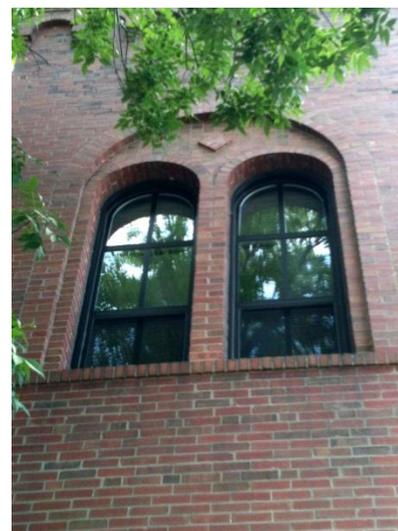


School Profile: Lowell Elementary School

Lowell Elementary School, built in 1916, has long been a leader in the delivery of quality educational programming to students living on the near east side of Madison. Serving students beginning at age three in its Early Childhood classroom, and continuing with students in 4K through fifth grade, Lowell School is meeting the needs of all students.

A Pathway to Success: Lowell’s School Improvement Plan, or SIP, outlines a pathway to continued success on its school campus and extending into the surrounding community. Lowell staff members have embraced district initiatives designed to build College, Career, and Community skills in all students. Building professional development opportunities around Close Reading, the Gradual Release of Responsibility, and the Common Core State Standards have instilled a sense of confidence in teachers that they will have a lasting impact on the lives of all students. It’s no wonder that when asked what the best thing is about Lowell, the most frequent response from parents is,



“The Teachers.”



Community Connections: The School Improvement Plan also seeks to build meaningful partnerships with organizations in the community. Strong partnerships with Goodman Community Center, The Salvation Army, and others help to provide wrap-around services for students outside the instructional day.

What I Need

During the 2013-14 school year, Lowell implemented a What I Need intervention block. The WIN block uses benchmark assessment data to assign students in need of additional support to small targeted intervention groups. These same data sources are used to assign students working at grade level and those needing advanced supports to groups that meet during WIN time. WIN groups currently meet four times each week for 30 minutes.

Scores on the Rise

On the district’s key school accountability measure, the Measures of Academic Progress, Lowell scores are on the rise. The number of students in grades 3-5 scoring Proficient or Advanced on the MAP assessment in Reading grew from 46% in spring 2013 to 56% in 2014, the fourth highest level among all MMSD elementary schools, behind only Van Hise, Shorewood, and Randall.

Social Emotional Health

Lowell is a leader in the implementation of Positive Behavior Supports. In addition, all students are taught the Second Step curriculum leading to the development of positive social and emotional skills. As a result, school suspensions are very low, with just 5 out of school suspension in 2013-2014.