

Annual Report

2007-2008

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. For the 2008-2009 school year, Sunnyside will continue to implement READ 180, an intervention program, funded by the Mounds View Public Schools Board, that utilizes both small and large group teaching methods, along with computer assisted instruction to improve reading skills school-wide. In 2008-2009, kindergarten, 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 three through five, and kindergarten through fifth-grade students all received the MAP test to give teachers and staff a better sense of how to improve the instructional program throughout the school. I am happy to report the 2007-2008 successes and I am looking forward to working with students, teachers, parents and the community, to make 2008-2009 another great year at Sunnyside!

School Improvement and Innovation Plan

Goal #1: All Sunnyside students will be challenged at the appropriate level to become more fluent readers by expanding their vocabulary and word analysis skills so their reading comprehension improves as measured by District assessments.

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 groups and met on a daily basis to develop and implement strategies. Students responded favorably to these efforts and reading results indicate that most Sunnyside students reached their individual growth target in the course of the 2007-2008 school year. For the 2008-2009 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 at the appropriate level to become more fluent mathematical thinkers by expanding their math computation, problem solving, and number sense and skills as measured by District assessments.

Results: The Sunnyside instructional model for math continued to include “Mathability,” a program that was implemented five years ago at Sunnyside and has proved successful. 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 2007-2008 school year with statewide MCA-II and the MAP (Measurement of Academic Progress) tests indicating success for the majority of students.

