

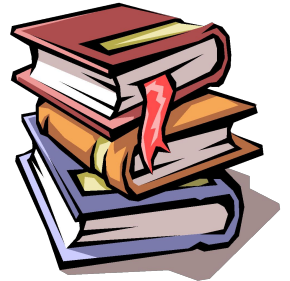
Dermott School District



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC



October 12, 2017



Dermott School District

This report to the general public, in care of the Board of Directors, serves as an overview of the 2017 – 2018 school year, with the current status and expectations for the remainder of the 2017 – 2018 school year.



Dermott School District

Vision

To educate and graduate students as independent thinkers and problem-solvers, who are prepared for real-world success.



Dermott School District

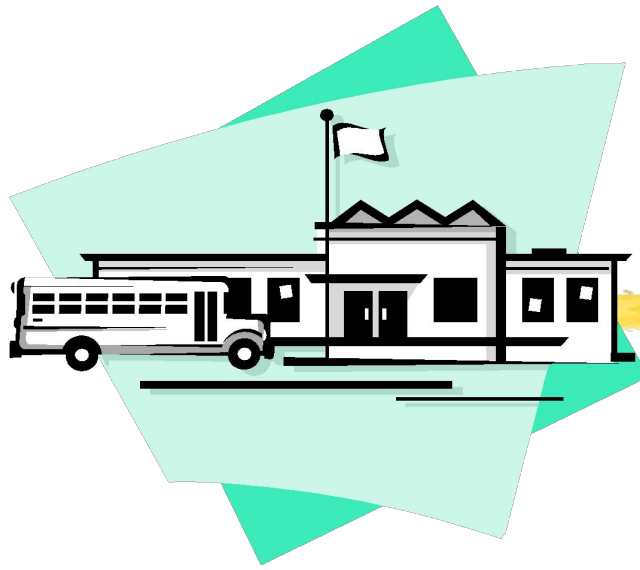
Mission Statement

To cultivate the potential of individual students, by connecting their interests to their futures.

To provide an engaging and rigorous curriculum that fosters a desire to learn.

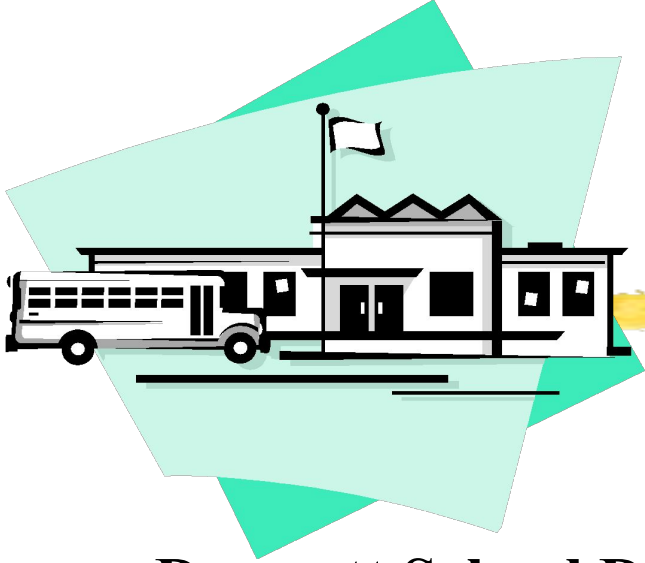
To provide a safe, supportive environment where students know their well-being is our top priority.





Program Review

The district operates two school sites, all of which are accredited by the North Central Association. A very detailed improvement plan is in place at each school site to guide the schools by AdvancED guidelines over a five-year period. Additionally, the schools are following plans to improve the academic success of students on the state-mandated assessments.

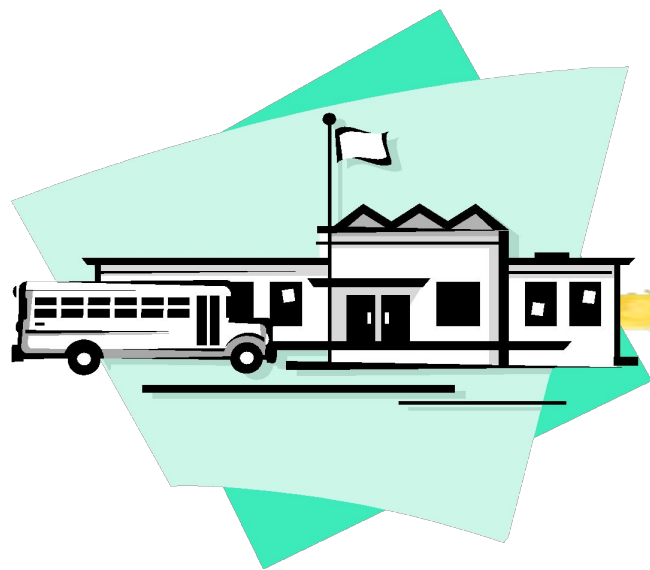


Program Review

Dermott School District School Improvement Classification: Needs Improvement District

All teachers are either certified in their area of instruction or meet Arkansas Qualified Status with the exception of the following:

**Kristi Ridgell - Superintendent, Heather Hardin - High School Principal,
Patricia Hartley - High School Counselor, LaWarn Rodgers - Elementary
Counselor, Chris Albritton, Janilla Haney, Laura Barnes, and Tonya Haney**



Program Review

Accreditation

All schools in the district are accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education and AdvancED.

Maintenance & Transportation

A recent building survey concerning asbestos resulted in no conditions that posed problems. An Operations and Management Plan to safely manage all areas is available for viewing in the Central Office.

Our schools mills are **41.81 mills**.

We have continued to upgrade our facilities throughout the district as it relates to safety and upkeep.

In the Transportation Department, we continue working hard to recruit and train reliable bus drivers. We are proud to report that our transportation department continues to provide safe, efficient and courteous service to the patrons whose students we transport.

Dermott School District's Positives




- Established K-12 Curriculum
- Innovative and Energized Staff
- The Focus on Instructional Delivery and Assessments
- Progress and Growth
- Community Partnerships

Dermott School District's Positives

Academics:

Dermott School District			
	2015 PARCC Test	2016 ACT Aspire Test	% Gain
Math	5.3%	21.31%	16.01
Literacy	16.59%	42%	11.83
Graduation Rate	87.10%	100%	12.9

Dermott School District's Challenges



- Dermott Elementary is classified as a “Focus School—Needs Improvement”
- Dermott High School is classified as a “Priority Schools—Needs Improvement”
- Limited Certified Staff
- Declining Enrollment
- Low Recruitment of Certified Teachers

Dermott School District's Goals

To increase student achievement to ensure all students are prepared for real-world success.

To continue to provide the whole child a safe, secure, and healthy environment conducive to learning.

To maintain a high graduation rate.

To establish effective practices that become sustained practices in our staff and leadership.

To engage a diverse group of stakeholders in supporting and improving educational outcomes for all students.

Dermott School District Annual Report to the Public October 2016



Reports from the following:

Principals, Directors, Coordinators:

- Amanda Bittle, Federal Programs Coordinator
- Arneice Gardner---Curriculum Coordinator
- Shakelia Jackson---Elementary Principal/District's Parental Coordinator
- Heather Hardin---High School Principal/School Improvement Specialist

Professional Development



All certified staff members will gain at least 36 hours of staff development during the 2017- 2018 school year.

This year, the focus of Professional Development is on ensuring the written curriculum matches the taught and assessed curriculum, ensuring that PLCs are functioning as expected, classroom management, data analysis, and content knowledge.

Federal and State Programs

Federal Programs - This year applications were written for Title I and II-A in Indistar. School Improvement Plans are also written in Indistar. The goal of these plans is to improve overall achievement of all students as measured by the Arkansas state mandated assessments. Indistar Plans can be viewed using the guest logins provided on the district webpage.

Title I - All schools receiving Title I funding are operating under school-wide guidelines. This permits all students the opportunity to receive additional assistance in academic areas.

Federal and State Programs

Title II - A - this federal program provides for teacher quality enhancement. With this portion of federal funding, we are able to provide additional professional development, help teachers become certified, pay substitutes for teachers to attend professional development and offer stipends to teachers for attending same.

Special Needs Funding - This funding is used for curriculum, staff development, literacy and math instruction, materials, supplies, and equipment, including technology for pre-approved programs.

NSLA, Alternative Learning Environment, and English Second Language are among the categories in this funding.

Federal and State Programs

Vocational - This funding is used for new or expanded vocational programs. Programs in this area are: Business, Family and Consumer Science, Med-Pro Ed.

Gifted and Talented - Lana Smith Coordinator - Students in grades K-2 are served in self-contained classrooms. Students in grades 3-8 are served in a pull-out program and students 9-12 are served in regular education classrooms with the regular education teacher having received training. The GT program has three successful quiz bowl teams that compete in district, regional and state competitions.

Federal and State Programs

Special Education - Dawn Campagna - LEA Supervisor - Special Education students are served by 2 Certified Special Education teachers, 2 Long Term Substitutes, 2 paraprofessionals, and 1 CNA. These students receive services through instruction in the regular classroom, resource room or self-contained room, speech therapy. Occupational therapy, physical therapy, and counseling services are related services that are available.

21st CCLC - Caviha Leonard - Site Coordinator - Provides after school tutoring and enrichment for students. Students participate in homework time, academic time, and enrichment activities such as art, drama, etc.

Federal and State Programs

FFVP - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program - Grant awarded to the elementary school to provide a fresh fruit or vegetable snack to students outside of breakfast and lunch. The purpose of this grant is to encourage healthy eating habits and to expose students to fruits and vegetables that they might not ordinarily be exposed to.

Dermott School District's Curriculum

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students, if they are 18 years or older, sign a Smart Core waiver form to not participate. A minimum of 22 units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or the Core curriculum, but it should be noted that following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. More detailed information can be found in the 2017-2018 Student/Parent Handbook.

Dermott School District's Curriculum

Dermott School district also offers digital learning courses that are approved as either primary or supplementary methods of instruction. Students are required to take at least (one) digital learning course for credit while in high school.
Civics Test????

Dermott School District's Curriculum

This year, we are continuing the work of defining our local curriculum as units of study that is shared in a digital format. The focus will be on aligning our curriculum vertically to ensure there are no gaps in student learning. This work is being done K-12 in all core areas as well as non-core areas, with the ultimate goal being to receive input from all district shareholders.

Dermott Elementary School

TARGETED IMPROVEMENT PLAN GOALS

- 1. Develop/ adopt and implement a Science curriculum**
- 2. Increase the quality of the analysis of assessment data**
- 3. Improve instructional delivery**
- 4. Increase student achievement in Literacy and Math**

Dermott Elementary School

Successes

- Gains in Math and Literacy from the 2015 to the 2016 school year

Dermott Elementary School			
	2015 PARCC Test	2016 ACT Aspire Test	% Gain
Math	2.36%	21.65%	19.29
Literacy	12.28%	23.71%	11.43

- The Educator Climate Survey administered to teachers had positive results. The results are being used to determine needs and areas that need to be clarified.
- Teachers are working hard to meet the needs of our students by attending school on a regular basis; Educator survey results showed that 80% said they look forward to coming to school each day
- 64 % of teachers returned this school year; the majority of our staff are experienced educators with the exception of three new teachers

Dermott Elementary School

Successes Continued

- **More positive interactions between parents and school staff; PTA membership has increased this year**
- **Successfully implemented a daily morning routine for students saying the pledge of allegiance, school vision, mission and pledge for success; to foster a positive school environment**
- **Student attendance rate is 0.5 % this school year; it is accurately updated daily**
- **Decreased the number of interruptions during instruction by reducing announcements and calling students for early checkout**
- **School cafeteria, office, restrooms and doors painted; Hallways updated – the restrooms are being updated as well**
- **72% of students were represented by a parent/guardian at Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Dermott Elementary School

Efforts to improve student achievement

Materials and Supplies

- **ACT Aspire Success Strategies workbooks for Grades 3 - 6 students that include test taking tips and practice tests**
- **Math Family Night kits will provide all materials for several learning stations**
- **Guided Reading Instruction Kits for Grades 3 -6 for Afterschool Tutoring**
- **Response to Intervention Teacher Tools that allow teachers to have quick access to prompts that will stimulate student thinking and offer strategies and evidence based practices to effectively implement academic and behavior support**
- **Stop & Think Social Skills program purchased to implement 2016-2017 school year**

Dermott Elementary School

Efforts to improve student achievement

Progress Monitor & Remediation

ACT Aspire Interim I Test: English/ Science - October 18, 2016

Reading/ Math - October 19, 2016

ACT Aspire Interim II Test: English/ Science - December 14, 2016

Math/ Reading - December 15, 2016

ACT Aspire Interim III Test: English/ Science - February 22, 2017

Math/ Reading - February 23, 2017

Dermott Elementary School

Efforts to improve student achievement

Planning/Scheduling

Intervention Time is allotted in the schedule daily for each grade level to provide remediation, enrichment and gifted/talented services to students in need

Instructional Teams meet two times each week to discuss weekly formative assessment data and concerns as well as classroom instructional strategies

The Building Leadership Team meets weekly to discuss needs of the teachers, teacher attendance counts, student discipline counts, observation data, student assessment data, successes, and other items as needed.

The staff provides a variety of parent communication tools such as Remind, Monthly Newsletter, Facebook Announcements and Positive Phone Calls each month

The Curriculum Coordinator and the Leadership Team are researching Placement Test and an Interim Assessment for grades K – 2 to be administered at least 3 times each year

Dermott Elementary School

Efforts to improve student achievement

Services

- After school tutoring for Math and Literacy
- 2017 School Improvement Conference lodging, mileage, and meals
- Subscription to Reflex to build fluency and retention in math
- Substitute services for Math, Literacy, and Science teachers for ½ day each month to allow teachers to align the curriculum vertically
- Salaries for staff to conduct Summer School in 2017
- Purchase Flocabulary to increase student interest and knowledge of concepts in all subjects
- Purchase STAR Math to provide a diagnostic assessment for students and progress monitor their growth
- Ongoing professional development provided from ADE approved providers
- Support from Southeast Cooperative Services in Monticello; On campus and off campus support when needed
- Novice teachers are provided a mentor and additional support to effectively deliver quality instruction to the students

Dermott High School

2017-2018 Goals

Dermott High School

Successes:

Dermott High School			
	2015 PARCC Test	2016 ACT Aspire Test	% Gain
Math	8.26%	20.93%	12.67
Literacy	21.36%	33.72%	12.36
Graduation Rate	87.10%	100%	12.9

Dermott High School

Preparing for the 2017 ACT Aspire Summative Test

Monitoring of Progress:

ACT Aspire Interim I Test: Math/ Science - October 17, 2016

Reading/ Language - October 18, 2016

ACT Aspire Interim II Test: Reading/ Language - December 7, 2016

Math/ Science - December 8, 2016

ACT Aspire Interim III Test: March 2017

Dermott High School

Successes continued:

Educator Climate Survey Results:

95% Agree or Strongly Agree

I feel comfortable raising issues and concerns that are important to me.

90% Agree or Strongly Agree

Teachers and administrators at this school set high standards for all students.

95% Agree or Strongly Agree

The school creates a caring and supportive environment.

100% Agree or Strongly Agree

My principal facilitates and sustains a culture that actively encourages educators to help all students reach their full potential.

100% Agree or Strongly Agree

The principal keeps the school focused on academic achievement.

Dermott High School

Student Climate Survey Results:

84% Agree or Strongly Agree

In the majority of my classes, the teachers effectively direct and stimulate discussion.

80% Agree or Strongly Agree

Teachers treat me with respect.

80% Agree or Strongly Agree

The teachers have high expectations for ALL students.

83% Agree or Strongly Agree

The principal has high expectations for ALL students.

88% Agree or Strongly Agree

In the majority of my classes, the teachers want us to use our thinking skills, not just memorize things.

Dermott High School

Student Climate Survey Results:

80% Agree or Strongly Agree

In the majority of my classes, the teachers check to make sure we understand what he/she is teaching us.

79% Agree or Strongly Agree

My teachers are willing to listen if a student has a serious problem.

79% Agree or Strongly Agree

My principal is willing to listen if a student has a serious problem.

Dermott High School

Successes continued:

- **71%** of students were represented at Parent Teacher Conference in September.
- Discipline referral counts have **DECREASED!!!**
August 17, 2015 - October 11, 2015 : 53
August 15, 2016 - October 11, 2016 : 25
Decreased by **28**

Dermott High School

Successes continued:

- Comments from the Arkansas Department of Education:
 - “They (Dermott) are flying.” Dr. Wilde, School Improvement Unit Leader
 - “Dermott is a shining star.” Dr. Wilde, School Improvement Unit Leader
 - “There are a lot of positives.” Quida Newton, State Board member
 - “Continue what you are doing. You are doing a good job.” Brett Williamson, State Board Member
 - “Kudos to you and your transformation of leadership.” Dr. O. Fitzgerald Hill, State Board Member

Dermott High School

Efforts to Improve Student Achievement:

- Literacy and Math Instructional Teams meet two times each week to discuss weekly formative assessment data and concerns as well as classroom instructional strategies.
- The Building Leadership Team meets weekly to discuss needs of the teachers, teacher attendance counts, student discipline counts, observation data, student assessment data, successes, and other items as needed.
- The 1003(a) grant has been applied for to purchase materials and supplies and services based on the Needs Assessment.
- Faculty meetings are held once a month to share progresses, express concerns, solicit ideas, determine needs, and make decisions.

Dermott School District Annual Report to the Public October 2016



Questions, Comments, and Suggestions