



Kenowa Hills Public Schools
Education inspired.

Get a quick glimpse of what Education Inspired looks like inside the classrooms at Kenowa Hills Public Schools.



Student Growth: A Teacher Perspective

Middle school years are a time of dramatic change for many students. We are gifted with the opportunity to see students grow every day. Our students are growing their academic skills and their social competence as they work to find out who they are.

At Kenowa Hills Middle School, we use a team approach to monitor growth toward academic and personal goals. Students and teachers at the middle school monitor growth through the use of formative assessment, self-checks on daily success criteria, peer-assessments, and standards-based rubrics. Knowing what you know and where you are in the learning process helps everyone make decisions about what the next steps in learning are to meet goals.

Our goal at the middle school is to support students academically and socially as they grow into the best versions of themselves.

Kelli Huizen
7th Grade Math Teacher and Instructional Coach
Kenowa Hills Middle School



Read on to see how teachers at Kenowa Hills walk alongside students as they grow to reach their fullest potential.



"We measure student growth by utilizing running records for both accuracy and comprehension skills. This data provides specific information on how to adjust instruction and help students achieve their reading goal. As students apply their skills and acquire new strategies, their growth continues and they can set new goals."

Jennifer Brandstatter
Reading Interventionists
Kenowa Hills Alpine Elementary



"The students in our classrooms all have different needs and abilities, and we have the unique opportunity of working with students and their families for multiple years. One of the things we talk about with families in regards to how their student has grown and measuring growth, is looking at where a student was and where they are now: Remember when (student's name) couldn't do (certain skill/task)? They are now!

We also look at the amount of support a student needs to complete a skill or a task. Are they able to do a skill or task independently that they were unable to do before? For future growth, we look at what skills a student needs and what supports they need to reach those goals.

We are really able to tailor what we do to help meet each student's unique and individual needs and support them in curriculum standards, as well as other skills they need to build independence."

Marsha Martinez
Autism Teacher
Kenowa Hills Central Elementary



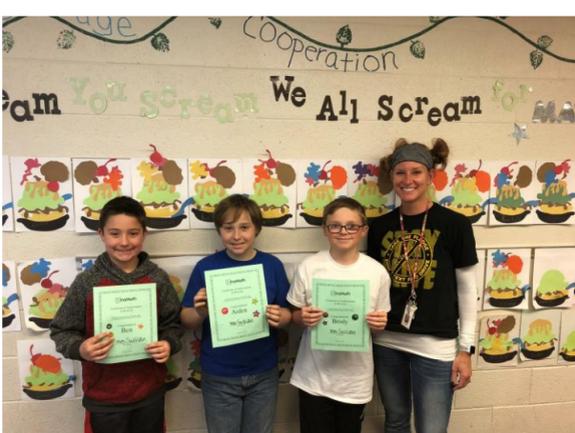
"In order to ensure we are always focused on student growth, we have to also focus on the growth and development of our staff. The team at Kenowa Hills Early Childhood Center is diligent in ensuring their skills and understanding of best practices in early childhood remains one of our foundational priorities and in the forefront of how we operate. The Michigan Association of the Education of Young Children (MiAEC) is an organization that works on behalf of young children, their families, and early childhood professionals. It supports the professional development of its members through quality training, materials and services. We are proud that six out of our 10 teachers attended the conference this year. Our team participated in sessions that focused on child development, family and community engagement, teaching and learning, health/safety/nutrition, curriculum, and much more."

Dan Brant
Director of Early Childhood Education
Kenowa Hills Early Childhood Center



"Growth comes from being comfortable with making mistakes. Early on in the year during guided practice, students weren't comfortable trying practice problems. They would just sit quietly and wait for me to explain and give them the answers. They were worried about getting it wrong. Now during guided practice, they work with their peers and know that it is ok to make mistakes. We have learned from our mistakes since we were young children. We can't stop learning from them now."

Annette Bell
Math Teacher and Department Chair
Kenowa Hills High School



"Tracking student growth in a fun and engaging way helps students take interest in their learning goals. In fourth grade at Kenowa Hills Zinser Elementary, the students spend all year improving their multiplication fact fluency. One way they track their growth is an ice cream sundae building incentive. Each week, students are quizzed on the math facts they are mastering from memory. Each time they 'pass' a set, they are given a topping to glue on their sundaes which are displayed in the hall. At the end of the year, we will all enjoy the sundaes and earned toppings to celebrate our math fact growth."

Mrs. Sposaro and Mrs. Sullivan
4th Grade Teachers
Kenowa Hills Zinser Elementary



"Growth happens not only with student-teacher interactions, but peer-to-peer interactions as well. Students regularly work together in teams in their STEM classrooms, which allows them to learn from each other, push on each other's thinking, and grow together through teamwork and collaboration."

Delia Bush
Elementary STEM Teacher



Many of the classroom experiences shown here are part of the Kenowa Hills Personal Mastery program. Personal Mastery is education inspired by the individual learner. It's nothing like a classroom where each student sits for the same amount of time learning curriculum the same way. It's everything about instruction to engage your individual student to master, retain, and apply needed curriculum for a successful future.

What to see Education Inspired for yourself? Parents and guardians are welcome in our classrooms anytime. Just call or email your child's teacher to set up a time to see how Personal Mastery techniques help all students learn, master and apply curriculum so they are prepared for a bright future.