

URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
OLMSTED ELEMENTARY ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08
Progress made in the building during 2007/08

A. Improved learning opportunities and programs

- The 2007/08 school year at Olmsted saw many positive events and learning opportunities. Olmsted parents with the PTO. continued to make bigger contributions to the school. Several matching grants were received from parents and their employers and used for purchasing classroom materials. The Polk Co. Connecting Kids and Culture grants expanded field trip opportunities.
- Full day kindergarten continued in 2007-2008 and feedback and test results were positive from parents and staff.
- The Olmsted 1st-5th teachers continued using the Instructional Decision Making model to help at risk readers. This model of instruction and the research based materials used provided additional support for students scoring below the 50% on ITBS in reading comprehension and fluency. Students met four times a week for 30 minutes. First grade students joined the IDM groups for the third trimester. Results show students that were placed in IDM groups had an above average growth compared to their peers in words per minute read.
- An at-risk program for 4 year olds was continued through the Adventuretime program, empowerment grant money and Urbandale Schools. The students in this class were integrated with the preschool special needs students. Plans were implemented moving the 4-year-old program to full day this year.
- The fall and spring lunchtime running program was continued and the students have logged 7850 miles this year for a total of 80,124 miles in nine years.
- The Project Fit America equipment was utilized during PE, recess and Roadrunners. The equipment and track have made the school playground area more active after school hours by the community.
- The Olmsted garden continues to be a 1st-5th grade project that provides enjoyment and learning opportunities for all the students and community. The Earth celebration was held again this year.
- Our media center continues to provide endless opportunities for our students to learn and enjoy literature. All students used a 28-station iMac computer lab, plus an 8 station mini lab, during the year, along with the laptops. Internet capabilities continue to open additional areas of knowledge for our students. Students enjoyed using the laptops for classroom projects. The PTO Book Fairs helped with media purchases. Efforts were made with building and PTO funds to purchase laptops for teachers.
- The K-5th grade classroom emphasis on literacy benefited with the purchase of additional reading materials. PTO supported the purchase of reading and classroom materials to improve the classroom environment. The PTO sponsored a very successful reading incentive program during January. PTO also made a donation of books to a DM Elementary School due to the success of the Book fairs.

B. Results achieved in terms of student learning

- Olmsted students took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in the winter. The results of

2007-2008 ITBS shows the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders scoring in the proficient and advanced ranges were:

	Reading	Math	Science
3rd	86%	98%	88%
4th	89%	91%	93%
5th	91%	86%	91%

The building composites school norms were at 95% for 3rd, 96% for 4th, and 87% for 5th.

- The DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) was used again with all kindergarten, first and second grade students. The results were shared with parents and staff and show the literacy progress of the students. We were pleased how this information helps improve literacy instruction. Please refer to CSIP report for DIBELS results for K-2nd.
- Teachers continued giving district reading and math assessments. Timed tests were given in K - 5th for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Growth was shown in all grade levels. Results of the district assessments showed:

Kindergarten Math

Spring N = 191
 82% (N=156) High
 9% (N=18) Intermediate
 9% (N=17) Low

Grade 1 Math

N = 41
 98% (N=40) High
 2% (N=1) Intermediate
 0% (N=0) Low

Grade 2 Math

N = 47
 70% (N=33) High
 26% (N=12) Intermediate
 4% (N=2) Low

Grade 3 Math

N = 41
 95% (N=39) High
 2.5% (N=1) Intermediate
 2.5% (N=1) Low

Grade 4 Math

N = 59
 47.5% (N=28) High
 47.5% (N=28) Intermediate
 5% (N=3) Low

Grade 5 Math

N = 46
 54% (N=25) High
 31% (N=14) Intermediate
 15% (N=7) Low

Kindergarten Reading

Spring N = 189
 70% (N=132) High
 28% (N=53) Intermediate
 2% (N=4) Low

Grade 1 Reading

Spring N = 41
 34% (N=14) - High
 66% (N=27) -Intermediate
 0% (N=0) -Low

Grade 2 Reading

Spring N = 47
 62% (N=29) High
 34% (N=16) Intermediate
 4% (N=2) Low

Grade 3 Reading

N = 42
 55% (N=23) High
 43% (N=18) Intermediate
 2% (N=1) Low

Grade 4 Reading

N = 59

68% (N=40) High

27% (N=16) Intermediate

5% (N=3) Low

Grade 5 Reading

N = 46

33% (N=15) High

54% (N=25) Intermediate

13% (N=6) Low

- The use of the report card with anecdotal records, probes and portfolios in conferences helps with parent communication. Using a computerized report card allows for the ability to compress and compare data for future building goals. The reporting system for Olmsted is by trimester, allowing additional conferences and contacts with parents early in the fall. Staff members participated in a district committee that worked on a new report card to be implemented in the fall of 2008.
- Students improved computer skills to search for information on the CD-ROM in the library, access the World Book encyclopedia, typing reports for class and to improve their typing skills through structured keyboarding classes in grades 3-5. All classes K-5 used the computer lab during their assigned times each week. The iMac lab continues to provide internet access for students. The Web Clickers produced a DVD for students to purchase that has pictures of the school year events.

C. Growth and development of employees

- Teaching strategies were reviewed and discussed as part of the building staff development process and goal with literacy. (See K-5th Staff Development Logs)
- Staff participation in workshops and school visits increased with the use of state teacher quality money.
- Teachers participated in district staff development for the technology, curriculum development, and TARA training. Associates were also able to participate in training about playground safety.
- All staff members utilized the computer for reporting of student grades. Reflections for early dismissals/staff development are on file in the office.

D. Parental support and involvement

- The Olmsted PTO continued to organize volunteers for the classroom and Roadrunners. During the spring recognition program over 56 adults were recognized for helping at least two hours each week at Olmsted during the school year. Their hours equaled having three additional staff members. High school students and non-parents were included in this group. Additionally during UHS community service day 6 connections classes volunteered for projects at Olmsted.
- Olmsted School is fortunate to have a very active parent organization. Monthly meetings are held and a large number of activities occurred for Olmsted students that the parents organized. Speakers explained reading curriculum and school programs to parents during PTO meetings and other parent meetings during the year. PTO financially supported extra field trips, media, and teacher materials.
- The success of the Roadrunner fitness program was due in part to the large number of parents who came during the lunch hour and logged the student miles.

- The PTO financially supported the purchase of more reading and classroom materials and helped lessen the problems with the increased costs of materials needed. PTO also helped with laptop purchases for staff members.
- A review of our volunteer logs also show almost all parents helped out with parties, classroom volunteering at school or in a school project at some time during the year. Parents' attendance for the conferences was over 99%.

E. Facility improvement

Olmsted students and staff continue to enjoy and take care of our school. During the summer of 2007 an upgrade of the east parking lot and additional carpeting in half of the building occurred. The parking lot improvements increased the number of available spots for parking and safer bus loading.

F. Management of student behavior

Olmsted students, for a majority of the time, exhibited behavior that was positive, correct and on-task. A record of student referrals to the principal's office is kept. This data shows only a small number of referrals to the principal's office for 2007-2008. The Character Counts Pillars are also emphasized to improve behavior. Star Clubs met monthly to discuss the pillars. Parent support when dealing with student problems was helpful to both the students and the staff.

Compiled by Olmsted principal and teachers 6/13/08