

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Custom Learning Academy reports 2010/2011 Test Results and there is an amazing trend....

Customization and our school culture works for students.

After three consecutive years of remarkable data, Custom Learning Academy (CLA) is formally reporting the 2011 IOWA (ITBS) test results to the community. CLA is excited to share the data that resulted from the 2010/2011 fantastic year at Custom Learning Academy, where the enrollment peaked at 70 full time students. They began the year with 50 full time students and grew to 70 students in December of 2010. An interesting note is that CLA expanded their 3rd-5th grade classroom into new space located across from the main office in May 2011. Additionally, it is another press release to report the specific academic accomplishments of each student with their increased "academic self esteem", confidence, musical abilities or foreign language abilities as seen in the weekly Friday Performances. These things are hard to measure, but parents can see and feel those improvements, and somehow they mean as much, or more than test scores. But that is not the focus of this news report. CLA is reporting their average scores, reported by grade level, as schools commonly report their data to the community.

As a private school, CLA administers the IOWA Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) as a way to measure their student's achievement during the school year. They choose the ITBS test for its strong and valued reputation as well as its common use among private schools nationwide. In addition, the ITBS test is based on National Standards, which is in line with CLA's curriculum standards school wide. The ITBS test does an excellent job of assessing year to year progress for students as well as determining academic strengths and weaknesses for each student tested. Students are also given a national ranking, which is a valuable ranking for parents to know how their child is performing in relation to other students their age in the nation.

The scores reported in this press release on the ITBS are in the form of class averages reported as Grade Equivalents. For example, if the Grade Equivalent is 1.4, that would mean the student demonstrated 1st grade, 4th month skills. This gives both the parent and the educator national data on the student, which is very meaningful for tracking student achievement. As a note for our 11th grade class, we had one student ill during testing, whose score we omitted from this report, and another student with severe test taking anxiety whose score we also omitted from these results.

Here are Custom Learning Academy's June, 2011 results in the core areas:

Grade Level	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Kindergarten	1.9	1.5	1.5
1 st Grade	2.6	2.3	3.2
2 nd Grade	3.9	3.3	4.0
3 rd Grade	4.8	4.2	4.4
4 th Grade	6.6	6.5	5.6
5 th Grade	7.2	7.6	7.4
6 th Grade	*	*	*
7 th Grade	7.6	7.5	8.0
8 th Grade	12.4	8.8	12.8
9 th Grade	11.2	11.0	11.6
10 th Grade	13+	13+	13+
11 th Grade	11.1	10.2	9.3
*None enrolled			
3.5 = 3rd grade 5th month			

Source: ITBS Building Summaries, Custom Learning Academy, 6/2011.

In addition to testing the Core Areas, the ITBS also tests Social Studies and Science national standards for grades 1st to 11th. An overall skill level for each student, the composite score blends the results from all the core areas: Reading, Writing, and Math with Social Studies and Science.

Here are Custom Learning Academy's June, 2011 Social Studies, Science and Composite Scores:

Grade Level	Social Studies	Science	Composite Score
Kindergarten	n/a	n/a	1.4
1 st Grade	3.4	3.5	3.0
2 nd Grade	3.4	3.5	3.0
3 rd Grade	4.7	4.2	4.4
4 th Grade	7.3	7.5	6.7
5 th Grade	8.6	8.3	7.5
6 th Grade	*	*	*
7 th Grade	8.2	8.9	8.1
8 th Grade	9.6	13+	11.0
9 th Grade	11.6	11.2	11.2
10 th Grade	13+	13+	13+
11 th Grade	10.3	11.7	10.0
*None enrolled in 2010			
KEY: 8.4 = 8th grade 4th month			

Source: ITBS Building Summaries, Custom Learning Academy, 6/2011.

Why are Custom Learning Academy's results so consistently strong for the last 3 years? Every educator knows that if they had the time, they could reach all of their students. It is the 21st Century design of Custom Learning Academy, the positive school culture provides the very best environment for academic success, along with the small student-teacher ratio and lastly the National Standards curriculum that makes all the difference. The data confirms that customized education is working! For 2009 and 2010 data, please see our Press Room located on our web page.