

What has the District done to increase student achievement?

- District of Distinction
 - Inspire Academy (Business, STEM, Career/Technical)
 - Accelerated Associates Degree Program (Dual Graduation)
 - Creative Arts Academy
- District of Distinction Part II: Working to identify and create implementation steps for the next 3-4 strongest program needs for our district and
- Equalize hours of instruction at all schools across the district.
- Later start for high school students based on research.
- Implemented Data Teams district –wide
- Implemented Response to Intervention (RTI) district-wide
- Literacy Initiatives:
 - LETRS training
 - 95% Group
 - Direct Instruction (Reading Mastery) implemented in some schools
 - Davenport Reads (collaboration with the City of Davenport and Eastern Iowa Community Colleges). Includes streamlining process of all of our students to get public library cards, information to parents re: library resources, adult literacy component
 - 90 minutes of reading per day at the elementary level.
 - Reading interventionists
- Implementation of PBIS and Boy's Town behavior tools in 12 schools
- Community Schools Model at several schools (particularly in high-need areas) that offer supports for the student and their family including:
 - Adult classes: Resume writing, household budget skills, nutrition/cooking tips, reading with your child, etc.
 - On-site food pantry for families in need.
 - Help for families to arrange health care screenings
 - Family centered school activities and community-building.
- CEP plan: 19 schools accepted into this plan which ensures free breakfast and lunch for all students at these schools.
- Collaborating with community partners on mentoring programs to help reach students at an early age and provide additional support. One example is the 2015 MLK Mentor Day on January 29, 2015 co-sponsored by St. Ambrose University. Along with a 7-week program for Strong African-American Families in collaboration with Scott County Kids.
- GAP (Greater Achievement Plan)
 - Identified the lowest achieving 25% of students in reading by using the Iowa Assessments and invited them and their parents to be part of a special program designed to help them make greater gains, especially in reading.
 - Each student has an individualized plan for success and parents sign a “contract” committing their support and participation to these efforts.

- Students receive additional academic support and enrichment activities during Spring Break that include not only extra reading interventions but opportunities to visit interesting places like the Putnam Museum.
- Technology
 - The Davenport Community Schools has added the position of Assistant Director of Curriculum and Technology Integration to help create and implement strong technology integration in our classrooms. This role includes helping our teachers build skills they may need.
 - Piloting of myON Reader and ST Math in our elementary schools. Both programs are research-based and data driven. These programs are supplementing our Iowa Core Curriculum and engaging our students in reading and math. The use of these programs is helping to break down some barriers to learning. For example, books can be downloaded in myON Reader and the student, who may not have Internet access or books at home, can take home up to 20 books on a tablet to offer the student more opportunities to read for pleasure and develop their interests. ST Math is a math program that is highly visual and intuitive and does not use verbal or written prompts which transcends difficulty in reading and can also help our English as a Second Language students.
 - The District is working toward 1:1, a digital device, Chromebook or tablet for each student by the end of the 2015-2016 school year.
- Drop Out Prevention Task Force:
 - Cut the drop out rate in half within a three-year period
 - Dedicated position of reengagement specialist
 - Annual event (since 2012) reaching out to students who have dropped out or may be considering dropping out, as well as to families with struggling learners. Event provides opportunities for one-to-one records review and a one-stop shop for community resources to support students and their families.
 - Training community members, staff and students as “Graduation Advocates” to help them understand why students may drop out and providing knowledge/tools they can use to connect students with our schools and the supports we can provide.
 - Mid City High School opened August 2015 as a “school of choice” and offers
 - Graduation Alliance is a non-profit organization with which Davenport Community Schools has partnered to offer students who have dropped out of our schools or are considering dropping out a complete online option for finishing their high school education. The student is given a wireless enabled laptop and has access to coursework 24/7, along with personal supports from Graduation Alliance staff and the Davenport Community Schools staff.
- Suicide prevention and mental health
 - Community event held at one of our high schools featuring several speakers on the topic of mental health along with an opportunity to connect with a approximately 20

community organizations offering mental health supports for students and their families.

- High school and intermediate students are provided with cards listing some of the signs that an individual may be considering suicide along with a 24/7 hotline number that can be used to reach out for help for themselves or a friend.
- Teachers received training on recognizing signs and engaging counselors quickly with any concerns.
- The district has received a mental health grant which spans 5 years and, in this first year of the grant, is identifying specific mental health needs in our schools at all levels.
- The Davenport Community Schools has a mental health professional available at all buildings in our district.