

**STRATEGIC SCHOOL PROFILE 2007-08**

Elementary School K-6 Edition

**Rock Hill School  
Wallingford School District**ALLYSON C. GLASS, Principal  
Telephone: (203) 949-0115Location: 911 Durham Road  
Wallingford,  
Connecticut

Website: wallingford.ccsct.com/page.cfm?p=286

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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).

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**TYPE OF SCHOOL**School Type: Traditional/Regular  
School Grade Range: K- 5**STUDENT ENROLLMENT**Enrollment on October 1, 2007: 347  
5-Year Enrollment Change: -1.7%**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	17	4.9	8.4	33.1
K-12 Students Who Are Not Fluent in English	2	0.6	6.0	7.3
Students with Disabilities	25	7.2	10.0	10.8
Students Identified as Gifted and/or Talented	17	4.9	3.6	2.3
Kindergarten Students who Attended Preschool, Nursery School or Headstart	42	79.2	83.0	79.2
Students in Grades Above School's Entry Grade Who Attended Same School the Previous Year	264	90.1	91.5	86.8

**PROGRAM AND INSTRUCTION**

Instructional Time	School	State Elementary Schools
Total Days per Year	185	181
Total Hours per Year	1,012	987

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.

Average Class Size	School	District	State
Kindergarten	17.7	16.0	18.1
Grade 2	19.0	17.9	19.3
Grade 5	23.0	20.0	20.9

Estimated Hours of Instruction Per Year in Selected Subject Areas		
Grade 5	School	State
Art	28	31
Computer Education	28	17
English Language Arts	428	425
Family and Consumer Science	0	1
Health	30	23
Library Media Skills	6	18
Mathematics	215	199
Music	28	33
Physical Education	28	40
Science	123	97
Social Studies	98	92
Technology Education	0	1
World Languages	0	10

\*Interdisciplinary Approach

#### 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.

Special Programs	School	Elementary Schools	
		District	State
% of K-12 Students in Bilingual Education Program or Receiving English as a Second Language Services	0.6	5.8	7.1
% of Identified Gifted and/or Talented Students Who Received Services	88.2	86.1	78.6
% of Special Education Students Attending This School Who Spent Over 79% of Their Time with Their Non-Disabled Peers	96.0	74.4	79.1

#### 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	3.9	4.0	3.4
% of Computers with Internet Access	100.0	100.0	98.3
% of Computers that are High or Moderate Power	100.0	100.0	91.7
# of Print Volumes Per Student*	40.5	40.9	27.7
# of Print Periodical Subscriptions	8	7	16

\*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.

**SCHOOL STAFF**

<b>Full-Time Equivalent Count of School Staff</b>	
General Education: Teachers and Instructors	23.90
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	5.50
Special Education: Teachers and Instructors	2.00
Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants	5.50
Library/Media Specialists and Assistants	2.00
Administrators, Coordinators, and Department Chairs	1.12
Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers (e.g., subject area specialists)	0.00
Counselors, Social Workers, and School Psychologists	1.40
School Nurses	1.00
Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services and Support	7.10

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.

<b>Teachers and Instructors</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Elementary Schools</b>	
		<b>District</b>	<b>State</b>
Average Number of Years of Experience in Education	15.5	13.9	13.2
% with Master's Degree or Above	84.8	81.4	77.9
Attendance, 2006-07: Average # of Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time	8.7	9.2	8.7
% Assigned to Same School the Previous Year	60.6	68.1	72.5

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**HOME AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**


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**Teacher E-Mail Addresses:** All teachers at this school have been issued e-mail addresses.

**Online Homework Information:** A portion of the school's website is devoted to homework pages.

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

Parents regularly participate in a wide range of activities at Rock Hill School. The Parent Teacher Action Committee focus for the past few years has been on improving student nutrition and fitness as well as discussing environmental concerns. This year the committee also created a three year master plan addressing instructional and building improvements.

The Rock Hill School library utilizes volunteers in many roles including assisting students with book selection, cataloging and shelving books, and assisting with research projects. Parents assist teachers in the classroom with writer's celebrations and by volunteering in the classroom with special projects.

The school newsletter is published every two months as well as weekly classroom newsletters. Parents have an opportunity to visit the school website to view upcoming events and link to classroom sites to support student learning at home. An Open House is held at the beginning of the school year to provide families with an opportunity to visit classroom and meet the Rock Hill staff.

The PTO sponsors author and artist visits each year. They provide funds for classroom field trips and run two book fairs each year. The PTO evening activities are a great opportunity for families to interact and enjoy being together. An afterschool program called Rock Hill Explorers is co-sponsored by the PTO and volunteers from the United Methodist Church located across the street from the school. This year programs included homework club, maple syrup making, board games, and newspaper club.

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## SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Student Race/Ethnicity		
Race/Ethnicity	Number	Percent
American Indian	0	0.0
Asian American	18	5.2
Black	13	3.7
Hispanic	19	5.5
White	297	85.6
Total Minority	50	14.4

**Percent of Minority Professional Staff:** 2.6%

**Open Choice:** 13 students attended this school as part of the Open Choice program. Open Choice brings students from urban areas to attend school in suburban or rural towns, and students from non-urban areas to attend city schools.

**Non-English Home Language:** 1.2% 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 4.

### 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.

During the 2007-08 school year Rock Hill School had the opportunity to continue participation in the Open Choice program with New Haven schools. Grade 1 through 5 students benefited from the addition of these students as part of our student body. Many families attended evening activities during the year.

The faculty and students at Rock Hill School use the Colors for Success Program and the Don't Laugh at Me character education program throughout the school day. The goals of anti-bullying and acceptance of diversity are outlined in curriculum projects for each grade. Many teachers included literature in their Don't Laugh at Me lessons. Three hundred fifty students, including fifty-three minority students, were involved in this program. This year the school Social Worker created an Ambassadors of Peace Team. This ethnically diverse Team presented lessons to grade 1 students to assist with peer relationships. The Team assisted with peer mediation, tutoring, and ran the "Star Student" store during lunch waves. Rock Hill students earned "Star Student Coupons" for exemplary behavior and were able to use these coupons to purchase school supplies from the store. Fifth grade students presented programs based on a specific character trait and handed out color bracelets for students in each classroom to pass on to classmates who demonstrated the character trait. The student body recites the "Star Student Pledge" to begin each day.

The Project Wisdom program was used this year featuring different faculty and student readers each morning. These daily messages focused on fostering an internal motivation to make wise choices and building character. One of the program goals is to encourage students to think ethically.

## 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	57.4	46.2	33.8	91.3
Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

**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 Schools in State with Equal or Lower Percent Meeting Goal
Grade 3 Reading	85.1	65.0	52.0	97.8
Writing	87.2	70.4	63.4	95.0
Mathematics	68.1	71.5	60.0	60.9
Grade 4 Reading	69.1	58.2	55.9	71.2
Writing	74.5	68.1	62.9	68.5
Mathematics	61.8	61.1	60.3	51.4
Grade 5 Reading	66.2	67.8	62.2	55.1
Writing	70.6	68.0	64.5	56.3
Mathematics	60.3	72.1	65.9	39.1
Science	63.2	70.0	54.9	61.3
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 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 Elementary Sch.	State Elementary Sch.
% Present on October 1	97.7	94.5	96.4

### 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 2006-07 school year, 5 students were responsible for these incidents. These students represent 1.5% of the estimated number of students who attended this school at some point during the 2006-07 school year. For more information and data on disciplinary offenses, go to [www.sde.ct.gov](http://www.sde.ct.gov), click on "CEDaR" and then on "Student Data."

Number of Incidents by Disciplinary Offense Category, 2006-07		
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	5	0

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

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**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES**

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The following narrative was submitted by this school.

This year the Rock Hill teaching staff met weekly to examine student work and analyze data. Each grade level created a curriculum map as well as common assessments to guide instruction. As a result of analyzing the CMT data a school-wide SMART Goal was set to improve reader's text connections. The school participated in year two of the Everyday Mathematics pilot program. Grades 3, 4, and 5 showed improvement in their mathematics applications skills.

The Rock Hill teaching staff is utilizing the Writer's Workshop model of instruction. Teachers have utilized the Units of Study by Lucy Caulkins to guide their instruction and several staff members have attended workshops at Columbia to improve classroom instruction. Parents have enjoyed attending a variety of writer's celebrations including one evening celebration held at a book store. Rock Hill teachers continue to use the Reader's Workshop model for reading instruction. In addition; students use parents participated in several Family Reading Nights this year.

Rock Hill uses the inclusion model for all students. The staff has been trained in the co-teaching model and actively uses this model to provide both special education students and regular education students with high quality instruction. All classroom teachers and paraprofessionals continue to implement differentiated instruction to assist student learning.

Technology continues to play an important role at Rock Hill. Teachers have been trained in the use of the Smartboard and each grade level has access to a document camera. Students use the computer lab weekly and for extra projects such as joining a Blog to discuss Nutmeg Books in which several of the authors participated. Grade 5 students participated in a technology grant designed to allow each student to use a digital camera to improve writing skills by writing descriptive paragraphs about their photography. Grade 1 students enjoyed using their iPods to improve fluency and comprehension reading skills.

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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.

Rock Hill school is proud that all of the teaching staff was trained and certified in CPR and First Aide this school year by our school nurse and our PE teacher. The school community was inspired to meet this goal after reading about a former student of our PE teacher who under went sudden cardiac arrest at the age of 17 while playing basketball and was revived because of the availability of an AED and trained personnel.

A group of fourth and fifth grade students were invited to the State Capitol Building to demonstrate a Blog they created to review and discuss the nominated Nutmeg Books. Grade three, four and five students created their own newspaper this year and were able to have it professionally published. Rock Hill continues to have an active group of students participating in the school chorus. This group traveled to area nursing homes to put on their holiday production as well as presenting programs for the student body.

Students were active members of the community by participating in the St. Jude Math-a-thon and the Jump Rope for Heart event which raised over \$4,000 for these worth causes. The Rock Hill students enjoy attending a variety of programs at an area Nursing Home and interacting with the residents.

Good health and nutrition continue to be a goal of the parents and staff for the students of Rock Hill School. This year students participated in the Heart Healthy Kids program with Edible Arrangements. Students tracked their daily minutes of exercise along with servings of fruit each month. The fourth grade physical fitness scores improved due to this commitment to health and exercise.

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