

**Schools Transforming Learning Application  
Dove Elementary - Grapevine-Colleyville ISD  
1932 Dove Rd. Grapevine, TX**

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## **Overview and Background**

Dove Elementary, one of the oldest buildings in Grapevine-Colleyville ISD since its opening in 1972, stands as a hub of innovation and transformation. As a Title 1 school, Dove serves approximately 410 students in grades ECSE 3 to 5th grade, with 50% identified as economically disadvantaged and twenty-one different languages spoken. At Dove Elementary, we are transforming education by promoting a culture of collaboration, student empowerment, and meaningful family engagement that drive the success of our school. Through innovative professional development, academic and extracurricular personalized learning opportunities for students, and a strong focus on community involvement, we are setting the stage for long-term student success. We believe that education is not just about academics but about creating well-rounded individuals prepared to contribute to and thrive in a rapidly changing world.

## **Focus Areas**

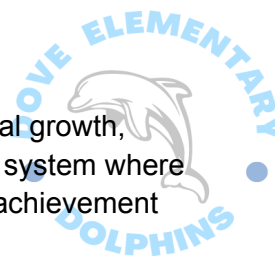
Our efforts center on four key focus areas: professional development, personalized learning for students, student engagement through extracurricular activities, and family involvement. Each of these areas aligns with principles outlined in the Visioning Document, reinforcing our commitment to creating a transformative learning environment that addresses both the academic and social-emotional needs of our students.

## **Work**

*Professional Development:* Our weekly Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for 3rd-5th grade teachers are a cornerstone of our transformation. When adults learn, students win, and when teachers learn from one another, it creates a more dynamic collegial environment. After dissecting power standards, our teachers collaboratively develop exit tickets aligned with rigorous standards, analyze student data, and adjust instruction to meet the needs of all learners. This process embodies the Visioning Document's principle of transforming schools into learning organizations where "data is used to inform instruction and continuously refine practice" (Article 3). The culture of professional growth fostered by these PLCs enables our staff to respond dynamically to student needs. In addition, our teachers participate in book studies, such as *Powerful Partnerships*, which deepen their understanding of family engagement and its role in academic success. This professional development extends beyond academics, equipping educators with tools to create inclusive, supportive learning environments.

*Personalized Learning:* Dove Elementary embraces personalized learning pathways that empower students to take ownership of their academic progress. Teachers use Tools for Instruction in iReady to create small groups and design tailored learning activities, ensuring alignment with individual student needs. This focused approach aligns with the Visioning Document's goal of "personalized education that fosters aspirations and considers human variables" (Article 5). Our students actively track their progress in their My Path in iReady, setting weekly goals for lesson completion and mastery. At the mid-year iReady diagnostic,

students in grades K-5 achieved a median percent progress of 81% toward typical growth, showcasing the effectiveness of this strategy. This data reflects the success of a system where personalized learning meets strategic teacher support, fostering both academic achievement and student agency.



*Extracurricular Activities:* Student engagement extends beyond the classroom through our robust offering of 13 after-school clubs, including the Dove Dynamic Drummers, Cardio Club, and Student Leadership. Clubs at Dove collectively engage over 50% of our students, offering opportunities to explore their passions and develop skills that enhance academic success and future career readiness. Notably, our Gardening Club brings together Dove staff members, parents, and grandparents to mentor students in horticulture. Students learn how to grow and eat plants, design themed displays, and develop life skills such as responsibility and teamwork. The Gardening Club reflects the Visioning Document's call for "schools that are community-owned, free of bureaucratic structures that inhibit multiple paths to reaching goals" (page 5). This multi-generational initiative also fosters a deeper sense of belonging and intergenerational learning, creating a vibrant, supportive community.

*Family Engagement:* This year, we established a Family Engagement Committee to strengthen partnerships between the school and families. Events like Math Night and Coffee with the Principal provide opportunities for families to connect with school leaders and learn how to support their students. The committee also organizes the annual Dolphin Dive Into Summer event, collaborating with community organizations to provide resources and information for Dove families. This event serves as a bridge between the school year and summer, ensuring continuous learning and engagement. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with parents praising the engaging and collaborative nature of these events. These efforts align with the Visioning Document's emphasis on "families as equal partners in their children's education" (The Vision). Additionally, we actively gather and use parent feedback to refine our approaches, ensuring our strategies are responsive to the needs of our community.

## **Results**

Our focus on collaboration, personalized learning, and family engagement has led to measurable outcomes. Increased overall attendance rates each month from last year reflect growing student and family engagement. Dove Elementary was recognized as a PTA School of Excellence, further affirming our commitment to building a strong school community. Additionally, higher scores on unit assessments and significant growth in iReady diagnostics highlight the success of our instructional strategies. For example, math unit assessment scores have shown marked improvement over last year's scores, with teachers leveraging PLC insights to close learning gaps effectively. Parent feedback, such as "The Math Night activities were engaging and fun, and it was great to see families participate together," underscores the positive impact of our initiatives.

At Dove Elementary, we address our students' current needs while preparing them for the future. Through data-driven instruction, personalized learning, extracurricular activities, and community partnerships, we are creating a foundation for long-term success. These initiatives are not just transformative for our students but also for the entire Dove community. We are proud to nominate Dove Elementary as a School Transforming Learning.