

Bear Lake Middle School 2008-2009 Report Card

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2008-09 Enrollment: 252
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Our Mission: To prepare students to lead productive lives by providing appropriate learning activities in an optimal environment

Our Beliefs:

1. Students, staff, parents and community members share the responsibility to provide a caring, safe, clean, and healthy environment.
2. Students and staff members must be treated with respect, dignity, and fairness.
3. Individual student needs require a variety of instructional methods.
4. All students must have access to learning opportunities and be actively engaged in their education, now and in the future.
5. Extra-curricular activities will be meaningful and important.
6. Parental awareness and commitment increase the likelihood for student success.
7. Mastery of basic skills is a priority in all curriculum areas.
8. Literacy is the basis for a student's educational success.

Keeping You Informed:

This report is a summary of some indicators of the performance of our school. No single report can tell the entire story of our school's educational program or the people who teach and learn here. We encourage you to find out firsthand by visiting our school. If you are a parent of one or more of our students, we invite you to take an active role in your child's learning. Studies indicate that when parents are actively involved, their children perform better at school.

How are we improving ?

During the past four years, with a slight decline last year and a significant improvement this year, we have shown marked student improvement on the state standardized tests. These tests measure ability in Math, Language Arts, Reading, and in the seventh grade, Science. We are fortunate to report that our teacher to student ratio remains small. We average 16.26 students per class. We continue to receive positive feedback regarding the four day school week from all stakeholders. We are several years into a formal school improvement process that is outlined by the state. As we participate in this process we are able to stand back and assess, evaluate, and modify the many variables that are part of the educational process.

Options for Parents:

As stated earlier, we encourage parent involvement, input, feedback, as well as volunteerism. We place a high value on this partnership. We highly recommend that parents take advantage of our Power School program that will enable parents to access their

child's current academic and attendance information online. Please feel free to contact Kelli Bloxham, our school secretary, for the web site address, your child's student ID number as well as their password.

What We Celebrate:

1. The student/teacher relationship.
2. The student as an individual
3. The student's character and value system that is developing every day
4. The student's social needs and development.
5. Mastery of the "Basics" (Reading, Language, and Mathematics)
6. Literacy: It is upon this that all other learning and academic success is based.
7. The "Middle Years": This is a critical time in one's development. We as educators, have a limited "window" of opportunity to affect a difference.

Our School Community:

Many factors such as how often a child attends school, how often he or she relocates, and a child's experience in the English language all influence school achievement. There is a correlation between the community climate and that of the school.

About Our Parents:

Our school values the involvement of parents and we thank all parents that have been able to visit our school and volunteer their time.

71 percent of our parents attended parent teacher conference
57 percent of our parents attended back to school night
6 percent of our parents volunteered their time

About Our Teachers:

We are committed to ensuring that highly trained and qualified teachers instruct our students. Parents are welcome to request information about the qualifications of their child's teachers at anytime. In addition, if the need arises for your child to be taught by a teacher without complete qualifications or credentials for a period of more than four weeks, we will notify you.

100 percent of our teachers are highly qualified

0 percent of our teachers are teaching as an approved teaching consultant.

15.7 years is the average number of years of experience of our teaching staff.

0 percent of our teachers are teaching with a temporary letter of authorization.

All of our classes are taught by teachers that currently have highly qualified status.

Our School Environment:

Our goal is to provide a place for students to learn without distractions and concerns for their safety. We closely monitor our campus and offer comprehensive programs to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and substance abuse. As required by state and federal laws and rules, we collect, monitor, and report crimes and

substance abuse incidents on our campus and at all school activities. A complete record of this information is available at: <http://www.sed.state.id.us/ipd/reportcard/SchoolReportCard.asp> or by contacting Dr. Steve Heeder at our school district office. The phone number is 208-945-2891.

Our Student's Academic Achievement:

The following information will give you an idea of how our students performed on the Spring 2009 ISAT. The ISAT is the testing instrument sponsored by the state designed to measure our student's achievement in Math, Reading, and Language Usage.

6th Grade

87.8 percent of our sixth grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Reading portion of the ISAT tests.

80.4 percent of our sixth grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Mathematics portion of the ISAT tests.

70.7 percent of our sixth grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Language Usage portion of the ISAT tests.

7th Grade

89.1 percent of our seventh grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Reading portion of the ISAT tests.

72.8 percent of our seventh grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Mathematics portion of the ISAT tests.

76.0 percent of our seventh grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Language Usage portion of the ISAT tests.

47.8 percent of our seventh grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Science portion of the ISAT tests. This was the first years for testing in Science. Our 7th grade scored similar to the state average.

8th grade

98.7 percent of our 8th grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Reading portion of the ISAT tests. This is 12 percent higher than last year's 8th grade.

84.2 percent of our 8th grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Mathematics portion of the ISAT tests.

77.7 percent of our 8th grade students performed at the proficient level or higher on the Language Usage portion of the ISAT tests.

The State report card can be viewed at:

<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/ReportCard/Index/2008/033/0026>