

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

The Illinois Learning Standards are statements which define a rigorous core of essential knowledge and skills that Illinois students enrolled in public schools are expected to know and be able to do. Student achievement of these standards, as tested with the Illinois Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT) is essential in accordance with the passage of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation. Scores reported on this report card reflect the progress of students in grades 3, 4, and 5 as mandated by state law.

Each year, as part of the school improvement process, we study our demographic base and critically examine methods by which we evaluate student performance. Our Internal Review team, made up of Reavis educators, works to assess the progress we have been making to reach our goals. As a part of the School Improvement planning process the goals are reviewed and new ones are set for the coming school year. The goals are written and set in the School Improvement Plan.

Lansing School District 158 provides students with a quality education. Each of our schools is staffed by experienced teachers who are interested in the mental, physical, and social welfare of all students. Children are educated in clean, attractive surroundings. A wide variety of current instructional materials are used to enrich each child's educational experiences.

Students in the elementary buildings receive instruction in art, music and physical education from subject specialists. The all-day Kindergarten Program continues to provide additional pupil-teacher contact for children at the Kindergarten level. Programs such as Bridges for Learning Program, the Hot Lunch Program, Reading Recovery, Developmental Reading, speech therapy, enrichment, occupational and physical therapy, and Special Education instruction are provided to students requiring such assistance. The District employs psychologists, an educational diagnostician, and four social workers who work directly with children. Beginning in grade five, students may elect to participate in the instrumental music program.

Eligible Reavis children participate in the district-wide enrichment program, which has had a positive effect on those students. Technology continues to be a priority in District 158. Reavis teachers and students have access to technology equipment in classrooms. All classrooms received new Dell computers this year as a part of the Technology Refresh Program offered by the State of Illinois. A student operated video production lab is utilized to broadcast news and events to each classroom daily. Technology is making an impact on our schools. These tools, promoted by our Director of Curriculum Assessment, and Technology and maintained by our Computer Technician/Network Specialist, provide us with a firm foundation for engaged learning projects.

The curriculum for each subject area is aligned to state standards. New instructional materials, which include textbooks, trade books, technology software, and other media, are purchased to meet the learning standards of each subject area. We have fully implemented Balance Literacy in our Language Arts Curriculum. In the Mathematics Curriculum, we have revised the monthly math assessments.

Reavis' annual mobility rate and low income counts continue to be important factors being reflected in our results. Communication with all parents/guardians, including those new to our community has been excellent. Parents and teachers freely communicate and the principal is readily available for consultation. School programs are supported by large numbers of parent volunteers. The PTA is an involved, active organization within the school which encourages involvement by all members of the community.

The high student mobility rate at Reavis has impacted our test scores in some areas and is an important factor to consider in reviewing overall performance. Programs that are now in place or being established to improve instruction are: The Bridges for Learning Program, A Framework for Understanding Poverty by Ruby Payne, Math Their Way, Power Writing, Reading Recovery, the Accelerated Reading Program, Title I Reading Lab and reading improvement across the curriculum. These programs give support to developing academic skills in all subject areas. Modifications in teaching methods and curriculum are made for students who fail to meet the standards in any of the learning areas. This year emphasis will be given to continuing monthly math assessments in the math program, and a reading assessment for reading in the fall and spring. Improvement continues to be demonstrated at all levels according to our local assessment on the Stanford Achievement Test. As a school, Reavis met A.Y.P. on the Illinois State Test with most subgroups.

We continue to employ assertive discipline and self-esteem programs at the school. The Second Steps program offers children an opportunity to learn and employ conflict resolution techniques. Esteem Building activities continue to be implemented in the building. Other formal programs from the Cook County Sheriff's Department, such as, S.A.V.E. for grades 3 and 4 and Conflict Resolution for the 5th grade classes, have been implemented by our social worker, who has also developed programs for some children with the Success Center. To increase the number of students who are involved in extra-curricular activities, teachers are volunteering to chair clubs after the school day. D.A.R.E. instruction for fifth grade students is included in our curriculum. Programs for effective parenting continue to be offered to district parents through the At Risk/Pre-K program and for parents of students who attend Saturday School.

No report card can accurately describe the excellence and diversity of the District 158 elementary school program. We are proud of our students and of the efforts made by the staff to fully develop student potential.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this report card, please call your building principal, Margaret Williams (474-8523), or District Superintendent, Mrs. Veronda Cottle (474-6700) at any time.

QUALITY EDUCATION: Putting the Children First. The School District 158 Advantage!