

Crocker R-II Schools

Home of Lion "PRIDE"

"96% APR"

"Educating our Future!"

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Crocker Parents and Students

Five years ago our APR score with Missouri Department of Education (DESE) was 79%. Last year we had it raised to 97%. We have raised our ACT scores, for college, two points. We are sending a higher percentage of our students to further their education. Over 65% of our seniors already have a commitment. Five years ago we had almost no one in our High School Music Department. Now we have a Band and Chorus that we are all proud of. Five years ago we did not have a publications class. Now our class puts out a first-class Crocker Lions Year Book. Five years ago there was very little communication between Elementary and High School, and between departments. Now all departments collaborate on a regular basis, and develop ideas on how to improve education at Crocker. Today we have one of the top High School Science Programs in the State, and we are one of only four schools to have a direct link, where our students can communicate regularly with NASA scientists about our projects and research. We have one of the best FFA Chapters in Missouri. Our FFA Members put on workshops to teach other students life skills, leadership skills, and skills used in agriculture and technology. Ms. Nolan and Mr. Schroer have been recognized by many of their peer groups as leaders in their field. They have achieved many awards. Our Language Arts Department, Math Department, Social Studies Department, and Business Department are all much stronger than they were 5 years ago, and our scores have increased rapidly. Five years ago our Elementary Art Department, under Ms. Pigott, was excellent, but our High School Art Department was very dysfunctional. Mary Kern has changed our whole Art Program. Ms. Kern, Ms. Gray, Ms. Pigott, and Ms. Branstetter have made our Fine Arts Department a leader in the Frisco League and South Central Area.

Our Auditors have nothing but good things to say about our accounting and record-keeping. Our Special Services Department Audit was very complementary of our Special Services Staff and how we teach students in that Department. We have a Character Education series, and we will have a class in ethics, etiquette, and integrity in our curriculum next year.

We have a great Sports Department, and regularly win District Championships as well as All State Academic Awards.

This year our Soccer Boys already won 3rd in the State of Missouri, and our Boys Basketball just played in the State Quarter Finals. We were one of the 8 best teams in Missouri.

Five years ago we didn't have an Academic Bowl. We now have an Academic Bowl that is beginning to win matches.

We now have a computer for every child and every employee of Crocker Schools. No other Frisco League School has this, and Waynesville School has only one computer for every 2 students. The closest school to us that has a computer for every student and employee is St. Clair. We have several 3-D Printers, and have a class to teach use of drones for crop surveillance and job site surveillance. We have the latest welders and equipment, including a plasma cutter, in our Ag Department.

We were the only school in Missouri to have four groups presenting at Missouri Department of Education's "Powerful Learning Conference" this winter. Our students are becoming leaders in every phase of education.

Good leaders make good leaders. I can't say enough about our Administrative Staff. Our Administrators meet twice a month to collaborate on ideas and solutions to make Crocker a better school. Every Administrator we have, cares about the education, safety, and well-being of every student at Crocker Schools.

Five years ago we began expansion and remodeling of our gymnasium. We built new showers, a FEMA Safe Shelter, a new cafeteria and kitchen, a new Music Department, and we replaced the floor covering in our entryways and on our ramps. We built a new Elementary Library, Weight Room, dressing room for our officials, and new storage rooms. We built a state-of-the-art Middle School and new Ag Science Building that is the envy of all schools. We built new High School Administration Offices, and remodeled offices in Elementary and for other Support Staff. We made meeting rooms, and workrooms for our Elementary Staff and High School Staff. We now have paved parking all the way around our building complex. We have converted many of our classrooms to tables, instead of individual desks, to facilitate students learning in groups as recommended by many education experts. School has always leaked along the base of the wall on the Highway 17 side, when we had a hard rain. We dug along the West side and part of the North side, and installed a 15 inch drain to take care of water issues during hard rains. We replaced most of the circle drive with concrete instead of asphalt, and poured new sidewalks. We repaired many leaks in our roof, and we replaced part of our gutters.

We replaced the backstop on our Softball Complex, we replaced the carpet in our batting cage, and our coaches and athletes have completely changed and improved the infield and outfield of our Softball and Baseball Complexes. We have added a practice track that can be used for some other sports (it is not complete yet.).

We have improved our bus fleet, and have added a bus. We have improved and stabilized our pool of bus drivers. We now have teacher aides on many of our bus routes.

Safety and Security

We have made many changes to improve the education and success of our students, but we have made many more changes to protect the safety and security of our students. We have double locked entry doors in Elementary and High School. We have a security window in the Elementary Lobby and High School Lobby. Some of our glass has been converted to bulletproof glass. The Board of Education did an excellent job of designing our last construction project so that students are always inside when going from one classroom to another. We have a full-time School Resource Officer (SRO), who monitors and manages our security program. We have a local Police Department which sends additional officers on our request. We have 84 cameras that monitor every entry door, all hallways, and monitor our whole property. We have security cameras, for your children's protection, in every school bus. We have locked systems that are monitored, we have doors in our hallways that can be remotely closed and locked, we have first aid kits in every classroom, we have an emergency plan for every room, and we have a comprehensive emergency plan approved by FEMA. We just purchased a security system for visitors to our school, called the "Hall Pass System".

MUSIC Insurance Company, our School Insurance Company, just put out a safety bulletin yesterday. "Schools should reflect on the tragedy that occurred at Broward County Florida School District where 17 lost their lives. None of us can imagine what those students went through. What we can do, is use this as a wake-up call to take action. I urge you to use this school shooting as a catalyst, and I urge you to vow to better prepare your School and to make it a safe place." Dr. Bernard DuBray - Pres. of MUSIC Insurance Company.

We have ordered metal detectors, so we can monitor and prevent guns, knives, etc. from entering school in backpacks. Most students have a backpack. All students must enter school through one of 3 entrances. There will be a metal detector at each of the 3 entry points.

The Crocker Police Department and the Missouri Highway Patrol will assist us when we have large crowds at school.

Every member of the Crocker Board of Education and every member of the Crocker School Staff cares about the safety of every daughter and son put in our care.

The Crocker Board of Education just voted to allow armed employees at school if they have a permit, keep the weapon concealed at all times, go through one of the training programs approved by our Insurance Company (most are two or three-week programs put on by law enforcement and School Resource Officers), keep the weapon attached to their body at all times, go through a background check, and submit a written application.

I went to a State Superintendents Meeting yesterday, and many Missouri Schools have done this, and many more will be taking this issue up at the next board meeting. I have received calls from four Frisco League Schools, and two are now preparing to adopt a similar motion. I received a call from a St. James parent this morning, who was wanting their school board to do the same.

We lead in most areas of education. What could be more important than the safety of your children, our students?

Leading the way in education and safety,

Crocker Schools