Illini Central Grade School Administrative Report **Enrollment as of 12.13.2024**

Year	Pre-K	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Dec. 2024	71	46	51	41	45	43	45	342
22/23	80	37	38	44	42	38	50	329
21/22	62	270					332	

Celebrations & Thanks

We celebrated our November Students of the Month at our CSC Assembly. Our 4th grade Kindness Club also presented about gratitude and did a great job sharing what they are grateful for in a video!

Students of the Month

Kindergarten: 3rd Grade: Fossen Williams Riley Peterson Evan Trimm Harper Moehring Harper Sidwell Mason Bradshaw

4th Grade: Olivia Strube Harper Cox

1st Grade: Maddox Steel Luella Pope Crue Liesman 5th Grade: Liam Boyd 2nd Grade: Piper Redman Braxton McCormick Brecklynn Brannan Liahm Stambaugh



- We had an anonymous donor to our Art teacher this month in the amount of \$250. We are so thankful for this support, and Mrs. Brummell is working on determining how she will best spend this unexpected gift to best meet the needs of students.
- Mrs. Wrigley and the students had a wonderful performance at the Christmas Concert last night! The gym was packed, and students were so excited to perform. Our student attendance to school was at the highest we've seen it in December, and kids were excitedly telling me at drop-off and in hallways all week that their concert was coming up. Thanks to all staff, students, and families for helping this event come together! Teachers did a marvelous job, as always, keeping things running smoothly and supporting kids.

Book Blast Wrap Up

Our Book Blast event wrapped up at the end of November, and we just had our books delivered. We will have our official "Opening Day" next week. All of our teachers met the participation goal in their classrooms, so the Book Blast program donated \$2,200 in gift cards to our teaching staff to spend on books, school supplies, and other items to support their classrooms. Students did not have to raise money to "participate," they just had to send 10 donation invitations. Special shout-outs go to staff with 100% participation in their classrooms: Kristi Bruce, Lindsey Bruce, Katy Lynn, Sarah Martin, Megan Nissen, and Janel Ripper. Each of those staff members received \$200 gift cards from Book Blast. In addition, the Grade School also has a \$914 gift card to spend on additional books.

As a whole, our students raised \$14,850.99 during this event. Nearly 1,100 books are awaiting opening in the APR, and we are so excited to continue building literacy and book ownership in our community. We are so grateful to have supportive families and community members in this endeavor! Every student will receive at least 2 books, regardless of if they raised any funds, and 35 students earned the complete set of 10 books for their grade level.

Winter Benchmarking in Progress

We're currently in the midst of winter benchmarking with Fastbridge and STAR, and so far we're receiving some extremely positive results! Third grade has completed benchmarking, so I've summarized their results below.

Reading	82% of students were	0,		45% of students have a
	at the 25th %ile or	better than average	Equivalency is 3.7	Grade Equivalency of
Mrs. Tucker & Mrs.	better	growth	(growth of 0.8)	4th grade or better
Burks both had				
Median Growth	73% were at the 40th	Median Growth	Average Percentile is	23% have a Grade
Percentiles of 83	%ile or better	Percentile was 56	60th (growth of 10)	Equivalency of below
				3rd grade
<u>Math</u>	78% of students were	56% of students made	Average Grade	36% of students have a
	at the 25th %ile or	better than average	Equivalency is 3.5	Grade Equivalency of
Mrs. Tucker & Ms.	better	growth	(growth of 0.8)	4th grade or better
Moellenbrink had				
Median Growth	69% were at the 40th	Median Growth	Average Percentile is	27% have a Grade
Percentiles of 67 and	%ile or better	Percentile was 61	55 (growth of 12)	Equivalency of below
60, respectively				3rd grade

In speaking with teachers during grade level meetings, we're really excited about the trends we're seeing! Compared to last year's results at the same time, we're leaps and bounds ahead. For Reading last year at this time, 57% of students were above the 40th percentile (compared to 73% this year). Teachers are attributing this largely to the direct instruction of phonics skills for these students, with a new phonics program in Kindergarten and CKLA since first grade. We anticipate continued growth in reading due to this shift, and we're thrilled that we're starting to see it really shine! Likewise in Math, we're at 69% of students above the 40th percentile, compared to 58% of third graders last year.

IASA & Raising Student Achievement Conference

Thank you so much for allowing me to attend the IASA Joint Conference in November and to join the group of teachers and instructional coaches at the Raising Student Achievement Conference earlier this week. Sallie Anderson & Brittany Wrigley both attended the conference on a scholarship from our ROE, and Kortnie Cooper and Heather Davis attended as well. We look forward to using and sharing the information gleaned at these conferences with staff. I found myself referencing things I'd learned several times since I've been back, and I am eager to read more over break and determine how we can introduce some of those concepts to our larger system. A few standout presentations/ideas:

- Todd Whitaker's ideas on classroom management and hiring/retaining the best staff (*What Great Teachers Do Differently*)
- Cathleen Beachboard's ideas on improving school climate, sense of belonging, and student achievement through hope (*The School of Hope: The Journey from Trauma and Anxiety to Achievement, Happiness, and Resilience*)
- Using AI in the classroom (specifically for teachers to save time and increase critical thinking skills in students)