

Reed Custer Middle School Report Card Narrative

Reed-Custer Middle School is in the process of developing a new School Improvement Plan this year, based on the model and criteria provided by the Illinois State Board of Education. Our current School Improvement Plan, a five year plan developed in conjunction with the North Central Association of Schools (NCA), expires in December, 2005. We have convened our SIP Steering Committee (Team Leaders, parents, students and the Principal) for two meetings already this year, and are working closely with representatives of the Professional Development Alliance as we begin the process for the development and implementation of our new SIP. Data should be accumulated and analyzed, goals developed, and action plans ready for implementation by spring of the 2005-2006 school year. Parents can receive monthly updates on the progress of the SIP development by attending our Academic Booster Club meetings, held on the second Thursday of each month.

As we review our most recent round of ISAT scores from the spring of 2005, we are pleased to report that Reed-Custer Middle School has once again met "Adequate Yearly Progress" based on the standards set forth by the State of Illinois. In fact, our eighth grade Reading Scores realized a big jump from the previous year, with 83% of our students meeting or exceeding the state standards for reading. We continue to be concerned with the scoring level of the sub groups in our building, especially our Special Education population. As we develop our goals and action plans for the new SIP, it is very likely that strategies and plans will be implemented to provide help in this area.

The Staff Development activities for this current school year will be focused initially on the process of accomplishing the development of a new School Improvement Plan. We are working closely with our regional Professional Development Alliance in order to accomplish this as quickly and efficiently as possible. Once goals and action plans have been developed, the remainder of our staff development time will be targeted toward accomplishing these goals and plans. All of us here at Reed-Custer Middle School continue to be totally committed to achieving meaningful student academic improvement across the board. Even though reading and math are the focus of the national and state testing programs, we will continue to maintain an emphasis on the other core subjects, as well as fine arts, technology, physical education and the exploratory areas. As always, we are most interested in producing well-rounded young adolescents who are prepared to meet the rigors of our high school curricula.