

NRHEG Public School

Independent School District No. 2168



High School
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Elementary School
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Ellendale, MN 56026
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Elementary Principal's Report
NRHEG Elementary School
August 15, 2017

NRHEG Mission Statement:

Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed.

Vision Statement:

To be the school district of choice, inspiring excellence in academics, arts and activities.

1. Elementary Enrollment (2017-2018 School Year)

	Enrollment	# of Sections	Students/Sept.
ECSE	18	3	
Bridges	15	1	15
K	53	3	18
1	64	4	16
2	63	4	15-16
3	49	2	24-25
4	70	3	23-24
5	74	3	24-25
Total	406		08/15/2017

Enrollment
History
July 2015
417
August 2015
427
September 2015
432
July 2016
411
August 2016
411
September 2016
423
July 2017
411
August 2017
406

2. The month of July was a busy one at the elementary as we had two summer programs running concurrently. Our Extended Year School Program (ESY) had 33 students (PreK-Grade 5) who were in attendance. Our Targeted Services Program (Grades K-5), Panther Power Up had 38 students who participated this summer. *The mission of our Power Up program is to make school a positive place for all children by boosting their learner confidence, creating opportunities for friendships, and increasing academic skill levels, especially in the areas of reading and math.* This year our program focused on the novel, *Charlotte's Web*, and our literacy, math and science activities included science experiments, farm life studies, spider facts, STEM projects, math games, literacy activities and a trip to the Waseca County fair. Due to generous donations, we were once again able to provide transportation for our students via a pick up point in each community. Parents, friends and families were invited to our end of program celebration that was held on Thursday, July 27.

Dale N. Carlson, Superintendent

David A. Bunn, High School Principal

Douglas A. Anderson, Elementary Principal

3. The NRHEG PTO will be installing concrete to connect our current sidewalks to the playground equipment before school begins. They have also provided trees near the Buddy Benches, and have also supplied additional mulch around the playground equipment. I thank them for their generous contributions to our elementary school.
4. On Thursday, August 10, Special Education Director, Heather Harms, ECSE teacher, Ryan Evans, and I attended training on the use of the *STARS* curriculum in Owatonna. The STAR Program (Strategies for Teaching based on Autism Research, Arick, Loos, Falco, Krug, 2004) is a comprehensive curriculum that includes detailed lesson plans, teaching materials, data systems and a curriculum-based assessment for teaching in the six curricular areas of receptive language, expressive language, spontaneous language, functional routines, academics, and play & social skills. The strategies used in the STAR Program have been shown to be effective with students at the preschool and elementary level. The STAR Program was first piloted in 1997. After a five year Outcome Study of 122 students in which students made significant progress in language and academics, the STAR Program was published in 2004. Our ECSE staff is extremely excited to have this program available for students at our school. View video examples of the program at www.starautismsupport.com/videos.
5. Six staff members have been invited to serve on a newly developed Leadership Team for the elementary. Research from the University of Minnesota shows that, "if test scores are any indication, the more willing principals are to spread leadership around, the better for the students. One of the most striking findings of the universities of Minnesota and Toronto report is that effective leadership from all sources~principals, influential teachers, staff teams and others~is associated with better student performance on math and reading assessments." The roles and responsibilities for the Elementary Leadership Team will include:
 - Takes a balcony view of the school.
 - Assists the principal in making decisions to govern the school (shared decision making).
 - Ensures a focus on learning and continuous improvement.
 - Guides the work of the collaborative teams.
 - Supports and monitors the work of the collaborative teams.
 - Serves as the steward of the school's mission, vision, core values (commitments).
 - Monitors achievement, climate and satisfaction data to assure that the learning environment is producing results consistent with the school's stated goals.
 - Identifies gaps in performance or processes and plans for their improvement.
 - Aligns school's work with the district and classroom.
6. We have finalized plans at the elementary to work again with educational consultant, Nancy Remmert. We found our time with her last year to be extremely important and beneficial, and we look forward to working with her again this year during our professional development time. As a district she will be with us on August 31 and March 5th. She is also scheduled to work with the elementary on the November, December and February 2-hour scheduled late start days. Additionally, during the month of October, she will spend a half day with each grade level as they continue their work with developing their pacing guides and assessments for the implementation of the English Language Arts Standards.