

Tel: (385) 646-4864

Dear Patron:

September 16, 2009

According to the mandates of the Elementary Secondary Education Act, *No Child Left Behind*, Hillsdale Elementary School has been identified as having made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in all forty criteria, in addition to attendance rates, as stipulated in the legislation. More information about Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is available at the Utah State Office of Education website at www.usoe.org.

Federal reporting, however, does not paint a comprehensive picture of the success at Hillsdale Elementary. Following are some data regarding student achievement, improved participation and performance, teacher quality and the efforts we are making under our School Student Achievement Plan on behalf of your child/student.

- We have a strong School Student Achievement Plan (SSAP) created by Hillsdale parents and staff members which brings together all of our programs and resources to help students improve in literacy and numeracy skills.
- We utilize many quality testing instruments to frequently check student progress in mastery of the core curriculum. Computer-based benchmark tests in language arts and mathematics are given weekly to check student progress in mastery of the grade level curriculum. Hillsdale teachers monitor student progress in reading using DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) and the DRA (Diagnostic Reading Assessment) assessments.
- Before and after school teacher provided tutoring is available to assist students in reading and math.
- Highly qualified paraprofessionals assist classroom teachers with reading and interventions for identified students.
- We have a large leveled library that is used during small group instruction to assure that each child is reading on the appropriate instructional reading level. We have compiled a lending library that provides on-level reading material for home for every K-6 student.
- Land Trust funds are used to support specialists in math and fine arts.
- We have a strong Alternative Language Program to assist our limited English speaking students. Imagine Learning technology helps to support this program with strategic first-language support for Hispanic students.
- Family Nights provide parents with instruction and resources to help them become involved in their student's education.
- We working with an esteemed educational consultant, Dr. John Bone, to improve student achievement. The student received \$150,000 to be used in school years 2009 and 2010 to provide teacher professional development for targeted student assistance.
- Hillsdale Elementary passed the state required level of performance as identified on the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS).

Hillsdale Elementary School is committed to improvement in areas of identified need and to providing each student with a rich, individualized educational experience. But we cannot accomplish our goals alone. We encourage you to participate in school activities and to reinforce classroom instruction at home. Please feel free to contact the administration with any and all concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Pearson, Principal

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