By Administrator Tuesday, 10 March 2015 05:49 -

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - The 2013-14 Consolidated Data Report from the Department of Public Instruction shows that 2.28 percent of high school students dropped out of school, which represents a 6.9 percent decrease from the previous year's record low of 2.45 percent. Hyde and Terrell counties posted zero dropouts.

"This is a day for celebration as North Carolina has seen another record low dropout rate and two school districts report no dropouts," State Superintendent June Atkinson said in a statement. "This could not have been done without the hard work and perseverance of students, educators and parents. Students realize a high school diploma is the first step toward reaching their life goals. I look forward to the day when reporting zero dropouts is the rule and not the exception."

Key findings of the 2013-04 Consolidated Data Report show that:

- -- The annual high school dropout rate decreased from 2.45 percent to 2.28 percent for 2013-14 (6.9 percent decrease).
- -- A total of 10,404 high school students dropped out in 2013-14 as compared to 11,049 in 2012-13 (5.8 percent decrease).
  - -- There were dropout count decreases in 65 of 115 of school districts.
- -- The number of high school students dropping out decreased at all grade levels and for all ethnic groups except American Indian, which increased, and multi-racial, which remained the same.
- -- Males accounted for 62.7 percent of reported dropouts, which was up from the 61.5 percent reported last year.

The full report containing state, district and charter high school dropout counts and rates for 2013-14 is available online at www.ncpublicschools.org/research/dropout/reports/.