

# USD #377 Atchison County Community Schools News Release



Effingham, KS 66023  
(913) 833-2240

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## The importance of good teachers

by Tom Hinrichs, Curriculum Facilitator and School Improvement Specialist

At a recent conference on Instructional Strategies, the following information was reported in the form of a research study. The question under study was “What effect do high-quality teachers have on student achievement? In order to test this question, the researchers looked at students entering new schools who had scored at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests. Test results were tabulated after the students had been in their new schools for two years. The study found that:

Students who attended average schools with average teachers stayed at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Students who attended least effective schools with least effective teachers dropped to the 3<sup>rd</sup> percentile.  
Students who attended most effective schools with least effective teachers dropped to the 37<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Students who attended least effective schools with most effective teachers increased to the 63<sup>rd</sup> percentile.  
Students who attended most effective schools with average teachers increased to the 78<sup>th</sup> percentile.  
Students who attended most effective schools with most effective teachers increased to the 96<sup>th</sup> percentile.

This and other studies point out that the single most important factor in student achievement is the classroom teacher. As we continue to support and recognize the many fine teachers in our district, keep in mind that our classroom teachers are the “go to” people in our task of achieving academic excellence in the Atchison County Community Schools.