

West Park Elementary School Merit Status Awarded

West Park Elementary has been awarded the status of School of Merit by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools. The school had a review team visit in the Spring of 2010 to determine if the school should be awarded this recognition. This opportunity was made possible when Principal, Bill Marineau filled out an application for one of many outstanding programs at the school. He chose the extensive and successful volunteer program that has evolved over the past ten years.

The review team of Superintendent Dr. Richard Bauscher from Middleton School District and Superintendent Jim Norton from Parma School District were impressed enough that they wanted to spend more than the allotted hour to visit with school partners, staff, volunteers and children. "It was so easy to brag about individual employees and the collective staff" Marineau said. The schools examples of best practice in data driven instruction, individualized instruction and use of technology (including our new sound field systems) were evident both in our portfolio and during our school tour.

A portfolio of volunteerism in the school was assembled so our guests could see practices and projects we do throughout the year, not just during their short visit. The portfolio contained enthusiastic testimonies from teachers stating how they train and use volunteers to help West Park students succeed throughout the school environment.

"The review was definitely not a rubber stamp. The two superintendents asked tough questions and treated the visit with professionalism but a very evaluative and critical tone. My feeling is that they were very impressed by what they saw, Marineau said.

Our guests did feel welcome in our caring and high performing school, I am proud of the job we do helping children to grow... one at a time.

Respectfully,
Bill Marineau, Principal
West Park Elementary School (over)

Statistics to train to memory when talking to others:

Our four Moscow Elementary Schools are all accredited through the high standards of the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.

Only eight public elementary schools are accredited in the entire State of Idaho. We are four of those. Most secondary schools are accredited however.

Of all accredited elementary (8), and accredited Junior High/High Schools (188) twenty or so requested the honor of having a site visit to be considered for meritus school status. Only three of these schools completed the paperwork and or were considered for a site visit. West Park was one of

I would also like to commend the Moscow High School Staff and Principal Bob Celebrezze. I was made aware that they will also be visited for consideration as a merit school. Congratulations to them and the entire Moscow School District.