

Principal: LaVaun Dennett  
 Enrollment: 531  
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# Van Buren Elementary School

## School Report Card 2007-2008

### OUR MISSION

Van Buren is committed to developing each student's capacity to think, reason, and use one's mind well, and to ensure that each student develops the understandings, skills, and habits that make it possible to participate fully in the life of a complex, diverse community.

### KEEPING YOU INFORMED

This report is a summary of some indicators of the performance of our school. No single report can tell the whole story of our school's educational program or the people who work and learn here. We encourage you to find out firsthand by visiting our school. If you are a parent of one of our students, we invite you to take an active role in your child's learning because studies show that when parents are involved, students do better in school.

### HOW WE ARE IMPROVING

Van Buren met its AYP goals for 2007-2008 by exceeding the rate of improvement required. We are very proud of our progress this year and look forward to even more impressive growth during the 2008-2009 school year. There are several factors in place that will help us continue this growth.

- Extensive intervention programs for struggling students,
- Development of a more effective program for our students who are learning English,
- Commitment to continuous improvement that includes intense work with an instructional coach, frequent assessments, and analysis of available data to check alignment with the standards,
- Collaboration among teachers at every grade level and across grade levels,
- Frequent communication with parents, and
- Comprehensive staff development throughout the year.

### OPTIONS FOR PARENTS

- School Choice
- Supplemental Education Services

Monthly parent meetings on topics suggested by parents and classroom newsletters published monthly help keep our learning community involved and informed. In addition, parents serve on the Bobcat Boosters Club (the PTO), volunteer in classrooms and at school events, and serve on various planning committees. A VISTA coordinator, new to our school this year, will keep families and community organizations inform of opportunities to participate in a wide variety of events at Van Buren.

### WHAT WE CELEBRATE

- The skills, talents, and dreams of our diverse student body,
- the commitment of our dedicated staff,
- the support from our community, our central office, and our families, and
- the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our students.

### OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Many factors, such as how often a child attends school, moving frequently, and English language experience, influence school achievement. Measuring these characteristics helps us understand our students' needs.

#### ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

- 34% Who participated in programs to learn English
- 88% Who qualified for free or reduced-price lunch
- 1% Who participated in gifted and talented programs

Our school values the involvement of parents and we thank all parents who are able to visit the school during the year.

#### ABOUT OUR PARENTS

- 100% Who attended parent teacher conferences
- 15% Who volunteered their time

We are committed to ensuring that highly trained and qualified teachers instruct our students. Parents are welcome to request information about the qualification of their child's teachers at anytime. In addition, if the need arises for your child to be taught by a teacher without complete qualifications for more than four weeks, we will notify you.

#### ABOUT OUR TEACHERS

- 100 Percent who are highly qualified teachers
- 10 Percent who are teaching as an approved consultant specialist
- 0 Percent who are teaching with a letter of authorization
- 0 Percent of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers
- 2 Number who are special education teachers (speech and learning disabilities)

#### ABOUT AVERAGE CLASS SIZES

Grade	Van Buren Elementary	Caldwell District
Kindergarten	22.75	20
First	18.6	21.5
Second	26	21
Third	23	23
Fourth	26.6	25.5
Fifth	24	26.7

### OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Our goal is to provide a place for students to learn without distractions and concerns for safety. We closely monitor activities on our campus and offer comprehensive programs to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and substance abuse. As required by state and federal laws and rules, we collect, monitor, and report on crimes and substance abuse incidents on our campus and at school activities. A complete report of this information about our school and district is available at: <http://www.sde.state.id.us/ipd/reportcard/SchoolReportCard.asp> or by contacting Roger Quarles, Superintendent at 208 455-3300 in Caldwell school district.

### OUR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

#### ABOUT OUR STUDENTS' TEST RESULTS

Included with this are "Adequate Yearly Progress Assessment Reports." These reports provide detailed information about the academic performance of our students and specific groups of students on state reading, math, and language usage tests.

#### ABOUT OUR SCHOOL'S PROGRESS

The results from these tests also are used to measure the progress of our school toward state and federal goals. The report called "Adequate Yearly Progress Indicators" details which goals our school met and those we may have missed.