

Principal: Joann Grether  
Enrollment: 730  
Address: 9325 W. Mossywood Dr.  
Boise, ID 83709  
Phone: 208-350-4020  
Fax: 208-350-4039  
Website: [www.meridianschools.org](http://www.meridianschools.org)

# Desert Sage Elementary School

## School Report Card 2008-09

### OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

#### OUR MISSION

Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Challenges.

Many factors, such as student attendance, moving frequently, and English language experience, influence school achievement. Measuring these characteristics helps us understand our students' needs.

#### KEEPING YOU INFORMED

This report is a summary of some indicators of the performance of our school. No single report can tell the whole story of our school's educational program or the people who work and learn here.

We encourage you to find out firsthand by visiting our school. If you are a parent of one of our students, we invite you to take an active role in your child's learning because studies show that when parents are involved, students do better in school.

#### ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

18% Who participated in programs to learn English  
56% Who received free or reduced-price lunch on average  
4% Who participated in gifted and talented programs

#### ABOUT OUR PARENTS

94% Who attended parent teacher conferences  
25% Who have volunteered their time  
We are committed to ensuring that our students are taught by a highly trained and qualified staff of instructors.

#### HOW WE ARE IMPROVING

Desert Sage opened in August of 2006. We are now in our 4<sup>th</sup> year of serving our community. Our staff is committed to Continuous Improvement and has set goals in reading, math, and language. Our team of teachers, which also includes Title 1 and ELL teachers, work collaboratively to meet the needs of all our students through implementing differentiation instructional strategies and leveling. We recently received a grant from Micron for \$144,000 that will provide our teachers with additional training over a three year period in **Developing Mathematical Thinkers**.

When measured by state proficiency standards Desert Sage performance on the IRI and ISAT are competitive with the District and State averages, with the exception of AYP categories of SWD (Students with Disabilities) and Hispanic students.

We are also committed to providing our students with a positive and safe learning environment.

#### OPTIONS FOR PARENTS

Our parents are encouraged to be actively involved at Desert Sage by volunteering for teachers. Our PTA encourages parents to become involved by serving on committees, supporting their fund raisers and attending their meetings.

#### ABOUT OUR TEACHERS

100% Percent who are highly qualified  
0% Percent who are teaching as an approved consultant specialist  
0% Percent who are teaching with a letter of authorization  
0% Percent of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers  
7 Number who are special education teachers  
1 Number who is National Board Certified

#### ABOUT AVERAGE CLASS SIZES

Grade	Our school	District
Kindergarten	24.5	22.8
First grade	22.4	21.9
Second grade	27.5	23.1
Third grade	23	22.7
Fourth grade	31.2	28.2
Fifth grade	29.3	28.8

#### OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Our goal is to provide a place for students to learn without distractions and concerns for safety. We closely monitor activities on our campus and offer programs to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and substance abuse. As required by state and federal laws and rules, we collect, monitor, and report on crimes and substance abuse incidents on our campus and at school activities. A complete report of this information about our school and district is available at: <http://www.sde.id.us/ipd/reportcard/SchoolReportCard.asp>

#### OUR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

**ABOUT OUR STUDENTS' RESULTS:** Included with this are "**Adequate Yearly Progress Assessment Reports**" These reports provide detailed information about the academic performance of our students and specific groups of students on state reading, math, and language usage tests

**ABOUT OUR SCHOOL'S PROGRESS:** The results from these tests also are used to measure the progress of our school toward state and federal goals. The report called "**Adequate Yearly Progress Indicators**" details which goals our school met and those we may have missed.

#### WHAT WE CELEBRATE

At Desert Sage, we celebrate being a neighborhood school. We are committed to academic growth, developing lifelong learners, and citizenship. We celebrate student's success at quarterly assemblies. We celebrate the support and confidence our parents have in our learning community. We celebrate the diversity of cultures and welcome the opportunity to expand our world view.