

EFFORTS TO REDUCE RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND ECONOMIC ISOLATION

The Mary P. Hinsdale School is continuing efforts to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation. During the 2005-06 school year we sponsored a number of events and made programmatic changes to meet this goal. Hinsdale School continues to have a growing number of Spanish speaking students enrolled. To meet the needs of these students we have purchased more new fiction and nonfiction multicultural literature and integrated it into our language arts program through guided reading, read aloud and reader's workshop.

Multicultural events are sponsored to teach students about other cultures and peoples. This year grade level classrooms held celebrations connected to units of study during which students participated in many activities focusing on culture, language and life of diverse people.

Approximately 17% of Hinsdale students are minority. Approximately 42% of our students receive free or reduced lunch. All of our classrooms are heterogeneously grouped. Our classroom instruction actively works to promote cooperation and community and, at the same time, reduce prejudice and bias. Hinsdale School has developed partnerships with the Susan B. Anthony Project which resulted in puppet shows and other presentations for all grade levels about conflict-resolution for students.

EVIDENCE OF SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENTS IN STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Student Performance: The students at Hinsdale School have exhibited academic improvement in reading as measured by the district's Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA). This year Hinsdale School provided additional training for staff on using the DRA. Our guided reading program improved through targeted professional development and the purchasing of additional teacher resources. Professional development activities focused on the new math Trailblazer program implementation. Several professional development activities were held and staff members were able to visit other districts in which the program is already utilized. Throughout the year, staff were able continuously evaluate and improve instruction based on the new Math Program.

Student Accomplishments:

Fourth and fifth grade students were the recipients of the Presidential Awards, and two Hinsdale School awards, the Ann Watson Award and the Tina Griffin Award, were presented to individual students for excellence in academic performance.

NEEDS AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The development and use of our Student Academic Assessment/Performance Record provides each classroom teacher with performance data for each student from the previous year. As we expand our data collection efforts and develop our use of this tool we will more effectively program for the individual needs of each student.

Hinsdale school hosted a children's author day, a book fair during literacy week and a Grandparent's Day reading celebration. All the students at Hinsdale School successfully engaged in a school wide reading challenge called Hinsdale Reading Olympics. Students read on a nightly basis with individual, classroom and school wide goals. Students celebrated their accomplishments with a school-wide assembly and medals.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

Hinsdale School is a community school. We are very proud of our parent involvement. The PTO sponsored many family events such as movie nights and a Halloween party. Over 200 families attend these events on average. Our school-wide Art Show and Chorus attracted over 250 families. Our family night for the book fair was a huge success. Over 150 families attend this event. We have established partnerships with our community to include The Warner Theatre, BJ's Wholesale Club, Susan B. Anthony

Project, The YMCA, and local retirees through the Everybody Wins Program. The climate of the school is warm and caring, and we work hard to meet the needs of every child and family. We believe the key to continuous improvement is developing and implementing a school improvement plan with specific performance targets. Our goals for the upcoming year include:

- Improve teaching and learning in reading.
- Improve teaching and learning in writing.
- Improve teaching and learning in mathematics.
- Engage parents and the community.
- Provide Academic Enrichment.
- Improve the use of technology.