

## School Committee Reviews NECAP Results; Introduces Teen Dating Violence Policy

Overall, Coventry NECAP scores look to be improving.

By [Lauren Costa](#) | March 1, 2012



### NECAP District Review

At Tuesday's School Committee meeting, Superintendent Michael Convery presented a three-year NECAP result comparison (see attached PDF files) between all Coventry schools and state averages.

In most cases, Coventry scores are continuing to improve and tend to be higher than most state averages.

Significant increases include fourth grade reading, where 83% of students met or exceeded standards town-wide, up from 78% the last two years and higher than the 2011-2012 state average of 69%. Sixth grade math town-wide increased from 62% of students meeting or exceeding expectations during the 2010-2011 year to 70% in 2011-2012, compared to the state's average of 61% the same year.

Convery stated the many of the increases can be attributed to recent improvements in professional development for teachers as well as the implementation of differentiated instruction.

"We are certainly closing the gaps in the results," he said.

### Teen Dating Violence Policy

The Committee approved the first reading of the district's Teen Dating Violence Policy that will ensure that students and staff are instructed on how to identify, prevent and report teen dating violence and sexual violence.

Abuse prevention being taught in school health curriculums is required by the RI Department of Education (RIDE) and Coventry schools have already been implementing the practice for years, according to Convery.



"This policy spells out exactly what will happen and when in the event of an incident and is compliant with RIDE policy, but it is important to note that we have been doing this already," he said.

One item in the policy stating that the parents/guardians of the victim will be informed of an incident will be updated for the second reading to state that the parents/guardians of both the victim and the accused shall be informed.

### **Youth Art Month Citation**

At Tuesday's School Committee meeting, Committee members unanimously endorsed a citation to recognize March as Youth Art Month (YAM) for the third consecutive year.

YAM was created in 1961 by the [Council for Art Education Inc.](#), and is a national program that recognizes that the arts are a basic component of all students' education.