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Inver Grove Heights
Community Schools

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Annual Report



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Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members,

The 2012-2013 school year was an extraordinary one in ISD 199 that was filled with much success. The Minnesota Department of Education named Hilltop Elementary a Celebration School. *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek* ranked Simley High School among the top high schools in the country. ISD 199's preschool program received a 4-Star Parent Aware rating. District staff, students and buildings received many accolades that leave us with much promise and excitement heading into the 2013-2014 school year.

Student service was a point of pride throughout the school year. Pine Bend Elementary raised more money than any school in Minnesota in the Jump Rope for Heart. Salem Hills Elementary students participated in the H2O for Life water walk for a sixth straight year, educating the public about the need for better access to clean water in developing countries. Inver Grove Heights Middle School students created inventions to better the community.

This is just a quick snapshot of the accomplishments and experiences that maximize opportunities for young learners and our diverse community. Please visit our schools, the district website or join a community education class to witness all of the exciting activities that occur in our schools on a regular basis.

Sincerely,

Dr. Deirdre Wells

District Awards



The Washington Post

Curriculum and Instruction Committee

The 2012-2013 board level curriculum and instruction committee was comprised of the following individuals: Tom Begich, Allen Gerber, Tina Willette, Barb Lake, Jerry Sakala, Mary Garrison, Penny Kaszas, Sue Vallafskey, Bert Strassburg, Lynn Tenney, Karin Swainey, Genesee Rasmussen, Sarah Zaiser, Mindy Tavernier and Dr. Deirdre Wells.

District Demographics

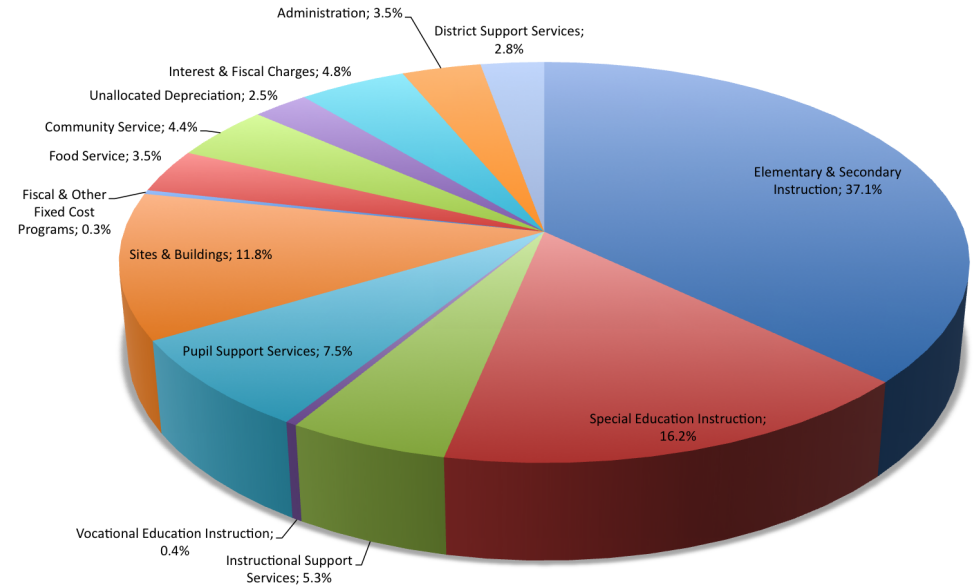
Elementary (K-5).....	1,790
Middle School (6-8)	910
High School (9-12).....	1,154
Total Students.....	3,854

American Indian.....	1.4%
Asian	5.6%
Black.....	12%
Caucasian.....	61%
Hispanic.....	20%

Limited English Proficiency	6.6%
Students Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch	40%

Finance

2012-2013 Expenditures



67 CENTS FROM EVERY DOLLAR IN THE GENERAL FUND IS SPENT DIRECTLY ON STUDENT INSTRUCTION.



Fiscally Responsible

- Inver Grove Heights Community Schools has received a certificate of excellence in financial reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) eight years in a row.





Partnerships

East Metro Integration District 6067 (EMID)

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools is one of ten St. Paul area districts that comprise the East Metro Integration District (EMID). The ten-district consortium supports voluntary integration among urban and suburban public schools in the east metro Twin Cities area. EMID is funded by state allocations to satisfy the Minnesota Desegregation Rule.

An example of a program that EMID supports is Advancement Via Individualized Determination (AVID). AVID was first offered to seventh- and eighth-graders at Inver Grove Heights Middle School in 2011-2012. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. The program aims to develop good study and organizational skills to ensure the AVID student is a strong, independent learner when entering high school and college. In school year 2012-2013, the AVID program in ISD 199 expanded to include an offering for ninth-graders.

Inver Hills Community College

Simley High School also partners with IHCC to offer students in the academic middle access to college readiness programs and courses. InverPrep (formerly LADR) allows Simley ninth-graders in the academic middle take an Accuplacer test to determine if they qualify for the program. After students complete a tenth-grade developmental course, they take college level courses that are concurrently taught at Simley in 11th and 12th grade. Upon completion of the program, students will receive transcribed credit that will be accepted by all MNSCU colleges and universities.

Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area

Pine Bend Elementary School partners with Macalester College to offer the Katherine Ordway Natural History Study Area (KONHSA) as a school friendly learning site. Macalester has been working with Pine Bend since the spring of 2009. Pine Bend has used the site for students to develop math skills, enhance writing opportunities, and provide hands-on science exploration activities.

Tri-District Consortium

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools shares some services for Community Education and Early Childhood Family Education with West St. Paul -Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools and South St. Paul Public Schools. ISD 199 actively seeks partnerships with surrounding districts in order to most effectively use resources while still offering services and support to its students, as well as the residents of Inver Grove Heights.

Breaking Ground on a New Early Learning Center

In order to maximize early learning opportunities for Inver Grove Heights students, Independent School District 199's board of education passed a resolution to move the district's Early Childhood programs to a facility located at the Hilltop Elementary campus site. In prior years, the district shared a leased space with South St. Paul Public Schools. Both districts spent considerable time over the last three years researching the moving of early learning programs to other locations. The consensus was that each district and its constituents would benefit most from providing Early Childhood services at a school site. The districts created transition plans and are excited and encouraged to provide this new opportunity to families in the community to provide the best learning opportunities for our youngest students.

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools explored multiple options for placement of an Early Childhood program space. After careful consideration, it was determined that using the existing infrastructure was not a viable option because of space constraints. The district examined options for leasing existing facilities in the community but commercial space leases were cost prohibitive. The most cost-effective, safe and logistically sound option was proposing an Early Childhood facility at the Hilltop Elementary campus site. The proposed Early Childhood facility will be situated at the northwest corner of Hilltop with one door that will allow for entrance to the kindergarten and first grade wing of Hilltop. However, the Early Childhood facility will have its own main entrance separate from Hilltop. Early Childhood start times will be staggered to minimize traffic and parking will meet city codes.

When the new facility is constructed, preschool programming will transition throughout the district. The new Early Childhood facility at Hilltop will house Inver Grove Heights Community Schools' three-year-old preschool programs, screening programs and more. This will allow for additional space for four-year-old preschoolers in the elementary buildings. The Early Childhood space will be approximately 11,000 sq. ft. Estimated building costs are roughly \$2.5 million. The project will be funded through the Facility Lease Program. The Facility Lease Program was being used to rent space at the shared facility with South St. Paul. The one key difference: Instead of leasing a space at Family Connections for \$2.5 million over 15 years and having nothing to show for it, Inver Grove Heights Community Schools will own the new building after the 15 years. This is the right choice for students and taxpayers in Inver Grove Heights. The cost of a sound, child-orientated facility is funded by the lease dollars previously used to operate programs in the Family Connections structure in South St. Paul.

The current construction plan projects that programming will move from Family Connections to the on-site facility at Hilltop in the spring of 2014. Inver Grove Heights Community Schools is excited to move forward on this project and believes it will strengthen the educational system within the district, and offer community services within the district, reducing transitions and confusion for families. We constantly strive to build a brighter future for our young learners and believe that this investment will help increase student achievement and save taxpayers money in the long run. Stay tuned to the district website for the latest reports. We appreciate your continued support!



Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Proficiency on the MCA Exams

READING

MATH

Grade	2012	2013	2012	2013
3	81.1	58.9	80.9	76.8
4	77.3	57.7	75.6	73.6
5	81.1	68.0	64.0	64.5
6	77.9	51.5	64.4	43.8
7	73.7	57.1	56.2	62.5
8	71.5	47.2	64.3	54.3
10	76.1	55.6	---	---
11	---	---	42.7	50.4



Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) information can be found on the district website at www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/mmr.

Assessments

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams - Gr. 10-12 (optional)

Students who enroll in AP courses at the high school may take AP Exams, which may give them college credit if they achieve a score a “3” or higher. College credit is granted dependent on the college or university the student chooses to attend.

EXPLORE - Gr. 8

This assessment provides students with information for school planning and career exploration.

Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma (GRAD)

Measures student performance on essential skills in writing, reading and mathematics. If a student does not pass the test after the initial offering, retest opportunities are available.

PLAN - Gr. 10

Measures academic development, explores career/training options, and helps students make plans for their remaining high school years and post-graduation.

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Preliminary Scholarship Aptitude Test (PSAT) - Gr. 11 (optional)

This assists in determining aptitude for post-secondary study and is also the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying exam.

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) - Gr. 11 or 12 (optional)

Assist in determining aptitude for post-secondary and/or college entrance status.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) - Gr. 2-8 and some special programs and classes in Gr. 9-12

Measures student achievement in math, reading and language usage.

Accuplacer

The purpose of Accuplacer tests is to provide students with useful information about their academic skills in math, English, and reading. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with the student's academic background, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to determine their course selection.

Advanced Placement

Simley High School offers 15 Advanced Placement (AP) courses - the most in the area. AP courses allow students to go further with their high school education and learn college-level academic skills for success.

In addition, students who take AP exams may earn college credit or advanced placement at many colleges and universities. Students are encouraged to enroll in as many AP courses as they can successfully manage.

Simley offers AP courses in the following areas: Art (Drawing), Art (2-D Design), Art (3-D Design), Biology, Calculus, Economics, English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, European History, German, Government & Politics, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, and U.S. History.



College Entrance Testing *Class Means American College Test (ACT)

Year	Tested	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2012-2013	152	23.0	23.4	23.3	23.6	23.4
2011-2012	168	22.7	23.4	23.3	23.7	23.4
2010-2011	173	21.9	22.7	22.3	22.8	22.6
2009-2010	174	22.7	23.6	23.3	23.4	23.4
2008-2009	147	22.3	23.0	23.1	23.4	23.1
2007-2008	170	21.8	23.3	22.1	23.1	22.7
2006-2007	159	21.3	22.4	22.2	22.6	22.3

*Test scores reported here are raw scores.

AVID

AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. At Inver Grove Heights Middle School and Simley High School, AVID aims to develop good study and organization skills to ensure the AVID student is a strong and independent learner when entering college. Currently, the program is available to Inver Grove Heights students in grades 7 through 10.

The AVID system prepares students in the academic middle for four-year college eligibility and success. The program places the academically average (generally 2.0-3.5 GPA) students in advanced classes. AVID is for all students, but it targets those in the academic middle.

AVID is not a remedial program, college outreach program or a free ride. Students in AVID possess average reading and math skills but have the drive to improve their organizational, time-management and social skills so that they may find academic success on every level. Many AVID students will be a first-generation college student, so they tend to be highly motivated.

Staff Development Goals

The district staff development plan will address the following goals, keeping in mind that our main focus is improved student outcomes. High student achievement is the purpose of our existence, aligned with parent expectations. It is our moral obligation and solidifies the future for all community members.

1. Collaborate with family and community partnerships to improve communication and staff development based on the needs of a changing population.
2. Improve staff competency when using research-based strategies appropriate to instructional objectives and student needs, thereby improving student achievement.
3. Provide instructional leaders who can lead discussions about observable, research-based methodologies and attitudes leading to more effective and efficient use of time to improve student outcomes.
4. Develop strong, system-wide, multi-tiered levels of support.
5. Align curriculum, instruction and assessment.

2012-2013 Curriculum Focus

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools is dedicated to providing all students with the educational foundation necessary to succeed in school and life. To ensure student success, the district sets high standards that are reflected in what is taught in each of our classrooms. In 2012-2013, the district focused on six key areas:

Focus Area 1: Professional Learning Communities - “An ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve. Professional learning communities operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators.” - *Learning by Doing, Second Edition (Rick DuFour)*

Focus Area 2: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) - “PBIS is a framework or approach for assisting school personnel in adopting and organizing evidence-based behavioral interventions into an integrated continuum that enhances academic and social behavior outcomes for all students. Within the continuum, the mutually beneficial relationship between academic and social behavior for student success is highlighted.” - *U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (OSEP)*

Focus Area 3: Response to Intervention (RtI) - “RtI (Response to Intervention) is a method of academic intervention which is designed to provide early, effective assistance to children who are having difficulty learning. RtI seeks to prevent academic failure through early intervention, frequent progress measurement, and increasingly intensive research-based instructional interventions for children who continue to have difficulty. Attention should be on fidelity of implementation, with consideration for cultural and linguistic responsiveness and recognition of student strengths.” - *U.S. Department of Education, National Center on Response to Intervention*

Focus Area 4: iObservation - iObservation is an instructional and leadership improvement system. It collects, manages and reports longitudinal data from classroom walkthroughs, teacher evaluations and teacher observations. Teacher growth and leadership practices inform professional development differentiated to individual learning needs for every teacher and leader to increase his/her classroom effectiveness each year.

Focus Area 5: Digital Technology - “National and local research shows that working with digital resources allows for easily shared resources, allows more opportunities for differentiation, increases student engagement, and creates learning opportunities that extend beyond the classroom walls and outside of the school day and improves student achievement.” - *Lynn Tenney, ISD 199 Digital Conversion Plan*

Focus Area 6: Literacy - “Literacy is the cornerstone of all learning. In each subject area, the ability to read and produce written material is of the highest importance. Supporting the development of capable readers at every level is our goal as educators, parents, and as a community. In order to ensure that all students are reading well by the end of third grade, curriculum, instruction, and assessment need to be aligned with current research-based practices.” - *Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Blueprint for Literacy*

2012-2013

Staff Development Expenditures

Building	Amount	%
Hilltop	\$76,554	22.4
Pine Bend	\$54,882	16.1
Salem Hills	\$49,019	14.4
IGHMS	\$59,055	17.3
Simley	\$84,504	24.8
District Office	\$6,086	1.7
District Wide	\$11,295	3.3



Hilltop Elementary - A Celebration School

The Minnesota Department of Education named Hilltop Elementary School a Celebration School. More than 200 Title I schools were named Celebration Eligible in September 2012 and could apply for the award. Approximately 10-percent of Minnesota's Title I schools received the Celebration School designation.

With this honor, Hilltop has been recognized as belonging in the top 25-percent of Title I schools in Minnesota. The award is based off of the Minnesota Department of Education's Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR).



4-Star Rating from Parent Aware

In the summer of 2013, the Minnesota Department of Human Services approved Inver Grove Heights Community Schools for the 4-star Parent Aware rating.

The Parent Aware rating tool assesses early learning centers to determine the quality care and education that programs provide young learners. Programs that earn a 4-star rating excel in using best practices to prepare children for kindergarten.



Inver Grove Heights Community Schools' preschool program was recognized as being an engaged school readiness partner for parents. Teachers adapt lesson plans and goals to meet individual needs and regularly share progress and assessment data with parents. Staff are trained to work with children's developmental disabilities so that all students can experience growth so that they have the necessary tools to be successful in kindergarten.

Technology Awards

- Lori Haak and Ron Haala were named TIES Exceptional Teachers. Haak is a high school science instructor and Haala teaches high school mathematics.



Links to Literacy

Independent School District 199 began offering childcare providers the necessary tools and training to ensure that all children are prepared to learn when they start school. The partnership helps providers become more knowledgeable about best practices for maximizing a child's learning potential.

District Priorities

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools began conducting an elementary study in early 2010 to evaluate the elementary experience for students and families within the district. Staff, parents and community members all participated in this important process. After much deliberation, district administration presented the board of education with a set of district priorities that the community identified as key components to making Inver Grove Heights Community Schools a district of choice. The seven priorities are listed below:

- 1. Develop common expectations for student behavior and common response sets for inappropriate behaviors across the elementary schools. (This has expanded to include all schools in the district.)**
-Action: District 199 adopted the Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS) system district-wide. Behavior systems frameworks were implemented in each building. A school-wide evaluation tool was used to measure effectiveness of the system.
- 2. Host school meetings out in neighborhoods to appeal to a diverse community.**
-Action: The district held nine “Schools in the Community” events during both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years and plans to host nine more throughout the 2013-2014 school year.
- 3. Diversify the workforce of the district.**
-Action: Inver Grove Heights Community Schools is working with neighboring districts to determine best practices for running background checks as more applicants have traveled internationally or lived abroad.
- 4. Develop a partnership with a teacher preparation institution that provides extensive time for teacher-in-training candidates in the classroom.**
-Action: Partnered with Minnesota State University, Mankato on the implementation of a co-teaching model for student teachers at Salem Hills Elementary School.
- 5. Define focus on teacher effectiveness to improve student achievement across the district.**
-Action: Implemented the use of iObservation with all licensed classroom teaching staff. Use of the system has required staff to develop a common understanding of research-based effective instructional practices and to connect teacher learning to student learning through the use of extensive rubrics and feedback.
-Action: Partnered with Mankato State to develop a Professional Learning Community (PLC) Institute.
- 6. Develop and implement grade-level benchmarks to insure consistency in covering the standards and pacing instruction.**
-Created common benchmarks across grade-levels and/or subject areas. This work was completed for all subject areas in grades 6-12 and for mathematics in grades K-5. The next step in the PLC process will be the identification of power standards and the development of common formative assessments. Reading was mapped at the elementary level in the 2012-2013 school year.
- 7. Increase the use of SchoolView by teachers as a consistent means of communicating with parents.**
-SchoolView’s layout and design was updated in April 2012 to make navigation more user-friendly on computers and mobile devices.



Student Achievements

Simley High School Ranked Among America's Best High Schools:

- *Newsweek* and *The Washington Post* ranked Simley among America's best schools in the nation. This is the sixth consecutive year Simley has been on a national "top schools" list.

Celebration School:

- The Minnesota Department of Education named Hilltop Elementary a Celebration School for its excellent work in reducing the achievement gap and increasing results on performance tests. Hilltop's Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) was in the top 25-percent of all Title I schools in the state.

Team Academic All-State Award

- Boys Basketball - Silver Award
- Girls Soccer - Silver Award
- Gymnastics - Gold Award
- Girls Track - Gold Award
- Wrestling - Gold Award

Individual Academic All-State:

- Kyle Gliva (wrestling)
- Jake Short (wrestling)
- Nick Wanzek (wrestling)

State Place Winners

- Adapted Bowling - State Champions
- Wrestling - 2nd place
- Dance Team - 5th place
- Kyle Gliva - State Champion (wrestling)
- Jake Short - State Champion (wrestling)
- Nick Wanzek - State Champion (wrestling)
- Alec Kandt - State Champion in 100-yd breaststroke and 2nd in 100-yd butterfly (swimming)
- Relay team of Alec kandt, Michael Greene, Nick Pieper and Michael Ausen - 6th place in 200-yd medley (swimming)



Superstars in the Making

Tyrese Beards-Borney is a leader. AVID (short for Advancement Via Individual Determination) recently recognized him for being an exceptional student who has a positive impact on his peers by naming Tyrese an AVID Superstar for the month of May. Only two students are recognized nationally each month.

Marlyn Guzman, an eighth-grader at Inver Grove Heights Middle School, was selected as a national AVID Superstar. Marlyn's strong work ethic and leadership skills have helped her excel in AVID, as well as other classes at the Middle School.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Inver Grove Heights Community Schools

SCHOOLS

Simley High School

2920 80th St. E.
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
651-306-7000
www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/simley

Pine Bend Elementary School

9875 Inver Grove Trail
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
651-306-7701
www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/pinebend

Inver Grove Heights Middle School

8167 Cahill Ave.
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
651-306-7200
www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/ighms

Salem Hills Elementary School

5899 Babcock Trail
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077
651-306-7300
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Hilltop Elementary School

3201 68th St. E.
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Community Education

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