

Certification Report Advanced Learning Posted January 2005

School View Ridge Elementary

Program Spectrum

View Ridge has a long history of serving Spectrum students and offering a Spectrum programs that provides an accelerated and rigorous curriculum delivered through flexible groupings and differentiated instruction.

While our primary advanced learning students are served through our ALO program, the program in grades three through five is classified as a Spectrum program. Spectrum students are grouped together for the core areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. Mainstreamed special education and regular education students are blended with the Spectrum students for science, social studies and time with specialists. The blended time is imperative to maintain our philosophy of being an inclusive school.

The reading program is literature based using novel sets that are genre or theme oriented, with the reading program focusing on analyzing students' use of language, style, purpose, and perspective as well as identifying elements of literature. Writing extends daily across all disciplines and the six traits of writing and the writing process are both integral parts of our writing program. Word processing is used to produce completed writing projects. In math, a variety of instructional methods, including inquiry, textbooks, manipulatives, direct instruction, and computer-based software applications to meet the needs of all learners.

Strengths/Commendations

High-energy staff

Clear definition of focus and purpose of the program

Clear dedication to the program by staff and administration, combined with strong parent support

Extensive use of pre and post testing to support development of flexible learning groups that allow for differentiated instruction

Areas to be Strengthened

Continued articulation of accelerated standards and understanding the continuum

Continued articulation of rigor as it presents itself in curricula and on-going student tasks

Continued tracking of student performance