

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

The Illinois Learning Standards (ILS) are statements which define a core of essential knowledge and skills that Illinois students enrolled in public schools are expected to know and be able to demonstrate. 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 federal legislation. ISAT scores reported in this report card reflect the progress of students in achieving the standards at the benchmark grades of 3rd, 4th, and 5th. In order for a school to be identified as achieving Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the entire school group and each of the subgroups within the school must achieve the Adequate Yearly Progress goal. While our low income subgroup fell short of the AYP benchmark in reading, we are proud to announce that our school made Adequate Yearly Progress in mathematics as a school and within all subgroups. We are equally proud of the fact that our school made Adequate Yearly Progress in reading as a school. To be designated as making AYP all subgroups must meet the benchmark.

School Improvement Plans are revised annually in each building. Our focus will be on the study of our subgroups and to critically examine methods by which we evaluate student performance. We continually assess our educational program and make appropriate adjustments to ensure that it meets the needs of all students. An internal review team made up of Coolidge educators works to assess the progress we have been making to reach our goals. Under the guidance of the District's Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Technology, the annual school improvement process, goals pertinent to the Illinois Learning Standards are written, assessed, revised and included in the School Improvement Plan.

Lansing School District 158 provides students with a quality education. Each of our schools is staffed by highly qualified teachers who are committed to the mental, physical, social, as well as, academic welfare of all students. Students are educated in clean, attractive and safe surroundings. A wide variety of current instructional materials are used to enrich each student's educational experiences.

District 158 employs a technician/network supervisor who oversees the implementation of District 158's extensive and comprehensive technology plan. This plan guides our instruction of students and the acquisition of materials to compliment our curriculum. Each grade level has several interactive electronic Smart Boards that enable teachers and students to enhance their instruction and participation. Each classroom is connected to the internet and engaged learning activities are developed and implemented to assist in the achievement of our students. Video production labs have been installed in each school and students produce closed circuit television programs for broadcast in the classrooms.

Coolidge students receive instruction in art, music, and physical education from subject specialists. Reading assistance, speech therapy, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy, enrichment instruction, and English as a Second Language (ESL) are also provided by subject specialists to qualifying students. The District employs a psychologist, an educational diagnostician, and four social workers, who work directly with children.

The state ISAT scores for Coolidge are used to determine learning goals and their assessment. An analysis of this year's ISAT scores indicates that our students are progressing in meeting or exceeding the standards in mathematics. This year we will be focusing on increasing the performance level of all students within all identified subgroups in areas of reading and math. There will be a special emphasis on reading since our analysis indicated a weakness in reading for our low income subgroup within the school. Coolidge School will also continue to implement our Response to Intervention program (RTI) as a means of supporting all of our students. Coolidge will continue to develop and implement a school wide approach to understanding the needs of students of cultural poverty as well as developing positive student-teacher relationships based on the work of Ruby Payne.

Improvement of student achievement is accomplished through a curriculum based on the Illinois Learning Standards. District 158 is in its third year of implementation of the Everyday Mathematics curriculum. The overall success of this program is reflected in our students' current ISAT scores. We continue to implement balanced literacy within the Four Block Framework for our language arts curriculum. In support of student achievement, District 158 and Coolidge school provide Title 1 reading specialists that support instruction in reading; and based on available federal funding, an extended day learning program for grades three through five. The Accelerated Reader STAR Assessment program and AIMS Web assessments support the development of academic skills in reading. All elementary schools in District 158 offer a full day kindergarten program with additional support provided by certified paraprofessionals in the areas of language and math. Our district elementary schools are fully implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for the 2009-2010 school year to encourage responsibility to one's self and others. District 158 has a breakfast and hot lunch program available to all students.

District programs are supported by large numbers of parent volunteers. Active PTA organizations are present in each of our five District 158 schools. At Coolidge, the PTA actively supports education in a variety of ways both financially and with volunteer help. This group is a vital link to the student successes at Coolidge.

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

If you have any questions or comments concerning this report card, please call the Coolidge School Principal, Mrs. Linda Blomquist (474-4320), or District 158 Superintendent, Mrs. Cecilia Heiberger (474-6700).

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