

# SPENCE ELEMENTARY

## SCHOOL PROFILE

### Evidence of Success

November 2019

#### District Mission (E1):

Students will discover their talents and abilities and will be prepared to pursue their dreams and aspirations while contributing effectively to their local, national, and global communities.

#### Leadership:

##### Administrative Staff:

Kate Moll, Interim Principal  
Linda Hansen, Administrative Assistant  
Kelsey Williams, Administrative Assistant

##### Key Committees:

Leadership, PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports), PBIS Tier 2. SEL (Social & Emotional Learning) Leadership, Safety, MRT (Medical Response Team), PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization), SMT (Student Management Team), BMT (Behavior Management Team), Social Committee

##### School Day/Learning Time:

Hours: 8:00 AM - 2:40 PM  
Before School Hours 6:30-8:00 AM

- Surround Care
- Breakfast (7:30-8:00 AM)

After-School Hours: 2:40-9:00 PM

- Co-curricular activities
- Park and Rec
- YMCA Surround Care
- Family Activities

##### Staff:

Certified Staff = 42  
Teacher Assistants = 8

##### Grade - Number of Sections

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Preschool | - | 2 |
| K         | - | 4 |
| 1         | - | 3 |
| 2         | - | 3 |
| 3         | - | 3 |
| 4         | - | 3 |
| 5         | - | 3 |

##### School Information

Source: WI DPI 2018-2019 School Report Card

|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Grades     | PK-5 |
| Enrollment | 376  |

##### Race/Ethnicity

|                                  |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 0.3%  |
| Asian                            | 11.2% |
| Black or African American        | 4.3%  |
| Hispanic                         | 0.8%  |
| White non-Hispanic               | 68.6% |
| Two or more races                | 14.9% |

##### Student Groups

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Students with Disabilities | 14.9% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 52.1% |
| Limited English Proficient | 9.8%  |

Additional data available at:

<http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp>

##### School Programs:

Harry Spence is a neighborhood school that reflects families of the La Crosse community. Our parent group, Harry Spence PTO, Inc., is a vital, long-standing organization. They are actively involved in instructional support, as well as the traditional roles of fundraising and volunteerism.

Our school has a vast array of programming to support the various needs of our student population. Programs include: Preschool; Intellectual Disabilities program; School-wide Title I; ELL (English Language Learners); Learning Disabilities program; Emotional Behavioral Disabilities program; and an active High Performance Learners program. We also provide a vast array of clubs and activities for students to participate in after before, during and after school.

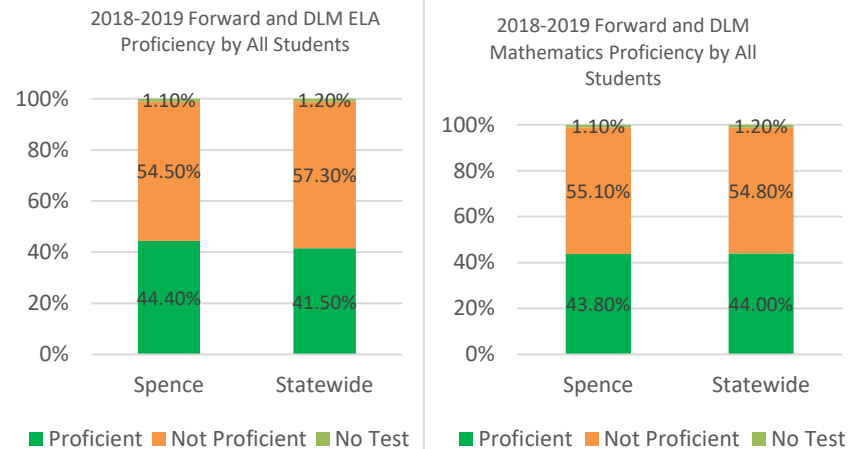
#### Unique School Programs/Accomplishments

##### Things We're Most Proud of:

- A challenging yet welcoming environment that accepts and values every child
- 100% Highly Qualified Staff
- School garden that integrates academic curriculum and creates outdoor classroom for learning
- Parent Involvement through PTO, Family Nights, Volunteering, Trauma-Informed Care, and School Garden
- Universal implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) and recognition from DPI for Bronze-level status
- Building Support Person (through flexible staffing) to proactively support students that struggle behaviorally. Regulation Station available with support team and unique space.
- High Performance Learning reading and math groups for grades 3-5
- Collaboration among music, art, and physical education teachers for integrated instruction
- Institutions of Higher Ed Partnerships- Viterbo & UW-L students doing direct coursework at Spence with students and in classrooms

#### High Academic Standards:

E2: Students will demonstrate a high level of individual success in all required and elective academic/curricular areas using multiple measures of performance.



For more statistics: <http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp>

#### Curriculum Based Achievement Indicators

EX: Products, performances, grades, school assessment data, etc.

- Wisconsin Forward Exam – State Test – Grades 3, 4, 5
- STAR - Universal Screening Assessment and AIMSweb - Progress Monitoring
- Developmental Reading Assessment 2
- District Reading, Writing and Math Benchmark Assessments
- School Data Dig
- Teacher-made projects/products and Formative Assessments
- Leveled Literacy Intervention Program and Benchmark Assessment System
- Matt Hessel-Mial Writing Contest winners at Spence
- Orchestra and Choral Performances
- Participation in Art Exhibits/Competitions

#### Academics Outside School Day

- Odyssey of the Mind
- Battle of the Books
- Orchestra & Music Performances
- Community Helpers Club
- Cooking Club -focus on reading recipes, utilizing math, developing healthy eating habits and fun
- Variety of HPL activities and competitions: Battle of the Books District Competition, Vocabulary Showdown, Matt Hessel-Mial Writing Contest, HPL Summer Symposium / Environmental Program
- RSVP's Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?
- After-school Enrichment Program
- Lunchroom Pals Buddy Program Smart Moves Active Classroom

# SPENCE ELEMENTARY

## Evidence of Success – Page 2

### Goals:

- Increase reading and math achievement so that students meet district and school benchmarks or experience growth of one year or greater.
- Address equity through strengthening universal curriculum integrating practices that are culturally responsive as well as providing students access to curriculum within the classroom structure.
- Continue to create and implement systems and strategies that address students social, emotional and behavioral needs.

### Professional Development:

- Staff work with the Instructional Coach in job-embedded ongoing professional development through a variety of avenues from modeling, team teaching, monthly grade level meetings and extended planning opportunities.
- Staff members meet weekly as a Professional Learning Community to analyze student results and share best practices.
- Staff work with the Instructional Coach on various topics of interest and/or needs
- Spence and Southern Bluffs collaborate together in grade level and job-alike teams
- Various staff members attend workshops, gold brochure classes and participate in various books studies
- Teachers and support staff are continually taking and teaching classes in and beyond the district and then sharing with others in our learning community.
- Monthly professional development on Trauma with Clinical Therapist, Nicole Milliren,
- Staff members are attending Edcamps that are taught by Spence staff based on interest and need of staff members.
- Staff continue to participate in equity training which includes staff facilitating district-sponsored Responsive Classroom training.
- Spence staff participated in PLC Reboot training and now lead their PLC teams with implementing to fidelity.
- Vertical PLC system, in support of our district's co-plan to co-serve to co-learn vision.

### Family, School, and Community Partnerships:

- The PTO organizes and/or supports many events throughout the year, beginning with a fall Open House and ending with our Spring Garden Party, which celebrated the opening of our garden. They support a variety of school projects, technology, assemblies, artist-in residence program, field trips and our school garden.
- Our Title 1 teachers coordinate a Family Literacy Night for students and parents in order to share literacy strategies.
- Thrivent sponsorship of school garden.
- Viterbo University Education students attend class two mornings a week at Spence. They learn about reading instruction in their course work and then work with students and teachers applying this new learning in the classroom.
- Students at UW-L work with select students as part of a semester long class project. This is conducted both fall and spring.
- The YMCA uses the Spence cafeteria to provide a Surround Care program before and after school for working parents.
- The La Crosse Police Department provides officers to work in partnership with schools to educate children and prevent future drug and alcohol abuse as well as gang involvement. (G.R.E.A.T. and D.A.R.E.)
- La Crosse Parks and Recreation runs several athletic programs at the Spence facility. Volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball and track are offered to children after school.
- The Boys and Girls Club of LaCrosse and MATHY Center provides after school tutoring for those students who need help with their homework or a place to go after school.
- Spence Elementary is a community meal site during the summer serving free breakfast and lunch.
- Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts programs utilize Spence for their programming and support our Veterans' Day program.
- Nicole Milliren, Clinical Therapist for La Crosse County Human Services works with Spence staff on children's mental health issues and trauma-informed care.
- UW-L Extension provides nutrition lessons to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> gr.
- United Way Read to Success program for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.
- Read to Rover visits weekly from Coulee Region Humane Society.

### STANDARDS OF THE HEART – caring, success, potential

E3: Students will strive for mutual understanding as contributing citizens in a diverse world.

E4: Students will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to make effective and responsible life choices.

### Core Values/Citizenship Education

- Modeling by all adult staff of friendly, respectful relationships and values of cooperation and learning
- School-wide expectations, acknowledgement and discipline are universally taught and recognized
- Developmental Guidance Curriculum
- DARE and GREAT
- Annual Veterans' Day program to honor our Veterans' service
- Reading Buddies (Cross-grade tutoring)
- Playground Pals, Lunchroom Helpers and Recycling Pals
- Responsive Classroom

### Guidance/Pupil Services

- Counselor and teachers work together to partner with parents to lead students' social and emotional development
- Social worker and principal work with parents, staff and community agencies to advocate for children
- SMT (Student Management Team)
- Speech, CD, LD, OT/PT, School Psychologist services

### Student Community Involvement/Volunteer Work

- Playground Pals (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Safety Patrol (5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Lunchroom Pals (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Community Helpers /Food Pantry (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Cross-grade Tutors (Reading Buddies)
- Hallway Monitors (5<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Walking School Bus – 2 routes each Thursday
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Neighborhood Clean up on Earth Day

### Assemblies/Field Trips/Enrichment

- Monthly PBIS Assemblies and Champions of Learning groups where students are in cross grade-level groups for school-culture building activities
- Artist-in-Residence – Folk Dancing – Sue Hulsether
- Oktoberfest Royal Family visit – students also perform for the Royal Family
- Opera for the Young and La Crosse Community Theater
- Veteran's Day Program/Assembly
- La Crosse Fire Department prevention programs
- Hmong Education Project
- Theater trips to Viterbo, UW-L and Heider Center
- Summer Reading Program (Public Library)
- Grade level field trips in curriculum areas (Capitol, River Museum, etc.)
- Art Show at Southside Public Library and 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Minnesota Marine Art Museum
- K, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trips to Central High School
- Various PBIS Celebrations throughout the year (Field Day, Movie at Central, School Dance, Pool Day at Erickson Pool) and monthly booster assemblies
- Honors Orchestra Tour, Nursing Home Visits, All City Strings
- Longfellow Jazz and Show Choir Tour
- Symphony for Youth
- Slide into Safety (Gundersen and Loggers)
- Cooking Demonstrations (4<sup>th</sup> grade) through Farm to School

### Clubs, Co-Ex Activities

- Playground Pals (Student leadership)/Lunchroom Pals
- Safety Patrol
- Garden Club
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Cooking Club
- Strings Program
- After School Youth Development program (15 different club offerings during the year for 6 weeks)

### Volunteer Projects

- School garden
- Volunteer Reader Program
- Library Volunteers
- Playground Volunteers
- Multiple PTO activities
- Vision Screening – Lions Club and Dental Sealants
- Preschool Orientation Day and School Pictures
- Hundreds of Individual Volunteers
- RSVP – Foster Grandparents and The World We Live In
- Grandparents Day
- Coulee Region Humane Society
- Read to Rover – 3 dogs