

NICE Community School District

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It is with enthusiasm and pride that we publish our Annual Education Report to the Community, covering the 2009-10 school year.

The NICE Annual Education (AER) report includes links to the information required by Michigan's PA 25 and the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The report also includes student performance information, School Improvement goals and objectives, and a narrative about what makes the N.I.C.E. Community School District a great place to learn.

The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. The please contact the superintendent's office for help if you need assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting nice.k12.mi.us or you may review a copy at your child's school or in the Central Office.

The AER report contains the following federally-required information:

Student Assessment Data

Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access)

Data 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)

Provides information from assessments, graduation and attendance rates and AYP status in relation to four criteria: (1)the district must test 95% of students in total and in each required subgroup, (2) 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, (3) the district must attain achievement goals for each subgroup that has at least 30 students in the group, and (4) 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

For 2009-2010, the NICE Community School District made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics. All schools in the district also made AYP. None of our schools were identified for school improvement, corrective action or restructuring.

Teacher Quality Data

Report identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels and the percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes.

100% of the faculty and staff in 2008-09 were highly qualified according to the No Child Left Behind requirements.

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

Report provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8. This cannot be compared with MEAP results for grades 4 and 8 because there are no national standards.

The AER report contains the following state-required information:

Pupil Assignment

In 2009-10 the NICE Community School District was comprised of three schools: an elementary, middle and high school. At the high school level, our district is in consortium with Ishpeming and Negaunee to provide an alternative high school program via the Ishpeming, Negaunee, N.I.C.E. Community Education Program.

Aspen Ridge Elementary School	Pre-K through 5
Aspen Ridge Middle School	6 through 8
Westwood High School	9 through 12
INN Community Education	9 through 12

Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

The District 3-5 year plan for continuing school improvement is reviewed and revised on a yearly basis by the district school improvement team. The district's priority is to maintain and strengthen our tradition of excellence in academic programming and instruction. The NICE Community School District shall continue to deliver high quality educational programming and services while being ever-mindful of declining enrollment trends and the financial impact that results. In addition, building level teams meet on a regular basis to devise and implement plans that result in optimum learning for all students in their charge. Throughout the 2008-09 year, these teams revised their School Improvement Plans to include new goals based on student academic achievement. *Refer to the 2009-2014 School Improvement Plan for more information.*

Specialized Schools

As per the state definition, the NICE Community School District has *no* specialized schools. It does, however, offer the following specialized programs:

The Ishpeming, Negaunee, NICE Community Schools Program is an alternative high school established to enable students to successfully complete high school graduation requirements.

Shared-Time Programming allows students to enroll in vocational classes.

Core Curriculum

The core curriculum is the basic learning program in curricular areas for all students. The core curriculum for each content area is based upon the Michigan Curriculum Framework. The core curriculum defines expected student outcomes based on the goals and objectives developed by the school district. These also reflect the State of Michigan's core curriculum goals and objectives. In order to facilitate ongoing alignment with the Michigan Curriculum Framework, individual buildings evaluate and review each curricular area on a rotating basis.

Aggregate Student Achievement of Local/Nationally-normed Test

The N.I.C.E. Community School District uses a variety of measures to determine student success and mastery of the curriculum that is taught. The assessment map below outlines the manner in which student achievement data is collected and turned into information that is used at all levels.

<p>Kindergarten</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LDCAA ■ DIBELS <p>1st Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LDCAA ■ MLPP ■ DIBELS <p>2nd Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LDCAA ■ MLPP ■ DIBELS <p>3rd Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing and Math ■ LDCAA ■ MLPP ■ DIBELS <p>4th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing and Math ■ LDCAA ■ Scholastic Reading Inventory ■ STAR 	<p>5th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing and Math ■ LDCAA ■ Scholastic Reading Inventory ■ STAR <p>6th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing, Math and Social Studies ■ LDCAA ■ STAR <p>7th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing and Math ■ LDCAA ■ STAR <p>8th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Reading, Writing, Math and Science ■ Gates-MacGinitie Reading Comprehension ■ LDCAA ■ STAR 	<p>9th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MEAP Social Studies ■ LDCAA <p>10th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Locally-Developed Content Area Assessments <p>11th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Michigan Merit Exam Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies and Science ■ ACT ■ LDCAA ■ ASVAB Military Aptitude Test <p>12th Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ LDCAA
<p><i>KEY</i></p> <p><i>Locally-Developed Content Area Assessments: LDCAA</i> <i>Standardized Test for Achievement in Reading: STAR</i> <i>Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills: DIBELS</i> <i>Michigan Education Assessment Program: MEAP</i> <i>Michigan Literacy Progress Profile: MLPP</i></p>		

Aggregate student assessment data is detailed in the individual school building Annual Education Reports.

Parent/Teacher Conference Participation

Building	2006	2007	2008	2009
Aspen Ridge Elementary	93%	94%	95%	94%
Aspen Ridge Middle	51%	60%	56%	46%
Westwood High School	39%	37%	33%	26%

Parent Involvement Policy, Parent Right-to-Know Regarding Teacher Quality

Parents are integral partners in the education of children. The NICE Community School District welcomes the presence and participation of parents and volunteers through its award-winning Family Resource Institute and through its many volunteer and committee opportunities. A parent involvement policy exists as a part of the district's Title I Plan and may be reviewed at any time by contacting the school.

High School Data

- Two (2) students enrolled in four (4) postsecondary courses in 2009-10.
- Four (4) college equivalent courses (AP/IB) were provided to students.
- Two (2) students enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP/IB) in 2009-10.

- One (1) (1%) student received a score leading to college credit in 2009-10.

Education YES Report Card Grades and/or NCA Status

Building	2007	2008	2009
Aspen Ridge Elementary School	A	A	A
Aspen Ridge Middle School	A	A	A
Westwood High School	B	TBD	A

During the 2008-09 school year, staff and administrators began taking steps to pursue district accreditation through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). The district hosted a "Readiness Visit" and was granted approval for candidacy.

Pupil Retention Rates

Pupil dropout rate refers to the percentage of high school students who leave school in any one year with no records forwarded to another learning institution. In 2009-10, no students left Westwood High School without enrolling in another school.

Educationally,

Michael Haynes

Michael Haynes, Superintendent
N.I.C.E. Community School District

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