

COTTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC  
OCTOBER 20, 2016  
SUMMARY

The Cotter Public School District presented its Annual Report to the Public in District's High School Library at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 20, 2016. Elementary Principal, Airl Cheek and High School Principal, Dan Beckwith, presented the following reports to those in attendance.

**Amanda Gist Elementary: Presented by Elementary Principal Airl Cheek**

Amanda Gist Elementary provides a personalized learning experience in a positive learning climate for K-6 students through use of paraprofessionals, classroom size reduction teachers and technology. 19/20 area scores on the ACT Aspire were above national average. An increase in enrollment caused additional classrooms to be formed.

**Cotter Jr/Sr High School: Presented by Principal Dan Beckwith**

In July of 2016 Schooldigger ranked Cotter School thirty-first out of 267 school districts in the state of Arkansas. This comes as no surprise considering Cotter High School's average ACT score was 22.8 compared to the national average of 21. The High School is entering its sixth year of being one-to-one with students and technology. This is an important part of acquiring twenty-first century skills.

To add to our success, the high school recently reported a record number of parents attending our fall parent/teacher conferences. An additional key to our academic and student success rate is our student/teacher ratio of 1 to 10.8 students. Recently our counseling department offered to our patrons, a financial aid webinar sponsored by the Department of Higher Education. This will greatly help educate both parents and students as they prepare for college readiness. Furthermore, our students have numerous opportunities to take advantage of academically, such as after-school tutoring, Saturday school, Response to Intervention, and coming soon a tailored Advisory hour to fit their grade level needs. These advisories will include Senior College and Career Readiness, Junior ACT Prep, Sophomore Assessment Skills, and decision making and finally our Freshman Academy.