

**2008 SCHOOL REPORT CARD**  
**Palmer High School**



OCTOBER, 2008

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,  
 As required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), we are publishing our annual school "Report Card" to share pertinent information compiled by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The report card you are receiving is specific to PHS, but district-wide information regarding academic achievement and related information is available at the Superintendent's office, each school, and at the Palmer Public Library. School and district profiles can also be accessed through our website at [www.palmerschools.org](http://www.palmerschools.org). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

*Sincerely,*

**Bonny B. Rathbone**  
 Principal



**VISION:**

The Palmer School System embraces lifelong learning through a learning-centered approach to education.

**DISTRICT GOALS:**

- To enhance teaching and learning and improve student achievement
- To provide and maintain a current and reliable technological system to support the learning process
- To increase community support for the Palmer Public Schools
- To upgrade and maintain the physical plants to provide safe, modern facilities for learning

**~ OUR MISSION~**

~Preparing our students for life and learning!



District website @  
<http://palmerschools.org>

**ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS:**

The students of Palmer High School will apply academic skills to:  
 ~ acquire, process and use information effectively and efficiently for a variety of purposes.

- ~ communicate ideas in written, oral and artistic expression.
- ~ demonstrate problem solving skills.
- ~ work collaboratively and effectively as a team member in a diverse group.

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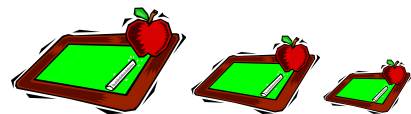
Grades @ PHS: 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

Percent of teachers licensed: 93.9%

Percent of teachers in core academic subject areas who are Highly Qualified: 91.7%

**Enrollment (2007-08)**

	School	District	State
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>			
White	94.1%	91.7%	70.8%
African-American	1.5%	1.3%	8.1%
Hispanic	2.2%	2.4%	13.9%
Asian	1.5%	1.9%	4.9%
Native American	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.7%	0.3%
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	0.3%	1.3%	1.9%
<b>GENDER</b>			
Male	51.6%	51.9%	51.4%
Female	48.4%	48.1%	48.6%
<b>SELECTED POPULATION ENROLLMENT</b>			
Limited Eng. Proficiency	0.6%	0.3%	5.8%
Low-income	21.1%	28.3%	29.5%
Special Education	15.3%	17.7%	16.9%
First Language Not English	3.1%	1.6%	15.1%
<b>TOTAL COUNT</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>1,883</b>	<b>962,806</b>



**School Administrators:**

*Dr. Gerald Fournier*

***Superintendent of Schools***

**Phone: (413)-283-2650**

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**PALMER HIGH SCHOOL**

*Mrs. Bonny Rathbone ~ Principal*

*Mr. Joseph Bianca ~Assistant Principal*

**Phone: (413)-283-6511**

**FAX: (413)-283-3476**

**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
Grade 8 – English Language Arts**

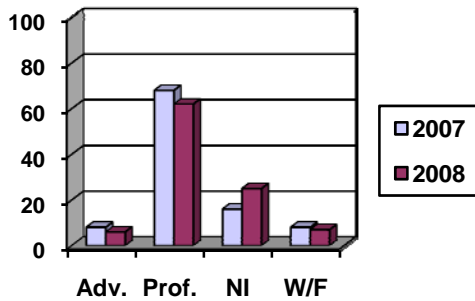
|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 39                  | 100 | 0                                    | 26 | 44 | 31  |
| Low Income           | 44                  | 100 | 2                                    | 45 | 34 | 18  |
| White                | 162                 | 99  | 6                                    | 62 | 25 | 7   |
| Male                 | 107                 | 100 | 2                                    | 54 | 34 | 10  |
| Female               | 67                  | 99  | 12                                   | 75 | 10 | 3   |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 174                 | 99  | 6                                    | 62 | 25 | 7   |
| Non-Low Income       | 130                 | 99  | 7                                    | 68 | 22 | 4   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 174                 | 99  | 6                                    | 62 | 25 | 7   |
| 2007                 | 164                 | 98  | 8                                    | 68 | 16 | 8   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 195                 | 98  | 5                                    | 58 | 27 | 9   |
| 2007                 | 172                 | 98  | 8                                    | 66 | 17 | 9   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 73268               | 99  | 12                                   | 63 | 18 | 7   |
| 2007                 | 74433               | 100 | 12                                   | 63 | 18 | 6   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Codes**

A=Advanced P=Proficient NI=Needs Improvement W/F=Warning/Failing

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**



**Data Definitions:**

**Race/Ethnicity:**

- African-American** - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups in Africa.
- Asian** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands and Samoa.
- Hispanic** - A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- Native American** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- White** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

**Limited English Proficient:**

Defined as "a student whose first language is a language other than English who is unable to perform ordinary classroom work in English."

**Low Income:**

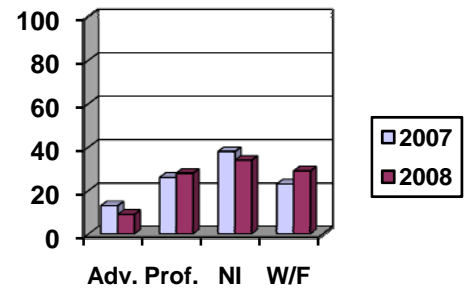
- An indication of whether the student meets ANY ONE of the following definitions of low income:
- The student is eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or
  - The student receives Transitional Aid to Families benefits; or
  - The student is eligible for food stamps

**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
Grade 8 – Mathematics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 39                  | 100 | 0                                    | 8  | 21 | 72  |
| Low Income           | 44                  | 100 | 5                                    | 16 | 27 | 52  |
| White                | 163                 | 100 | 9                                    | 29 | 34 | 28  |
| Male                 | 107                 | 100 | 6                                    | 26 | 30 | 38  |
| Female               | 68                  | 100 | 13                                   | 31 | 41 | 15  |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 175                 | 100 | 9                                    | 28 | 34 | 29  |
| Non-Low Income       | 131                 | 100 | 10                                   | 32 | 37 | 21  |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 175                 | 100 | 9                                    | 28 | 34 | 29  |
| 2007                 | 163                 | 99  | 13                                   | 26 | 38 | 23  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 194                 | 98  | 8                                    | 27 | 32 | 32  |
| 2007                 | 174                 | 99  | 12                                   | 25 | 37 | 26  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 73365               | 99  | 19                                   | 30 | 27 | 24  |
| 2007                 | 74319               | 100 | 17                                   | 28 | 30 | 25  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**



**Percent of teachers licensed:**

The percentage of teachers with Provisional, Initial, or Professional licensure (all teaching staff, including long-term substitutes). This information is not required from charter schools.

**Percent of core academic classes taught by highly-qualified teachers:**

The percentage of staff, measured in "full-time equivalency", teaching in core academic areas, that meet the NCLB definition of highly-qualified. To meet the definition, teachers must hold a valid Massachusetts license AND demonstrate subject matter competency in the areas they teach. The core academic areas are defined as English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography.

**Performance Level Definitions (MCAS):**

- (A) Advanced** - Students demonstrate a superior understanding of challenging subject matter, and solve a wide variety of problems.
- (P) Proficient** - Students demonstrate a solid understanding of challenging subject matter, and solve a wide variety of problems.
- (NI) Needs Improvement** - Students demonstrate partial understanding of subject matter, and solve some simple problems.
- (W/F) Warning/Failing** - Students demonstrate minimal understanding of subject matter, and do not solve simple problems.

**Special Education:**

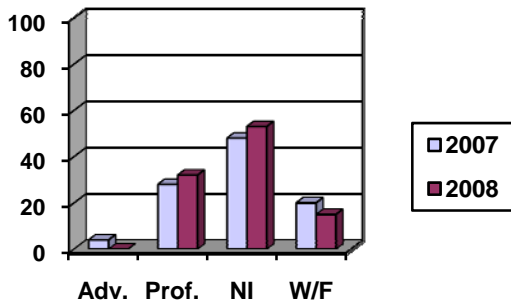
Students who have an individualized Education Plan (IEP)

**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 8 – Science & Technology**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 39                  | 100 | 0                                    | 10 | 44 | 46  |
| Low Income           | 44                  | 100 | 0                                    | 20 | 52 | 27  |
| White                | 163                 | 100 | 0                                    | 32 | 53 | 15  |
| Male                 | 107                 | 100 | 0                                    | 30 | 51 | 19  |
| Female               | 68                  | 100 | 0                                    | 35 | 54 | 10  |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 175                 | 100 | 0                                    | 32 | 53 | 15  |
| Non-Low Income       | 131                 | 100 | 0                                    | 36 | 53 | 11  |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 175                 | 100 | 0                                    | 32 | 53 | 15  |
| 2007                 | 163                 | 99  | 4                                    | 28 | 48 | 20  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 196                 | 98  | 0                                    | 31 | 49 | 19  |
| 2007                 | 174                 | 99  | 3                                    | 26 | 48 | 22  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 73203               | 99  | 3                                    | 36 | 39 | 22  |
| 2007                 | 74257               | 99  | 3                                    | 30 | 44 | 24  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**

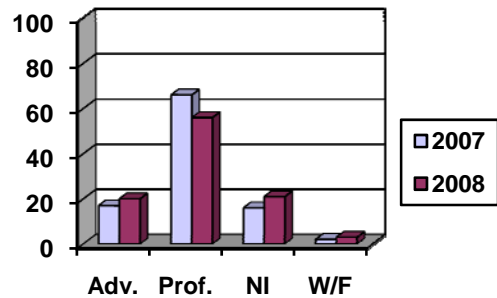


**MCAS RESULTS 2008:**  
**Grade 10 – English Language Arts**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 19                  | 100 | 0                                    | 21 | 63 | 16  |
| Low Income           | 27                  | 100 | 4                                    | 52 | 33 | 11  |
| White                | 122                 | 100 | 20                                   | 57 | 21 | 2   |
| Male                 | 61                  | 100 | 11                                   | 62 | 23 | 3   |
| Female               | 65                  | 100 | 28                                   | 49 | 20 | 3   |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 126                 | 100 | 20                                   | 56 | 21 | 3   |
| Non-Low Income       | 99                  | 100 | 24                                   | 57 | 18 | 1   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 126                 | 100 | 20                                   | 56 | 21 | 3   |
| 2007                 | 115                 | 99  | 17                                   | 66 | 16 | 2   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 135                 | 99  | 19                                   | 53 | 24 | 4   |
| 2007                 | 126                 | 98  | 16                                   | 63 | 18 | 3   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 71510               | 98  | 23                                   | 51 | 21 | 4   |
| 2007                 | 72471               | 99  | 22                                   | 49 | 24 | 6   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**



**Adequate Yearly Progress History:**

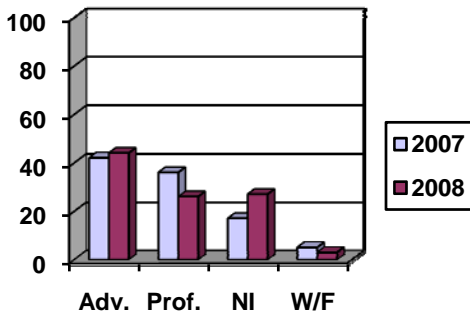
| Adequate Yearly Progress History |               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | NCLB Accountability Status     |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------------|
|                                  |               | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |                                |
| ELA                              | Aggregate     | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | No Status                      |
|                                  | All Subgroups | -    | -    | -    | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | No   |                                |
| MATH                             | Aggregate     | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | Yes  | No   | Improvement Year 2 - Subgroups |
|                                  | All Subgroups | -    | -    | -    | Yes  | Yes  | No   | No   | Yes  | No   |                                |

**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
Grade 10 – Mathematics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 19                  | 100 | 5                                    | 16 | 68 | 11  |
| Low Income           | 27                  | 100 | 26                                   | 30 | 37 | 7   |
| White                | 122                 | 100 | 44                                   | 26 | 26 | 3   |
| Male                 | 61                  | 100 | 46                                   | 30 | 20 | 5   |
| Female               | 65                  | 100 | 42                                   | 23 | 34 | 2   |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 126                 | 100 | 44                                   | 26 | 27 | 3   |
| Non-Low Income       | 99                  | 100 | 48                                   | 25 | 24 | 2   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 126                 | 100 | 44                                   | 26 | 27 | 3   |
| 2007                 | 112                 | 97  | 42                                   | 36 | 17 | 5   |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 135                 | 99  | 41                                   | 25 | 29 | 5   |
| 2007                 | 123                 | 96  | 40                                   | 35 | 16 | 9   |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 71166               | 97  | 43                                   | 29 | 19 | 9   |
| 2007                 | 71692               | 99  | 42                                   | 27 | 22 | 9   |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**Percentage of Students by Performance Level**



**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
High School – Biology**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 9                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Low Income           | 8                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| White                | 15                  | 100 | 0                                    | 7  | 53 | 40  |
| Male                 | 6                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Female               | 10                  | 100 | 0                                    | 0  | 70 | 30  |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 16                  | 100 | 0                                    | 6  | 50 | 44  |
| Non-Low Income       | 8                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 16                  | 100 | 0                                    | 6  | 50 | 44  |
| 2007                 | 101                 | 100 | 1                                    | 41 | 36 | 23  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 23                  | 96  | 0                                    | 9  | 48 | 43  |
| 2007                 | 110                 | 99  | 1                                    | 37 | 36 | 25  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 59831               | 96  | 14                                   | 41 | 28 | 17  |
| 2007                 | 65930               | 97  | 8                                    | 34 | 34 | 24  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.

**MCAS RESULTS 2008:  
High School – Introductory Physics**

|                      | Included in Results |     | % Students at Each Performance Level |    |    |     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
|                      | #                   | %   | A                                    | P  | NI | W/F |
| <b>STUDENT GROUP</b> |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| Students w/Disab.    | 10                  | 100 | 0                                    | 10 | 40 | 50  |
| Low Income           | 23                  | 100 | 17                                   | 22 | 35 | 26  |
| White                | 96                  | 100 | 17                                   | 45 | 29 | 9   |
| Male                 | 43                  | 100 | 26                                   | 40 | 21 | 14  |
| Female               | 59                  | 100 | 8                                    | 47 | 36 | 8   |
| Title I              | 0                   | -   | -                                    | -  | -  | -   |
| Non-Title I          | 102                 | 100 | 16                                   | 44 | 29 | 11  |
| Non-Low Income       | 79                  | 100 | 15                                   | 51 | 28 | 6   |
| <b>ALL STUDENTS</b>  |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 102                 | 100 | 16                                   | 44 | 29 | 11  |
| 2007                 | 138                 | 100 | 8                                    | 43 | 34 | 15  |
| <b>DISTRICT</b>      |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 114                 | 99  | 14                                   | 41 | 29 | 16  |
| 2007                 | 144                 | 100 | 8                                    | 42 | 33 | 18  |
| <b>STATE</b>         |                     |     |                                      |    |    |     |
| 2008                 | 16980               | 99  | 17                                   | 38 | 30 | 15  |
| 2007                 | 18200               | 97  | 14                                   | 34 | 30 | 22  |

NOTE: MCAS results for groups with fewer than 10 students are not shown to protect student confidentiality.