



DIXIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dixie Elementary School Top Ten Achievements

1. Revised our scheduling for specialists, recess and lunch times in order to provide for 45-minute blocks of time. These blocks of time are scheduled so that each grade level can have an “intervention/enrichment” block, as well as one or two collaborative meeting times built into the school week.
2. Purchased Document Cameras (thank you DHSC!) for every classroom and had staff training on February 3, 2010 to extend our knowledge and expertise in using them. With EVERY classroom having a Document Camera, we can use it as a continual tool throughout the day as teaching opportunities arise from student discussions and impromptu lessons. This additional use of technology incorporated in our daily instructional practices allows for extended use of Brain Pop, Every Day Math activities, sharing student writing samples, etc.
3. New set of Apple desktop computers in our Special Day Classroom, as well as our Learning Center. We have new software programs that are used daily to provide differentiated instruction for our students who are eligible for special education services, as well as our regular education students who need instruction in a variety of ways.
4. Continue to work in our collaborative grade level teams to plan curriculum and develop common assessments. We use the data from common assessments, as well as CST, DIBELS and other data in order to inform our instruction and discuss teaching strategies to meet the needs of all learners.
5. Our Green Team, led by two highly energetic and competent parents, has made huge strides over the past year. The DHSC approved funds to send our Green Team leaders to the Green Summit Conference, as well as the purchase of new and improved trash/recycle bins for our lunch and snack times. We have eliminated one dumpster from our campus and that alone is great progress and dollar savings!
6. Dixie School ELL students are showing significant progress in their understanding, mastery and use of English language. Our ELD instructional assistant works with students in the regular classrooms, in the computer lab using the Dyn-Ed Program, as well as small pull out groups for English Language Development and reinforcement.
7. Dixie’s CST (STAR) test scores continue to illustrate our students’ high level of academic achievement. Dixie’s API score increased from 909 in 2008 to 933 in 2009, an increase of 24 points.
8. Continue to use cross grade level articulation to refine, review and revise our pacing plans and teaching/learning essential standards for our students. We work in cross grade level teams to also review and discuss the benchmarks we are using to assess students at progress report and report card periods.



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9. The New Perspectives School-Based Counseling Program is used extensively by our parents and staff to provide additional support for our students who struggle with social, emotional, behavioral and situational challenges. Our head counselor is exceptional and the two days each week that she is on our campus is invaluable for many students and families. We also have two interns working directly with students. Between the interns and our head counselor, we are providing direct services for approximately 45 students each week in addition to parent consultation and staff communication.

10. Teachers have used Learning Wednesday afternoons to work together in providing professional development for each other in the Everyday Math Program. The new math adoption has proven to be challenging as far as time needed with students, as well as implementation time for teachers. The time we have spent in our grade level teams and cross grade level teams has been very important in our implementation of the new program and use of the new materials and resources. We continue to learn from each other about methods and supplemental materials that help us ensure learning and achievement for all students and all different types of learners.