

Interstate 35 Community School District

Principal Report to the Board

Written By: Danielle Woods, Elementary
 Month/Year: June/ 2023

The Interstate 35 Community School District exists to develop life-long learners and responsible, productive, successful citizens in an ever- changing society.

**Any connections to the District Strategic Plan are highlighted in red.

Culture of Learning:

We got our Conditions for Learning Survey results back. There are many celebrations within the results! There are also some implications teams can utilize as they work towards continual growth next year.

- Conditions for Learning Survey results for 3rd and 4th grade students:



Interstate 35 Elementary School (31190418)

"Spring 2023 Public Schools Conditions for Learning Student Survey, Grades 3-5"



Summary

Topic Description	Results	Comparison
<p>Adult-Student Relationships</p> <p>The extent to which students feel connected to and supported by the adults in their school.</p>	<p>97%</p> <p>▲ 18</p> <p>since last survey</p>	<p>80% Heartland AEA</p> <p>80% Iowa Department of Education</p> <p>93% Interstate 35 Comm School District (31190000)</p>
<p>Boundaries and Expectations</p> <p>The clarity of school rules and consistency of enforcement.</p>	<p>92%</p> <p>▲ 13</p> <p>since last survey</p>	<p>75% Heartland AEA</p> <p>75% Iowa Department of Education</p> <p>87% Interstate 35 Comm School District (31190000)</p>

Emotional Safety

The extent to which students feel safe from verbal abuse, teasing and exclusion.

26%

▲ **14**
since last survey

21% Heartland AEA

20% Iowa Department of Education

27% Interstate 35 Comm School District (31190000)

Physical Safety

Student safety while on school grounds.

83%

▲ **39**
since last survey

58% Heartland AEA

58% Iowa Department of Education

77% Interstate 35 Comm School District (31190000)

Student-Student Relationships

The survey asks questions about the extent to which students demonstrate care and respect for and collaborate with other students in their school.

97%

▲ **16**
since last survey

87% Heartland AEA

86% Iowa Department of Education

93% Interstate 35 Comm School District (31190000)

103 responses

Academic (Core Instruction):

- We received a grant from the Education Foundation to cover expenses for our Building Thinking Classrooms initiative for the upcoming school year. The majority of the funds will go to purchasing vertical, erasable surfaces and accessories for students to utilize at the vertical surfaces. Some of the philosophy for the concept:

BUILDING THINKING CLASSROOMS

RESEARCH: @palljedahl
SKETCHNOTE: @wheeler.laura

1 Begin w/ a Problem

Give a problem-solving task

To start:

- engaging
- non-curricular
- collaborative
- ↳ promote talking

Later:

- Problems can be curricular
- eg textbook problems

2 Visibly Random Groups

- Randomly assigned eg playing cards
- Daily & in front of students
- 2 or 3 students / group
- Sit & stand together

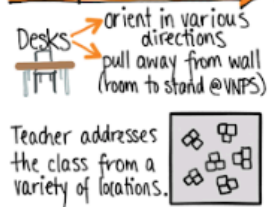
3 Vertical NonPermanent Surfaces

- Vertical
 - Erasable
- WHITEBOARD CHALKBOARD WINDOW
- 1 marker = chalk per group
 - ↳ promotes discussion

4 Oral Instructions



5 Defront the room



6 Answering Questions

- Acknowledge, but don't answer:
- ✗ Proximity questions (b/c teacher is close by)
 - ✗ Stop thinking questions
- Answer:
- ✓ Keep thinking questions
 - ↳ give HINTS not answers

7 Meaningful Notes

- Student created:
- select
 - synthesize
 - reorganize
- ideas
- Based on their & others' boards
- Provide time for this after levelling.

8 Build Autonomy

- Model how groups can visit other groups when they are stuck or done.
- Hints & extensions come from peers (not just the teacher).
- ↳ Helps manage flow

9 Hints & Extensions



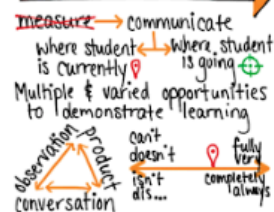
10 Level to the Bottom

- debrief
 - class discussion
 - direct teaching
 - the "lesson"
- Once all groups pass a minimum threshold.
- Debrief 1 or more groups' solutions!
- Work through a new problem w/ whole group

11 Check Understanding

- Assign 4-6
- "check for understanding" questions
- Students choose to work
- individually
 - in groups
- at desks on VNPS
- Purpose: self-evaluation (NOT marks)

12 Formative Assessment



13 Summative Assessment

- PROCESS > product
- Evaluate what you value!
- Include:
- group work
 - individual work

14 Reporting

- Based on data (NOT points)
- One aggregated mark
- ↳ disaggregated evidence
- Analysis of data
- Counting of points
- What has this student learned?
- What can they improve?

- As I shared before, we have lots of teammates out learning this summer! They are sharing great finds, collaborating, and preparing to implement! We will utilize a portion of professional development time for staff to share their summer learning and continue to network and make great use of summer learning!

Reminders:

- [July 6: Summer school runs \(Tuesdays & Thursdays\) for four weeks, current grades K-4, 8a-11:30a](#)

Other:

We are teaming up with the PTO to update the Elementary/Middle School Staff Lounge. If you would like to get involved, or help with the painting, let me or Ms. Whitson know.