

Narrative: 2011-12 DHS

Dillon High School continues to focus on our goal of academic excellence for every student. Teachers and staff maintain their dedication to providing quality educational opportunities for all students and remain committed to preparing students for a productive life after graduation. Dillon High serves a divergent student body with 84% of students on free or reduced lunch in an area where 44.3% of families are below the poverty level. As our community becomes more multicultural and the economy more restricted, under-resourced students often become more disaffected and disengaged with the education system. This has required us to renew our commitment to educating all children and to seek alternative resources to realize our goals. We remain focused on our mission to prepare students to achieve excellence through a learning community that promotes skills needed in a continuously changing world.

We are proud of our overall school climate and in student performance. Through the diligence of our teachers, we have continually addressed improvement of scores on EOCEP and HSAP exit exams. In addition, our end-of-course test scores as well as performance on HSAP surpass those of high schools like ours. Student Council, Interact Club, Key Club, Anchor Club and other service clubs as well as mentoring programs are creating positive relationships within the school family and in the culture of the school.

Our students continue to demonstrate their understanding of the importance of serving their community by supporting various civic activities. They have sponsored a Veterans Day tribute, participated in Relay for Life, March of Dimes Walk for Babies, and fundraisers for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Juvenile Diabetes Walk-for-a-Cure, Toys for Tots, Red Cross Blood Drive, animal rescue shelter, and local food drives.

Our versatile athletic program provides structured activities for both male and female athletes that foster team building, sportsmanship, and increased self-esteem. Our proven track record of athletic prowess builds morale and school pride and our girls' track team won the AA State Championship. Dillon High School is indeed the home of champions.

The complexity of contemporary society brings with it both opportunity and challenge and at Dillon High School, we welcome the opportunity and accept the challenge of educating our students for the 21st century. Our mission is to continue striving for academic and athletic excellence through continued collaborative initiatives. We are proud of our accomplishments and are excited about the promise of greater rewards as we focus on our vision to provide exceptional, quality educational opportunities for every student.

Lynda B. Cottingham, Principal

Anne McGirt, SIC Chairperson