

## *Principal's Perspective*

“Sunnyside provides solid basics and nurtures the highest potential for all students.” In an effort to move this motto forward, our instructional model will continue to offer students a small, focused instructional setting. Sunnyside’s Building Operations Committee and Instructional Leadership Team have enhanced the instructional model with additional strategies to better address the needs of both our struggling and high performance students.

Sunnyside Elementary School is in the third year of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), a framework that offers teachers a shared approach to improving student academic and behavior outcomes by recognizing positive behavior. The staff has developed teaching matrices across all of the public areas in our school, which include hallways, the playground, the cafeteria and the bus. Each teacher has worked with their students to establish behavior expectations for their classrooms as well. Each fall, bullying is the major educational topic across Sunnyside as every grade level is involved with anti-bullying techniques and meetings with our social worker, learning center teacher, and the principal. Our students and staff work to reduce any type of bullying. Our fourth-grade students were involved with a one-day retreat put on by Youth Frontiers called a Kindness Retreat. Our fifth-graders were a part of the Kindness Retreat last year learning the anti-bullying skills. We work very hard to keep our Sunnyside community respectful, responsible, and safe.

For the 2011-2012 school year, Sunnyside will continue to implement READ 180 and System 44 intervention programs, funded by the Mounds View Public Schools Board. These programs utilize both small and large group teaching methods, along with computer assisted instruction to improve reading skills school-wide. In 2011-2012, first-grade and second-grade teachers will employ “AIMS Web,” a program that uses a one-minute early literacy measure to emphasize letter names and sounds, and a reading fluency measure to monitor the growth of Sunnyside’s primary students.

Additional comprehension testing will be implemented to monitor the success of targeted students in grades 3-5, and K-5 students all received the MAP test to give teachers and staff a better sense of how to improve the instructional program throughout the school. Formative assessment will be a staff development emphasis during the 2011-2012 school year.

# *Annual Report*

## *2010-2011*

### *School Improvement and Innovation Plan*

**Goal #1:** All Sunnyside students will be challenged to become fluent readers, to expand vocabulary and to increase reading comprehension.

**Results:** Sunnyside’s instructional model provided several layers of intervention for all levels of learners including strategies to improve reading fluency, comprehension, decoding skills, and vocabulary development. Teachers and staff formed small instructional groups which meet on a daily basis. Students responded favorably to these efforts and reading results indicate that most Sunnyside students reached their individual growth target in the course of the 2010-2011 school year. For the 2011-2012 school year, Sunnyside’s Building Leadership Instructional Team has decided to continue this instructional model and has expanded the strategic plan to include word analysis and comprehension.

**Goal #2:** All Sunnyside students will be challenged to become more fluent mathematical thinkers by expanding their math computation, number sense and problem solving.

**Results:** The Sunnyside instructional model for math continued to include FASST Math, a program funded by the Sunnyside PTA and Fraction Nation. The program has been proven to be a successful in helping students become more fluent with their computation skills. Kindergarten, first-grade, and second-grade teachers expanded the instructional program to include several additional early math computation skills techniques. Teachers continued to group students based on learning levels to maximize growth at various instructional levels. Sunnyside students showed excellent results in math throughout the 2010-2011 school year as measured by the MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress) tests indicating success for the majority of students.