

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

The Edmore School district is a pre-Kindergarten-12 facility serving 60 students in eastern Ramsey County. We serve students in Edmore, Lawton, Fairdale, Nekoma, Hampden, and Adams. It is a rural community with the majority of the adult population working in the farming industry. The district has taken on extra students in the past few years due to other districts closing in the surrounding areas. The geographic size of the district is 395.25 square miles with the majority of the students living on rural farms. Student enrollment has been steadily declining and is expected to be approximately 50-60 students within 10 years. Even though the numbers are in the decline, the district remains fully staffed with 11 licensed teachers, 3 paraprofessionals, and 2 full-time administrators. The declining enrollment offers a few unique opportunities. The student to teacher ratio is 5:1. This allows students to receive personalized attention and instruction from their classroom teachers. The low enrollment also allows fieldtrips and hands-on learning to take place throughout the year. Students are able to make an authentic connection to their education. The patrons of the district are committed to providing education for their youth. The community offers much support for the students and as well as the upkeep of the facilities. Many community events take place within the school walls including fundraising events and plays. In addition, members of the community frequent the health and fitness facilities offered by the school. The overall consensus is to keep the school operational, therefore keeping the Edmore community alive.

Provide the school's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

In the Fall of 2014 Edmore staff chose a new vision for the school. The vision statement reflected the importance of education in the lives of the children and how it affects them throughout their lives. The staff members are dedicated to providing students with a safe learning environment with a particular emphasis on rigor and responsibility. The Edmore Public School vision statement is: "Working Together to Inspire Lifelong Learners." The goal is to empower students to become self-advocates in order to succeed in today's fast-paced world.

The mission of the Edmore Public School is: "To create an environment that nurtures honesty and respect, resulting in students becoming thoughtful, contributing members of society. By instilling skills and knowledge, staff will challenge students to grow academically in order to achieve their full potential."

The entire staff is trained on a disciplinary philosophy known as restitution. The training focuses on self-discipline. Together the staff and students created a set of beliefs along with jobs pertaining to both teachers and students. The beliefs and jobs incorporate the restitution philosophy of self-discipline in

the classroom. Banners were printed and hung in every room in the school as a constant reminder for students and staff to maintain appropriate behavior. They are as follows:

BELIEFS * We believe in respect * We believe in a strong work ethic * We believe in cooperation * We believe in responsibility * We believe in honesty

MY JOB (STUDENTS) * Learn * Listen * Be Prepared * Responsibility * Carry a Positive Attitude

MY JOB (TEACHERS) * Teach * Challenge * Support * Encourage * Listen

By embracing the restitution philosophy, the Edmore Public School has been able to work toward achieving the vision and mission statement. There have been remarkable changes in the students through teacher-student relationships. Much individual development has been seen in both the staff and students. The expectations and achievements have increased tremendously inside the classroom.

Describe the school's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

In the past three years, Edmore Public School has made vast improvements in a variety of areas. There has been an emphasis put on technology in the education world. Edmore Public School has upgraded from desk top computers in a stationary computer lab to 1:1 devices for every student in the building. Teachers are effectively weaving technology into their classes and curriculum. Twenty-first century computer skills are necessary in today's world. Edmore is striving to ensure all students leave the building with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in the world today.

Along with technology updates the teachers are put on a yearly curriculum cycle to ensure content is recent. In addition to textbooks the school has purchased online subscriptions to various educational programs including ScootPad, IXL, and Discovery Education. The school has also provided students with opportunities to take classes of their choosing through the North Dakota Center for Distance Education. The upperclassmen are encouraged to take classes for college credit through various local universities that have partnered up with the Edmore School. Teachers have aligned their curriculum to the state standards and are continually improving their curriculum maps. This ensures students will strive to master each standard by focusing class time and keeping a structured schedule throughout the year.

Not only has Edmore made improvements on the education front, improvements have also been made in the nutrition department as well. Edmore has been participating in the Healthier US School Challenge. This has allowed the school to serve students healthier options straight from the school garden for both breakfast and lunch. Edmore has reached the Silver level award.

Edmore is a unique school because of its low teacher to student ratio. The past few years the school has been pushing for educational field trips to help students understand the world around them through

real life experience. The elementary have gone to Medora and the high school went to South Dakota. The trips are filled with experiences to help make education come alive for students.

Edmore is focused on pedagogy. Teachers are attending professional development on teaching strategies and trying them out in their classrooms. Each teacher completed a curriculum map, and is continually adding resources and rubrics to help clarify each and every standard. The 2016-2017 year is the first year Edmore has used student-led conferences. It is a tool the school is going to be utilizing going forward.