



Bayless Junior High School  
Saint Louis, Missouri

### School Demographics 2008-2009

Bayless Junior High School (BJHS) is a 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade school located in St. Louis County, Missouri. BJHS is part of Bayless School District, currently serving 1,711 students in four schools: one elementary (PreK-2), one intermediate (3-5), one junior high (7-8), and one senior high (9-12). BJHS is home to approximately 279 students, 22 teachers, and seven support personnel. The student population is 46% Caucasian, 35% Bosnian Caucasian, 8% Black, 9% Asian and 2% Hispanic. The Special Education population ranges from moderate to severe in terms of diagnoses, and represents 14% of our total population. The socio-economics of our school is low-to-middle class with 53% of our students receiving Free/Reduced lunch. The “per pupil expenditure” for our students is \$6,781. Of the 22 school districts in Saint Louis County, Bayless School District’s “expenditure per student” is ranked second lowest. BJHS has historically met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in each of the previous recording years, with the exception of the most recent (Spring 2008).

According to the 2000 census, the city where the Bayless School District is located had a population of approximately 49,634 residents with an average family income of \$52,582 (<http://www.census.gov>). Construction, manufacturing, and retail trade are the major employers in the surrounding area.

Bayless School District has become the epicenter for many of the St. Louis area’s immigrant families. The United States Federal Government designated St. Louis one of three refugee re-settlement sites due to affordable housing and employment opportunities. According to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, per capita, Bayless School District is the most culturally diverse District in the State. A large number of Bosnian families, along with families from Mexico, Vietnam, Pakistan, Germany, Korea, Iraq, and China (among others) have all found their way to our schools. Many members of our Bosnian families are war refugees from the former Yugoslavia. A diverse student body allows all of our students to develop a deeper understanding of other cultures.

The Quality Standards Self-Assessment was completed by a number of staff members, including the school’s counselor, a special education teacher, and three regular education teachers. Mrs. Suzanne Richardson, BJHS counselor, collected artifacts and created the portfolio; Mr. Ronald Tucker, BJHS principal, wrote the seven page narrative.