schools, one at each level. Somerset High School and Hopkins Elementary were both green, and Meece Middle School in the yellow category. It also did well overall in Kentucky, in the top 26% of the state.

Somerset High did especially well in School Climate/Safety, Graduation Rate, and Postsecondary Readiness, with a blue status, and were green in the other two key categories previously mentioned.

Meece Middle's rating was hampered by the Science/Social Studies/Combined Writing category, which was in the orange category, next to the lowest. The school fared better in Reading and Mathematics and School Climate/Safety, both green.

Hopkins Elementary was strongest in Science/Social Studies/Combined Writing, with blue, and was in green for Reading and Mathematics and

School Climate/Safety.

Sarah Burnett, District Assessment Coordinator for Somerset Independent Schools, additionally pointed out that Somerset High School's average SAT score was 945, surpassing the state average of 908.

“We will utilize the 2025-2026 KSA data to celebrate student achievements, pinpoint growth opportunities, and guide continuous improvement efforts, ensuring each student receives the necessary education and support to achieve their full potential,” said Burnett. “Improvement plans have been implemented for identified deficit areas, reflecting our commitment to ongoing growth. We look forward to seeing our students thrive in the 2026-2027 school year.”

Added Somerset Superintendent Kyle Lively, “The numerous areas of success highlighted by these test scores are a direct result of remarkable students, teachers/staff, parents, and administrators working toward a common goal. We are truly fortunate to have a fantastic student body with supportive parents.

“Our teachers/staff and administrators go above and beyond to ensure all student needs are met.

It is this combination of caring and dedication that make results like this possible,” he continued. “While we are proud of what our students and teachers have accomplished, we will utilize the data obtained from the state assessment to support continual academic growth for all students.”

The county's third district, Science Hill Inde-

pendent, serves only the elementary and middle school levels. While the elementary level was at yellow, the middle school level placed high in blue.

"I am very proud of the work of our staff and students to obtain the middle school's blue performance level on last

year's Kentucky Summative Assessment," said Science Hill Superintendent Matt Cook, currently in his first year at the school, who observed that Science Hill ranked 16 out of 318 middle schools.

“We are excited to be the highest ranking middle school in the area. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of every single staff member and student in our district,” he added. “Our elementary scores showed many positive outcomes as well as room for growth. Our reading and math scores continued to outperform the statewide averages.

"In my first three months on the job, one thing is abundantly clear, Science Hill Independent has the staff and students in place that are capable and extremely motivated to be top performers in every area going forward," continued Cook. "I am very excited for the continued success of our Yellow Jackets."

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE**

In order to comply with the orders of the Pulaski Circuit Court, the Commissioner will sell the property described in the following action on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026** at the hour of **1:00 p.m.** This sale will be held at **207 S. RICHARDSON DRIVE, SOMERSET, KY 42501, (GODBY AUCTION CENTER BUILDING, PLEASE DO NOT CALL GODBY REALTY WITH QUESTIONS: THEY VOLUNTARILY AUCTIONEER FOR THE MASTER COMMISSIONER).** Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and (unless otherwise indicated) upon the following terms and conditions:

- (A) At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. **In the event the successful bidder desires or elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety thereon.** Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and **bear interest at the plaintiff's judgment rate per** annum from the date of sale until paid. **IN THE EVENT THAT THE PURCHASER IS NOT PAYING THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PROPERTY ON THE DATE OF SALE, ANOTHER PERSON MUST BE PRESENT ON THE PURCHASER'S BEHALF TO SIGN AS SURETY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.**
- (B) Risk of loss of improvements shall be on the purchaser from date of sale.
- (C) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes or assessments upon the property for the current tax year **(2026)** and all subsequent years. All other delinquent taxes or assessments upon the property for prior years shall be paid from the sale proceeds **if properly claimed in writing and the holder(s) thereof is a party to the foreclosure. The Master Commissioner warrants only such title as is referred by Court order and does not guarantee that all taxes are paid.**
- (D) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Pulaski County Clerk's Office and such right of redemption may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s).

1. 2415 ELIHU CABIN HOLLOW ROAD, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$5,829.67, PVA # 077-0-0-53
2. MCCLENDON ROAD, SOMERSET, Amount to be raised, \$58,814.07, PVA # 061-1-3-05
3. ROBIN LANE, BURNSIDE, Amount to be raised, \$3,044.14, PVA # 094-5-4-28
4. 211 BELLEWOOD DR., SOMERSET, KY, Amount to be raised, \$6,440.36, PVA # 076-6-0-32
5. 0 HINKLE RD., EUBANK, KY Amount to be raised, \$3,412.57, PVA # 056-0-1-54.3

Further information and appraisals are available online @www.pulaskipva.com, (Additional Resources/Master 0 Sales).

**JOHN T. MANDT, MASTER COMMISSIONER,
PULASKI CIRCUIT COURT, 203 W. COLUMBIA ST.,
SOMERSET, KY 42501, Phone 606-679-3504**