

**STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2006-07**

Elementary School K-6 Edition

**Wolcott School**  
**West Hartford School District**

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This profile was produced by the Connecticut State Department of Education in accordance with CT General Statutes 10-220(c).

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**STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

Total Enrollment: 497

5-Year Enrollment Change: -0.4%

**TYPE OF SCHOOL**

School Type: Traditional/Regular

School Grade Range: K- 5

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**SCHOOL NEED**

| <b>Current and Past School Need</b>  | <b>Year</b> | <b>School</b> | <b>District K-6 Schools</b> | <b>State K-6 Schools</b> |
|--|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| % of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals                            | 2006-07     | 12.3          | 13.9                        | 27.7                     |
|  | 2002-03     | 16.4          | 13.0                        | 28.8                     |
| % of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language                              | 2006-07     | 19.7          | 17.6                        | 13.5                     |
|  | 2001-02     | 17.8          | 15.1                        | 14.1                     |
| % of Students above Entry Grade who Attended this School the Previous Year     | 2006-07     | 89.4          | 90.2                        | 87.7                     |
|  | 2001-02     | 93.5          | 89.6                        | 86.2                     |
|  | <b>Year</b> | <b>School</b> | <b>District</b>             | <b>State</b>             |
| % of Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart | 2006-07     | 63.4          | 85.0                        | 79.3                     |
|  | 2001-02     | 72.3          | 85.7                        | 75.1                     |

| <b>Enrollment in Special Programs</b>                                | <b>Students in School</b> | <b>Percent in School</b> | <b>% in District K-6 Schools</b> | <b>% in State K-6 Schools</b> |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language Services (K-12) | 52                        | 10.5                     | 9.9                              | 6.9                           |
| Compensatory Education   | 48                        | 9.7                      | 13.1                             | 23.6                          |
| Full or Extended Day Kindergarten                                    | 82                        | N/A                      | N/A                              | N/A                           |
| Gifted and Talented Program  | 17                        | 3.4                      | 3.8                              | 1.8                           |
| Special Education  | 42                        | 8.5                      | 11.3                             | 10.8                          |
| Prekindergarten  | 0                         | N/A                      | N/A                              | N/A                           |

| Race/Ethnicity  | Number | Percent |
|-----------------|--------|---------|
| American Indian | 1      | 0.2     |
| Asian American  | 71     | 14.3    |
| Black           | 43     | 8.7     |
| Hispanic        | 64     | 12.9    |
| White           | 318    | 64.0    |

## STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Total Minority 2006-07</b> | 36.0% |
| <b>Total Minority 2001-02</b> | 31.9% |

### 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.

In an effort to reduce racial, ethnic, and economic isolation, Wolcott School offered several distinct programs: The Hillcrest Area Neighborhood Outreach Center (HANOC), Town Meeting, a Respect and Responsibility Program and several events designed to celebrate our school's diversity.

The HANOC Center is on Hillcrest Avenue. Over 60 lower income and minority children from this area attend our school. Through open houses, block parties, and other events, elementary age students are encouraged to visit the center. Parent workshops and related services are also offered at the center. We have sponsored individual families in need, and we have donated computer equipment and furniture to the center. Our school-based social worker coordinates the activities at Wolcott School with HANOC.

Our school holds a 10-minute welcoming assembly every Monday morning in the auditorium. We also hold a 40-minute Town Meeting every Friday in the auditorium. All students and teachers attend both assemblies. Everyone from our school community is also invited to attend. At these forums we share student accomplishments in academics, arts, leadership, and athletics. The accomplishments of children from all racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds are celebrated. Parent attendance at Harambe and Town Meeting is consistently high and is representative of all families in our school community.

Each year we sponsor several evening events to celebrate the diversity of our school population. These events include an International Night and a Family Dance Night featuring dances from around the world.

Our Respect and Responsibility/Peer Mediation Program seeks to promote strategies that reinforce respect and responsibility within the school community. The program has a dedicated room and is run by teachers, the school psychologist and the school social worker.

### SCHOOL RESOURCES

| Instructional Time*                 | School | District K-6 | State K-6 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------|-----------|
| Total Hours of Instruction Per Year | 988    | 988          | 985       |

\*State law requires at least 900 hours for grades 1 through 12 and full-day kindergarten, and 450 hours for half-day kindergarten.

### TECHNOLOGY



| % of Classrooms, Libraries, and Laboratories Wired for: | School | District K-6 | State K-6 |
|---|--------|--------------|-----------|
| Video   | 100.0  | 98.5         | 64.6      |
| Voice   | 100.0  | 100.0        | 74.8      |
| Internet Access   | 100.0  | 100.0        | 97.3      |
| Multi-Room Network (LAN)                                | 100.0  | 100.0        | 81.3      |

| Computers                                       | School | Dist K-6 | State K-6 |
|---|--------|----------|-----------|
| # of Students Per Academic Computer             | 4.5    | 4.0      | 3.6       |
| % of Computers that are High or Moderate Power  | 90.1   | 97.1     | 89.5      |
| % of Computers with Internet Access, All Speeds | 100.0  | 97.0     | 97.3      |
| % of Computers with High Speed Internet Access  | 100.0  | 97.0     | 96.1      |
| % of Internet Computers with Filtering Software | 100.0  | 98.5     | 98.6      |

This school does not have a functional satellite link.

## SCHOOL RESOURCES, continued

### LIBRARY MATERIALS

Free on-line access to periodicals, newspapers, and other resources is available to all Connecticut schools through the Connecticut Digital Library.

| Print and Non-Print Materials                        | School | Dist K-6 | State K-6 |
|--|--------|----------|-----------|
| # of Print Volumes Per Student*                      | 31.1   | 32.8     | 28.0      |
| % of Print Volumes Purchased in the Last Three Years | 13.1   | 12.2     | 12.2      |
| # of Print Periodical Subscriptions                  | 36     | 20.0     | 15.1      |
| # of Non-Print Materials                             | 336    | 275.9    | 406.8     |

\*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.

### STAFFING RESOURCES



| Average Class Size |         | School | District | State |
|--------------------|---------|--------|----------|-------|
| Gr. K              | 2006-07 | 20.5   | 19.6     | 18.2  |
|                    | 2001-02 | 20.8   | 20.3     | 18.3  |
| Gr. 2              | 2006-07 | 16.0   | 20.2     | 19.5  |
|                    | 2001-02 | 18.8   | 19.6     | 19.6  |
| Gr. 5              | 2006-07 | 23.3   | 22.1     | 21.2  |
|                    | 2001-02 | 23.0   | 21.4     | 21.5  |

| School Staff Count Full-Time Equivalent              | 2006-07 | 2005-06 |
|--|---------|---------|
| # of Certified Staff                                 |         |         |
| Teachers   | 35.1    | 35.0    |
| Administrators                                       | 1.0     | 1.0     |
| Department Chairs                                    | 0.0     | 0.0     |
| Library/Media Staff                                  | 1.0     | 1.0     |
| Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists | 1.4     | 1.3     |
| Other Professionals                                  | 2.0     | 1.9     |
| # of Non-Certified Instructional                     | 6.5     | 4.5     |

| Professional Staff Race/Ethnicity                              | 2006-07 | 2005-06      | 2001-02   |
|--|---------|--------------|-----------|
| % Minority   | 0.0     | 2.2          | 0.0       |
| Professional Staff Experience and Training                     | School  | District K-6 | State K-6 |
| Average Years of Experience in Connecticut and Other Locations | 12.1    | 12.2         | 14.0      |
| % with Master's Degree or Above                                | 75.6    | 80.6         | 81.0      |

## SCHOOL PROCESSES

| Selected Subject Areas, Grade 5 | Estimated Hours of Instruction Per Year |          |       | Computer/Technology Supported |
|---------------------------------|---|----------|-------|-------------------------------|
|                                 | School                                  | District | State |                               |
| Art                             | 36                                      | 36       | 31    | No                            |
| Computer Education              | 0                                       | 2        | 17    | N/A                           |
| English Language Arts*          | 427                                     | 421      | 427   | Yes                           |
| Family and Consumer Science     | 0                                       | 0        | 1     | N/A                           |
| Health                          | 28                                      | 28       | 23    | No                            |
| Library Media Skills            | 18                                      | 18       | 18    | No                            |
| Mathematics                     | 202                                     | 200      | 195   | No                            |
| Music*                          | 36                                      | 36       | 32    | No                            |
| Physical Education              | 54                                      | 54       | 40    | No                            |
| Science*                        | 76                                      | 79       | 97    | No                            |
| Social Studies*                 | 75                                      | 74       | 92    | No                            |
| Technology Education            | 0                                       | 0        | 1     | N/A                           |
| World Languages*                | 36                                      | 41       | 11    | No                            |

\*Interdisciplinary Approach

## SCHOOL PROCESSES, continued



| <b>Types of Remedial Instructional Services Provided to Students Lacking Basic Skills</b> | <b>Available in Mathematics</b> | <b>Available in Language Arts</b> |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pull-Out Instruction  | Yes                             | Yes                               |
| In-Class Tutorial   | Yes                             | Yes                               |
| After School Program  | Yes                             | Yes                               |
| Summer School (2006)  | Yes                             | Yes                               |
| Other   | No                              | No                                |

**World Language** Formal instruction (at least 1 hour per week) in a world language starts in grade 3 in this school. In Connecticut, 13.3% of K-6 schools have started world language instruction at this grade or earlier.

| <b>Student and Teacher Statistics</b>   | <b>School</b> | <b>District K-6</b> | <b>State K-6</b> |
|---|---------------|---------------------|------------------|
| % of Students Retained in Grade after 2005-06 School Year                             | 0.0           | 0.2                 | 1.5              |
| Teacher Attendance, 2005-06: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 4.5           | 6.4                 | 8.7              |
| % Certified Staff Assigned to Same School the Previous Year                           | 80.0          | 80.5                | 83.3             |

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### HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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The following narrative was submitted by this school.

At Wolcott School, we are committed to supporting the family's role in the education of our students. Our school sends home a comprehensive bi-weekly newsletter. The newsletter contains important information about curriculum, child development and school events and activities. Also, our Home School Connection Committee of teachers and parents is working to create strategies that will strengthen the home school connection. Teachers have been given planning time to develop materials and resources that will support parents' efforts to work at home with their children on a variety of learning activities. These resources will be made available to parents via hard copy as well as through our school website. For example, we have already sent home a flyer containing curriculum information as well as a set of activities/games that will help parents promote the development of math computation skills with their children at home.

Our teachers use the school website to communicate important information to parents on a regular basis. Many teachers have developed classroom websites that include daily homework assignments, links to helpful internet web pages, and curriculum updates. All teacher e-mail addresses are published and parents are encouraged to communicate with teachers in this manner. Parents are also encouraged to call teachers using our voicemail system. Parent conferences are formally held twice a year and parents may request additional conferences as needed.

We are aware of the importance of reaching out to parents who are not fluent in English. Toward this end, we are sponsoring specific events for these families. For example, this year we will host several pot luck dinners for these families. They are encouraged to bring foods representing their culture. At each event, the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students will share their school accomplishments.

Our PTO is broad based and very involved with all aspects of our mission. The PTO funds enriching experiences for students at all grade levels. These include extracurricular and cultural programs as well as numerous volunteer opportunities. With the help of our parents, our school has created The Wolcott Children's Forest. The goals of this family-based project are to reclaim a forested area adjacent to the school while supporting the objectives of our science curriculum. All Children's Forest events promote student, parent and teacher cooperation to achieve these goals.

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## STUDENT PERFORMANCE

**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 CMT Subject Area | School | District | State | Of All Schools in State |           |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-----------|
|                            |        |          |       | Lowest %                | Highest % |
| Grade 3 Reading            | 74.7   | 67.5     | 52.3  | 1.6                     | 92.6      |
| Writing                    | 86.3   | 72.6     | 60.8  | 0.0                     | 93.9      |
| Mathematics                | 89.5   | 71.5     | 59.4  | 0.0                     | 96.0      |
| Grade 4 Reading            | 52.6   | 65.9     | 57.0  | 0.0                     | 95.2      |
| Writing                    | 71.8   | 76.9     | 65.1  | 0.0                     | 96.8      |
| Mathematics                | 67.9   | 73.1     | 62.3  | 0.0                     | 100.0     |
| Grade 5 Reading            | 70.2   | 75.9     | 61.4  | 2.6                     | 98.7      |
| Writing                    | 78.7   | 77.8     | 64.6  | 2.3                     | 98.5      |
| Mathematics                | 76.6   | 78.8     | 66.0  | 4.5                     | 95.8      |
| Grade 6 Reading            | N/A    | N/A      | N/A   | N/A                     | N/A       |
| Writing                    | N/A    | N/A      | N/A   | N/A                     | N/A       |
| Mathematics                | N/A    | 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 CMT results, go to [www.ctreports](http://www.ctreports).

To see the NCLB Report Card for this school, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov) and click on "No Child Left Behind."

| Student Attendance   | School | District K-6 | State K-6 |
|----------------------|--------|--------------|-----------|
| % on October 1, 2006 | 97.0   | 97.4         | 96.3      |



| Physical Fitness<br>% Passing All 4 Tests | School | District | State | Of All Schools in State |           |
|---|--------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-----------|
|   |        |          |       | Lowest %                | Highest % |
| Grade 4                                   | 12.0   | 40.0     | 33.5  | 0.0                     | 86.6      |
| Grade 6                                   | N/A    | N/A      | N/A   | 0.0                     | 93.8      |

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**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES**

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The following narrative was submitted by this school.

The improvement of our school reading program is a continuous goal. This year, we are focusing on the home/school connection. Teams of teachers and parents have been given planning time to develop resources and materials that will be shared with parents. The addition of a full-time reading specialist will enable our school to accomplish this goal as well as refine the program of instruction and increase its effectiveness. We continue to develop our technology-based Wolcott Reading Framework. Teachers continuously edit and refine the reading framework at their grade level or by department. Teachers who are new to our school use the Reading Framework as a curriculum map to guide them through the planning of instruction.

Another continuous goal at Wolcott School is the improvement of our mathematics program. Last Spring, a committee of teachers and parents worked together to create a school wide math initiative called The Calculation Station. Each week, students are challenged to answer a developmentally appropriate math computation question. The Calculation Station encourages students to find unique solutions to mathematics problems. A competition-based component has been added to this activity at the upper grade levels. Each week, students who have demonstrated math competency are featured at our Friday Town Meeting.

In an effort to promote healthy lifestyle habits, a committee of parents, teachers and the school nurse has developed a comprehensive school health policy. The policy has been printed in brochure form and distributed to parents. The policy establishes guidelines for snacks that are sent to school, appropriate foods for birthday recognition, and books and websites parents may use as resources.

Finally, a survey of students revealed that they were concerned about bullying behaviors exhibited by some of their peers. Our Respect and Responsibility/Peer Mediation program has been designed to address this concern. Students may access the Peer Mediation Program to resolve a problem. They may access the Respect and Responsibility program to learn the skills that will help them deal with unsafe or unacceptable peer behavior.

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**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION**

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

This year, we received numerous grants from the Foundation for West Hartford Public Schools. These grants were submitted by individual teachers and were designed to enhance the instructional program across all academic areas. Specifically, through these grants we will be able to purchase non-fiction books, bring in master teachers and support a number of technology-based initiatives.

Kathleen Paquette, our Library/Media Specialist, was selected West Hartford Teacher of the Year for 2007-08. Mrs. Paquette is an innovative and dedicated professional. Her state-of-the-art library is filled with a wide variety of contemporary materials, including a Smartboard, 16 computers and over 15,000 books that align with the curriculum and/or children's varying abilities and interests.

Through a district wide grant, our school is able to offer Spanish language instruction to all students on a bi-weekly basis. Our Spanish language program has a dedicated classroom space. Teachers work cooperatively to integrate the Spanish language curriculum with the general academic curriculum.

This year, our school adopted a program designed to meet the needs of children with autism. The Applied Behavioral Analysis Program is a district wide program housed at our school and is a welcome addition.

Our comprehensive school website is located at "wolcottelementary.com." The website is a continuously evolving reflection of student achievement, helpful parent information and classroom-based web pages.

Our school offers a wide variety of extracurricular activities. These include: Student Council, BOPCO Primary Dance Company, The Student Editorial Board, Works of the Great Masters, Jazz Ensemble, Drum Choir, Music Composition and Runner's Club.

To view Strategic School Profiles on the internet, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov) and click on Connecticut Education Data and Research. Additional education data are also available at this site.

For the school/district website, see [www.whps.org/school/wolcott/index.htm](http://www.whps.org/school/wolcott/index.htm)



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