

Kalkaska Public Schools

Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

August 20, 2010

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2009-2010 educational progress for the Kalkaska Public Schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. Please contact Lee Sandy, Superintendent, or any of our building principals for help if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting <http://www.kpschools.com> or you may review a copy in Superintendent's Office.

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.

For 2009-2010, the district made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics; however, all schools in the district did not make AYP. Below you will find a list of the schools not making AYP, the reasons for not making AYP and a summary of the actions underway to improve. The principal has a letter and school specific AER that will help answer your questions. These are also posted on the district and school web sites.

School Name	Reason(s) for not making AYP	Key actions underway to address the Issues
Northside Educational Center	Did not make AYP in ELA/Reading or Mathematics	Northside is an alternative educational program and is currently serving a need in our district. Our Administrative Team and Board of Education do not consider MEAP and MME an appropriate measure of performance for our program.

Birch Street Elementary, Cherry Street Intermediate, Kalkaska High School, Kalkaska Middle School and Rapid City Elementary all made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Kalkaska Public Schools Demographic

Kalkaska Public Schools provides education to students within a 440 square-mile area. Within the county seat of Kalkaska, the school district operates five campuses, and in Rapid City, the district provides an elementary campus.

The buildings and grade alignments follow:

- Birch Street Elementary School - PreK-3
- Cherry Street Intermediates – grades 4 & 5
- Kalkaska Middle School – grades 6 – 8
- Kalkaska High School - grades 9 – 12
- Northside Educational Center – alternative high school
- Rapid City Elementary – PreK– 5

Students are assigned to elementary buildings based upon attendance boundaries developed by the Board of Education.

Highly Qualified Staff

The district has 98 certified members – teachers, counselors and administrators. All certified staff meet the *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) requirements by teaching in their major or passing the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC).

Student Statistics

During the 2008-09 school year, the graduation rate was 96% of Kalkaska School District students received free and reduced lunches.

Advanced Placement & Dual Enrollment Courses

Number of students taking post-secondary courses	1
Number of AP/College equivalent courses offered to students	19
Number of students enrolled in at least one AP/College course	35
Number of students who have taken an AP course & earned college credit	11

Parental Involvement and Community Support

Parents and community members are involved in all aspects of the Kalkaska Public Schools program. KPS provides a number of opportunities for parents to meet with school staff including parent orientation, back-to-school nights, Saturday morning coffee hours for parents of college-bound seniors, Junior Parents' Night, open houses, parent-teacher conferences and family nights. A very special back-to-school even, the "Blazer Bash" takes place each year to welcome the entire community to another school year.

Fall Parent/Teacher Conference Attendance		
School	Enrollment	% Attending
Birch Street Elementary	386	95
Rapid City Elementary	106	80
Cherry Street Intermediate	215	95
Kalkaska Middle School	326	92
Kalkaska High School	466	63
Northside Educational Center	72	4

Curriculum

The *Michigan Curriculum Frameworks* documents continue to be the guide that Kalkaska Public Schools uses when creating and modifying the curriculum. District staff, teachers and curriculum committees review assessment data and curriculum documents to ensure alignment with *Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations* and the *Michigan Merit Curriculum* requirements. More information can be found on our district website at <http://www.kpschools.com> and www.michigan.gov/mde.

The Kalkaska Public Schools offer the following curriculum K-6: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, Art, Music, and Computer Literacy. Band is offered to all 6th grade students. The 7th and 8th grade curriculum includes the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, Band, and Art. The 9-12 grade curriculum includes the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, French, Spanish, Music, Band, Art, Computer Science, Vocational Education and Occupational Education.

Kalkaska Public Schools has a District Curriculum Council that reviews, revises, and proposes curriculum to the Board of Education. The Curriculum Council is composed of teachers, parents, and administrators representing a cross section of the district.

Status of School Improvement Plans

Kalkaska Public Schools takes seriously the school improvement planning process. The district continually works toward improving student achievement, and is accredited through AdvancED. District goals include

Goal 1: Improvement in Reading

Goal 2: Improvement in Writing

Goal 3: Improvement in Math

A district School Improvement Committee meets regularly and collaborates with the staff and Board of Education to use existing performance data to plan annual improvement goals, strategies and supports. Copies of the district's School Improvement Plan that has been approved by the Michigan Department of Education are available for review in the district offices and posted on-line at www.kpschools.com.

Special Programs & Schools

Through the services of the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District, Kalkaska Public Schools is able to offer many specialized programs for students with special needs. Some of the more specialized programs include the following:

1. The Adult Work Center trains students to live independently.
2. The Traverse Heights Program provides programs for severely impaired children and New Campus serves students, ages 5 to 25, which have severe emotional impairments.

3. The Early On Program provides home training and other family services for children ages 3 and under with special needs.
4. Early Childhood Program, conducted in a district elementary school, stresses appropriate learning experiences and activities consistent with a cognitive developmental model. .
5. TBA Career Tech Center and Michigan Technical Education Center (MTEC), provide learning experiences in the application of academics to technology.

Concluding Remarks

Kalkaska Public Schools has a reputation for being an outstanding school system with dedicated students, a high quality staff, and a Board of Education and community committed to providing an excellent program. The district works hard to achieve academic success and be the kind of school district that the community expects and deserves. As you read the attached Annual Report (AER), we hope that you have been able to see that our tradition of excellence continues.

The administration and Board of Education commend the staff and students for their high standards, demonstrated success and culture of accomplishments.

We are proud of our district's "success for all students commitment," the highly qualified and successful staff and the variety of opportunities available to all students. Kalkaska Public Schools is a community of high expectations and excellence in teaching and learning. We are involved and connected to families and dedicated to providing opportunities for all learners. Please plan to visit us.

Sincerely,

Lee Sandy, Superintendent