



Zion-Concord Lutheran School

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The ZION-CONCORD Difference

For some families, the decision of whether to register their student for the next academic school year can be a difficult one. Finances, public schools, and academics all factor into the decisions that we make for our students. As a parent of a current Zion-Concord Lutheran student, I understand the sacrifices that it takes to have your children here. When it was time to send my son to school, I passed up free options for education and drove a greater distance to make sure my son was here. I always appreciated the small class sizes, excellent teachers, and the sense of family that this place offers. Most importantly, I wanted my son to receive a top-quality education while hearing about the Word of God. I wanted him to be educated at school that is intentional about cultivating spiritual, academic, emotional, physical, and social growth. I have always and will continue to believe that this place offers an outstanding, Christ-centered education for each of our students.

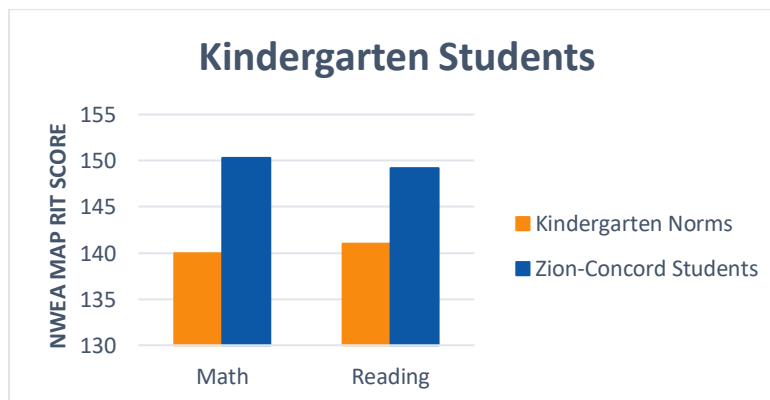
“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6)

“The habits we form from childhood make no small difference, but rather they make all the difference.” -
Aristotle

You do not have to take my word for it, however, we have statistics that demonstrate that we provide a great Christian education to your students.

Our statistics are based on NWEA MAP testing. The “norms” that have been set by MAP are NOT comparing us to public schools ONLY. The norms are set based on the results of both public, private, and charter schools around the country.

The Early Childhood Difference

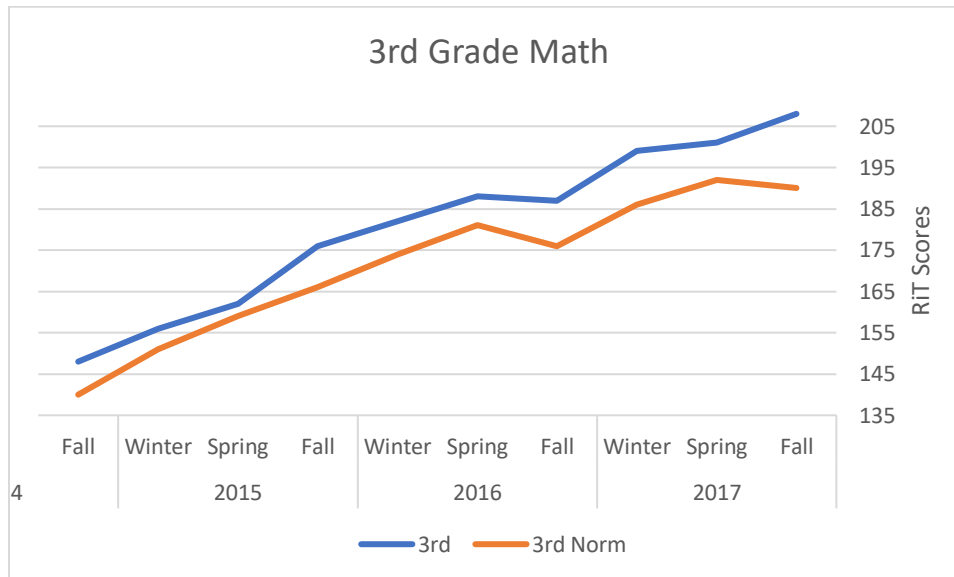


This graph compares students at Zion-Concord Lutheran, who have completed 2 years of Early Childhood education at our school. Education at a young age has a long-term impact over a student's life. Our school's Early Childhood education teachers take pride in the fact that we are an educational institution and not just a day care center.

The Early Elementary Difference

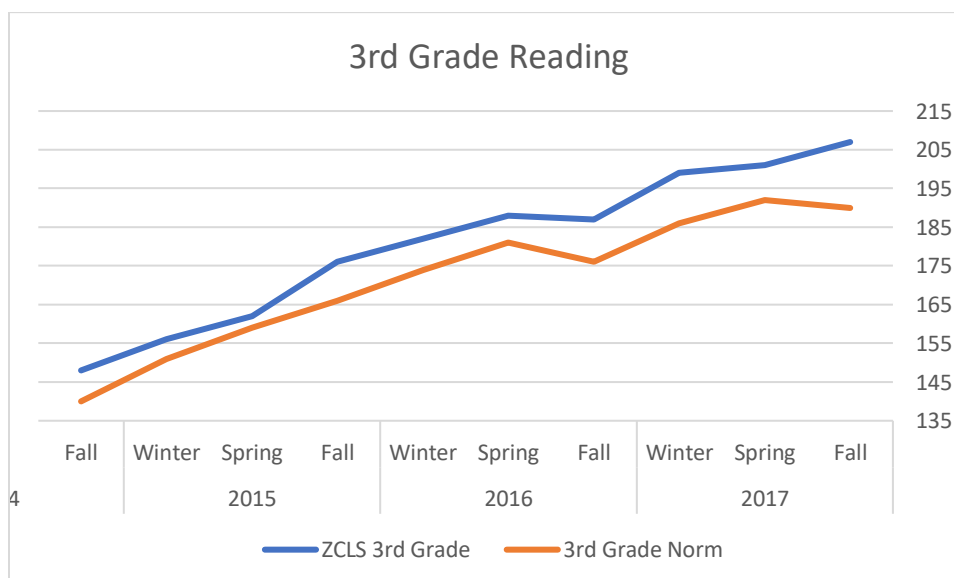
The impact our school makes on the lives of students extends beyond the Early Childhood setting. Families who continue to stay with us see the long-term results of their investments. Our small classes allow for individual attention and differentiated instruction that is not found in larger schools. Our teacher to student ratio is an astonishing **8.6 to 1**. This low ratio, with a high standard of education allows our students to **achieve more**.

Our 3rd grade classroom is a great indicator of the success of our early elementary grades (K-3). I would like to emphasize, again, **the norms from MAP compare private and public schools** to our own students.



NWEA MAP allows us to use RIT scores to predict PARCC success. PARCC is the college readiness tool used by the public schools, in Illinois, to assess students. According to the NWEA conversion, 34% of students in Illinois are considered to meet the expectation of PARCC, in math, while 100% of our 3rd grade class meets or exceeds the readiness measure.

Our reading scores also supports a great education.

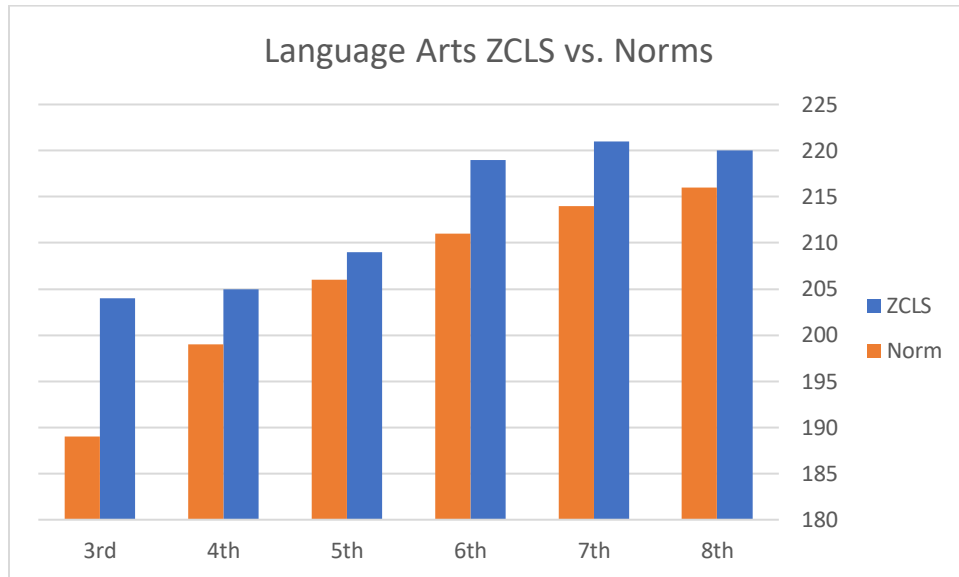


According to MAP 80% of our students are at or exceed the PARCC requirement compared to 35% across Illinois.

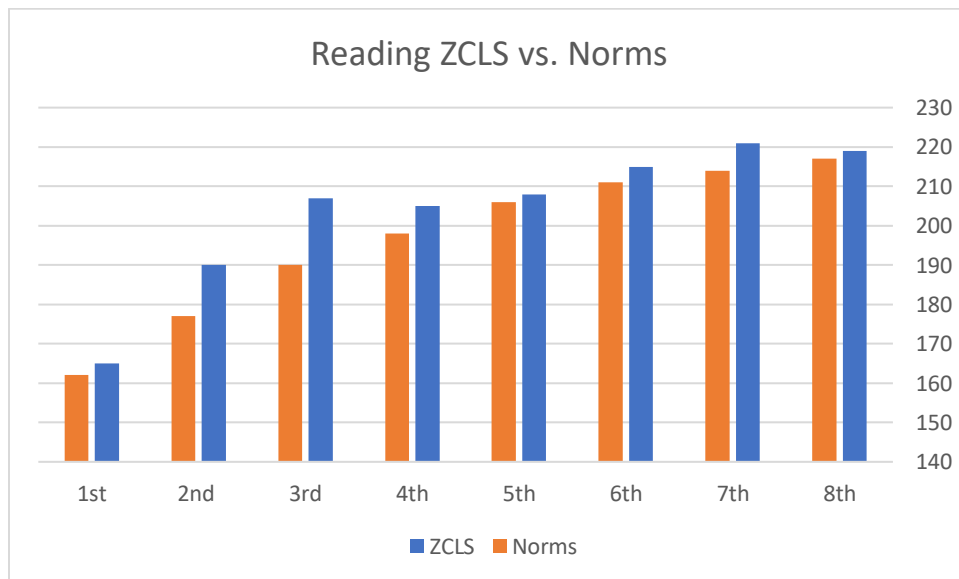
The Middle School Difference

Our middle school (5th-8th grade) offers a 1:1 computing experience that shapes students for the 21st century. Confirmation classes and catechesis provides students with a strong moral foundation to stand strong in a quickly changing world. Solid teachers with conservative Christian values help mold and shape the process of maturing into young adults.

Parents who choose to stay with Zion-Concord, through the 8th grade year of their student will gain more.



Students are first tested in Language Arts in 3rd Grade.



Many of our students will move on to high school and immediately start in advanced classes or honors programs.

The Extra Difference

Along with the academic component, we also offer many opportunities to grow the “whole” child. Our educational experience does not stop in the classroom.

Daily Religion

Students in every classroom begin the day with a devotion and prayer. Our school offers a full Lutheran curriculum that covers Old Testament, New Testament, and Catechesis. Religion doesn't stop when the class is over. Faith integration happens at in a multitude of ways, whether it is conflict resolution between two students or discussing a character's moral obligation in a novel. Students ask teachers the tough questions and teachers are free to hold discussions, with them, that embrace Christian values.

Music

Our students participate in both choir and hand bells during the school day. We offer a strings program and instrumental program in conjunction with Walther Christian Academy for a small extra fee. The Walther Band instructors travel to our school for weekly lessons with our students. Group sessions are also held on a weekly basis at the high school.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our school offers volleyball and two different levels of basketball. Over 84% of our middle school students participated in a sport this year. Some will argue that the only true predictor of success after high school is how many extracurricular sports a child participates in. Our school does not make cuts and encourages an atmosphere in which everyone is free to participate. Christian values about character, responsibility, and team work permeate through each sports experience.

Our school offers a variety of Wednesday Clubs. Students from preschool to 8th grade get a non-traditional learning opportunity with our teachers. Clubs range from game themed to service themed. The clubs provide a way for students to interact, learn, and have fun.

Our Teaching Staff

Our teachers choose to work at Zion-Concord Lutheran School because God has called them to do so. They pass up on more money and more time because they believe in the common purpose of Lutheran education. Our teachers from preschool to 8th grade hold teaching degrees with appropriate certifications. Our teachers go above and beyond the traditional role to provide your child with a complete educational experience. It may be weekend lesson planning, Fall Fest games, doing the dishes after an event, or the extra email to notify you of an experience your child had. Our teachers are passionate about learning and passionate about our school.