

August 16, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for the Kalkaska Public 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 Superintendent Lee Sandy for help if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the district web site <http://www.kpschools.com> 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

For 2010-2011, Kalkaska Public Schools 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 ad-
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 this program.

Kalkaska Public Schools Demographics

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 – Pre-K – 3
- Cherry Street Intermediate – Grades 4 and 5
- Kalkaska Middle School – Grades 6-8
- Kalkaska High School – Grades 9-12
- Northside Educational Center – Alternative High School
- Rapid City Elementary – Pre-K – 5

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 2010-2011 school year, the graduation rate was 74.67% for the entire district, including students at Northside Educational Center. For the High School, the graduation rate was 90.68%.

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 movie nights. A very special back-to-school event, 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	105	78.5
Cherry Street Intermediate	215	95
Kalkaska Middle School	326	75
Kalkaska High School	451	65
Northside Educational Center	75	15

Curriculum

The Michigan Curriculum Frameworks documents continue to be the guide that Kalkaska Public Schools uses when creating and modifying the curriculum. The district Curriculum Development Committee members 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 web site at <http://www.kpschools.com> and www.michigan.gov/mde.

Our district offers the following curriculum K-8: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, Art, Band, and Computer Literacy. The 9-12 grade curriculum includes the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, Spanish, Band, Art, Computer Applications, Vocational Education and Occupational Education.

Status of School Improvement Plan

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 on our web site.

Special Programs and 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 aged three 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.

Kalkaska Public Schools has a staff of individuals committed to student achievement and learning. The district is proud to provide a quality program. The Board of Education members keep the needs of the students foremost in their minds when establishing goals and strategies for the future. We are proud to see many renovations in our district this year, as voters approved a bond issue for construction of a new high school gymnasium, community auditorium, new high school cafeteria, and much more. The district will continue to work with the community to provide educational programs worthy of public pride and support.

Sincerely,
Lee D. Sandy
Superintendent