

August 18, 2011

## Troy School District 2010-2011 Annual Educational Report and PA 25 Report

Dear Parents and Community Members of the Troy School District:

The Troy community is continually ranked as one of the best places to live across the nation. Troy was named Michigan's best community to raise a family by CNN Money. The Troy School District was singled out as a primary factor in earning this award. Athens, Troy High and the International Academy were cited by Newsweek Magazine as being among the top 10 percent of all high schools in the United States. This is due to the partnership between parents, the community and an excellent staff.

The Troy School District is recognized nationwide for excellence in academics and Fine Arts education. Our students regularly compete in—and win—prestigious national and international contests in math, science, Language Arts, music, robotics, forensics and problem solving. The rigorous curriculum that TSD provides, along with our top-notch professional teachers and staff means every Troy student has the opportunity to excel. We are very proud of our students' achievements and believe that the support and involvement of our TSD families is critical to their success.

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for the Troy School District and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws; however, our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact **Anne Mull, Director of Curriculum** for help if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [http://www.troy.k12.mi.us/images/AER\\_for\\_TSD.pdf](http://www.troy.k12.mi.us/images/AER_for_TSD.pdf) or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

The report contains the following information:

### **Student Assessment Data – Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access)**

- Presents achievement data for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 (MEAP), for grade 11 (MME) and science for grades 5 and 8 compared to targets for all students as well as subgroups of students
- Provides achievement data for English language arts, mathematics and science for students with significant disabilities (MI-Access) compared to targets for all students with disabilities as well as subgroups of students

- Helps readers understand achievement progress within schools and compare these to district and state achievement

### **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – Detail Data and Status**

Provides information from assessments, graduation and attendance rates and AYP status in relation to four criteria:

- The district must test 95% of students in total and in each required subgroup
- The district must attain achievement goals in English language arts and mathematics or reduce the percentage of students in the non-proficient category of achievement significantly ("safe harbor") annually
- The district must attain achievement goals for each subgroup that has at least 30 students in the group
- The district must meet or exceed the other academic indicators set by the state: graduation rate for high schools and attendance rate for elementary and middle schools

### **Teacher Quality Data**

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

### **NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8
- Cannot be compared with MEAP results for grades 4 and 8 because there are no national standards

Thank you to all those who make the Troy School District such a wonderful place to live and learn. If I can be of assistance to you please contact me at 248.823.4000 or by email at bfowler2@troy.k12.mi.us.

Sincerely,  
Barb Fowler  
Superintendent  
Troy School District

## **Our Mission**

“The purpose of the Troy School District is to ensure learning for all members of the school community.”

## **Our Vision**

“The Troy School District will become an exemplary learning community that supports innovation and is committed to continuous improvement. The Troy School District will be a place where a collaborative community develops curriculum, instructional strategies, and assessment to ensure all students learn.

## **Annual Education Report (AER)**

For 2010-2011, Troy School District made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics. With the exception of Larson and Athens where a small subgroup of students failed to meet

AYP and Niles Community High School, all schools in the district also made AYP as well as met attendance and graduation rates.

The full report can be found at the following link: [http://www.troy.k12.mi.us/images/AER for TSD.pdf](http://www.troy.k12.mi.us/images/AER%20for%20TSD.pdf)

School Name	Reason(s) for not making AYP	Corrective action underway
Larson Middle School	Procedural error in exempting small group of students	Safeguards in place to ensure error does not happen again
Athens High School	Small subgroup of student did not make AYP	Identify gaps in student learning, differentiated instruction and intervention
Niles Community High School	Graduation and proficiency targets not met	Identify gaps in student learning, differentiated instruction and intervention

**Process of assigning student to each school**

Students are assigned to schools by grade level according to the district attendance boundaries. Students residing in the district may request open enrollment in a school other than the one to which they are assigned during the Open Enrollment period. Open enrollment is approved on the basis of staffing and capacity in the building. High School students needing an alternative setting to the traditional classroom environment are identified and assigned to Niles High School through the District’s intervention model for struggling high school students.

**School Improvement Plan**

All nineteen Troy School District schools are accredited by and participate in the North Central Association accreditation and continuous school improvement process. Historically, each school has pursued the NCA process individually with district support for identifying goals, developing strategies, assessing progress, and reporting results. The improvement goals and the school improvement plans vary from school-to-school. Schools with similar goals may adopt different strategies and assessments and pursue different staff development in order to implement their plans.

The Troy School District was awarded district wide accreditation from AdvancEd/NCA/Casi. The NCA District Accreditation process makes the district, rather than the schools, accountable for the school improvement process. It is a systems-approach to school improvement; aligning and organizing all the systems in the district and providing for improved efficiency in resource allocation and planning. The process emphasizes the interrelatedness of all sectors of the school community and the involvement of all staff in meeting the district goals.

*During the 2010-11 school year, a District Improvement team focused on the following goals:*

Goal 1: All Troy School District students will create and pursue personal growth plans.

Goal 2: All Troy School District students will perceive they are accepted at school regardless of cultural, ethnic, gender, academic or other individual differences as measured by a validated survey.

Goal3: The Troy School District will score in the top 5% of all districts in the state on all subtests of the Michigan Department of educational Assessment Program and the Michigan Merit Exam.

Goal 4: All Troy School District “No Child Left Behind” subgroups will make adequate yearly progress on all subtests of the MEAP and MME.

## **Core Curriculum Implementation**

The Troy School District continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with the state’s Michigan Merit Curriculum, High School Content Expectations, Grade Level Content Expectations, and the Common Core State Standards.

## **Parent Involvement**

The Board of Education recognizes that a student’s education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the student attends school. Over the years, research has proven that there is a direct relationship between parent involvement and student achievement. To support the goal of the school district to help all students succeed, schools and parents must work together as active partners.

Troy School District parents are an integral part of the educational process. They are active participants at both the building and district level. Ninety-seven percent of parents of elementary students and seventy-six percent of parents of secondary students attended parent-teacher conferences during the 2010-2011 school year. Each of our schools has an active PTO or parent booster organization and parent volunteers play an important role in the classroom and school activities. TSD parents are a critical component on our district-wide Diversity Council as well as each individual building’s NCA School Improvement Team. The Troy School District recognizes the significant contributions our parents make and we appreciate the important partnership that allows our students to achieve.

## **Post secondary, college accredited courses and dual enrollment**

The high schools in Troy School District promote the use of dual enrollment as an option for gaining college credit. The total number of students taking advantage of dual enrollment between Athens, Troy and NCHS was 24 for the 2009-2010 and 32 for the 2010-2011 school years.

Far more students take advantage of Advanced Placement (AP) courses (no Troy District High School students take IB exams.) There are 27 AP courses offered between both high schools. For the 2009-2010 school year at AHS 802 students (49%) took advantage of AP courses and 81.67% earned a passing score or above leading to college credit. For the 2010-2011 school year at AHS 808 students (50.4%) took advantage of AP courses and 76.98% earned a passing score or above leading to college credit. For the 2009-2010 school year at THS, 1227 students (61%) took advantage of AP courses and 89.73% earned a passing score or above leading to college credit. For the 2010-2011 school year at THS, 1244 students (65.1%) took advantage of AP courses and 90.03% of students earned a passing score or above leading to college credit.

## **Locally administered assessments**

Our locally administered assessments are part of a balanced assessment system that uses the results from both summative and formative assessments to monitor learning and to adjust instruction. Our teachers develop their own range of formative and summative assessments to monitor, grade, and make inferences about a student's ability to meet standards and curriculum goals. Teachers use data they collect from students to plan instruction and to direct re-teaching.

## **Student Achievement**

More than 95 percent of Troy School District graduates go on to higher education and are accepted at the finest schools in the U.S.A. Students earn millions of dollars in college scholarships annually. Recruiters have also reported that Troy School District is one of the top feeder districts to the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

Our high school graduates achieve top scores in every major assessment area, including Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP), SAT and ACT. For more information, please see the complete AER report.

## **Points of Pride**

A Troy School District education means that graduates have an edge in admissions to higher education and in the competitive job market. It means that students have access to cutting-edge technology in award-winning schools and programs. And it means that your children will receive the finest education available in a safe and nurturing environment.

Quality education is a priority in the Troy School District community. The rigorous, highly comprehensive curricular offerings throughout a student's elementary, middle and high school years enable students to prepare for future success, whether in a competitive university environment or in the world of work.

More than 12,000 students are enrolled in twelve elementary, four middle schools and two traditional and one non-traditional high school. The Troy community is located in suburban Oakland County and is conveniently located near major business, recreational and cultural facilities. The combination of location and a top-rated school district makes the Troy community an ideal location to raise a family!

### **TSD Staff**

Troy students are welcomed to school each day by a caring staff that is dedicated to ensuring every student meets success in their classrooms. All Troy teachers meet the current Michigan certification requirements and meet the "highly qualified" criteria established by the State of Michigan. Our staff is regularly honored for outstanding performance at state and national levels.

Recent Staff Awards and Honors include:

- Two Troy School District teachers have been selected as winners in the 2010 Edyth May Sliffe Award for Distinguished Junior High School Mathematics Teaching program. The

Mathematical Association of America (MAA) has announced that Douglas Meyer, of Smith Middle School, and Tammy Gilbert, of Boulan Park Middle School, are two of 56 teachers selected from all of the junior high schools in the United States and Canada for this prestigious award.

- Rebecca Johns, from Troy High School, was named Michigan Biology Teacher of the Year
- Fifty-six students were named National Merit Semi-finalists. These students represent the top one percent of all high school students in the nation.
- High School Assistant Principal Robert Dowd was named Athletic Director of the Year by Oakland Activities Association Athletics Association.

### **Awards and Honors**

Other awards and honors include:

- Troy is one of four school districts in metro Detroit to receive an "A+" rating from the Detroit News, following a comprehensive analysis of school quality factors.
- All Troy School District buildings are accredited by the North Central Association.
- Troy offers a complete K-12 International Baccalaureate program.
- Athens and Troy High schools and the east campus of the International Academy were named among the top five percent of all U.S. high schools by *U.S. News and World Report*.
- Troy has been selected as a "top district" by SchoolMatch, a national education consulting and research firm.
- The Troy School District is among a handful of districts where every school has earned an "A" from the State of Michigan's EducationYES! program.
- The Troy School District has been named one of the 25 best places for new families seeking to relocate to a new home by *Relocate: America*.
- All Troy District K-12 schools have earned the prestigious Blue Ribbon award from the Michigan Department of Education.
- Test scores are well over state and national averages.
- A dropout rate of less than one percent.
- The Troy School District has been awarded a Gold Star Status from Expansion Management magazine, placing it among the top 16 percent of school districts across the district.

- Ninety-four percent of parents recently surveyed noted the district's performance as favorable or very favorable. Eighty-seven percent said the district's core program met their student's needs.
- The Troy Board of Education provides strong leadership for our students with all seven members receiving "Certified Board Member" status. In addition, the Troy Board of Education is one of less than ten governing bodies in Michigan to earn a Visionary Leadership Award from the Michigan Association of School Boards. The Board has also been named School Board of the Year by Art Serve of Michigan for its support of the Fine Arts for 2007 and 2008. The board has also been honored by the Center for Digital Education as one of the top ten tech savvy boards in the country. For more information please see our Board of Education home page.

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## **Troy School District Executive Staff**

Superintendent – Barb Fowler  
Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education – Rich Machesky  
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education – Jan Keeling

## **Troy School District Board of Education 2010 - 2011**

Nancy Philippart  
Ida Edmunds  
Paula Fleming  
Wendy Underwood  
Todd Milette  
Gary Hauff  
M'Liz Malven