



Miller Elementary School Annual School Improvement Report 2008/2009

Columbia School District

Miller Elementary School
130 E. Jackson
Cement City, MI 49233
517-592-2157

Principal: Geoff Bontrager
BontragerG@myeagles.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Columbia School District, in partnership with the community, will provide a safe and positive learning environment, which will prepare ALL students to contribute and compete in a global society.

PROFILE INFO

- Grade Span: **Pre-K-5**
- Number of Students: **370 (K-5)**
54 Preschool
- Attendance Average: **95%**
- Teacher/Student Ratio: **16:370**
- School Organization:
Preschool-5th grade
Daycare/Latchkey Services
- Cultural Diversity:
 - ◊ American Indian **1.5%**
 - ◊ Asian **0.5%**
 - ◊ African American **1%**
 - ◊ White **94%**
 - ◊ Hispanic **3%**
- Student Retention: **1%**
- At-Risk: **35%**
- Free/Reduced Lunch Statistics: **30% / 6%**
- Employability Skills:
 - ◊ Character Education
 - ◊ Bucket Filling Philosophy (school-wide)
 - ◊ Social Skills Education
- Media Center contains 14,825 books and two computer labs.



Miller Elementary Student Council accepted the "Michigan Green School" flag on behalf of all the students of Miller.

	ED YES Composite Grade	MADE AYP
2008-2009:	A	Yes
2007-2008:	A	Yes
2006-2007:	A	Yes

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Research shows teacher quality correlates with student academic achievement. Highly qualified teachers go hand-in-hand with a quality education. Under the State of Michigan guidelines and the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, all Columbia School District teachers are certified and highly qualified.

FACULTY AND STAFF

- Geoff Bontrager, Principal
- Pamela Anderson, Secretary
- Michelle McBean, Social Worker
- Rhonella Brelinski, Media Specialist
- Laurel Beer
- Leissa Bernstein
- Cindy Bruntjens
- Cynthia Caryl
- Terri Crawford
- Alicia Dickens
- Sheryl Halverson
- David Hamilton
- Jennifer Hittle
- Ray Howland
- Marc Iott
- Trudy Kelly
- Eric Kelly
- Carol Moran
- Lindsay Slusher
- Jennifer Stucky
- Willow Jeffreys

PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Parent / Teacher Conferences
- Miller Meet and Greet Open House
- PTO
- Two Scholastic Book Fairs
- Special Person's Day
- Family Nursery Rhyme Night
- Miller Spring Carnival
- Food Pantry Partnership
- Modern Disposal Recycle Program
- Kiwanis Clothing Closet Partnership
- Ronald McDonald House – tab collection
- Smiles on Wheels - dental program
- Holiday Help Project – Adopt a family and assistance initiative
- Canvas Bag Program – recycle education
- CP Federal Credit Union Student Banking System
- Local Church Support - Projects / Programming / Needs



First grade students celebrate their writing success with an author's party.

"Quote by Principal"

*Good, better, best,
Never let it rest;
Until your good is better
And your better is best.*



Students master basic math facts using Math Facts in a Flash Program.

WRITING GOAL :

To increase the percentage of students achieving a level 1 or 2 on the writing portion of the M.E.A.P.

STRATEGIES:

- Collins Writing Program (grades K -12)
- 6 Trait Writing
- Using graphic organizers (pre-writing)
- Using 6 point rubrics to evaluate peer samples
- Using revising check list
- Shared writing
- Interactive writing
- Cross-text writing
- Writing in math
- EET Writing Program
- DOL (Peer response)
- MLPP

RESULTS:

Miller Elementary chose this district school improvement goal to help students grades 3-5 improve writing proficiency scores on the M.E.A.P. After reviewing the 2008 M.E.A.P and 2009 Jackson Countywide Common Assessment data we noticed a slight decline in our writing proficiency scores. Although our M.E.A.P scores have dropped third grade remains 18% above the state average. Fourth grade scores are 26% above the state and fifth grade is 16% higher. Therefore, because the scores in this performance area are still weak we will be continuing with this same goal next year.

See Appendix A

MATH GOAL:

To increase the number of students proficient in grade level math facts.

STRATEGIES:

- Math Wizards - send home packets to involve families.
- Math Facts in a Flash - Monthly
- Mad Minutes - Monthly
- Accelerated Math
- Math Diagnosis and Intervention System

RESULTS:

Miller Elementary staff selected this target area to help students recall basic math facts fluently. Students will be able to spend less time computing basic facts and spend more time on higher-level concepts. By implementing the various strategies listed, we found an overall increase in all grades. Implementing a basic math fact test from our math text series assessed this increase. Although we showed significant increase we will be continuing this goal for the following year. Most of all, we want the students to have the confidence to perform well in math.

See Appendix B



SCIENCE GOAL:

To Increase the ability of students to visually represent the steps in the scientific process.

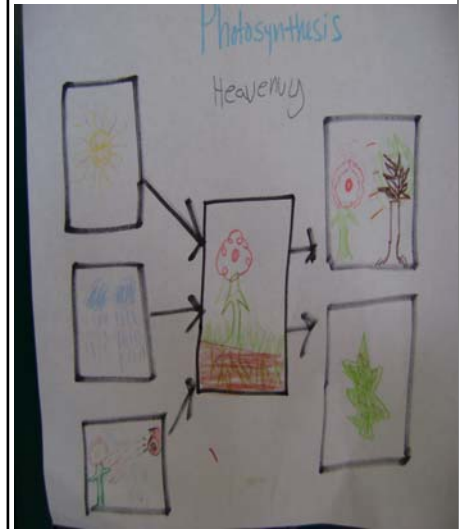
STRATEGIES:

Implement the use of thinking maps
 Conduct science experiments at every grade level
 Grade level science series (McGraw Hill)
 Science literature enrichment
 Using tables, graphs and charts with science lessons
 Thinking map posters posted in every classroom
 Scientific process posted in every classroom
 4th grade Study Island

RESULTS:

A school wide teacher made science assessment was created using a flow map from the Thinking Map program. Although the results of the test scores were favorable, Miller Elementary School is striving for excellence in the identification and understanding of the scientific process, school wide. With this in mind, Miller Elementary is choosing to keep the same goal for the 2009-2010, expecting 80% of all students knowing the 6 steps of the scientific process.

See Appendix C



Students use a multi-flow Thinking Map to describe photosynthesis.

56% of our teaching staff have earned master's degrees or higher.

STUDENT ENRICHMENT/SUPPORT

- Quiz Bowl Competition
- YMCA- after school program
- Assemblies / Special Speakers
- School-wide Talent Show
- Mackinac Field Trip for Michigan History
- Field Trips
- Mileage Club
- Presidential Physical Fitness Challenge
- Geography Night
- Nature Night
- Peer / volunteer tutors
- Academic Support Services (ISD)
- At – Risk Instructional Assistance
- Social Work services
- Social Skills Lessons
- Individual and Group Counseling



4th graders join Mackinac presenters in a fur trading expedition.



COLUMBIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brent Beamish, Superintendent

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STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Columbia School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities.

**PARENT/TEACHER
CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

2008-2009:	98%
2007-2008:	99%
2006-2007:	98%

Norman A. Miller Elementary
A Proud Past ...
A Promising Future!

POINTS OF PRIDE

- Miller Elementary students performed above the state average in all areas of the M.E.A.P. assessment (see appendix D)
- Miller Elementary met AYP for the 7th year
- Composite grade of “A” on the Michigan School Report Card
- Michigan Green School - Emerald Status
- Hope Run for the American Cancer Society (6th year)
- Student Council – 8th year receiving National Elementary Principal’s Association Award
- Parent Teacher Organization contributions
- Student Recognition Program

CORE AND EXTENDED CURRICULUM

Columbia School District has a comprehensive curriculum in the four core content areas. Curriculum documents in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies include content expectations, student friendly language, instructional strategies and common assessments. These guides were developed by teachers to aid in creating a quality curriculum guide for all staff. Our documents are revised and updated based on teacher use, input and state mandates. Our curriculum documents are aligned with the Michigan’s Curriculum Framework and Content Expectations.

Miller Elementary School also has curriculum opportunities in:

- Accelerated Reader
- Accelerated Math
- Summer School
- Study Island
- Musical Performances
- Field Day
- HIV/AIDS Education
- Puberty/Hygiene Program
- I’m In Charge (Alcohol/Tobacco)
- Expanded Expression Tool
- Summer Math and Library
- Got Art Program
- World of Water Science Project
- CP Federal Credit Union Banking Program

- Junior Achievement
- Reading Month Activities
- Miller Post Office – Student Managed

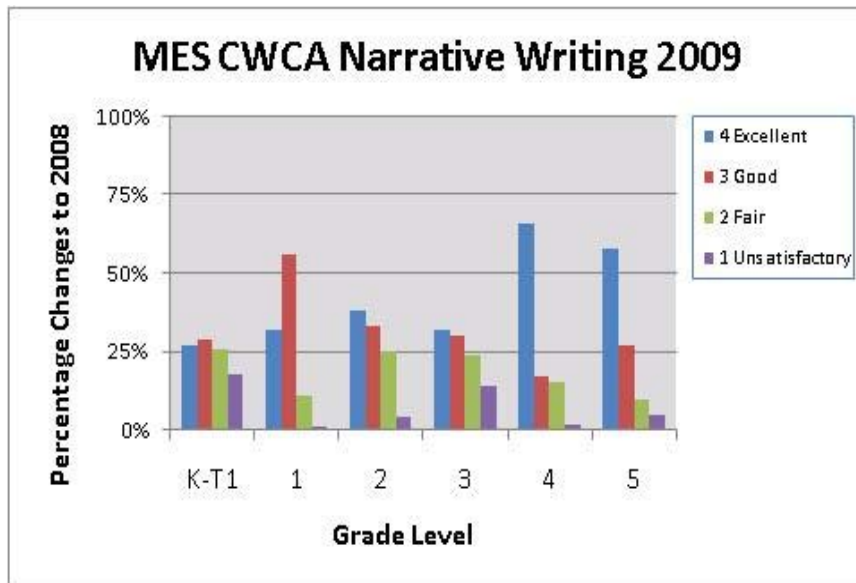
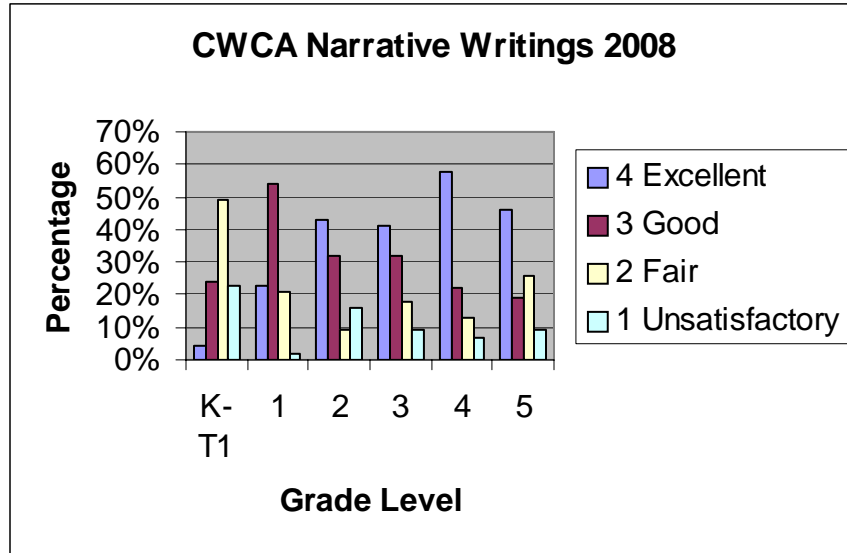


Students investigate water samples from pond water at the World of Water Science Project.

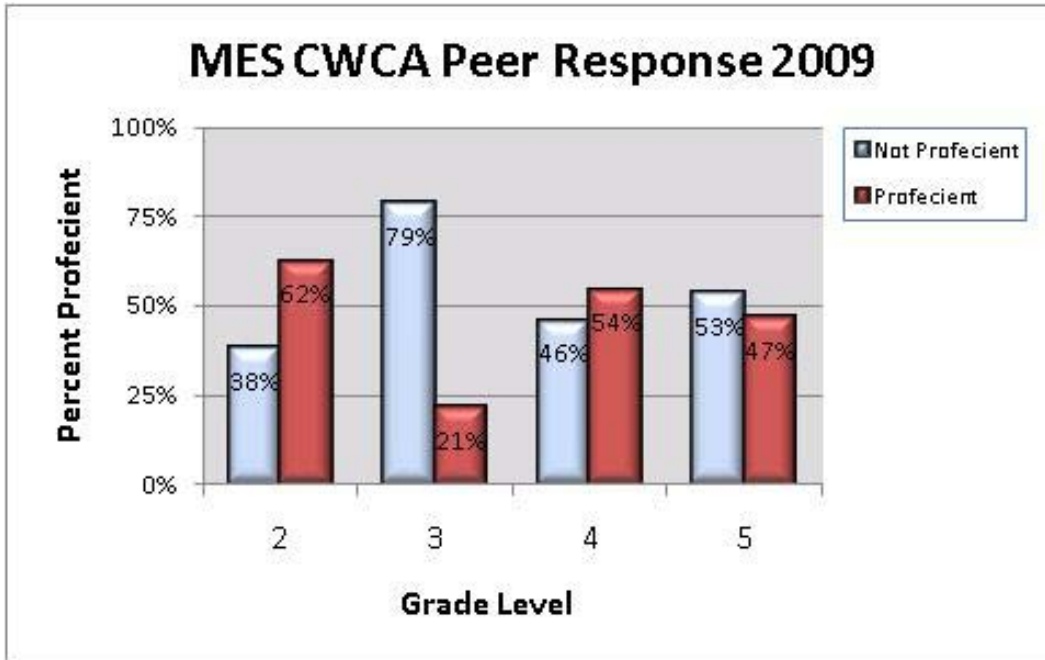
APPENDIX A

Miller Elementary 2008/2009 Writing School Improvement Results

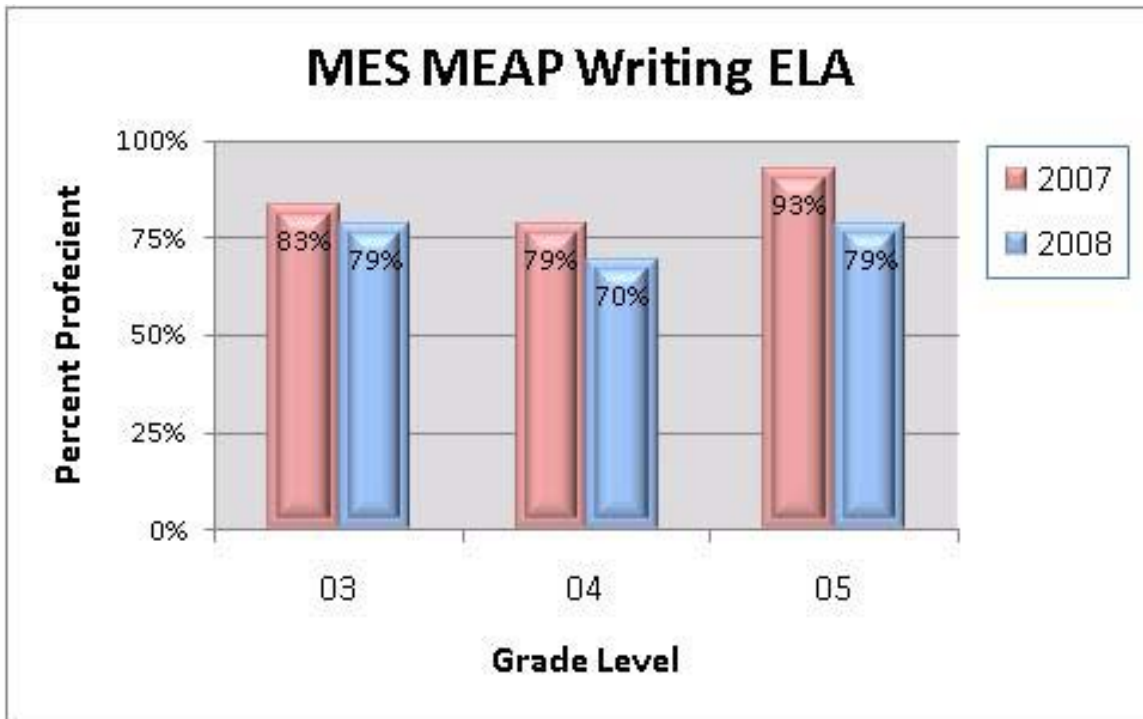
Goal: To increase the percentage of students achieving a level 1 or 2 on the writing portion of the M.E.A.P.



These bar graphs show the results for k-5th grades at Miller Elementary on the 2008 and 2009 CWCA Narrative Writing Assessment. A four-point rubric was used for scoring with 4 being “Excellent” and 1 being “Unsatisfactory”. Fourth grade classes showed a slight improvement in scores increasing from 80% to 83% proficient, while second grade displayed a slight decline in scores ranging from 75% to 71% proficient. Third grade proficiency scores decreased by 11% and fifth grade scores also demonstrated a decrease by 14%.



This bar graph displays the results of the Jackson Countywide Common Assessment Peer Response Writing for 2nd-5th grades at Miller Elementary. Sixty-two percent of second graders scored proficient. At the third grade level 79% of the students scored proficient and at the fourth grade level 54%. Fifth grade proficiency scores equaled 53%.

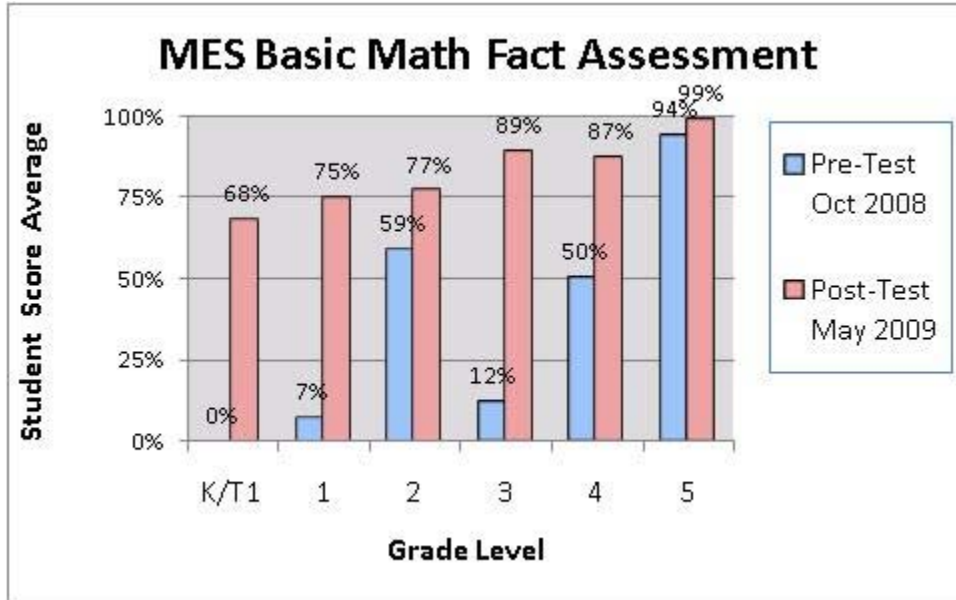


This graph displays the results of the post-to-post test scores from the MEAP Writing Assessment for 3rd-5th grades at Miller Elementary. All grades show a slight decline in scores. Fifth grade dropped from 93% to 79% proficient. Fourth grade scores fell from 79% to 70% and third grade also declined from 83% to 79%.

APPENDIX B

Miller Elementary 2008/2009 Math School Improvement Results

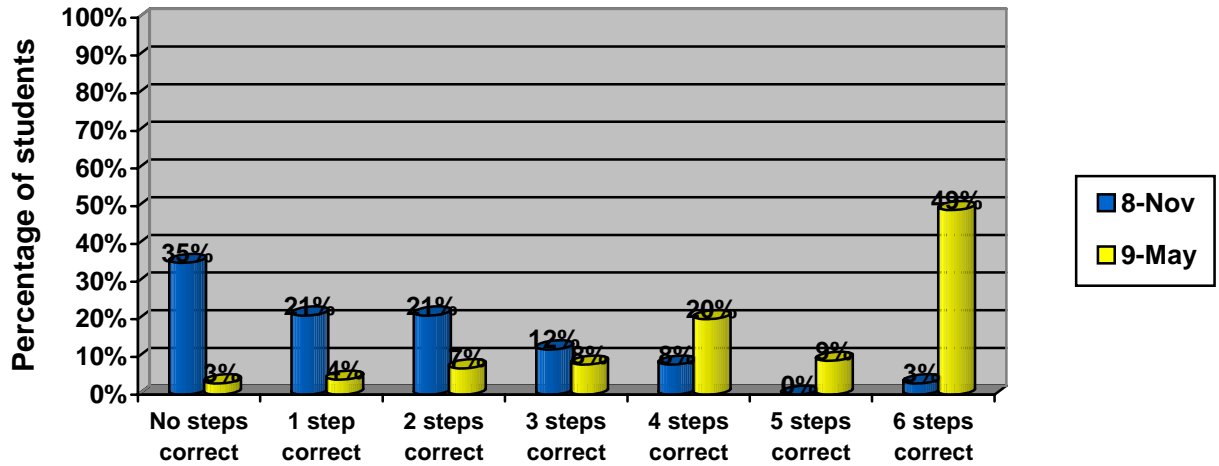
Goal: To increase the number of students proficient in grade level math facts.



This graph presents the results of the pre and post-tests for the basic math fact assessment administered in October 2008 and again in May 2009 from our math series. There was an overall increase in the percentage of facts recalled in all grades. The largest improvement was seen in kindergarten, first, and third grades.

APPENDIX C

Miller Elementary 2008/2009 Science School Improvement Results- School Wide
Goal: To increase the ability of students to visually represent the steps in the scientific process.



The preceding graph details the results from our first year implementation of our Science school improvement goal. This graph shows the results of our pre-test assessment of the student's knowledge of the scientific process in November 2008 to the post-test of the same academic year, May 2009. The results show a tremendous increase in the number of students that were able to identify all six steps correctly. Prior to implementing strategies: the use of Thinking Maps, science experiments at every grade level, using grade level science series, science literature enrichment, focusing on the use of tables, graphs and charts in school wide science lessons, thinking map posters of the scientific process in every classroom, and 4th grade Study Island, only 12 students, school wide, were able to identify all 6 steps correctly in November. The results of the post-test, administered in May 2009, 164 students, 49%, of all students at Miller Elementary, were able to correctly identify all 6 steps of the scientific process.

APPENDIX D

MES MEAP RESULTS

Subject	2008-2009	
Reading (3 rd Grade)	Miller Elementary	99%
	State	86%
Writing (3 rd Grade)	Miller Elementary	79%
	State	61%
ELA (3 rd Grade)	Miller Elementary	97%
	State	83%
Math (3 rd Grade)	Miller Elementary	99%
	State	91%
Reading (4 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	96%
	State	83%
Writing (4 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	70%
	State	44%
ELA (4 th Gr. English/Lang. Arts)	Miller Elementary	98%
	State	77%
Mathematics (4 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	100%
	State	88%
Reading (5 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	90%
	State	82%
Writing (5 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	79%
	State	63%
ELA (5 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	87%
	State	78%
Math (5 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	100%
	State	77%
Science (5 th Grade)	Miller Elementary	97%
	State	83%