

School Improvement Plan

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Union Elementary's primary aim is to **improve student comprehension and communication** — meaning students will understand grade-level content (in reading, writing, and mathematics) and be able to express what they know clearly. This underpins the work of teachers and the school's improvement team.

Key Focus Areas & Strategies

1. Instructional Rigor & Curriculum Use

- Teachers will use high-quality, research-based instructional materials aligned to grade-level expectations.
- Lessons will include opportunities for students to actively talk about, explain, or justify their thinking (not just listen).
- The school will monitor lesson planning and delivery to ensure alignment with the school's goals.

2. Data & Monitoring of Student Growth

- The school will regularly assess students (through formal and informal assessments) to check how much they're growing and to identify who needs extra support (or extended challenge).
- Results will be shared with teachers, the leadership team, and used to adjust instruction, grouping, and interventions.

3. Professional Learning for Staff

- Staff will engage in targeted professional development (PD) that supports improving comprehension, communication, data-use, and effective instruction.
- Teacher teams (grade-level or content teams) will meet regularly (often weekly or bi-weekly) to analyze student work, plan together, reflect on instructional practices, and adjust based on data.

4. Family & Community Engagement

- The school commits to providing opportunities for families to engage in their child's learning (events, workshops, take-home resources) — especially around

comprehension strategies and supporting communication at home.

- Information will be shared in parent-friendly ways (workshops, newsletters, online) so you know what your child is working on and how you can help at home.

5. Intervention & Enrichment Systems

- For students needing extra help, the school will use a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) approach: tiered interventions based on need, monitored frequently.
- For students who are already meeting or exceeding standards, the school will provide opportunities for enrichment (deeper thinking, extension tasks, projects) so growth continues for all learners.

Major Milestones & Parents' Role

- Beginning of Year: Teachers and leadership review last year's data, identify priority areas, finalize the SIP, and share key goals with students and families.
- Each Quarter/Grading Period: Student data is reviewed; instructional groups/interventions may shift. The school may host a parent meeting to share progress.
- Mid-Year: The SIP is revisited and refined if needed — adjustments in strategies, PD focus, or intervention support.
- End of Year: Final data is analyzed to see total student growth, proficiency, and how the SIP worked. The results guide next year's plan.

Your role as a parent:

- Attend family events and workshops — especially those tied to comprehension and communication.
- Ask your child's teacher: "What are we working on in class right now? How can I support this at home?"
- Encourage your child to explain what they learned each day ("Tell me about your day — what did you do? Why did you do it that way?")
- Monitor progress: Check with the teacher about assessment data, interventions, or enrichment your child is in.
- Stay connected: Use the school's communication tools (newsletters, website, parent portal) to follow what's going on and what the SIP priorities are.

Why This Matters

When students are truly understanding and communicating what they know (rather than just memorizing), they become more confident, can tackle new problems, and are better prepared for each next grade. By aligning the school's plan, teacher work, and family support toward these goals, Union Elementary aims to help every child grow — no matter where they start.