

PLANNED IMPROVEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

This is the final section of the school report card in which your school and district provide information below on areas of success and areas for planned improvement based on your school's improvement plan.

(For report cards disseminated electronically, this information may be provided in a separate document due to differences in the software used. If you are unable to locate this document, please contact your local school or district office.)

Quincy Junior High School Improvement Plan 2007-2008

Quincy Junior High School is a 7-9 attendance center serving approximately 1550 students. The attendance rate during the 2006-2007 school year was 93.3% and the mobility rate was 18.6%. Approximately 43.3% of the students qualified for free or reduced lunch and less than 0.1% of the students had limited English proficiency. The truancy rate was 1.6%.

Data used in the evaluation of student performance included results from the ISAT tests (7th and 8th grades only), the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) given to students in grades 7-9. On the 7th grade ISAT test, 84.7% of the students met or exceeded state expectations in science, 81.9% of the students met or exceeded state expectations in math and 73.2% of the students met or exceeded state expectations in reading. On the 8th grade ISAT test, 78.0% of students in reading and 76.5% of students in math met or exceeded state expectations.

Students at all grade levels scored better than the national average in both reading comprehension and math on the SAT. Reading scores were exceptionally strong, in part, due to inclusion settings and literacy blocks at 7th, 8th and 9th grades.

The No Child Left Behind legislation requires that subgroups containing more than 45 students must be analyzed for adequate yearly progress. The groups that Quincy Junior High School analyzed were males, females, ethnic (Caucasian and African-American), students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students. Results of the analysis indicated that all sub-groups met state standards.

The school improvement team established two goals. The first is to support academic achievement through professional development for staff and learning opportunities and interventions for students. The second is to support learning by providing activities and strategies to improve the learning environment for the students at QJHS. To address the first goal, the district and building have offered staff development opportunities for teachers in numerous areas including guided reading instruction, differentiated instruction, spelling, reading inventories and science for life. Discussions in PLC teams will continue to support consistent curriculum and assessment practices for all students. Departments have set Smart Goals to support content learning. The HELP team collaborates on ways to assist at-risk students. After school homework lab and lunch lab will continued this year. Three teachers are currently being trained as reading specialist in our building. Connections period was created to offer an opportunity for students to organize and begin their homework with the help of a staff member. Opportunities for independent pleasure reading exist during this time as well. To address the second goal, seventh grader/new student orientation was continued to help relieve anxiety of new students coming to JH. Consistent expectations for tardies and the use of the planner are communicated and enforced. Special emphasis has been placed on the EDS room both in behavior management and curriculum. Research has begun on the possible implementation of grade level floors at JH.

Parents are informed of the school improvement activities through the school report card that will be mailed home. A report is made to the PTA by the administration and articles are included in the school newsletter. The administration provides any assistance needed in understanding and interpreting results. Copies of the entire school improvement plan are available in the office of the Quincy Junior High School.