

The Six National Education Goals Set In 1989 for Year 2000

1989 Education Summit

The President and the nation's governors recognized this need at the 1989 Education Summit held in Charlottesville, Virginia. They defined six National Education Goals and declared that meeting them by the year 2000 "will require that the performance of our highest achievers be boosted to levels that equal or exceed the performance of the best students anywhere. . . We must work to ensure that a significant number of students from all races, ethnic groups, and income levels are among our top performers." This challenge cannot be ignored.

The Six Education Goals:

"President George Bush's Education Summit in 1990, the nation's Governors adopted six National Education Goals to enable the country to develop standards of performance for ALL schools and to measure progress toward the achievement of these standards. The original goals, intended to be met by the year 2000, follow:

- First, All children will start school ready to learn;
- Second, The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent;
- Third, American students will leave grades four, eight, and twelve having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter including English, mathematics, science, history, and geography, with every school in America ensuring that all students learn to use their minds well, so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment in a modern economy;
- Fourth, U.S. students will lead the world in science and mathematics achievement;
- Fifth, Every adult American will be literate and will possess the ability to compete in a global economy and exercise the right and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Sixth, Every school will be free of drugs and violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning."

Q: Has America Achieved the Goal No. 4 Set for 2000?

For Answer: See:

2009--Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)
Conducted by OECD & Participated by 69 Countries

2009 PISA* Test Results

* PISA: Programme for International Student Assessment

Why is America Losing Competitiveness?

In the 2009 PISA [1] report, the US secondary school students ranked **30th in math, 23th in Science and 17th in Reading**, behind the majority of the developed nations. The companion NAEP [1] study found only **6% of US** students competent in Advanced Math, as compared to **28% in Taiwan**. The highest ranked US state (Massachusetts) was just **17th** in the world rankings. US Education Secretary Arne Duncan called the data "**An Absolute Wake-up Call for America.**"

| Programme for International Student Assessment (2009) | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Rank | Maths | Sciences | Reading |
| 1 | Shanghai, China | Shanghai, China | Shanghai, China |
| 2 | Singapore | Finland | South Korea |
| 3 | Hong Kong | Hong Kong | Finland |
| 4 | South Korea | Singapore | Hong Kong |
| 5 | Taiwan | Japan | Singapore |
| 6 | Finland | South Korea | Canada |
| 7 | Liechtenstein | New Zealand | New Zealand |
| 8 | Switzerland | Canada | Japan |
| 9 | Japan | Estonia | Australia |
| 10 | Canada | Australia | Netherlands |
| 11 | Netherlands | Netherlands | Belgium |
| 12 | Macau | Liechtenstein | Norway |
| 13 | New Zealand | Germany | Estonia |
| 14 | Belgium | Taiwan | Switzerland |
| 15 | Australia | Switzerland | Poland |
| 16 | Germany | United Kindom | Iceland |
| 17 | Estonia | Slovenia | ... United States |
| 18 | Iceland | Macau | Liechtenstein |
| 19 | Denmark | Poland | Sweden |
| 20 | Slovenia | Ireland | Germany |
| 21 | Norway | Belgium | Ireland |
| 22 | France | Hungary | France |
| 23 | Slovakia | ... United States | Taiwan |
| 24 | Austria | Norway | Denmark |
| 25 | Poland | Czech Republic | United Kingdom |
| 26 | Sweden | Denmark | Hungary |
| 27 | Czech Republic | France | Portugal |
| 28 | United Kingdom | Iceland | Macau |
| 29 | Hungary | Sweden | Italy |
| 30 | ... United States | Latvia | Latvia |

2009

[1] Wikipedia on PISA

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Programme_for_International_Student_Assessment

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a worldwide evaluation of 15-year-old school pupils' scholastic performance. The mathematics literacy test asks students to apply their mathematical knowledge to solve problems set in various real-world contexts. The reading test asks students to "construct, extend and reflect on the meaning of what they have read across a wide range of continuous and non-continuous texts". A companion program by National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assess each individual states in the US and their students competency level against the international competitions. The test director, Andreas Schleicher, said that the results "refute the commonly held hypothesis that China just produces rote learning" and "Large fractions of these students demonstrate their ability to extrapolate from what they know and apply their knowledge very creatively in novel situations."