

Dansville School Board
February 2010
Dansville Elementary School Report
Faith Norman, Elementary Principal

Enrollment: Students: 387

Count Day 2/10/2010: 387

New Students: 1

Transfer Students: 2

I. Teaching for Learning:

Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment:

- “Think Energy” a program on energy conservation will be presented to Grade 4 and 5 by Consumers Power Energy on March 1, 2010.
- Social studies instruction has been expanded with Black History Month activities. Each class has selected a Black History event or hero to create a video segment. These segments will be put together to create a video story, “Freedom Train” to be shown on February 26, 2010. “Black History Moments” will also be shared by classes each morning on “WDAN” elementary radio.
- Grade 2 students are celebrating the Chinese New Year, “Year of the Tiger” in their social studies.
- Grade 3 students finished their poetry unit with writing original poems and presenting them at a Valentine Poetry Tea for their parents. Poetry samples included rhyme, cinquian, acrostics, color, and triplets.
- Kindergartners and First Graders recognized the 100th Day of School on February 17, 2010 with special math activities that included a parade, enjoying a snack made of a 100 items, and sharing their collections of 100 objects.
- Grade 3 students have received a grant from the Ingham County Farm Bureau to pay their travel expenses to attend Rural Education Day at the Ingham County Fairgrounds on March 24, 2010.
- Grade 4 students will enjoy a presentation by the Historic Mackinaw Tour Group as part of their Michigan history curriculum. Two costumed interpreters will demonstrate the Straits of Michigan history on March 18, 2010.
- Preparation is being made to promote literacy during March is Reading Month. The Reading Month Committee is planning activities around the Winter Olympics theme. The committee is working on contracting a children’s author for a presentation, and the Flying Aces, a nationally known Frisbee team, will be demonstrating their skills in an assembly.
- The Title 1 amended budget for literacy was submitted. Several ideas are being considered for encumbering the ARRA Title 1 A Grant.
- MEAP and MI-ACCESS scores for the fall of 2009 have been received, but the MDE has not released the publication of the data. Comparison charts of our composite scores have been created. We have not received the state scores yet for comparison.
- Elementary teachers have collaboratively reviewed the 40 indicators of the Ed Yes! Report (No Child Left Behind). Mrs. Norman is currently working on the report for the building. Submission date is March 12, 2010. Mrs. Norman and Mrs. Provencal,

literacy coordinator, will also be working on the Title 1 Targeted Assistance components.

- Mr. Stoneman and Dansville School principals met with Tamara Bashore-Berg and Kathy Humphreys from the I.S.D. to be updated on the district and school reports that are mandated by the MDE.
- Mr. Gucky, elementary Physical Education teacher, worked last year on creating a standards based report card for Grades 3-5 for Physical Education. His assessments on based on rubrics and analysis of individual student video tapes.
- Grade K-5 teachers are completing their mid-year grade level common assessments. Grade 2 teachers have piloted Aimsweb with their students. Each teacher is meeting with Mrs. Norman for a data review of their students' progress.
- Attendance was reviewed for the second quarter and semester. Telephone calls and letters were sent to parents of students with excessive absences and tardies.
- Thirteen Individual Education Plans were conducted this month. One referral for special education testing was submitted

II. Leadership:

Collaborative Time/Shared Leadership:

- Mrs. Phyllis Gaulden, speech therapist, attended R.T.I. for Speech Therapists on January 27, 2010.
- Mrs. Sue Provencal, Title 1 Literacy Coordinator, presented a district literacy workshop on administering, recording, and analyzing data from running records on February 1, 2010.
- Mrs. Sue Provencal, Title 1 Literacy Coordinator, attended "Creating Fluent Readers" conference in Livonia on February 11, 2010.
- Mrs. Carrie Kodish, Grade 4 teacher, attended the workshop, "Strategies to Help Struggling Learners" at Ingham I.S.D.
- Mrs. Sue Provencal, Mr. Kevin Hatch, Mrs. Sara Oesterle, Mrs. Kris Ream, and Mrs. Angie St. Amant will attend the Michigan Reading Annual Conference in Detroit on March 20-22, 2010. Conference will be funded with Title 2 grant.
- Mrs. Kris Wing, school social worker, presented "Strategies for Working With Oppositionally Defiant Students" at the February elementary staff meeting.

Mentoring:

- All elementary mentors and probationary teachers will meet January 27, 2010, for their mid-year meeting. Probationary teachers received a copy of
- Probationary teachers have met with their mentors or Mrs. Norman to review their Individual Development Plans.
- Probationary teachers are being scheduled for their spring observations and evaluations.

Personnel Update:

- Mrs. Phyllis Konen, who was recently laid-off from her high school secretarial position, has joined the elementary staff as a special education student aide.
- Mrs. Sue Churchill was hired as a part-time special education aide for an elementary student.
- Tenured teachers are currently being observed and evaluated.

III. School and Community Relations/Highlights:

The elementary PTO met February 2, 2010. They granted the following elementary requests: Elementary Library for books: \$500.00

Physical Education: Update video analysis software: \$200.00

The PTO sponsored a family roller skating night at Edru in Holt on February 11, 2010.

They are also hosting a family movie night on Friday, March 5, 2010, in the elementary gym.

- The Title 1 Parent Advisory will meet on February 18, 2010. This advisory is open to all parents with children receiving Title 1 services. The purpose of the advisory is to provide support for parents as well as involve parents in reviewing the policies of the program.
- The Elementary Parent Advisory will meet February 24, 2010. It is an open forum for discussion of elementary events and policies. There will also be a presentation on balanced literacy instruction.
- Plans are being made for spring Parent-Teacher Conferences on March 10-11, 2010. There will also be a Scholastic Book Fair in the elementary library.
- Spring Aggie Club Houses are being offered again for four weeks. Club Houses include: Culinary Club, Chess Club, Book Club, Walking Club, Track Club, Color Guard Club, and Friends of Eric Carle Club. These clubs will be directed by teachers and parent volunteers. This spring the clubs will be financed by the PTO, and free to all students.