

**East Metro Integration District 6067  
Integration Revenue Forecast 2008-2009  
Inver Grove Heights Community Schools Integration Plan**

**Inver Grove Heights Total Allotment = \$394,884.00  
Amount to EMID = \$223,195.00  
Amount to District = \$171,689.00**

**Purpose**

To address the Minnesota Desegregation Law in collaboration with the East Metro Integration District by:

- Partnering with St. Paul Public Schools in educationally justifiable activities that will provide opportunities for Inver Grove Heights and St. Paul schools to work cooperatively to improve cross-district integration.
- Creating learning environments with increased interracial contact and improved intercultural communication between students.
- Providing equitable access to resources that will support staff effectiveness in providing racially integrated, inclusive learning environments.
- Providing the resources to support high academic achievement for all students.

**Mission**

District 199 creates an environment which validates, celebrates and respects diversity and the uniqueness of every individual.

**District Integration Committee Members**

Anne Auten	Community Member at Large, Inver Hill Community College
Tom Barker	Elementary Principal
Erin Boltik	Able Learner Coordinator
Rich Ehlers	High School Principal
Barb Mahovlich	Teacher
Paul Mandell	School Board Member
Paula Miller	Parent
Ruth Ann Moore	Elementary Principal
Mike Murr	Teacher
Mary Noel	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Julie Peterson	Parent
Lynette Stensgard	Parent
Jim Smith	Community Member
Rachel Smith	Teacher/Community Education
Jean Vogel	Elementary Principal
Kim Westra	Parent

## **Goal 1: Student Achievement**

Providing resources to support student learning will aid in high academic learning for all students.

### **District Cultural Liaison**

The cultural liaison is a district wide staff member who will work to develop a relationship between the school district/site and families from diverse backgrounds, including non-English speaking families, who are new or established in the school community. Inver Grove Heights is very close to the west side of the city of St. Paul. The west side of St. Paul has a high concentration of Hispanic/Latino families residing in this area. Our district has recognized a marked increase in the number of Hispanic/Latino families with students moving into our district as illustrated by our demographic changes. Many families move between Inver Grove Heights and St. Paul. Additionally, many of the students and/or their families have very limited English language skills. State demographers have projected that the number of Hispanic/Latino families moving into this area will continue to grow. Two of the district's goals are to increase the parent involvement of minority families in the school district and support new families including the many coming from St. Paul, as they transition into the school system. These are goals that are realized with the assistance of a cultural liaison. The cultural liaison will also assist staff in developing their cultural competence. Budget figures for this position are inclusive of salary, benefits and program start-up cost.

### **NWEA MAP Assessment**

The Inver Grove Heights School District serves 326 non-resident students, which includes 52 students from St. Paul as well as students from at least one other racially isolated school district (Minneapolis) and additional students from school districts that have racially isolated schools located within their districts. As these students come to the district, the MAP assessment will be used to gather student achievement data for student placement and will be used to enhance their educational opportunities. The Atheneum Program, which is a gifted magnet program, is one such opportunity. 2.5% of the non-resident student population, including students from St. Paul (grades K-8 and some programs in the high school) currently participate in this program. Opportunities in gifted and advanced education lead to high academic success. This assessment will also assist with identifying the proper educational programming for all St. Paul students coming to ISD 199 as well as those who are in need of ELL, Title 1 or Special Education services. This assessment will support students of color, ELL and non-resident students from St. Paul, an increasing demographic for ISD 199. Total cost of this program to the district is \$30,000.

### **All Day Kindergarten Scholarships**

Up to four full day kindergarten scholarships will be awarded to those students who meet the criteria set by the district. As Dr. Paul Gorski presented at the 2008 Minnesota Integration Conference, this assists the district in "closing the opportunity gap" for students who are unable to attend the full day program.

## **Goal 2: Classroom Partnerships**

Partnering with St. Paul Public Schools in educationally justifiable activities provides opportunities for Inver Grove Heights and St. Paul students and staff to work together cooperatively to improve cross-district integration.

### **International Club**

The International Club is designed for high school students so that they may participate in diversity activities in the high school and community. The district is increasing experiences for our students in leadership by exposing them to culturally diverse learning opportunities to better prepare them for deeper intercultural learning when participating with culture clubs in the St. Paul schools. The International Club has plans to partner with elementary schools in St. Paul. Club members will volunteer as tutors and reading buddies for at risk students as a service project.

### **Future Educators of America**

Future Educators of America is a partnership with St. Paul Schools and all EMID member districts. Students participating in this program will also attend summer sessions sponsored by the University of Minnesota. This program is designed to attract and encourage students, especially minority students, to explore the teaching profession. This supports interracial contact for staff and students by intentionally recruiting students into the world of education.

### **Dodge Nature Center Classroom Partnership**

Ten (10) Inver Grove Heights fourth grade classrooms participate in a year long partnership that will use Dodge Nature Center, the Simley Nature Trail and each others' classrooms to achieve the goals of the classroom partnership, which are academic (Minnesota Language Arts and Science Academic standards), cultural and relationship building.

### **Cultural, Academic and Athletic Program (CAAP)**

Twenty-five (25) Inver Grove Heights students (grades K-8) will partner with St. Paul and other EMID schools in a two-week, full day program of exciting academic and athletic activities at the University of St. Thomas and Concordia College in St. Paul.

### **Student Book/Writing Club**

Students in grades two and three will partner with St. Paul students in like grades for book and writing clubs. Classroom teachers will facilitate the learning to meet the Minnesota Language Arts Academic standards.

### **Third Grade Science Partnership**

Students and staff in third grade will participate in a science partnership that focuses on the science standards related to the Solar System in third grade. There will be instruction through the use of STARLAB (a portable planetarium) in Inver Grove Heights and the planetarium which is associated with the St. Paul schools.

### **Goal 3: Professional Development**

Offering professional development opportunities to inter/intra district staff will build the capacity of staff to better serve and understand the diverse needs of all learners. The following opportunities will be offered in the areas of culture and academics:

#### **Culture**

- Teaching and Reaching Series – 3-4 sessions related to understanding cultural differences.
- Book Clubs – professional works will be shared in a book club format.
- Workshops/Conferences.

#### **Academic.**

- Collegeboard Pre-AP professional development focusing on access and equity for all students in preparation for Advanced Placement courses.

### **Goal 4: Human Resources**

The Inver Grove Heights Community Schools will employ a District Integration Specialist to administer the district's integration plan and program. The Integration Specialist will be assisted by a .5 FTE clerical support staff member. These two positions support all integration goals within the plan.