



About The School

Above and beyond high expectations, the Palmer Elementary School community is proud of its cultural diversity which represents 10 countries and six language groups.

Palmer's positive school climate and Character Education program enhance its learning environment and fosters the individuality of students.

Palmer has a long history of seeking and obtaining grants that help provide opportunities in music, visual arts, writing and movement. It also boasts long-term school community relationships. Its collaboration with businesses, universities, churches, health agencies, artists and parents focus on the arts, physical and emotional health, academics and funding raising. All are necessary components of Palmer's neighborhood school!



Points of Pride

- ◇ Full-time librarian
- ◇ Teachers trained in 4-Block Reading program and GAP analysis of MEAP results
- ◇ Everyday Math program (K-5)
- ◇ Northeast Language Center
- ◇ Institute for Learning involvement
- ◇ High community involvement
- ◇ Member of Creston Family of Schools
- ◇ GVSU and Aquinas student teachers/assistants
- ◇ Positive Character Education program – (MiBISi) grant
- ◇ Numerous field trips, speakers, assemblies to enhance curriculum
- ◇ Instructional Technology – Breakthrough to Literacy, Accelerated Reader and Study Island

School Improvement Goals

Reading

All students will demonstrate proficiency in reading fluency across the curriculum. As a school, we will meet or exceed the state AYP objective of 60% of all third grade, 59% of all fourth grade, and 57% of all fifth grade students demonstrating proficiency on the MEAP.

All students did not meet the broad school improvement goal; however, 75% of all third graders, 64% of all fourth graders, and 70% of all fifth graders are at proficient or advanced levels according to MEAP 2008 data.

Writing

All students will demonstrate proficiency in their written expression across the curriculum. As a school, we will meet or exceed the state AYP objective of 60% of all third grade, 59% of all fourth grade, and 57% of all fifth grade students demonstrating proficiency on the MEAP.

All students did not meet the broad school improvement goal.

English Language Arts

As a school, we will meet or exceed the state AYP objective of 60% of all third grade, 59% of all fourth grade, and 57% of all fifth grade students demonstrating proficiency on the MEAP.

We met the state objectives in grades 3 and 5 in ELA of the MEAP in Fall 2008. In third grade, 70% of all students were proficient or advanced. In fourth grade, 55% of all students were proficient or advanced. In fifth grade, 62% of all students were proficient or advanced.

Math

All students will demonstrate proficiency in the mathematical strand: Number and Operations. As a school, we will meet or exceed the state AYP objective of 65% of all of students at each grade level demonstrating proficiency on the MEAP.

We met the state objectives at all three grade levels in math MEAP assessment of 2008. In third grade, 88% of all students were proficient or advanced. In fourth grade, 66% of all students were proficient or advanced. In fifth grade, 73% of all students were proficient or advanced.

Science

All students will show proficiency in knowledge of scientific concepts.

All students did not show proficiency in the knowledge of scientific concepts. However, 70% of fifth graders are at the advanced or proficient levels according to MEAP 2008 data.

Social Studies

Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of Core Democratic Values.

| Ed YES! Grade | AYP Phase | Met AYP |
|---------------|-----------|---------|
| B | 0 | Yes |

Mission Statement

The mission of Palmer Elementary School is to enable students to achieve academic success within a positive, challenging and inclusive community.

Parent & Community Engagement

Parent survey distributed at parent-teacher conferences. Fewer returned this year compared to last year.

All respondents agree or strongly agree with a positive description of Palmer Elementary.

Parents wrote positive comments, i.e., "Thank you for caring about my son," and "I lovethis school."

Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance

| Fall | Spring |
|------|--------|
| 85% | 86% |