

The Floodwood School freefalls to bottom 17% of all Schools in the U.S.

Floodwood School gets an F for its Secondary and D for the Elementary (2014-2015)

[Note: this reflects the school for 2014-15 and not the current administration]

By Marvin Pirila

The website www.greatschools.org shows a flunking score for Floodwood Secondary Students. In its summary, it shows that SchoolGrades.org gives it an F grade. “SchoolGrades.org uses an international standard of excellence to grade how well America’s schools prepare students in core subjects. 17 percent of American schools receive a grade of F, while 83 percent receive a higher grade.”

Core rating: Floodwood is in the bottom 17% of American schools.

The Floodwood Secondary, grade range 7-12, has a total enrollment of 139 with 45% getting free/reduced lunch, a **national proficiency rate of 14%, and state proficiency rate of 18%.**

With one being the lowest ranking, Floodwood received a **two out of 10** by GreatSchools.

“To calculate our grades [GreatSchools], we begin by looking at the percentage of students in the school who qualify as proficient on state math and reading exams. We then follow a three-step process.

Step 1: Apply a Rigorous National Standard

We adjust the percentage of students who qualify as proficient on the state exams to align with a rigorous national standard.

Step 2: Adjust for Students' Economic Profile

We then account for the percentage of students in the school who are economically disadvantaged.

Step 3: Assign the Final Letter Grade

Finally, we assign a letter grade based on how the school performs relative to international performance benchmarks.”

The SchoolGrades numeric score found that if the Floodwood Secondary served the average American student population, just **13%** **of students would meet rigorous national standards in reading and math.**

Grade Range Methodology

We [SchoolGrades] begin by looking at the percentage of students who earn scores that qualify as proficient on state math and reading exams. We average the proficiency rates in these two subjects to get the school's overall state proficiency percentage.

Given that it's often easier to earn a proficient score on a state exam than on a leading national exam (i.e., NAEP), we then determine the percentage of students who meet the more rigorous national standard. This allows us to compare how the school's students are doing relative to their peers across the country.

School Proficiency Percentages Under State and National Standard [for Floodwood Secondary]

Math: 15% (out of 100)

Reading: 20% (out of 100)

Overall State Proficiency: 18% (out of 100)

National Proficiency: 14% (out of 100)

While 66 percent of students in Minnesota qualify as proficient under the state's own standard, 44 percent of the state's students qualify as proficient under rigorous national standard (i.e., NAEP). We use this difference to apply the rigorous national standard to the school's test results.

We then take into account the percentage of students who qualify for the federal government's free and reduced price lunch program. This adjustment gives extra credit to schools that serve economically disadvantaged students and holds schools that serve affluent students to a higher standard.

The last step in our process is to assign final letter grades - A, B, C, D, F- based on how the school would rank internationally in comparison to the performance of students in more than 60 countries on the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

exam.

FLOODWOOD SECONDARY's overall adjusted proficiency rate of 13 percent earns it a grade of F. The school's performance is similar to the average performance of schools in Chile, Serbia and Thailand. Seventeen (17%) of American schools receive a grade of F, while 83 percent receive a higher grade.

You saw the Floodwood Forum limit their evaluation to the regions schools. This is a much broader measurement showing all residents exactly how far their school has plummeted. Every year they are told that the board and administration are implementing new systems moving forward, but forward progress is clearly not being shown in recent years. None of us need a political, feel good message to erase the facts and be left with hope for the future. The board and administration follow the same beaten trail leading to mediocrity, and in this case far, far worse. If you can't accept the dire facts, how can you forge a real plan for improvement?

Comparison with other Cromwell School

School	Students	Grade	Graduation Rate	Free/Reduced Lunch	State Proficiency Rate	National Proficiency Rate
Floodwood Secondary	139	F	68%	45%	18%	14%
Cromwell Secondary	138	B	96%	53%	43%	40%
Floodwood Elementary	131	D		31%	45%	56%
Cromwell Elementary	195	A		45%	73%	59%

School	GreatSchools Rating, 1 being the lowest	U.S. Ranking	Meet rigorous national standards in reading and math (SchoolGrades)	State Math Proficiency	State Math Proficiency
Floodwood	2 out of 10	Bottom 17%	Bottom 13%	15%	20%
Cromwell	6 out of 10	19% receive a grade of B, while 23% receive a higher grade.	41%	41%	45%

CROMWELL-WRIGHT SECONDARY's overall adjusted proficiency rate of 41 percent earns it a grade of B. The school's performance is similar to the average performance of schools in Canada, Japan, and Australia. 19 percent of American schools receive a grade of B, while 23 percent receive a higher grade.

This shows two schools of nearly equal conditions (size, location, and free/reduced lunches) achieving quite different results. It's time to start looking at the people carrying out the programs, because like diet plans, they all work, when people adhere to the plan.

Rankings by SchoolDigger

School	Student/Teacher Ratio	Full-time teachers	Ranking among public middle schools	Ranking among public high schools	School District Ranking
Floodwood Secondary	11	12.4	467 th of 519	378 th of 502	371 st of 423

In 2015 the calculated Average Standard Score was 27.07.

In 2015, Floodwood Secondary ranked worse than 75.3% of high schools in Minnesota.

Regional Schools Ranked by Schooldigger.com

School	Grade Range	Total Student Enrollment	Lunch Free/Reduced	State Proficiency Rate	National Proficiency Rate
WINTERQUIST ELEMENTARY 2 Hwy 61 East Esko, MN 55733	PK-6	667	15%	81%	71%
CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY 515 Granite St Cloquet, MN 55720	PK-5	514	47%	73%	61%
LINCOLN ELEMENTARY 1114 East 23rd St Hibbing, MN 55746	3-6	682	53%	70%	57%
CROMWELL-WRIGHT ELEMENTARY 5624 Hwy 210 Cromwell, MN 55726	PK-6	195	45%	73%	59%
WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY 801 12th St Cloquet, MN 55720	PK-5	621	52%	69%	57%
MURPHY ELEMENTARY 822 NE 5th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744	K-4	390	53%	69%	56%
KEEWATIN ELEMENTARY 300 West 3rd Ave Keewatin, MN 55753	PK-6	301	56%	68%	55%
SOUTH TERRACE ELEMENTARY 530 Stine Dr Carlton, MN 55718	PK-5	241	41%	69%	57%
FOREST LAKE ELEMENTARY 715 NW 7th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744	K-4	379	54%	65%	52%

SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY 601 SW 7th St Grand Rapids, MN 55744	K-4	365	41%	67%	54%
VANDYKE ELEMENTARY 300 Cole Ave Coleraine, MN 55722	PK-4	401	59%	63%	51%
CLOQUET MIDDLE 509 Carlton Ave Cloquet, MN 55720	6-8	517	45%	63%	52%
MCGREGOR ELEMENTARY 148 South Second St McGregor, MN 55760	PK-6	225	79%	56%	43%
ROBERT J. ELKINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL 1000 NE 8th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744	5-8	928	37%	62%	50%
NASHWAUK SECONDARY 400 2nd St Nashwauk, MN 55769	7-12	239	42%	64%	48%
LINCOLN SECONDARY 2 Hwy 61 East Esko, MN 55733	7-12	575	10%	65%	54%
HIBBING HIGH 800 East 21st St Hibbing, MN 55746	7-12	1103	33%	60%	49%
CROMWELL-WRIGHT SECONDARY 5624 Hwy 210 Cromwell, MN 55726	7-12	138	53%	44%	40%
CONNOR-JASPER MIDDLE 101 5th Ave Bovey, MN 55709	5-8	338	52%	50%	38%
MCGREGOR SECONDARY 148 South Second St McGregor, MN 55760	7-12	169	64%	45%	35%

WRENSHALL ELEMENTARY 207 Pioneer Dr Wrenshall, MN 55797	PK-6	143	54%	41%	33%
FLOODWOOD ELEMENTARY 115 West 4th Ave Floodwood, MN 55736	PK-6	131	56%	45%	31%
CHERRY ELEMENTARY 3943 Tamminen Rd Iron, MN 55751	PK-6	214	48%	45%	32%
CARLTON SECONDARY 405 School Ave Carlton, MN 55718	6-12	233	28%	45%	34%
WRENSHALL SECONDARY 207 Pioneer Dr Wrenshall, MN 55797	7-12	180	45%	27%	25%
CHERRY SECONDARY 3943 Tamminen Rd Iron, MN 55751	7-12	184	44%	28%	21%
FLOODWOOD SECONDARY 115 West 4th Ave Floodwood, MN 55736	7-12	139	46%	19%	14%
MIDDLE AREA LEARNING CENTER 1000 NE 8th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744 (Public Alternative School)	5-8	154	58%	18%	11%

