

New Discoveries Montessori Academy School District 4161-07

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Annual Report Year 6

School Enrollment

by grade level for NDMA for 2011-2012 school year:

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
HK	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
K	29	29	29	29	28	28	29	28	28	28
1	23	25	23	23	21	19	20	20	20	20
2	25	25	25	25	26	28	29	28	27	27
3	26	27	26	26	26	26	27	26	26	26
4	27	28	27	27	26	26	27	27	27	27
5	24	25	25	25	25	26	26	27	26	26
6	24	26	26	25	26	26	25	25	25	25
totals	181	188	184	184	180	182	187	184	182	182

Average Daily Membership (ADM) for the 2011- 2012 school year was **182.19**.

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
# of days of school	19	18	20	14	19	19	16	20	22	4
Total enrolled	181	188	184	184	180	182	187	184	182	182
Average daily att.	170.05	174.42	172.15	173.21	170.32	169.71	172.50	173.50	173.77	169.50
Total % monthly	94.45	94.25	93.76	94.62	94.62	93.87	94.65	94.71	95.48	93.13

NDMA Average Monthly Attendance throughout the school year was **94.47%**.

Student Attrition

There were 181 students enrolled at NDMA on the first day of school for the 2011-2012 school year, and 182 students enrolled on the last day of school for the 2011-2012 school year. This represents 19 students leaving during the school year, with 20 students transferring into the school during the school year.

Staffing

	Employee Name	Gender	File Folder #	Job Assignment	Grade
1	Stephanie Bandas	F	410819	Teacher	K
2	Diane Bruemmer	F	441972	Teacher	K-6
3	Lynn Brown	F	373998	Teacher	K-6
4	Tanya Condon	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
5	Dave Conrad	M	281232	Director	K-6
6	Jill Corson	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
7	Sue Dahlke	F	n/a	Kitchen Manager	n/a
8	Robert Ecklund	M	n/a	Lunch Server	n/a
9	Sheri Ellis	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
10	Steve Ellis	M	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
11	Bill Erickson	M	n/a	Custodian	n/a
12	Tara Erickson	F	n/a	Front Desk	n/a
13	Jaclyn Gehrke	F	438984	Teacher	4,5,6
14	Nicole Grack	F	n/a	Nurse	K-6
15	Scott Hanson	M	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
16	MeiLi Harris	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
17	Charles Herdegen	M	n/a	Business Manager	n/a
18	Donna Herdegen	F	255191	Teacher	K-6
19	LuAnn Hoffmann	F	n/a	Accounts Payable/Payroll	n/a
20	Deb Houseman	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
21	Mark Jensen	M	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
22	Betty Jodzio	F	433693	Teacher	1,2,3
23	Michaleen Kalenberg	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
24	Susan Kubasch	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
25	Theresa Larson	F	459177	Teacher	4,5,6
26	Jo Moore	F	n/a	Administrative Assistant	n/a
27	Cheryl Myers	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
28	Michelle Nadeau	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
29	Derek Niemeyer	M	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
30	Tari Niemeyer	F	365533	Teacher	K-6
31	Steve Noga	M	n/a	Technology Support	n/a
32	Eric Pokornowski	M	438394	Physical Educ. Teacher	K-6
33	Sandra Prieve	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	K
34	Cynthia Prior	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
35	Julie Puder	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	K
36	Cyndi Ryan-Lauer	F	n/a	Music Specialist	K-6
37	Bernadette Scharpe	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
38	Kimberly Schmitz-Kuharski	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
39	Niccole Schwartz	F	n/a	Lunch Clerk	n/a
40	Margaret Shimpa	F	n/a	Title I Instr. Support	K-6
41	Sarah Smith	F	440725	Teacher	1,2,3
42	Charles Stenberg	M	n/a	Lunch Currier	n/a
43	Susan Stenberg	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	4,5,6
44	Aaron Stolp	M	399025	Teacher	4,5,6
45	Taunya Theis	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
46	Heather Vaillancourt	F	n/a	Paraprofessional	1,2,3
47	Cynthia Vold	F	407753	Teacher	K
48	Carol Wilson	F	456062	Teacher	1,2,3

**New Discoveries Montessori Academy
Hutchinson, Minnesota**

**Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2012**

	Beginning Balance July 1, 2011	Preliminary Audit Balances
<u>Assets</u>		
Current Assets		
101 Checking - Citizens Bank and Trust Co.	67,486	24,515
115 Accounts Receivable	6,836	20,175
120 Due from New Century Charter School	8,081	5,319
121 State Aids Receivable	506,701	730,317
Current Year State Holdback Receivable (35.7%)		0
122 Federal Aids Receivable through MDE	10,622	6,703
123 Federal Aids Receiveable Directly from Federal	24,717	0
121/122 State and Federal Food Service Aids Receivable		
131 Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	4,621	1,969
Prepaid Employee Insurance Premiums		0
Total All Assets	629,065	788,999
<u>Liabilities and Fund Balance</u>		
201 Salaries and Wages Payable	62,940	79,215
202 Citizens Bank & Trust Line of Credit Advances	455,000	650,000
206 Accounts Payable	72,596	72,149
208 Interest Payable on Line of Credit Loan		3,312
212 Due to Other Governmental Units	4,198	4,726
215 Payroll Deductions and Contributions Payable	22,432	21,446
230 Deferred Revenue	2,433	485
230 Deferred Revenue-Food Service Payments	512	314
Total Liabilities	620,111	831,648
Fund Balance		
Fund Balance 7-1-2011	8,954	8,954
Net Income To Date		(51,603)
Total Fund Balance	8,954	(42,649)
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	629,065	788,999

Check Assets - Liabilities and Fund Balance

0

0.00

Assessment Data relative to MCA Scores

NDMA completed a needs assessment prior to writing a Continuous Improvement Plan as a result of not making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two consecutive years. The Plan included writing two SMART goals, and developing and implementing specific strategies to achieve those goals.

Goal #1: The percent of all students in grades three through six who earn achievement levels of “meets or exceeds standards” on the MCA II Reading Assessment at New Discoveries Montessori Academy will increase from 51% in 2011 to 61% in 2012 (all students), from 50.5% in 2011 to 61% in 2012 (white students), and from 40.8% in 2011 to 61% in 2012 (FRP students). The first category – all students – achieved 53.4%. The second category – white students – achieved 56.4%. The third category – Free and Reduced Price Lunch students – achieved 45.3%. **This goal was *not* met.**

Goal #2: The percent of all special education students in grades three through six who earn achievement levels of “meets or exceeds standards” on the MCA II Reading Assessment at New Discoveries Montessori Academy will increase from 22.2% in 2011 to 36.0% in 2012. The Special Education students achieved 48.1%. **This goal was met.**

As the graph on the previous page indicates, after a two-year trend of declining scores in math and reading at NDMA, overall, scores in both math and reading improved from 2011 to 2012.

NDMA completed its second year in the Minnesota Department of Education Quality Compensation (Q-Comp) program during the 2011-2012 school year. The school-wide Q-Comp goal concerned mathematics: The percentage of all students in grades 3-6 who earn achievement levels of Meets the Standards or Exceeds the Standards on the mathematics MCA (all accountability tests) at NDMA will increase from 17.0% in 2011 to 33.0% in 2012. The increase for all students was from 17.0% in 2011 to 27.9% in 2012. **This goal was *not* met.**



“I like the idea of using materials!”

“We learn a lot.”

“I learn better here than (other) school.”

“I think school is preparing me to be a good man.”

From NDMA Student Surveys

Assessment Data relative to ITBS Scores

NDMA established the following goal relative to ITBS:* By 2015, 85% of students tested and continuously enrolled at NDMA for at least one year will achieve at least one year's growth in exchange for one year's worth of instruction in reading, language, and math as measured by the ITBS growth from the Spring test of one year to the Spring test the following year. The remaining 15% of students tested and continuously enrolled will show developmentally appropriate progress I reading, language and math.

*2011- 2012 was the last year NDMA administered the ITBS. Going forward NDMA will replace the ITBS with NWEA MAP assessment.

NDMA ITBS Results - Fall 2011

Reading			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Fall 2011 ITBS		Total # Test Results Fall 2011
1	2	2	100.00%
2	1	7	14.29%
3	8	21	38.10%
4	13	24	54.17%
5	14	21	66.67%
6	13	23	56.52%

NDMA ITBS Results - Spring 2012

Reading			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Spring 2012 ITBS		Total # Test Results Spring 2012
1	7	11	63.64%
2	14	27	51.85%
3	14	25	56.00%
4	17	26	65.38%
5	15	22	68.18%
6	14	24	58.33%

Language			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Fall 2011 ITBS		Total # Test Results Fall 2011
K	25	30	83.33%
1	1	5	20.00%
2	7	24	29.17%
3	7	22	31.82%
4	10	25	40.00%
5	11	21	52.38%
6	10	23	43.48%

Language			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Spring 2012 ITBS		Total # Test Results Spring 2012
K	28	30	93.33%
1	7	19	36.84%
2	8	27	29.63%
3	9	25	36.00%
4	13	25	52.00%
5	14	22	63.64%
6	13	24	54.17%

Mathematics			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Fall 2011 ITBS		Total # Test Results Fall 2011
K	25	30	83.33%
1	3	7	42.86%
2	5	22	22.73%
3	7	24	29.17%
4	11	25	44.00%
5	7	21	33.33%
6	10	23	43.48%

Mathematics			
Grade	# Students Within or Above Grade Level Range on Spring 2012 ITBS		Total # Test Results Spring 2012
K	22	30	73.33%
1	10	20	50.00%
2	12	26	46.15%
3	11	25	44.00%
4	15	26	57.69%
5	10	22	45.45%
6	12	24	50.00%

5th Grade: Test data is available for nineteen 5th grade students who were enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. Two of the students received special education services.

Thirteen of the nineteen (68%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in reading. Three of five students who demonstrated 0.1 – 0.9 of a year of growth were reading above grade level in both testing cycles, and one student regressed 0.9 of a year.

6th Grade: Test data is available for nineteen 6th grade students who were enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. Three of the students received special education services.

Seven of the nineteen (37%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in reading. Three of the nine students who demonstrated 0.1 – 0.9 of a year of growth received special education services. One student demonstrated no growth, and two students regressed between 0.9 and 1.1 years in reading.

Language (62% achieved at least one year of growth in language usage)

1st Grade: Test data is available for twelve 1st grade students who were continuously enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. One of the students received special education services.

Three of the twelve (25%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in language usage. One of the eight students who demonstrated 0.4 – 0.9 of a year of growth received special education services, and one student demonstrated no growth.

2nd Grade: Test data is available for seventeen 2nd grade students who were continuously enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. Five of the students received special education services.

Seven of the seventeen (41%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in language usage. Three of the six students who demonstrated 0.1 – 0.9 of a year of growth received special education services, and four students regressed 0.1 – 0.8 of a year in language usage.

3rd Grade: Test data is available for nineteen 3rd grade students who were continuously enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. One of the students received special education services.

Fourteen of the nineteen (74%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in language usage. One of the five students who demonstrated 0.5 – 0.9 of a year of growth received special education services.

4th Grade: Test data is available for twenty 4th grade students who were enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. Four of the students received special education services.

Seventeen of the twenty (85%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in language usage. Three students demonstrated 0.3 – 0.9 of a year of growth.

5th Grade: Test data is available for nineteen 5th grade students who were enrolled at NDMA by May of 2011. Two of the students received special education services.

Fifteen of the nineteen (79%) students demonstrated at least one full year of growth in language usage. Two of the four students who demonstrated 0.6 – 0.8 of a year of growth tested significantly above grade level in both testing cycles.

Operational Performance

NDMA Satisfaction Surveys 2011-12

Each year, as part of our charter agreement with our authorizer, Audubon Center of the North Woods (ACNW), and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), we need to determine the level of satisfaction among the stakeholders of New Discoveries Montessori Academy, in particular, the members of our community. *(N/A –this column is used only if not applicable or the community member does not have enough information to respond.)*

Community Satisfaction Survey

	Agree	Disagree	N/A
1) New Discoveries Montessori Academy is an asset to the Hutchinson area.	2/2 100%		
2) I would send my child or tell others to send their child to New Discoveries.	2/2 100%		
3) I feel welcome to visit New Discoveries.	2/2 100%		
4) The staff members of New Discoveries are friendly and helpful.	2/2 100%		
5) New Discoveries communicates effectively with the community.	2/2 100%		
6) NDMA is providing a quality education for children.	2/2 100%		
7) The NDMA students that I met are well mannered, respectful and behave appropriately.	2/2 100%		
8) I am informed about what is going on at New Discoveries Montessori Academy.	2/2 100%		
9) My most recent experience with NDMA was positive.	2/2 100%		
10) I support the Mission/Vision of New Discoveries Montessori Academy.	2/2 100%		

19) I feel that students are learning at NDMA.	24/26 92%	1/26 4%	1/26 4%
20) Resources are available to help me accomplish my job and I understand how to access them.	22/25 88%	3/25 12%	
21) The school building and grounds are well maintained.	21/24 88%	2/24 8%	1/24 4%
22) I would recommend New Discoveries Montessori Academy to other families.	21/24 88%	2/24 8%	1/24 4%

Student Satisfaction Survey

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
1) I am learning at this school.	75/85 88%	4/85 5%	6/85 7%
2) I like learning using the Montessori materials.	61/84 73%	6/84 7%	17/84 20%
3) I talk with my family about school.	66/85 78%	17/85 20%	6/85 7%
4) I feel valued and respected by my teacher.	50/70 71%	8/70 11%	12/70 17%
5) My teacher makes sure that all students are learning.	58/72 81%	5/72 7%	9/72 12%
6) My teacher expects me to do well in school.	79/85 93%	1/85 1%	5/85 6%
7) My teacher tells me how I am doing in school.	60/87 69%	17/87 20%	10/87 11%
8) I feel safe and comfortable in school.	59/86 69%	10/86 12%	17/86 29%
9) I think the things we do at New Discoveries help to make our community better.	64/86 74%	4/86 5%	18/86 21%
10) My teacher listens to me and respects me.	49/74 67%	7/74 9%	18/74 24%
11) The students in school help and respect one another.	50/87 57%	8/87 9%	29/87 33%
12) I think that this school is preparing me for my future.	65/86 76%	8/86 9%	13/86 15%
13) The director and staff take care of situations when students make poor choices/misbehave.	62/74 84%	2/74 3%	10/74 14%

Family Satisfaction Survey

	Agree	Disagree	N/A
1) Overall, my child seems to be satisfied at New Discoveries Montessori Academy.	70/74 95%	4/74 5%	
2) My child has made friends at New Discoveries Montessori Academy.	70/75 94%	4/75 5%	1/75 1%
3) My child feels safe at New Discoveries Montessori Academy.	73/74 99%	1/74 1%	
4) My child feels safe on the way to and from school.	73/78 94%	4/78 5%	1/78 1%
5) My child appreciates his/her teacher.	69/73 95%	4/73 5%	
6) My child feels valued and respected by his/her teacher.	68/75 91%	5/75 7%	2/75 2%
7) My child appears to be progressing academically.	65/74 88%	7/74 9%	2/74 3%
8) My child feels valued and respected by the adults at NDMA.	73/75 97%	1/75 1%	1/75 1%
9) My child's teacher knows and responds to my child's individual needs.	73/74 99%	1/74 1%	
10) My child's teacher supports and encourages my child's attempts to gain new skills.	77/77 100%		
11) My child's teacher helps to build my child's self-esteem.	74/77 96%	3/77 4%	
12) My child's teacher listens to me, respects me as a parent (or guardian) and supports us as a family.	73/75 97%	2/75 3%	
13) School guidelines are stated in a positive way.	76/77 99%	1/77 1%	

Innovative Practices and Implementation

NDMA prides itself in providing authentic Montessori curriculum in a public school setting. This has been both a “blessing” and a “curse”. The “blessing” lies in the rich tradition, beautiful materials, developmentally appropriate activities and the multi-age classrooms. The “curse” lies in the lack of explicit connection to the academic standards. The 2011-2012 school year was a year of revelation for NDMA. Through two distinct rounds of comprehensive needs assessment we have identified specific areas of concern and have set a course for marrying the *magic* of Montessori with the *mandates* of Minnesota. Our designation as a Stage 1.1 AYP Needs Improvement school in the Fall of 2011 and as a Priority School under the new MMR system unveiled in the Spring of 2012, made it clear that NDMA had to not only acknowledge reality, but to roll up our sleeves and begin the rigorous task of embarking on a comprehensive, intense and thoughtful school improvement plan. The process began in January with the Stage 1.1 effort, and intensified in May, continuing throughout the summer, and culminating in the submission of a School Improvement Grant application and a School Improvement Plan.

NDMA will continue its membership as an American Montessori Society (AMS) member school, and will continue to ensure that our teacher/guides receive the proper Montessori credentials. In addition, though, NDMA will make certain that our teacher/guides and our teaching partners are well-versed in the Minnesota Academic Standards, curriculum alignment, and effective teaching strategies. Also, our staff will receive on-going training and support in administering assessment and in understanding data. The data will inform our planning and our instruction.

NDMA has developed a reputation in our short history of providing exemplary service to children with special needs. The reputation has emerged as we have welcomed children with a broad range of needs and concerns. Our dialogue with families is open, honest and sincere. As a result, our special education population has increased to nearly 25% of our student enrollment. The 2011-2012 school year was a special education compliance year for NDMA. We received Honorable Mention recognition from MDE for our service to students with special needs.

Environmental Activities

The following environmental goals were articulated for the 2011 – 2012 school year:

Goal #1: *All Elementary II students will experience environmental education during the school year.*

Goal #2: *All Students at New Discoveries will experience at least one (1) environmental education activity during the year.*

Goal #3: *Students and staff of NDMA will demonstrate the importance of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Energy Conservations, and Environmental Stewardship.*

Relative to environmental goal #1 & goal #2, all fifth and sixth grade NDMA students attended a three day retreat at the Audubon Center of the North Woods in February.

Relative to environmental goal #1 & goal #2, all fourth grade NDMA students participated in an environmental focus day with McLeod County Parks, and the local DNR chapter.

Relative to environmental goal #2, all third grade NDMA students participated in the planting of six young elm and maple trees on the west lawn of our school with the help of the City of Hutchinson Forestry department and the Hutchinson Utilities Company.

Relative to environmental goal #2, all second grade NDMA students participated in an energy conservation experience with Hutchinson Utilities Company.

Relative to environmental goal # 2, all first grade NDMA students participated in a year-long study of birds, including installing and maintaining a bird feeding station at school.

Relative to environmental goal #2, one first, second and third grade classroom, and one fourth, fifth and sixth grade classroom monitored the progress of the nesting, egg laying and hatching of the eaglets on Eagle.com

Relative to environmental goal #2, all kindergarten NDMA students attended a field trip to a local apple orchard/farm.

Relative to environmental goal #3, all NDMA staff and students are involved in a comprehensive reduce, reuse, recycle program in combination with McLeod County, Waste Management, Creekside Compost and the City of Hutchinson. There are recycle receptacles in every classroom and most work areas. We have

	Third Graders will participate in annual Earth Day celebration with City of Hutchinson Forestry Division.	May 2013
	PTO will host school-wide assembly (raptor program).	April 2013
Teacher-led Earth Friendly Outdoor Recreation	Healthy Discoveries after-school program for k through sixth grade.	Fall 2012 & Spring 2013
	Heritage Journey at Spicer Center for first, second and third graders.	November 2012
Environmental Education-trained teachers/experts used.	Afterschooligans for k through third grade.	November 2012 & May 2012
	Tree planting for third graders	April 2013

"I like that New Discoveries supports individuality and creativity."

"NDMA has the most caring teachers and can work with any type of child for the child's best way to learn and advance in their education."



Summary of Training by NDMA Board Members

All board members whose terms ended at the close of the 2011-2012 school year had completed the required board training prior to the 2011-2012 school year. The following list represents the training that was in addition to the required training that board members participated in during the 2011- 2012 school year:

- Rick Larson, Derek Niemeyer, Karen Olson, Cynthia Vold and Dave Conrad participated in a strategic planning workshop at the Audubon Center of the North Woods November 19, 2011.
- In terms of newly seated board members (after July 1, 2012), Doug Brown attended Practices for Non-Profit Excellence in Denver, CO September 20, 2012. Marc Vaillancourt attended the 3 strands of required board training (Finance, HR and Governance) August 7, 2012.