



State Superintendent Visits WRPS Schools

State Superintendent Tony Evers paid a visit to the WRPS District in November to get a first-hand look at the exemplary science program that has been developed here. With a stop at both Woodside and Washington Elementary Schools, Supt. Evers had a chance to interact with the students and see how the new standards for science classes adopted by the District in 2013 are being integrated into the classroom. WRPS was one of the first in the state to officially adopt the *Next Generation Science Standards*.

“To the credit of Wisconsin Rapids, they’ve decided that science is a top priority,” said Evers. “It’s a great program and I want to tell people around the state.”

District Science Coordinator Dave Bergerson has been instrumental in the successful implementation of the science curriculum which incorporates standards from English Language Arts, math, and social studies. The curriculum also has a strong Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) focus. However, he gives the credit for positive results being seen to the teachers who are implementing this curriculum in their classrooms. “Teachers have had intensive training and have done a phenomenal job to embed other disciplines into science. Our science curriculum promotes literacy and students are reading, writing, and are experiencing science from multiple avenues of learning,” said Bergerson.

Supt. Evers liked what he saw on his visit and said, “Wisconsin Rapids has a well-known elementary science program. In our schools across the state it’s really hard to find high quality programs, so I came here to see what’s going on – it’s great.”

The District is proud of the progress our staff is making as they continue to find innovative, creative ways to integrate programs that build a strong foundation for our students!

