<u>School Improvement Plan</u>

2019-2020

Walkerton Elementary School

805 Washington Street

Walkerton, IN 46574

Tim Davis
Principal
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Walkerton Elementary School
805 Washington Street
Walkerton, Indiana 46574
574-586-3186

Corporation Number: 7150
School Number: 7457
Grades K-6
Enrollment: 545

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Christopher Winchell, Superintendent

_____

Dennis Holland, President, Board of School Trustees

_____

Kathy Snyder, Patrick Crone – Co-Presidents, JG Education Association

_____

Timothy L. Davis, Principal

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Walkerton Elementary School Improvement Team

Principal
Timothy L. Davis

Co-Chair
Bethany Laizure
Sara Haluda

Staff Member
Tracy Perry

Parent/Community Member
Sarah Cuskaden
Patricia Vickers
Chasity Adkins

Walkerton Elementary School Staff

Certified Staff

Principal
Tim Davis

Counselor
Richard Stauffer

Kindergarten
Ali Biernacki
Diana Hinton
Emily Walker
Sarina Kopacz

First Grade
Sara Haluda
Deb Weller
Kelsey Buysse
Amber Mattke

Second Grade
Lindsay Ennis
Andrea Hoppe
Pam Hayes

Third Grade
Taylor Kalucki
Bethany Laizure

Fourth Grade
Gail Crone
Ryan Reese
Jeneice Bogard

Title One
Amy Weiss

Fifth Grade
Dylaneigh Reardon
Tracy Perry
Kristy Wilsey

Sixth Grade
Angela Lile
Travis Hannah
Kara Kaser

Art
Karen Maudlin

Band
Nathanael Sudduth

Music
Clara Faust

Physical Education
Scott Hostetler

Resource
Brianne Richardson
Dawn Ickes
Staci Santana
Kathy Snyder

High Ability
Patricia Braun

Speech Pathologist
Kelly Edelbrock

Support Staff

Secretary
Sharon Harasewicz

Secretary/ Treasurer
Jodi Park

Nurse
Jennifer Day

Media Center
LuAnn Malstaff

Instructional Aides
Tracy Howell
Nancy Buford
Kelli Cruz
Karen Dreibelbeis
Morgan Eggelston
Leigh Forkner
Toni Gibson
Deanna Groves
Avalon Minker
Monica Morris
Lexia Pearish
Jarrod Moore
Lynn Schmidt
Kim Stull
Aimee Swiger
Janine Zoellner

Head Start
Tina Romine
Linda McLaughlin
Amy Amor

Minds in Motion
Heather Sherman

Technology Facilitator
Ann Ring

JESSE Preschool
Kari Kraszyk
Jessica Ludington

Cafeteria Staff
Celeste Dooms
Jennifer Geyer
Leanne Andert
Destiny Sheaks
Melody Pletcher
Heather Pickens
Glenda Smith

Custodial Staff
Ehricha Sherland
Lisa Lindsley
Jeanna White

Before and After School Care
Charman Dreessen

Mission Statement

"Walkerton Elementary exists to provide our students with academic, technological, and social confidence to help others and themselves reach their life goals."

Belief Statements

- All students are expected to learn.
- All students are inspired to excel.
- All students are expected to demonstrate mastery of basic skills.
- All students are expected to be respectful.
- All students are expected to become lifelong learners.

Demographics

Walkerton Elementary School is located in Walkerton, Indiana. It is one of four schools within the John Glenn School Corporation. Our school houses kindergarten through sixth grade. Our sister school, North Liberty Elementary, is located in North Liberty. Urey Middle School houses grades seven and eight. John Glenn High School houses grades nine through twelve. The middle school and high school are both located in Walkerton. A unique feature of the John Glenn School Corporation is that boundary lines include townships from three counties: LaPorte, Marshall, and St. Joseph. The counties are located in the northern third and western half of the state.

The Walkerton Elementary staff of 35 certified and 36 support staff serves our 580 students. The staff maintains four full-day kindergarten sections and three sections of first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades, as well as a Head Start classroom and a JESSE Preschool classroom. Staff includes a High Ability Coordinator, Title One Director, and teachers of music, band, art, physical education, resource, and a speech pathologist. An instructional assistant has been trained to service students in the media center. This assistant is under the supervision of the high school media specialist. A total of 22 part- and full-time aides assist the students in the classrooms, resource rooms, computer labs, media center, and the Minds in Motion program. Other staff members include the principal, an assistant principal shared with North Liberty Elementary School, a counselor, nurse, two secretaries, three custodians, and two full-time and four part-time cafeteria personnel.

Current enrollment is 580 students. Student population usually fluctuates from 530 to 580. Ninety students are considered out of district transfers. Daily attendance is in the mid to upper 90% range. The 2018-2019 average daily attendance was 97%

Walkerton is a small community located in St. Joseph County. It is an incorporated town of 1.5 square miles. Major cities, such as Chicago, Indianapolis, and South Bend are within easy driving distances. Manufacturing, agriculture, service industries, and some recreational facilities are the main employment opportunities for its residents.

Walkerton Elementary School was constructed in 1959 with major room additions/renovations in 1976, 1988, and 2000.

Cultural Competency

Walkerton Elementary school meets the diverse needs of the student population by utilizing various programs. To address the needs of exceptional learners, the classroom teachers and special education teachers meet to determine the most effective programs and practices to achieve individual student success. The Student-Teacher Assistance Team (STAT) meets throughout the school year on an as-needed basis.

Teachers use diagnostic and pre/post-test for both ELA and Math. Students are grouped in flexible groups and may be moved according to needs. Students who are determined to have needs in the areas of special education or high abilities are placed in programs to meet these needs.

A bilingual aide assists students with their ENL needs and for parental assistance and translations. Teachers have received some training regarding ENL students.

The Title I Director is responsible for identifying K-3 students who are in need of remediation. Small group instruction is implemented throughout the day by instructional aides. After-school tutoring and study groups are available for remediating students who need time beyond the school day. Summer school instruction is also an option for students who need help beyond the school year.

Curriculum

Walkerton Elementary has adopted the Indiana Academic State Standards as the school curriculum. Our curriculum includes a ninety minute uninterrupted reading block for Kindergarten through sixth grade classes and every grade has a 30-minute "Wildcat time" block for RTI daily. Curriculum maps were developed in 2015-2016, and are currently in use by our teaching teams.

Technology Initiatives

Walkerton Elementary houses a computer lab that is utilized daily by students for extension of the curriculum, enrichment, and remediation. Online testing is also conducted in the lab. Chromebooks for students in grades 3-6 are at a 1:1 ratio. All classrooms and the media center have access to the Internet for research and online resources. In addition, each classroom at every grade level has whiteboard technology. Kindergarten, first, and second grades have iPads at a 1:1 ratio and there are two Promethean Active Tables available for classroom use. There are 6 iPads being used in the music room, 10 in Title I, and 12 in the Resource rooms. There are Apple TV's in grades K-2, music and art, and a document camera is used in each classroom to enhance instruction.

Safety

Walkerton Elementary School creates a safe and secure environment for all staff and students. Fire drills are held each month as required by the state of Indiana. Storm drills are conducted twice each semester along with the required storm drill in March. Teachers inform the students about proper procedures and responses. A map of the school and an exit plan is posted in each classroom. The Crisis Plan outlines procedures for fire/storm drills and other safety issues. Copies of the Crisis Plan are located in the media center, the staff lounge, and the administrator's office. Doors remain locked throughout each school day. To gain access to the building, visitors must communicate via a two-way intercom system. Once admitted, visitors report to the office and sign in. Cameras added to the playground, hallways, and front entrance enhance security. The corporation shares a resource officer to patrol the halls and assure building safety.

Parental Participation

Walkerton Elementary benefits from parental involvement through an active Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Programs include but are not limited to a Book Fair, VIP (Very Important Person) Day, Fun Fair, Field Day, and a series of Family Fun Nights. Parents of students who do not pass the IREAD3 or ILEARN tests have an opportunity to meet with the principal to discuss possible interventions. Parents are given access to online reporting of student scores, email, attendance, and disciplinary actions through Harmony.

Test Descriptions

Kindergarten through Second Grade

Progress Monitoring is used for all kindergarten, first and second grade students using mClass, along with bi-weekly assessments that correlate with the reading program. iReady Math and Reading Assessments are given three times each year.

Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

The iReady Reading and Math assessment tests are given to kindergarten through sixth grade students. Third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students take the ILEARN test. The IREAD-3 assessment is administered to all students in grade three. Kindergarten through sixth grades also do the textbook comprehensive reading and math tests.

Additional Testing

Students that are experiencing difficulty are referred for further evaluation and testing through the Title I program. To determine if the student is eligible for services, the Title I Director and teachers administer tests for each grade level along with grade-appropriate checklists. Students are referred to the STAT team for further testing to determine target areas for remediation. Instruments used are the GMADE, GRADE, Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, Woodcock Reading Test, and Key Math Test. Tests used to determine high ability are the OLSAT (Otis Lennon School Ability Test) in grades K, 3, & 6. PIVOT and mClass are used as a screener followed by Terra Nova for K-6.

Rationale for Goals

Current data from standardized tests indicates that remediation in reading non-fiction, vocabulary and mathematical number sense and computation are needed in order to improve student performance. ILEARN and IREADY assessments were used to determine current goals.

Goal 1

SCHOOL AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE WILL BE AT OR ABOVE 98%

Implementation Year

2019-2020

Strategies

- Clearly stated expectations

- Parent contracts for problem students

- Home visits

- Daily calls to absentees

- Incentive and recognition programs, such as weekly ribbons or other incentives

Assessments

- Quarterly percentage reports to administrator addressing needs/home visits

- Regular analysis of attendance data and absences

Responsible Individuals

- Administrators

- Teachers

Benchmarks **Actual**

- 2015-2016 …97%   attendance …………97%

- 2016-2017 …97.5 %   attendance …………97%

- 2017-2018 …98%   attendance…………98%

- 2018-2019 …98%   attendance…………96.47%

ILEARN scores for Spring 2019

English/Language Arts

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 3	68	57%
Grade 4	70	47%
Grade 5	74	59%
Grade 6	81	49%

Mathematics

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 3	68	68%
Grade 4	70	60%
Grade 5	74	69%
Grade 6	81	65%

Benchmarks for Goal 2 and 3

Beginning benchmarks are based upon the spring 2019 ILEARN. The areas of performance indicating Proficiency were examined and used. Those areas marked Below proficiency in all Grade levels are indicated and will improve. The expectation will be for subsequent improvement each year of the plan.

English/Language Arts

Areas indicating Below Proficiency:

Writing:
Narrative compositions
Organizing Ideas
Comparative/Superlative words/ Verbs/

Structural Elements:
Purposes of Media
Sequences in a story
Summarizing facts

<u>Mathematics</u>

<u>Areas indicating Below Proficiency:</u>

Geometry and Measurement
        Appropriate Units
        Identifying Rays, angles, and perpendicular lines

Algebra and Functions
        Using variables

Number Sense
        Greatest Common Factors

<center>**Goal 2**</center>

STUDENTS WILL IMPROVE IN Writing and Structural Elements.

- **Writing:**
  - Narrative compositions
  - Organizing Ideas
    Comparative/Superlative words/ Verbs/

- **Structural Elements:**
  - Purposes of Media
  - Sequences in a story
  - Summarizing facts

Implementation Year

2019-2020

Strategies
- Utilize supplemental vocabulary and comprehension materials/activities
- Write responses to nonfiction, referring explicitly to the text as a basis for the answers
- Swoop groups; Title I small group intervention – Wilson Intervention
- 1:1 or small group instruction
- Flexible grouping, such as daily centers or Daily 5
- Utilize the computer programs, Accelerated Reader, iReady Reading and RAZ Kids, Spelling City
- Cross grade level reinforcement activities, such as reading buddies
- Daily 30-minute RTI block
- Title I/Gen. Ed. using **r**esearch based programs such as Leveled Literacy Intervention System, Wilson Fundations, Ready Reading
- Progress Monitoring bi-weekly using grade level appropriate testing tools

Assessments
- iReady (grades K-6), ILEARN (grades 3-6), mClass (K-2), IREAD-3
- Reading selection tests
- Accelerated Reader
- Running records, RAZ Kids

Staff Development
- Conferences that enhance teaching methods on comprehension and vocabulary
- Cooperative sharing of effective vocabulary and comprehension strategies
- In-service on vocabulary and reading comprehension instruction
- Grade level meetings to collaborate
- K-6 Ready Reading Training

Responsible Individuals

- Principals
- Teachers
- Title I Director
- Aides

STUDENTS WILL IMPROVE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Areas indicating Below Proficiency:

- o Geometry and Measurement
  Appropriate Units
  Identifying Rays, angles, and perpendicular lines

- o Algebra and Functions
  Using variables

- o Number Sense
  Greatest Common Factors

Implementation Year

2019-2020

Strategies
- Daily Math review with number sense skills
- 30 minutes daily of RTI, "Wildcat time"
- Follow established curriculum map of Indiana State Math Standards
- Khan Academy
- Door 24 in Grades K-1, Xtra Math in Grades 2-5

Assessments
- Ready Math - Grades K-6
- iREADY - Grades K-6
- ILEARN - Grades 3-6
- Curriculum Assessments

Staff Development
- Update Curriculum Mapping
- Grade Level Meetings
- iREADY training
- Grade level teacher collaboration

Responsible Individuals
- Principals
- Teachers
- Title I Director
- Aides