

Andrew Jackson Middle School 2010-2011 School Improvement Report

Andrew Jackson Middle School's faculty, staff, students and families continue to work together to insure that our students have rewarding opportunities to grow and learn. We have spent many hours evaluating test results, assessment practices, and instructional strategies with peers, district staff, and regional professionals in order to target areas of concern and enhance areas where we see strengths. We have extended our understanding and use of professional learning communities as a team approach to monitoring student success and continue professional growth for all staff members. This practice supports our ideology that every child is unique and requires a network of support involving every associated adult; including parents. We are excited about the use of this tool and professional practice to improve student learning at AJMS.

Students did show improvement on state assessment test, PASS. Our overall school rating was Average. The score is a result of both student test results and student improvement. As we analyzed the test results and our teaching strategies we realize that future average and improvement ratings will be more difficult to reach because the average rating score will increase from approximately 50% meeting all standards to nearly 80 %. We are close to 80% in many areas now. However, the challenge has been addressed each and every day by every teacher. The interest for us all is to give our best each day and face the task with determination.

Our students also performed well on the annual PSAT given in the fall. The number of scores near or above the Junior Scholar rating is impressive, 13 students scored in the range of scores that indicate junior scholar status.

In addition to the PASS test and academic progress, we have many other areas of student life and school experiences to reflect on. All grade levels were exposed to the arts as they attended local presentations of plays and art work. The Veteran's Day Program and the Black History Month Programs served both the community and our students well in connecting with our community and our past. We are proud of the productions, the character, and support displayed by the students, staff, our community, and the SIC in making these events possible

The SIC has been very active thus far with several activities that support the climate and community of AJMS. The SIC has also worked hard to support teacher requests for special projects throughout the year. The meal provided to teachers by the SIC during parent/teacher conferences was a huge success for everyone. Plans are in place for thank you treats during Teacher Appreciation and Bus driver appreciation weeks. The SIC has been walking with us through the year to take care of the requests and needs in as many ways as possible.

Upholding the tradition of proactive and progressive educational practices at Andrew Jackson Middle School is of the utmost importance. It is our intention to always reflect and question our effectiveness and efficiency as educators and community stakeholders in securing the best available resources and instructors. It is important that we keep our doors open to the students, parents, and community. We have wonderful support from parents and the community and it is greatly appreciated. Our faculty and staff are committed to the students and families that we serve. Even in these challenging economic times there is spirit and pride in the AJMS family of students, parents, faculty, staff, and community. With that as our foundation, we will strive to make AJMS a safe, open, and successful community oriented school.