

Palmer Junior Middle School AEIN Celebration 2010

Who are you?

We continue to be a dedicated group of effective teachers who earnestly collaborate while building trust through the utilization of effective professional learning communities.

What is your question?

How do we further advance our professional learning of effective teaching strategies so that the outcomes will be reflected in improved student achievement?

How did you come to this question?

Research shows one of the greatest ways to improve student learning is through immediate feedback. Because of this we have invested time and training in Promethean instruction and the use of Activotes and Activexpressions. These tools provide immediate feedback to students and teachers.



What difference(s) do you see in one or more of the following as a result of our work together?

Describe how the differences you noted have affected student learning. Be specific.

The past four years Palmer Junior Middle School specifically targeted improving the culture of our school. Our culture changed by providing positive behavior supports, character education, PLC's that focused on shared leadership, quarterly family events, common academic language that translated to utilizing effective teaching strategies and providing students with greater after school activity choice. All of these led to better engaged students and ultimately our data for student learning and assessments have reflected continued growth. With the use of MAP programs (Measuring Academic Progress) PJMS yielded the best growth data of any middle school in the school district. Our data showed in all reading, language and math categories that we exceeded national growth norms.



How has being part of the network contributed to the differences that you cited? How have you benefitted from being in the network and how have you contributed to the network?

The AEIN network has provided PJMS with an opportunity to develop a sustainable shared leadership model that will continue to move student achievement forward.

Being part of the network has helped PJMS develop a school that is recognized throughout the state. The department of education has partnered with PJMS to develop a leadership training video that focuses on classroom walkthroughs that use Marzano's effective teaching strategies as a framework for teachers to follow. Also a recent article has been written by Rhonda Barton of Education Northwest that featured much of the work PJMS accomplished within the framework of our logic model.

