

# 2013-2014 Profile Information



Rock Creek U.S.D. 323

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# 2013-14 Budget General Information

## USD #: 323

### Introduction

Rock Creek USD 323 is a highly progressive school district which emphasizes academic excellence. St. George and Westmoreland Elementary Schools have re-organized around multi-age/continuous progress teams with a curriculum that is implemented through thematic instruction. Achievement, not chronological age, drives instruction in these schools.

Rock Creek Jr. Sr. High provides a comprehensive academic program with advanced placement courses in core academic areas. Block scheduling allows teachers time to infuse hands-on projects into the curriculum with a strong emphasis on the integration of technology into the curriculum.

### Board Members

Stuart Schwarz	5140 Top Notch Rd	Wamego, Ks	66547
Dennis Fike	11204 Flush Road	Westmoreland, KS	66549
Dee Forge	13430 Chapman Road	St. George, KS	66535
Trevor Jensen	4360 Christi Lane	St. George, Ks	66535
Mark Caffrey	304 Pine	Westmoreland, Ks	66549
Mike Gee	10670 Harvest Road	St. George, Ks	66535
Jon Srna	8600 Westmoreland Rd	Westmoreland, Ks	66549

### Key Staff

Superintendent:	Dr. Darrel Stufflebeam
Business Office Staff:	Mina Grutzmacher
Jr. Sr. High Principal:	Eric Koppes
Jr. Sr. High Asst. Principal:	Scott Harshbarger
St. George Elementary Principal:	Debbie Edwards
Westmoreland Elementary Principal:	Gary Glendening

### The District's Accomplishments and Challenges

#### **Accomplishments:**

In 2008 and 2009, Rock Creek achieved the state Standard of Excellence on 22 out of 22 math and reading tests and each school received the Governor's Achievement Award for scoring in the top 5% in the state for both reading and math.

In 2009, SGES won the Kansas Challenge Award, which is bestowed upon only 10 schools and recognizes high achievement in spite of challenging obstacles like high numbers of free/reduced lunch students. Also in 2009, RCJSHS received the National Blue Ribbon Award and was the only high school in the state of Kansas to be nominated! This U.S. Department of Education award honors high student achievement and is the highest award a school can win in the U.S. Only 33 high schools and 11 middle schools in the nation were named Blue Ribbon Schools in 2009.

In 2010, SGES won the National Blue Ribbon Award and the Governor's Achievement Award, which recognizes the top 5% of schools in math and reading achievement. WES has won the Governor's Achievement Award three times in the last four years.

Our use of multi-age classrooms and cross-subject themes at the elementary level and a wide variety of innovative classes and programs at the secondary level have led to our school district mentoring several others in order to share our formula for success.

**Challenges:**

Our primary challenge will likely be creating more space at RCJSHS when it's needed. Ongoing growth at SGEs will likely lead to an eventual shortage of space at that building and a proposed bio research lab (NBAF) in Manhattan could create a large and acute need for additional space at either of those schools. In 2008, a new SGEs was built. In 2012, an additional bond issue was passed, which will build 1-2 preplanned additions in that building and three classrooms at RCJSHS. Other facility projects include an upstairs restroom at WES, resurfaced parking lots at all schools, bleacher additions and renovations at RCJSHS, a strength and conditioning building at RCJSHS, a new roof at WES, a resurfaced track at RCJSHS, and new carpeting at WES and RCJSHS. Due to steady growth in and around St. George, additional classroom space and other facility improvements will likely be needed within the next decade.

Like other Kansas school districts, recent cuts in funding have endangered our ability to provide the best service possible for our students and patrons. Since our school district has one of the lowest local property taxes (LOB) in the state we have raised our LOB this year to partially compensate for funding reductions. Further funding cuts, however, could lead to challenges regarding student achievement and personnel recruitment and retention.

## **Supplemental Information for the Following Tables**

1. Summary of Total Expenditures by Function (All Funds)
2. Summary of General Fund Expenditures by Function
3. Summary of Supplemental General Fund Expenditures by Function
4. Summary of General and Supplemental General Fund Expenditures by Function
5. Summary of Special Education Fund by Function
6. Instruction Expenditures (1000)
7. Student and Instructional Support Expenditures (2100 & 2200)
8. General Administration Expenditures (2300)
9. School Administration Expenditures (2400)
10. Operations and Maintenance Expenditures (2600)
11. Other Costs (2500 & 2900: Other Supplemental Services) (3000: Non-Instruction Services)
12. Capital Improvements (4000)
13. Debt Services (5000)
14. Miscellaneous Information - Transfers
15. Miscellaneous Information Unencumbered Cash Balance by Fund
16. Reserve Funds Unencumbered Cash Balance
17. Other Information - FTE
18. Miscellaneous Information Mill Rates by Fund
19. Other Information – Assessed Valuation and Bonded Indebtedness

***Note: The FTE (full time equivalency) used in this report to calculate the “Amount Per Pupil” is defined as following: Enrollment (FTE) includes the enrollment of the district used for state aid and budget authority, and all other preschool enrollment and kindergarten students attending full time.***

## **KSDE Website Information Available**

### **K-12 Statistics (Building, District or State Totals)**

<http://svapp15586.ksde.org/k12/k12.aspx>

- Attendance / Enrollment Reports
- Staff Reports
- Graduates / Dropouts Reports
- Crime / Violence Reports

### **School Finance Reports and Publications**

<http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1870>

- Certified Personnel
- Enrollment
- Dropouts
- Graduates
- Salary Reports

### **Kansas Building Report Card**

<http://svapp15586.ksde.org/rcard/>

- Attendance Rate
- Graduation Rate
- Dropout Rate
- School Violence
- Assessments
  - Reading
  - Mathematics
  - Writing
- Graduates Passing Adv. Science Courses
- Graduates Passing Adv. Math Courses