

Harrisburg Elementary

Tomahawks

Our demographics

School principal: Steven Puckett **Began at school:** 2014 **In district:** 2007 **In education:** 2001

Grades served: K – 5 **Enrollment:** 1,023 **Economic status:** 18% free & reduced lunch

Diversity: 77% White, 7% Hispanic, 10% African-American, 6% Other

Number of teachers: 47 **Classified:** 16 **Administrators:** 3 **Counselors:** 2 **Media specialist:** 1

Other: Nurse, Elementary Stem Specialist, Reading Coach, Speech, ESL, Psychologist

Teachers with advanced degrees: 60.3% **Teacher attendance:** 94.3% **Student attendance:** 95.6%

Our mission

At Harrisburg Elementary School, we are winning the game of life! We believe that we will promote lifelong learning and develop productive citizens of the world with five strategic plays: Be Positive, Be a Leader, Be a Team Player, Be Teachable and Be Technology Literate.

Our facilities

Date main building was built: 2014 **Date of renovations:** N/A

Square feet: 120,608 **Number of computers:** 240 **Number of classrooms:** 48

Specialty areas: 1 science lab, 3 computer labs, gym, 45 smart panel TVs

Our school programs

- **STEM Enrichment Course** – Students participate in a course that extends science and technology instruction in a lab-based environment.
- **Uniform Dress Code** – All students have a uniform dress code designed to promote positive behavior and clear expectations.
- **Honor Choir** – The choir is open to Grade 5 students with strong musical interest.
- **Drama Club** – The club is open to Grade 5 students and is an arts integration program for students who love to perform.
- **iLead** – This is a leadership development program designed for selected young men and women in fifth grade. This program allows students to cultivate and develop the necessary traits needed to become a leader and a strong contributor to society. This program also encourages involvement from male community members and fathers that integrate themselves into our school culture and provide positive male leadership.
- **iRead** – This is a school-wide buddy reading program developed and implemented to help build students' reading fluency and confidence, while building a relationship with a student on a different grade

level. This program allows students to mentor younger students and build friendships through a common love of reading.

- **Tomahawk Team Days** – Students are given the opportunity each month to learn about an important charitable cause in our community. Students will be allowed to dress in a way that promotes either school spirit or the selected cause and a portion of proceeds will be donated to the cause. This program encourages students to become community minded and to give charitably.

After school programs

- **Art Club**
- **Cheerleading**
- **Fit Kids**
- **Girls on the Run**
- **Keyboarding Club**
- **Drama Club**

Our parent support programs

- **Parent/Teacher Association (PTA)**
- **School Improvement Council (SIC)**
- **Quarterly ESL Parent Nights**
- **Parent/Community Volunteer Programs**
- **ILead Leadership Program**
- **Annual Volunteer Breakfast**
- **Weekly Parent Newsletter**

Our school strengths

- **Diverse academic and enrichment programs** – In addition to the core subject areas, we offer visual and performing arts programs, including art, music, physical education, keyboarding and STEM. We have a part-time reading coach who supports teachers as well as students. We offer a gifted-talented program as well as a reading enrichment program that meets the needs of our students on all levels. We also offer Classworks and Fast Forward computer-based programs designed to support our classroom instruction, both in the classroom and at home.
- **Strong community and parent involvement including excellent communication** – We believe that learning is a team sport and that we can't win at the game of life without support from staff, students, parents and the community. We have a supportive PTA that works to match classrooms with parent volunteers, provides funding for programs and technology that are needed in the school, grounds

and building enhancement projects, and focuses on encouraging the team atmosphere we rely on. We keep our parents informed in a variety of ways including daily parent emails from teachers, weekly parent ConnectED phone calls, weekly Tomahawk Times newsletter, regularly-updated website and a variety of social media outlets.

- **Cooperative learning teams** – We work hard to establish team culture with our school. Each grade works together as a team to meet the needs of the students and to contribute to the overall school team. Teachers in individual grade levels meet weekly to collaborate on the best ways to provide instruction and to analyze performance data. Teachers work together to adjust and modify if necessary to make sure the needs of all students are being met. Teachers focus on a standards-driven instructional model which is matched with interdisciplinary approaches to deliver the best possible instruction to students. We require all subject areas to incorporate a balance of whole-group instruction and small-group instruction, as well as individual conferencing to make sure each child is met on his/her level. Administration and support staff are a large part of the team and are involved in all staff meetings.
- **Game plan for life** – We believe that we are not only winning at Harrisburg, but our students are winning the game of life! We have developed the Game Plan for Greatness, which incorporates five strategic plays which will help all students be successful not only at school, but throughout their lives. These plays are:

Play One: Be Positive: Always say I can, never I can't.

Play Two: Be a Leader: Always be an example of greatness!

Play Three: Be Teachable: Keep learning every day, every day, every day!

Play Four: Be a Team Player: Working together is always better!

Play Five: Be Technology Literate: Use technology to be productive, not destructive!