

**Dermott Public Schools**  
**Report To The Public**  
**In compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Public Schools in Arkansas**  
**October 9, 2014**

**Vision Statement:**

The Dermott School District has a vision to produce students that are open-minded, well-educated, responsible, productive citizens.

**Mission Statement:**

The Dermott School District is committed to educating all children to standards of excellence in a safe environment that will empower them to be successful in higher education and the workplace.

**General Information:**

Enrollment: October 1, 2014 - 416                      October 1, 2013 – 426                      -10 Students

**Goals:** The following goals apply to the entire student body:

1. All children will start to school ready to learn.
2. The high school graduation rate will increase.
3. Schools will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment in our modern economy.
4. Students will leave grades having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter.
5. Teachers will have access to programs for the continued improvement of their professional skills and the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to instruct and prepare all students.
6. Students will compete on grade level on state mandated tests
7. Adults will be literate and will possess the skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
8. Schools will be free of drugs and violence and offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning.
9. Schools will promote partnerships that will increase parental involvement and participation promoting the social, emotional, and academic growth of students.

**All teachers are certified in their area of instruction with the exception of the following for which waivers have been requested and granted for Elementary Special Education Teacher, High School Career Development Teacher, and High School Library Media Specialist.**

## **Dermott School District School Improvement Classification: Needs Improvement District**

### **Accreditation**

All schools in the district are fully accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education and the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement.

### **Annual Public Meeting:**

The Dermott Public School held a public meeting on October 9, 2014, 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room located in the Administration Building. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss progress toward accomplishing district program goals, accreditation standards, and school objectives for the 2014 - 2015 school year. Principals gave an overview of programs in each school. All parents and patrons were encouraged to attend.

An overview of summer projects was reported including facilities, buses and school vehicles. A list of maintenance up-dates at each building level was presented.

**Superintendent Maurice Smith reported our schools mills are 41.81 mills.**

**Mr. Smith also reported 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.**

**Staff Development:** All certified staff members will gain 60 hours of staff development during the 2014-2015 school year. Embedded in these 60 hours will be at least six (6) hours of technology. This school year the Dermott School District is focusing professional development on implementing four initiatives: the new Common Core State Standards for Literacy and Math, TESS evaluation for teachers (Teacher Excellence Support System) UBD (Understanding by Design) and PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers). These four initiatives support each other in the educational process that will make our students 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.

### **Federal Programs**

The ACSIP plans for Title I, II-A, and VI are all available for public view. The goal of these plans is to improve overall achievement of all students as measured by the Arkansas Benchmark Exams.

**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.

**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,

pay substitutes for teachers to attend professional development and offer stipends to teachers for attending same.

**Title VI State** -This program is used in conjunction with Title I and provides for students and teachers.

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

**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.

**Special Education:** Dawn Campagna - LEA Supervisor - Special Education students are served by 3 Certified Special Education teachers and 1 paraprofessional.

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.

**Dermott Elementary School**

**Grades K-6**

**Kristi Ridgell, Principal**

**Enrollment 249**

**Needs Improvement: Focus School – Achieving in Literacy, Needs Improvement in Math**

The goal of the Dermott Elementary School is to improve student achievement in Literacy, Science and Mathematics and to provide support to students in making Healthy Lifestyle Choices.

**New Staff Members:**

Stephanie Gustafson – Special Education

Uwanda Wright-Calbert, DES Instructional Facilitator

Heidi Howe, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher

Haley Howe, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher

Shelby Todd, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher

Tammy Cessor, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher

Lawarn Rodgers, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher math and science and Parent Facilitator

Kamisha Davis, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher Literacy and Social Studies teacher

Brigette Clark, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Literacy and Social Studies teacher

Ryan Carr, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Math and Science Teacher

Jeremy Schulze, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Literacy and Social Studies Teacher

Tony Campagna, 5<sup>th</sup> grade math and Science teacher

Blane Mallet, PE Teacher

**Programs in Place:**

Adopt a Class program

Reading Recovery

DaySprings Counseling Services

Foster Grandparent Program

Americorps Program

Accelerated Reader

Parent Teacher Association

Cognitive Guided Instruction in Math

Science Lab

Achieve 3000

Implementing Common Core State Standards

Building Instructional Units using Understanding by Design and Building Your Own Curriculum

Developing Rigorous Assessments

21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant

Fruit and Vegetable Grant

Dermott Elementary: Test Scores - Spring 2013

Literacy Benchmark Exams

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Below Basic</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	14%	14%	41%	31%
4 <sup>th</sup>	10%	29%	34%	27%
5 <sup>th</sup>	12%	19%	47%	22%
6 <sup>th</sup>	10%	21%	41%	28%

Math Benchmark Exams

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Below Basic</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	0%	7%	21%	72%
4 <sup>th</sup>	21%	29%	34%	16%
5 <sup>th</sup>	44%	25%	16%	15%
6 <sup>th</sup>	24%	10%	31%	35%

**High School****Grades 7-12****Greg Evans, Principal Grades****Enrollment 167****Needs Improvement: Priority School – Achieving in Literacy, Needs Improvement in Math****New Staff Members:**

Greg Evans – Principal

Beverly Culley – Literacy Instructional Facilitator

Rebecca Foster – English

Chrisis Toney – Family and Consumer Science

Dianne Wilson - Science

The Dermott High school has begin implementing Common core standards and Understand by Design unit building strategy to ensure a strong academic culture in our school.

The Dermott High School offers tutoring programs. We offer Algebra and Geometry tutoring during the school day and we partner with UALR TRIO who funds the after school program for students 7-12 and a period of the day is designated for assisting students not performing proficient on the Benchmark and/or EOC exams. The high school has collaborated with Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative, Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative, and the University of Arkansas at Monticello to have outside experts to advise our schools and mentor teachers in academic areas of greatest need.

All juniors will take the ASVAB.

All 10<sup>th</sup> Graders will take the ACT PLAN.

All 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will take the ACT EXPLORE.

Students are participating in Target Testing in preparation for the Benchmark and EOC Exams.

High School: Test Scores – Spring 2013

Literacy Benchmark and Grade 11 Literacy Exams

<b>Grade/Test</b>	<b>Below Basic</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
7 <sup>th</sup>	9%	55%	26%	10%
8 <sup>th</sup>	15%	21%	45%	19%
Grade 11 Literacy	18%	29%	41%	12%

Math Benchmark and End of Course Math Exams

<b>Grade/Test</b>	<b>Below Basic</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Proficient</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
7 <sup>th</sup>	48%	26%	23%	3%
8 <sup>th</sup>	36%	19%	33%	12%
Algebra I	10%	37%	43%	10%
Geometry	19%	39%	39%	3%

**Extra-Curricular Activities**

Clubs and organizations are available for student membership. Many students are involved in athletics. Students may select such activities as basketball, cheerleader, band, choir, quiz bowl. Several are involved with the yearbook publication.

**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 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 2014/2015 Student/Parent Handbook.

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.

This year, we have begun work on defining our local curriculum as units of study that will be shared in a digital format. This work will be done K-12, with the ultimate goal being to receive input from all district shareholders.

**Parental Involvement**

Parents are always encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education. Four

Parent Teacher conferences will be scheduled during the 2014-2015 school year. Continuous communication will be kept with parents through phone calls, letters, conferences, and progress reports.

Parents are invited to attend orientation sessions before the school year begins. Parents serve on various committees. PTA works cooperatively within the community and school and to provide informative programs of interest to parents.

Our schools offer a Parent Center located in each building. The center houses material and supplies to help parents and students. Family kits that consist of helpful tips are prepared at the beginning of each year for our parents. Each school has a Parent Facilitator. DES Parent Facilitator is LaWarn Rodgers. DHS Parent Facilitator is Bertha Freeman. Parent Facilitators can be reached by calling the principal's office.

Statement: The Dermott School District is committed to providing our students an excellent education. We invite parents to be involved in this process. Together, we can provide the best education for our students.

The goals for Parent Involvement are as follows:

1. To involve parents of students at all grades in a variety of roles
2. To be comprehensive and coordinated in nature



3. To recognize that communication between home and school should be two-way and meaningful.

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