Curtis High School
Principal: Eric Brubaker
Enrollment: 1,327

Mission: Teaching and learning to develop responsible global citizens.

Academic Goals: We are deeply committed to strengthening the discipline of study, and promoting a culture that values performance and hard work. We are also committed to ensuring that our students are prepared for future education and career opportunities. Curtis High School is an excellent choice for students who enjoy a challenging academic environment and are looking for a school that will prepare them for success.

Math scores:
- 2014 State Average: 75%
- 2015 Goal: 82.6%

Reading scores:
- 2014 State Average: 86%
- 2015 Goal: 88.1%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Curtis Junior High School
Principal: Chris Backman
Enrollment: 504

Mission: Prepare all students to become responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy.

Academic Goals: At Curtis Junior High School, our primary goal is to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond. We are committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment that fosters student achievement and personal growth.

Math scores:
- 2014 State Average: 65%
- 2015 Goal: 83.0%

Reading scores:
- 2014 State Average: 75%
- 2015 Goal: 78.1%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Drum Intermediate
Principal: Todd Heafner
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Provide a safe, civil, and caring environment, where all students are prepared for success in the world of work and citizenship.

Academic Goals: At Drum Intermediate, our primary goal is to provide a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

Math scores:
- 2014 State Average: 72.4%
- 2015 Goal: 72.4%

Reading scores:
- 2014 State Average: 63.0%
- 2015 Goal: 82.6%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Narrows View Intermediate
Principal: Ken Handley
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Provide an enriching educational experience for all students by preparing them to be successful, lifelong learners.

Academic Goals: At Narrows View Intermediate, our primary goal is to provide a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

Math scores:
- 2014 State Average: 83.2%
- 2015 Goal: 85.0%

Reading scores:
- 2014 State Average: 77.3%
- 2015 Goal: 77.3%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Chambers Primary
Principal: Jeff Schonhorn
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Develop academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy.

Academic Goals: At Chambers Primary, our primary goal is to develop academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy. We are committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

State scores:
- Math: 85%
- Reading: 90%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Evergreen Primary
Principal: Chris Enderlin
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Provide academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy.

Academic Goals: At Evergreen Primary, our primary goal is to provide academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy. We are committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

State scores:
- Math: 89%
- Reading: 90%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

Sunset Primary
Principal: Mary Stowers-Bastin
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Prepare all students to become responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy.

Academic Goals: At Sunset Primary, our primary goal is to prepare all students to become responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy. We are committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

State scores:
- Math: 89%
- Reading: 90%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
- A comprehensive curriculum that ensures all students have access to high-quality instruction.
- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.

University Place Primary
Principal: Whitney Wells
Enrollment: 490

Mission: Provide academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy.

Academic Goals: At University Place Primary, our primary goal is to provide academically responsible, capable citizens who are ready for college and competitive in a global economy. We are committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment that prepares all students for success in high school and beyond.

State scores:
- Math: 89%
- Reading: 90%

In order to meet these goals, we have implemented a variety of strategies, including:
- A strong focus on instructional improvement, with a particular emphasis on developing effective teaching practices.
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- A supportive learning environment that fosters student engagement and achievement.
A Culture of Excellence
A Message from Superintendent Patti Vail
Dear Friends and Families of UPSD:
Welcome to UPSD; we’re off to a great start! In this issue of the Bulletin, you have an opportunity to review our most recent highlights and past success. We’re very proud to report that, in 2014, UPSD students continue to score significantly above state averages at every level, more often than not ranking among the highest scores in the state. UPSD has been named a National Blue Ribbon School for six consecutive years.

New Administrators Join University Place School District
Mary Goodwin-Atkinson has assumed the position of Superintendent of the University Place School District. She most recently served as Interim Superintendent of the Bentonville Public Schools in Bentonville, Arkansas. Prior to joining the Bentonville Public Schools, she was a principal for six years at the South Kitsap School District.

Ali Sheppard joins UPSD as principal of Chambers Elementary School. In her free time, Ali enjoys hiking, cycling, and taking her dog, Bubbles, to the park. Ali received her B.S. degree from the University of Nebraska and her Master’s degree in administrative education from the University of Washington.

Michelle Scherm in her new position as assistant principal at University Place Primary School. The Scherm family has a long history of involvement in University Place. Michelle’s parents, grandparents and other family members continue to be active in University Place School District.

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Visit our website at www.upsd.org for more information.

Meetings of the Board
March 17, 2015 Board Meeting
March 24, 2015 Board Meeting
April 7, 2015 Board Meeting
May 5, 2015 Board Meeting
February 26, 2015 Police and Fire Commission Meeting
March 17, 2015 Police and Fire Commission Meeting
April 22, 2015 Police and Fire Commission Meeting

Literacy Institutes Align Curriculum and Common Core
The past summer’s UPSD teachers participated in a series of two-day workshops designed to help them improve the literacy of their students. “We focused on developing reading assessment skills,” said UPSD Academic Coordinator Angie Franklin, and our goals and objectives aligned well with the federally developed Common Core State Standards. The summer institute was designed to help teachers develop skills for teaching students to “close reading.”

According to Franklin, the programs included a literacy and language arts (LLA), but also expanded to incorporate foundational text (fluency) in the science and social studies standard.

Franklin said, “Seven of 30 participants were already involved with the text, so we are reading for the informing function while we’re reading for the deep comprehension level. Ultimately, students improve their comprehension through the material.

The entire context of this training is at all levels, helping students to use content knowledge and methodological training to reach what they are learning.

The other dimension of the training was instructional, which is integrated with those two things, and then the content knowledge and the methodological training are aligned with the learning that is expected to be occurring in the classroom for students in their homes, and then in your own high school.

The UPSD curriculum is called Project Lead the Way. The courses, as well as all students, under the new graduate requirements, will be preparing them for careers in science, engineering, technology and mathematics.

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Below, this year’s 20 minutes of the Elizabeth Wesley Youth Merit Awards recipients at the 2014 district-wide event. The event is presented annually by the Rotary Club of University Place to honor young people for their contributions to the community. The Rotary Club of University Place opens nominations in the spring. The Rotary announces the winners in the fall.

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For more information, please visit www.upsd.org.