

Introductory School Information Vision-Mission Statement

Evansville Attendance Center (EAC) is a K through 8th grade elementary school that is a part of Sparta Community Unit District #140. The school is in Evansville, IL, located on the banks of the Kaskaskia River, about fifteen miles west of Sparta, IL. There are approximately 150 students from low to middle income families whose heritage is mainly German, French, and Irish. There is one class per grade level. The curriculum at Evansville prepares the students for Sparta High School.

The economic base for the district is essentially blue collar. Approximately 76% of the population hold a high school diploma or higher. Four % of the population hold a bachelor's degree or higher. The racial/ethnic background of our students is 96.5% white and 3.5 % multi racial as reported on the 2007 School Report Card. The limited-English proficient rate for the students at Evansville is 0.0%, according to the 2007 School Report Card. The attendance rate on the 2007 School Report Card was 95.8%. Chronic truancy was 0.0%. The retention rate for Evansville was 3 students out of 150 for a rate of 2%. There are 12 students out of 151 with an academic or behavioral IEP, for a rate of 8%. The expulsion rate in 2007-08 was 0%. The equalized assessed valuation per pupil (EAV) was \$50,163. The total district school tax rate was \$4.88 per \$100 and the operating expenditure per pupil was \$7895 for Sparta Unit #140, compared to \$9488 for the state. Our students come from middle to low income homes. Our free and reduced lunch percentage was 52.4% on the 2007 school report card.

Our mission at Evansville Attendance Center is to provide a quality and varied educational program designed to improve the academic achievement for all of our students. Our program will provide rich and relevant educational, cultural, and social experiences to increase student learning, nurture an appreciation and respect for diversity, and develop self-esteem and decision-making skills. The Evansville School family maintains high expectations for students, teachers, parents, and community members, all striving together to realize our mission.

Information about the extent to which the students in grades 3 through 8 are achieving in the fundamental learning areas is included in this report, as identified in the ISAT results from the March, 2008 testing.

As our first measurable goal, we would like to have 70% or more of our students who take the Reading portion of the ISAT, (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8), meet or exceed the state standards. For our second measurable goal, we would like to have 70% or more of our students who take the Math portion of the ISAT, (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8), meet or exceed the state standards. For our third measurable goal, we would like to enhance technological usage by providing training for staff members at Evansville School. We would like to have 70% of our certified staff receive training in technology, such as Smart Board training, SDS training, or other technology based training.

We examined our ISAT results from the year 2008. Eighty-nine % of our students in 3rd grade met or exceeded the state standards in Reading and 89% met or exceeded in Math. Eighty-nine % of our 4th grade students met or exceeded the standards in Reading (compared to 71% when they were in 3rd grade), and 89% met or exceeded in Math (compared to 90% when they were in 3rd grade). Ninety-four % of our students in 5th grade met or exceeded the state standards in Reading (compared to 95% when they were in 4th grade), and 94% met or exceeded in Math (compared to 100% when they were in 4th grade). Eighty-three % of our 6th grade students met or exceeded in Reading (compared to 53% when they were in the 5th grade) and 89% met or exceeded in Math (compared to 80% when they were in 5th grade). Eighty % of our students in 7th grade met or exceeded the state standards in Reading (compared to 65% when they were in 6th grade) and 90% met or exceeded in Math (compared to 88% when they were in 6th grade). Sixty-five % of our 8th grade students met or exceeded the standards in Reading (compared to 59% when they were in the 7th grade) and 59% met or exceeded the standards in Math (compared to 59% when they were in the 7th grade). We were pleased to note our 2008 ISAT scores and that we met AYP as a school. However, we are concerned that the percentage of students who met and/or exceeded in Reading and in Math in some classes decreased from 2007 to 2008. We have decided to target Reading and Math as our first and second measurable goals. There is no comparison for our third grade students because 2008 was the first year that they took the ISAT Reading and Math tests.

Measurable Goals for Evansville Attendance Center 2008-09

1. The first measurable goal for Evansville School will be that we have 70% of our students in grades 3 through 8 meet or exceed the state standards in Reading on the ISAT to be given in the spring of 2009.

Measurable steps to be taken will be through the use of Sparta Unit District #140 funds for teachers to attend in-service activities and workshops that address the ISAT and ways to help our students achieve on the ISAT. Students will also spend time in the computer lab and in their own classrooms to work on the state website which gives them practice for the state tests.

2. The second measurable goal for Evansville School will be that 70% of our students in grades 3 through 8 will meet or exceed the state standards in Math on the ISAT to be given in the spring of 2009.

Measurable steps to be taken will be through the use of funds from Sparta Unit District #140 funds for teachers to attend in-service activities and workshops that are geared towards increasing student scores on the Math portion of the ISAT. Students will also spend time working on the Math practice tests provided on the state website. Evansville School has adopted two new math curriculum for the students. Houghton-Mifflin Math Expressions will be used in grades Kindergarten through four. Glencoe Math including pre-algebra and algebra will be used in grades six, seven, and eight. The Math curriculum was purchased through Sparta District funds.

Teachers who attend the workshops will in-service all other Reading and Math teachers here at Evansville School during a school improvement early out day or during the 2:45-3:30 p.m. time slot each day that is set aside for school improvement activities.

The timeline for reading and math improvement will be one year when the 2009 ISAT scores are released.

3. For our third measurable goal, we would like to enhance technological usage by providing training for staff members at Evansville School. We would like to have 70% of our certified staff receive training in technology. The training may include Smart Board training, SDS training, or other training related to technology.

Measurable steps to be taken will be through funds from Sparta District #140 and other available resources. Teachers will attend training offered by Sparta District #140 and the ROE on the use of Smart Boards. Teachers will also be provided an opportunity to view teachers using Smart Boards in their classrooms at the Chester Elementary School. SDS training will be provided to teachers through the SDS company representative.

The timeline for our third measurable goal will be one school year when the faculty will internally review the technology training that staff members have received.

In-Service Activities for Evansville Staff

Evansville's staff members attended many in-service activities during the previous school year. A listing of the staff members and the workshops they attended follows:

Elizabeth Montroy (Kindergarten)

Aspire South RTI training-Sept. through May
ROE's Kindergarten Reading 1st training-Sept. through May

Missy Biethman (1st grade)

Michael Haggerty training-June
Improving Reading Achievement Academy-March through May
Math Study-July
4 Block Instruction-March
Ill Reading Conf.-March
Smart Board Training-March
Phonemic Awareness (Michael Haggerty)-April

Melanie Zinselmeier (2nd grade)

Aspire South RTI training-Sept. through May
Illinois Reading Conf.-March
Smart Board Training-March

Julie Tiemann (3rd grade)

Aspire South RTI training-Sept. through May
Mentoring New Teacher training-Sept. through March
Illinois Reading Conf.-March
Phonemic Awareness (Michael Haggerty)-April

Andrew Winters (5th grade/Math)

Pre-AP Math training-August
Illinois Reading Conf.-March
Introduction to GPS and GIS in the classroom-February
ISAT Writing Workshop-January

AVID Summer Institute-June, August

Kim Greenlee (LD/BD Resource)

Michael Haggerty-June
Special Education Workshop-Sept.
Aspire South RTI training-Sept. through May
Illinois Reading Conf.-March
Special Education Workshop-February
Transition Workshop-March

Diane Chambers (Science/Social Studies)

Introduction to GPS and GIS in the classroom-February
Practical Strategies for Working with Difficult Students-January

Denise Ebers (Principal)

United Way workshop-July
Reading Strategies and Interventions-January
What Great Leaders Do Differently-April
AVID Conference-August

Evansville staff members will attend workshops this current school year that will enhance the teaching and learning areas of language arts, math, and science. The registration fees for workshops will be provided by Sparta Unit District #140 funds and Title funds. Teachers will also attend workshops offered by the Monroe/Randolph ROE. These workshops, along with regular school improvement committee meetings, will be included as part of the teachers' re-certification requirements. All certified staff at Evansville School are highly qualified and certified in his or her respective teaching assignments.

Internal Review Activities

The process for monitoring the progress and review of the plan for our first measurable goal will be the quarterly review by members of the SIP team of our students' grades and progress in Reading. To monitor the second measurable goal of our SIP, Evansville's SIP team members will meet quarterly to review Math grades. For our third measurable goal, the SIP team will also discuss technology training for Evansville School staff members. When a staff member has attended technology training, the member will share what was learned at monthly teacher's meetings and/or school improvement meetings. At the school improvement early dismissal meetings, the SIP team members will also discuss institutes and workshops attended by various members and review and revise the SIP as needed.

Thirteen members of Evansville's SIP team met on August 27, 2008 to examine the ISAT scores from the 2008 testing. The scores had just been released by the state board on Aug. 26, 2008. The team members developed an analysis of the testing results by grade level for each class at Evansville during the 2007-2008 school year, excluding kindergarten, first, and second grade. Evansville's SIP team will conduct an internal review during the 2008-09 school year. We will use the results of that review to revise the current SIP and to begin to devise the SIP for the 2009-2010 school year.

The SIP team met on Aug. 27, 2008 to analyze and review the first measurable goal on the 2007-08 SIP. Our goal was to have 63 % of our students in grades 3-8 meet or exceed the state standards in Reading. 84.2% of our students overall met or exceeded the state standards: 89% in 3rd grade, 89% in 4th grade, 94% in 5th grade, 83% in 6th grade, 80% in 7th grade and 65% in 8th grade. The team concluded that we met our first goal on the 2007-08 SIP.

The SIP team met on Aug. 27, 2008 to analyze the Math scores on the March, 2008 ISAT to internally review the second measurable goal on the 2007-2008 SIP. On the 2008 ISAT Math test, 87.4% of students in grades 3-8 met or exceeded the state standards. 89% of students in grade three met or exceeded. 89% of students in grade four met or exceeded. 94% of our students in grade five met or exceeded. 89% of students in grade 6 met or exceeded, 90% of students in grade 7, and 59% in grade 8 met or exceeded in Math. Our second goal had been that at least 63% of those students taking the Math portion of the ISAT met or exceeded. This goal was met.

The team members met on May 13, 2008 and analyzed the third goal, which was that we would install three more Smart Boards in the classrooms at Evansville School. During the 2007-08 school year, we were able to add seven Smart Boards. We did this using district funds, a grant from Ameren UE, and by using the profits from a school-wide fundraiser. We concluded that we met our third goal.

Parents will be informed of the Evansville School's SIP through the School Report Card when it is issued in the fall of 2008. Also, parents will be updated on the review and revision of the SIP as it occurs. The notification of the review and revision of the SIP will occur through the newsletters sent home to the Evansville parents and mailed to the Sparta school board members.

The administrators of Sparta Unit #140 and a parent met in May, 2008 to review the 2007-2008 Parent/Student Handbooks. The 2008-2009 Evansville School Parent/Student Handbook with the recommended changes was approved at the June 2008 Sparta School Board meeting.