

Annual Report

NORTHWEST P.O.W.E.R. COMPANY

The Northwest P.O.W.E.R. (Pride, Order, Work, Enthusiasm and Respect) Company is in its 13th year at Northwest Elementary School. This character education program has been a major part of the school's day-to day efforts and has contributed immensely to Northwest Elementary's success. The program, funded by the P.T.O., develops and supports positive values and high academic achievement.

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Northwest Elementary School is to provide for our children a safe environment where all unique individuals are inspired to achieve their highest potential to be effective, respectful, and honorable members of society."

PROFILE

The Northwest Elementary School came into existence in 1983 and serves 425 students in grades four and five. The school has seven fourth and six fifth regular self-contained grade classrooms. Each grade level has a one RISE (Rich Inspiring Student Education) classroom. The two RISE classrooms are made up of 44 at-risk learners each. The school offers five special education rooms including a countywide emotionally impaired room, an outstanding Title I program, and a large Media Center and a full-size gym. A professional staff of 27 and a large support staff combine to offer a well-rounded upper-elementary program. All teachers are highly qualified according to federal standards.

ACCREDITATION

The school has been accredited by the North Central Accreditation Association since 1985, and has continued to meet all criteria for accreditation. The school has completed the 5th year in the NCA Performance Accreditation model with implementation of the school improvement plan. In the spring of 2008 the school had their NCA review. The QAR (Quality Assurance Review), was completed and Northwest Elementary received accreditation with no provisions. Northwest Elementary has joined with the two other schools, Kidder Middle School and Northwest High School, in a combined effort to ensure success for all students as they move through the Northwest Community Schools. Although successful, the QAR did recommend greater communication of vision and purpose, update school profile with data support, and a better plan for monitoring of goals and strategies.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The Northwest Elementary P.T.O. actively promotes and organizes supportive activities, which assist the school in a variety of ways, including fund-raising projects, fairs, open houses, book fairs, skating parties, talent show and bi-annual carnivals. The organization has been instrumental in helping us upgrade the technological equipment offered to our students. Working together with the parent group, local community volunteers annually contribute over 2000 hours in tutoring, clerical assistance, chaperoning, and helping with classroom projects and presentations. Last fall 96% of the parents participated in parent-teacher conferences. Conferences are held in the spring and fall each year. Parents are welcome throughout the year. Each parent will have the opportunity to fill out a survey during the 2008 – 2009 school year. The survey covers; instruction, curriculum, classroom environment, parental input, administrative policy and practices, counseling services and overall school climate.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Northwest Elementary School is participating in the district-wide NCA Performance Accreditation Model for School Improvement, which is a five-year process. We have completed Year Five. The accomplishment for the 06-07 school year was the continued implementation of a school improvement plan focused on the three academic goals selected by the District NCA Steering Committee. The three goals have been adopted for all buildings, which will provide for continuity and consistency in our instructional efforts.

- All students will improve their reading skills across the curriculum
- All students will improve their writing skills across the curriculum
- All students will improve their math skills across the curriculum
- Northwest Elementary will work on quality relationships among staff, students, parents and community.

All teachers served on goal committees and determined the instructional focus and learning targets for each of the four goals. The school improvement plan provides strategies, assessments, and professional development for each goal area. In 2008-09 we will continue to implement data analysis to drive instruction and assure educational quality. This will enhance school improvement efforts. Our plan will be monitored and adjusted during the coming year to maximize student learning in reading, writing and math.

POINTS OF PRIDE

In addition to the core curriculum, many opportunities for enrichment and expanded programs are offered.

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| • Northwest POWER Company | • March is Reading Month |
| • POWER Council | • Family Nights |
| • Field Days | • Walking Club |
| • Education/Cultural Assemblies | • Fifth Grade Graduation |
| • Field Trips | • Roller Skating Parties |
| • Drama | • Fifth Grade Lock-In |
| • Computer Lab | • Kids on the Block |
| • P.O.W.E.R. Speakers | • School Carnival |
| • Drug-Violence Prevention Programs | • RISE Program |
| • Community Service | • Talent Show |
| • Student Choral Presentations | • Great Techie-Trek |
| • Academic Awards | • Got Art! |
| • Fifth Grade Breakfast | • Student Credit Union |
| • Healthy Choices Program | • REACH Classroom |
| • Playground Peacemakers | |