



MICHIGAN CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
ARNOLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2008 - 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Michigan Center Schools is to engage, challenge
And motivate life-long learners towards excellence through innovation.

VISION STATEMENT

Michigan Center Schools - the cutting edge leader in educational advancement,
empowers all students for life-long success in a changing world

PROFILE

Arnold Elementary is a K-2nd grade school in the Michigan Center School District. Literacy instruction is the major focus of the talented staff of highly qualified teachers and para-professionals. Reading Recovery and literacy groups, provide supplemental reading support for students who may not reach grade level exit goals. Math support was provided by a Math literacy support teacher as well as after school Math tutoring. Special education services are also available for students with Individual Educational Plans.

The Indicators of School Performance give Arnold Elementary an "A" grade. All instructional units and plans are aligned with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations – GLEC's. Authentic assessments are used to track students' progress. Formal standardized tests are not appropriate for young children, so AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) is based on the MEAP scores of Keicher Elementary School, the district's 3rd-6th grade building.

The staff works hard to meet the individual learning needs of all students. All teachers participate in 30 hours of professional development each year, with some choosing to attend additional workshops and conferences. Collaboration is the key to Arnold School's success. Teachers are given grade level curriculum days throughout the year. These days are used to review data and plan appropriate units of study. All teachers share common philosophies, use best practice strategies, and work toward articulated goals in their attempt to leave no child behind.

ENROLLMENT DATA

	<u>04-05</u>	<u>05-06</u>	<u>06-07</u>	<u>07-08</u>	<u>08-09</u>
Y5	37	29	29	31	29
Kdg.	81	108	90	81	94
1 st .	100	79	127	89	81
2 nd .	111	92	82	114	91
Total	329	308	328	315	295



CORE CURRICULUM

The goal of education is to provide all learners with a solid foundation of skills, knowledge, and applications that provide continual growth and success. School-wide Professional Council, administrators, and teachers plan professional development efforts. Teachers meet to develop grade level performance standards for all students based on the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Each student receives daily reading and writing instruction through a variety of age appropriate lessons and unit of instruction. Students work at their individual instructional levels while participating in whole group guided reading instruction, partner reading and individual reading lessons and activities. Leveled books are used for whole group instruction and literacy groups. A basal series may be used to supplement whole group instruction. All grades participate in daily writing instruction and activities. The writing curriculum is based on Lucy Calkins Writing Workshop with support from the Six-Trait Writing. Reading and writing is integrated into all subject areas.

MATHEMATICS

Everyday Mathematics, hands-on activities, and manipulatives provide the basis of Arnold School's math program. Classroom teachers also utilize AIMS and use these materials to enhance teaching and learning.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students learn about communities through class instruction and field trips. Basic map skills are integrated into many of the instructional units which incorporate all areas of the Grade Level Content Expectations: history, geography, civics, economics, inquiry, and the Core Democratic Values.

SCIENCE

Students have the opportunity to experience science through experiments and the hands-on approach which is developed in our curriculum. Additional experiences come from AIMS activities as well as a multitude of activities found from various resources. Our teachers developed their own hands-on modules which incorporate the Grade Level Content Expectations.

LIBRARY/COMPUTERS

Students learn computer skills from our media teacher. When students leave Arnold School they have learned basic word processing skills, can access the internet, use email, create power point presentations and are able to manipulate a variety of software programs.

MUSIC

Students receive weekly vocal music instruction from a certified music teacher. Music Curriculum is based on Michigan Department of Education content and benchmarks. The curriculum teaches students music theory and concepts that give them a solid foundation in music. Children perform once a year for family and friends.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

A certified physical education teacher instructs classes using the Exemplary Physical Education Curriculum (EPEC). EPEC is a state recognized curriculum which helps students develop large motor skills, loco-motor and non loco-motor skills, basic sports skills and sportsmanship.

Utilizing the Michigan Model health curriculum, students receive age appropriate health education. Michigan Model, a state approved curriculum, addresses the physical, social, and emotional health of students.

ENRICHMENT

Students enjoyed many types of assemblies this year. They included: Basket Ball Jones/Character Education and March Reading Month, Summer Safety Assembly, Mileage Club Assembly, Varsity Baseball Students were celebrity readers during March Reading Month, High School Leadership students mentored Arnold students throughout the school year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Achievement in reading and writing is measured with informal assessments that teachers administer several times during the year. Student progress is recorded and tracked on individual profiles. Year-end reports reflect the compilation of this data. Student achievement in math is measured with the Everyday Mathematics End-of-Year Assessment.

Second grade students participate in the County Wide Common Assessment. This assessment

PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Thirty hours are dedicated for professional development each year. These full day or partial day activities correlate with the school improvement plan. In addition, all teachers are encouraged to attend at least one workshop or conference each year. Some programs attended this year were: Reading Recovery Conference, Kindergarten Conference, First Grade Conference, Michigan Literacy Conference, and Lucy Calkins Writing Conference.

SUPPORT SERVICES



Some students supplement their general education with support programs such as:

Speech Therapy
Social Work
Physical Therapy
Reading Recovery

Occupational Therapy
Resource Room
School Psychologist
Literacy Groups

A school social worker was hired before the start of the 2008 – 2009 school year. This brought a new level of support to the students and families of Arnold Elementary. The social worker was a link between families and school, as well as families and community agencies and services.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

98% of Arnold School parents attended Parent-Teacher Conferences in November. Parents participated in the following activities:

Open House
Family Literacy Night
Walk to School Day
ACES Day
Classroom Projects/Activities
Field Day
Relay for Life
Box Tops for Education
Field Trips
Student-led Conferences
Kindergarten Spring Sing Concert
1st and 2nd Grade Writing Celebrations

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Essential to the development of positive student self-esteem are programs that recognize student achievement. Such activities include:

Character Education Recognition and monthly award
Perfect Attendance Awards
Birthday Recognition



ACCREDITATION

The Arnold Elementary School Improvement Team has implemented a five-year plan. Three goals were chosen based on the results of parent, community, teacher, and student surveys. Assessment data was also examined.

1. All students will improve their reading ability across the curriculum.
2. All students will improve their writing ability across the curriculum.
3. All students will improve their math ability across the curriculum.

Student growth is measured with authentic assessments. Results are published in this annual report.

