



PlainwellCommunitySchools
Today's Learners Tomorrow's Leaders

Annual Report 2009–2010



No Child Left Behind

Assessment Data and Adequate Yearly Progress

The Federal *No Child Left Behind Act* requires all schools to make adequate yearly progress in English language arts and mathematics on state tests. This requirement applies to students as a whole and for a variety of subgroups, provided these groups total 30 or more students. To demonstrate adequate yearly progress, schools must have state test scores higher than the “Annual State Objective”, assess at least 95% of its students, and have an adequate attendance and graduation rate.

Highly Qualified Teacher Status

Schools are required to assure that all teachers are “highly qualified” in the subjects they teach as defined by the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*. All Plainwell teachers hold highly qualified status.

| School | MI School Report Card Grade | MET Achievement Target | Attendance/ Graduation Rate | Economically Disadvantaged Subgroup | Special Education Subgroup | Made Adequate Yearly Progress | 95% Tested |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Cooper Elementary | A | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| Gilkey Elementary | A | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| Starr Elementary | A | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| Middle School | A | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| High School | B | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES |

District Academic Focus



All Children at grade level in reading, writing and mathematics.

Accomplished through:

| | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A common, guaranteed, and viable curriculum Teachers work in grade level and department teams to analyze Michigan curriculum documents and develop a curriculum containing the knowledge and skills students need to learn in each grade and subject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Data management and reporting system Teachers and administrators use databases that handle the assessment data needed to make instructional decisions—from the Pinnacle on-line grade book, to the DIBELS and NWEA databases at elementary, to the District Data Analyzer program to handle all district data. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Common district assessments In grade level and department teams, teachers use and develop assessments of the important learnings in each subject—from MEAP to teacher-created assessments. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Teacher collaboration and results-based school improvement Teachers of common courses and grade levels meet regularly to analyze their students' achievements, plan improvement initiatives, and share techniques and strategies that work to improve student success. |

District Overview

Plainwell Community Schools is a suburban/rural district located in southwest Michigan just north of Kalamazoo. Its main school complex, which includes the district's Class B high school, middle school, one of three elementary schools and a new Board of Education/Administration Building, is located in the City of Plainwell, twelve miles north of Kalamazoo and thirty-five miles south of Grand Rapids.

Also located within Plainwell's city limits is another elementary school on 90 acres bordering the Kalamazoo River. A large portion of this acreage has been developed as an outdoor environmental laboratory for student learning. The third elementary school has a Kalamazoo address and is located in Cooper Township in the southern tip of the district.

In addition to its five school buildings, the district provides an Early Education Center and maintains Hicks Gymnasium for community use. Community Education offices and the Renaissance Adult and Alternative High School are located in Plainwell's Industrial Park which is rented by the school district. Plainwell's transportation garage houses a fleet of 21 school buses.

All of Plainwell's schools have been remodeled and expanded over recent years. These major capital improvements have been funded by two school bond issues approved by voters and totaling over \$45 million dollars. Student enrollment is approximately 2,900 and employees total about 362.

Plainwell is a typical small town of 2.1 square miles and 4,500 population. The Plainwell Community School District however, encompasses 75 square miles that includes portions of Allegan, Kalamazoo and Barry Counties.

The district's population includes long-time residents employed in local business, industry, recreation and farming. Some residents are employed in nearby urban areas. Professionals who value quality education, yet seek a small town or country atmosphere in which to raise their children, are vocal about moving to the area for these reasons. According to recent data, the largest employers within the district are JBS (Meat-Packing) with approximately 1,000 employees and Borgess-Pipp Health Center with 200 employees. Plainwell's Industrial Park houses about 38 smaller businesses.

The district's proximity to Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids provides many of the educational, cultural, and recreational advantages of metropolitan centers. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and Davenport University are all within easy driving access.

Core Curriculum

Plainwell Community Schools provides all students with a core curriculum developed from the *Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations* and the *Michigan High School Course Expectations*. This curriculum defines what students should know and be able to do in the disciplines of mathematics, science, social studies, and English language arts. Also, a solid curriculum is provided for all students in other critical areas such as music, the arts, physical education, health, technology, character education, and career and employability skills.

At Plainwell High School, students in the Class of 2010 must earn 26.5 units of credit for graduation including 11 credits of English, math, science, and social studies with a minimum of 3 credits of social studies, 3 credits of English and 2 credits in each of the other academic areas: 1 credit of physical education, health or consumer home economics: 1 credit in fine arts, practical arts or vocational education: and ½ credit of computer education. Classes are 70 minutes long in a trimester schedule. Students in the Class of 2011 and beyond must meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum of 4 credits of English, 4 credits of math, 3 credits of science, 3 credits of social studies, 1 credit of health/physical education, and 1 credit of visual and performing arts.

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| 2009-2010 Board of Education |
| Phil Robertson, President John Nyberg, Vice President Kim Shafer, Secretary Karen Gustafson, Treasurer Jennifer Loftus, Trustee Amy Blades, Trustee Kevin Blue, Trustee |
| District Mission Statement |
| The mission of Plainwell Community Schools: Preparing Students for Success Through Academic Excellence and Strength of Character. |
| Budget |
| Operating Budget \$22,197,856 |
| Operating Expenditure Per Pupil \$7,162 |
| School Millage Rates: Operating: 6 mills homestead 17.8885 mills non-homestead |
| Debt: 7 mills homestead 7 mills non-homestead |

At Plainwell Middle School students receive a core curriculum of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. They also are offered experiences in physical education, health, art, industrial arts, life skills, foreign language, computers, vocal music, instrumental music, and career exploration.

Plainwell's elementary students receive a core curriculum of reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, science, spelling, handwriting, and health. They also enjoy instruction in art, music, physical education, growth and development, career exploration, and computer technology.

District Staff Development

Intensive training and coaching is provided for all new teachers in their first three years in the Plainwell School District. Topics include classroom management, effective instructional practices, differentiating instruction for gifted and special education students, and content-based workshops.

Teachers worked, learned, and collaborated by subject area and grade level to determine a common guaranteed and viable curriculum for all students; how to assess students' progress; and how to use assessment information to plan improvements to our curriculum and instruction. Major initiatives in 2009-2010 included writing and differentiating instructions at the elementary level, positive behavioral support at Starr and the Middle School, differentiating instruction at the high school, and technology integration training over the summer.

Gifted/Talented Program

The District's *Visions Program for Academic Enrichment* provides a variety of opportunities to meet the needs of high-ability students in grades K-12. Enrichment classes for 3rd-5th grade students are held for 20 weeks at each grade level. Leaders for these groups include staff members, as well as community volunteers. Classes include science curriculum extensions, a simulation involving research and problem-solving skills, creative problem-solving skills, and creative writing with dramatic presentations.

Academic/enrichment activities at the middle school cover a wide variety of curriculum topics including academic/enrichment presentations, guest speakers, curriculum-related competitions, field trips, and participation in *Midwest Academic Talent Search*. High school activities include support for National Honor Society, AP scholarships, and student participation in accelerated classes through *ATYP (Academically Talented Youth Program)*.

Plainwell Schools continues to provide training for all teachers in differentiating curriculum to meet the needs of high-ability students in the classroom. The district administration and Board of Education has committed district resources to continue support for enrichment opportunities for the *Visions Program* in the 2009-2010 school year.

S.A.F.E. - School Age Fun and Enrichment

The *School Age Fun and Enrichment (SAFE) Program* is a self-funded, licensed, school-age childcare program for children K-5 that began in 1986. *SAFE* is provided before and after school at all three elementary buildings. *Kinder-SAFE*, located in the Early Childhood Education Center next to Hicks gym, is designed for kindergartners during the half of the school day that they don't have class. *SAFE Summer Fun Camp* offers approximately 12 weeks of planned recreational and enrichment activities for children in 1st through 5th grade.

Early Education Services

Plainwell Community Schools works in partnership with the *Early Education Services Department* of the Allegan Area Educational Service Agency to provide high quality services to all families with preschoolers. All EES programs, including playgroups, are available to Plainwell families and are offered to all families in Allegan County. Last year, 22 playgroups were offered county-wide including several held at Starr Elementary School in Plainwell.

Parents as Teachers (PAT)--Highly trained parent educators conduct regularly scheduled home visits with parents whose children are under the age of three. Using the Parents as Teachers curriculum, parent educators support and guide parents so that they are more likely to provide their child with a safe, nurturing, enriching environment that will lead to school readiness. Frequency of visits is based upon the needs of the family. Currently 71 children and their parents are receiving PAT services county-wide, of which 22 are in the Plainwell School District.

Allegan County Even Start (ACES) – *Even Start* is a family literacy program. *ACES* serves low literacy families which have at least one child under the age of eight. Most client families attend one of three *ACES* centers, although occasionally a family is served in the home. Daycare, preschool, and adult education are all provided at the center. Currently 8 Plainwell families are enrolled in the *ACES* program.

Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP)--This is a state funded preschool program for four-year olds. Children attend classes, each staffed with a certified teacher and assistant, four half-days a week from October through May. *MSRP* provides an enriched, developmentally appropriate environment focused on preparing the students for success in kindergarten. Currently, 36 students from area school districts attend the Plainwell *MSRP* center including 34 from Plainwell.

Technical & Education Center

The Allegan County Area Technical and Education Center (ACATEC) offers one-year and two-year programs in a variety of vocational/technical areas. All programs require students to master several skills or competencies before earning their certificate. Programs are designed to prepare students for immediate employment and/or further education. Enrollment at the Tech/Ed Center is arranged through the Plainwell High School counseling department in cooperation with the students' teachers and parents.

Last year over 40% of the ACATEC graduates went on to post-secondary education. The Technical and Education Center has articulation agreements with Baker College, Davenport College, Ferris State University, Grand Rapids Community College, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and Kellogg Community College. Eligible students can earn college credit while at the center. While attending the center, students are encouraged to participate in student organizations. Students also participate in competition at local, regional, state and/or national levels. This past year 72 students from Plainwell participated in programs at the Tech/Ed Center during the first trimester, 71 students during the second trimester, and 69 students during the third trimester. In addition, special education students and those with special needs also participated.

School Improvement Plan And Accreditation

Each Plainwell school is accredited by the State of Michigan through the Education YES! Accreditation program. The schools' accreditation status and plans are included in the individual building reports on pages 6-14.

Each school has a school improvement structure, either made up of a school improvement team, a results team, or subject area department teams. These teams set their individual improvement goals based on analyzing student assessment data and student work, develop strategies for accomplishing their improvement goals, and meet regularly all year to assess progress.

Students, parents,
community members,
and guests are always
welcome at Plainwell
Community Schools.

Cooper Elementary

Principal: Brad Wyant
 7559 N. 14th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009
 (269) 349-2674

ACCREDITATION STATUS

Cooper Elementary School has made the required *Adequate Yearly Progress* on the MEAP tests in reading (94.8%) and math (100%) for the 2009-2010 school year. This equates to a grade equivalent of an "A", as we work to meet all state accreditation standards.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009-2010 & 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cooper Elementary is fully accredited by the State of Michigan under Education Yes! and continues to meet all requirements for a public school. The goals for every student at Cooper Elementary are that they read at grade level, demonstrate grade level skills in writing, and be proficient in grade level mathematics geometry standards.

The school improvement plan for meeting these goals includes: 1) district-wide grade level meetings that review district goals in curriculum, pacing, and assessment; 2) analyze student work in writing and corresponding rubrics used for evaluation; 3) analyze student performance on curriculum based common assessment; 4) discuss ideas and lessons that work based on classrooms instructional strategies proven to be effective in improving student performance; and 5) follow up lesson discussions with decisions to incorporate these effective lesson plans in all classrooms at a given grade level. In addition to the school improvement plan, monthly building grade level meetings were used to: 1) review and support the implementation of the 90 minute guaranteed reading curriculum; 2) review and support the implementation of the 75 minute guaranteed math curriculum; and 3) monitor and discuss the implementation of the tier model of reading intervention.

AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SCORES

| Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) Tests—Percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10* |
|---|---------|---------|----------|
| 3 rd Grade Reading | 100 | 91 | 94 |
| 3 rd Grade Writing | 79 | 74 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Total English Language Arts | 94 | 87 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Math | 96 | 98 | 100 |
| 4 th Grade Reading | 98 | 93 | 93 |
| 4 th Grade Writing | 60 | 64 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Total English Language Arts | 95 | 89 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Math | 98 | 98 | 100 |
| 5 th Grade Reading | 89 | 91 | 91 |
| 5 th Grade Writing | 72 | 75 | NA |
| 5 th Grade English Language Arts | 85 | 89 | NA |
| 5 th Grade Math | 96 | 93 | 91 |
| 5 th Grade Science | 91 | 93 | 89 |
| 5th/6 th Grade Social Studies | 88 | 83 | 82 |

* Students did not take Writing or receive a Total ELA score during the 2009-2010 testing cycle.

*Mission Statement: In partnership with the community,
 Cooper Cares: Celebrates success, Achieves trust, Reinforces
 strong character, Excel in education, Secures a safe and caring
 environment.*

| Standardized Test Results | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| NWEA = North West Evaluation Assessment Measure of Academic Progress | At or Above 50th National Percentile | At or Above 50th National Percentile | % Expected To Pass State Test | % Expected To Pass State Test |
| Reading-Grade 2 | 76.6 | 82.2 | 95.7 | 95.6 |
| Reading-Grade 3 | 83 | 72.9 | 100 | 91.7 |
| Reading-Grade 4 | 65.2 | 61.7 | 87 | 91.5 |
| Reading-Grade 5 | 76.1 | 68.2 | 95.7 | 93.2 |
| Math-Grade 2 | 69.6 | 84.4 | 91.3 | 100 |
| Math-Grade 3 | 69.6 | 80.9 | 87 | 100 |
| Math-Grade 4 | 67.4 | 62.2 | 93 | 91.1 |
| Math-Grade 5 | 72.1 | 71.4 | 90.7 | 97.6 |

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFERENCE
PARTICIPATION**

2009-10

Fall: 100% boys, 99% girls
Spring: 98% boys, 99% girls

2008-09

Fall: 99% boys, 98% girls
Spring: 98% boys, 97% girls

COOPER STATISTICS

Grades Served: K-5
Certified Staff: 16
Non-Certified Staff: 10
Student Enrollment: 267
Parent Group; Cooper Parents' Club

ACCREDITATION STATUS

Gilkey Elementary School has made the required *Adequate Yearly Progress* on the MEAP tests in reading and math for the 2009-2010 school year. We are working to meet all state accreditation standards.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009-2010

Gilkey Elementary is fully accredited by the State of Michigan under Education Yes! and continues to meet all requirements for a public school. The goal for all students at Gilkey Elementary is that they read at grade level, that they demonstrate grade level skills in writing, and that they perform mathematics computation and problem solving at grade level. Gilkey has a building leadership team to study data and lead school improvement and goal setting as well as a Behavior Team that focuses on School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports.

3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The school improvement plan for meeting these goals includes: 1) district-wide grade level meetings that review district goals in curriculum, pacing, and assessment; 2) analysis of student work in writing and corresponding rubrics used for evaluation; 3) analysis of student performance on curriculum based common assessment; 4) discussion of ideas and lessons that work based on classrooms instructional strategies proven to be effective in improving student performance; and 5) follow up lesson discussions with decisions to incorporate these effective lesson plans in all classrooms at a given grade level.

Monthly building grade level meetings are used to 1) review district goals in curriculum, pacing, and assessment; 2) analyze student work in writing and corresponding rubrics used for evaluation; 3) analyze student performance on curriculum based common assessments; 4) discuss ideas and lessons that work based on classrooms instructional strategies proven to be effective in improving student performance; 5) review and support the implementation of the 90 minute guaranteed reading curriculum; 6) review and support the implementation of the 75 minute guaranteed math curriculum; and 7) monitor and discuss the implementation of the tier model of reading intervention. This process includes frequent classroom walk-throughs by the building principal and Reading Teacher to informative dialog and planning at each step of the educational process. All discussion, planning, and goal setting is based on data analysis. Data at the elementary level includes DIBELS, NWEA district common assessments, formative assessments, curriculum based assessments including Open Court, Imagine It! Reading, and Envision Math.

| Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) Tests—Percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10* |
|---|---------|---------|----------|
| 3 rd Grade Reading | 88 | 96 | 97 |
| 3 rd Grade Writing | 79 | 74 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Total English Language Arts | 87 | 94 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Math | 98 | 99 | 100 |
| 4 th Grade Reading | 94 | 90 | 92 |
| 4 th Grade Writing | 56 | 53 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Total English Language Arts | 89 | 83 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Math | 97 | 93 | 100 |
| 5 th Grade Reading | 89 | 93 | 90 |
| 5 th Grade Writing | NA | 78 | NA |
| 5 th Grade English Language Arts | NA | 90 | NA |
| 5 th Grade Math | 85 | 84 | 94 |
| 5 th Grade Science | 93 | 92 | 88 |
| 5th/6 th Grade Social Studies | 88 | 89 | 82 |

* Students did not take Writing or receive a Total ELA score during the 2009-2010 testing cycle.

Mission Statement: The community of Gilkey Elementary School provides a nurturing and inspiring educational environment for all students to grow in academic and personal excellence.

| Standardized Test Results Grade Equivalent of Average Score: | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| NWEA = North West Evaluation Assessment Measure of Academic Progress | At or Above 50th National Percentile | At or Above 50th National Percentile | % Expected To Pass State Test | % Expected To Pass State Test |
| Reading-Grade 2 | 50.7 | 66.7 | 84.5 | 98.6 |
| Reading-Grade 3 | 55.6 | 71.4 | 97.2 | 91.4 |
| Reading-Grade 4 | 60.6 | 64.2 | 89.4 | 83.6 |
| Reading-Grade 5 | 68.1 | 72 | 97.1 | 92 |
| Math-Grade 2 | 49.1 | 68.6 | 82.5 | 100 |
| Math-Grade 3 | 36.8 | 71 | 86 | 97.1 |
| Math-Grade 4 | 56.2 | 44.8 | 86.3 | 85.1 |
| Math-Grade 5 | 37 | 69.4 | 72.6 | 87.8 |

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFERENCE
PARTICIPATION**

2009-10

Fall: 98% boys, 98% girls
Spring: 98% boys, 100% girls

2008-09

Fall: 97% boys, 98% girls
Spring: 98% boys, 98% girls

GILKEY STATISTICS

Grades Served: Pre K-5
Certified Staff: 27
Non-Certified Staff: 18
Student Enrollment: 394
Parent Group: Gilkey Parents' Club

ACCREDITATION STATUS

For statewide accreditation, Starr Elementary School has made the required *Adequate Yearly Progress* on the MEAP tests in reading and math and has met or is working toward all other state accreditation standards. Starr earned an "A" on the Michigan School Report Card.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009-2010 AND 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Starr Elementary became Schoolwide Title I beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. The 3-5 year plan was written with goals that included math, reading, and behavior. The elementary staff has been actively involved in implementing reading interventions to improve academic growth. Data was reviewed monthly by grade level teams. All discussions, goal setting, and planning is data driven. Assessments used in decision making include NWEA and DIBELS which are given district-wide. Curriculum based assessments include Open Court, Imagine It! Reading, and Envision math.

All teachers are trained in CHAMPS, a proactive and positive approach to classroom management. This training was to assist in reaching our behavior goal.

AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SCORES

| Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) Tests—Percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10* |
|---|---------|---------|----------|
| 3 rd Grade Reading | 84 | 89 | 91 |
| 3 rd Grade Writing | 55 | 70 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Total English Language Arts | 80 | 88 | NA |
| 3 rd Grade Math | 95 | 96 | 95 |
| 4 th Grade Reading | 87 | 86 | 90 |
| 4 th Grade Writing | 53 | 49 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Total English Language Arts | 81 | 80 | NA |
| 4 th Grade Math | 87 | 90 | 97 |
| 5 th Grade Reading | 81 | 84 | 87 |
| 5 th Grade Writing | 56 | 62 | NA |
| 5 th Grade English Language Arts | 76 | 80 | NA |
| 5 th Grade Math | 79 | 85 | 79 |
| 5 th Grade Science | 87 | 86 | 83 |
| 5th/6 th Grade Social Studies | 87 | 83 | 82 |

* Students did not take Writing or receive a Total ELA score during the 2009-2010 testing cycle.

Mission Statement: Starr Elementary encourages a positive environment where staff, parents, students, and community work together to develop lifelong learners.

| Standardized Test Results Grade Equivalent of Average Score: | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 | NWEA 2008-09 | NWEA 2009-10 |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| NWEA = North West Evaluation Assessment Measure of Academic Progress | At or Above 50th National Percentile | At or Above 50th National Percentile | % Expected To Pass State Test | % Expected To Pass State Test |
| Reading-Grade 2 | 66 | 60 | 88 | 81 |
| Reading-Grade 3 | 53 | 48 | 83 | 84 |
| Reading-Grade 4 | 53 | 62 | 84 | 83 |
| Reading-Grade 5 | 53 | 53 | 76 | 81 |
| Math-Grade 2 | 72 | 66 | 97 | 97 |
| Math-Grade 3 | 55 | 57 | 92 | 93 |
| Math-Grade 4 | 61 | 68 | 85 | 93 |
| Math-Grade 5 | 48 | 50 | 70 | 75 |

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFERENCE
PARTICIPATION**

2009-10

Fall: 93% boys, 92% girls
Spring: 96% boys, 97% girls

2008-09

Fall: 94% boys, 96% girls
Spring: 91% boys, 94% girls

STARR STATISTICS

Grades Served: K-5
Certified Staff: 39
Non-Certified Staff: 24
Student Enrollment: 545
Parent Group: Starr Parents'
Club

Middle School

Principal: Tammi Lawrence
 Assistant Principal: Christopher Ebsch
 720 Brigham St., Plainwell, MI 49080 (269) 685-5813

ACCREDITATION STATUS

For statewide accreditation, Plainwell Middle School has made the required *Adequate Yearly Progress* on the MEAP tests in reading and math and has met or is working toward all other state accreditation requirements. PMS earned an "A" on the Michigan School Report Card.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009-2010 AND 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our school improvement efforts continue this year in our departmental groups. Math, English, science, and social studies have met at least monthly as they continue work in aligning lessons to the Grade Level Content Expectations and develop common assessments. The focus is on assuring that all students are instructed and then measured effectively to report what they know and are able to do in all subject areas. Our unified arts department has modified their courses for the upcoming year to offer more in-depth (12-week) classes for 7th and 8th grade students while continuing the six-week course offerings to 6th graders to provide for exposure to a variety of offerings. Additionally, our foreign language now offers a full year of course work so that 8th grade students can earn a full high school credit in foreign language.

In 2009-2010, the staff launched a school-wide Positive Behavior Support initiative to improve behavioral and classwork outcomes.

AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SCORES

| Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) Tests—Percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| 6 th Grade Reading | 90 | 83 | 91 |
| 6 th Grade Writing | 80 | 71 | N/A |
| 6 th Grade Math | 88 | 89 | 87 |
| 6 th Grade Social Studies | 87 | 83 | 82 |
| 7 th Grade Reading | 81 | 89 | 84 |
| 7 th Grade Writing | 82 | 86 | N/A |
| 7 th Grade Math | 83 | 91 | 88 |
| 8 th Grade Reading | 83 | 80 | 92 |
| 8 th Grade Writing | 77 | 78 | N/A |
| 8 th Grade Math | 82 | 81 | 86 |
| 8 th Grade Science | 89 | 84 | 90 |
| 9 th Grade Social Studies | 83 | 86 | 79 |

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2009-10

Fall: % boys, % girls
 Spring: % boys, % girls

2008-09

Fall: 57% boys, 68% girls
 Spring: 57% boys, 64% girls

MIDDLE SCHOOL STATISTICS

Grades Served: 6-8
 Certified Staff: 40
 Non-Certified Staff: 8
 Student Enrollment: 649
 Parent Group: Plainwell Middle School Parent Group

Mission Statement: Plainwell Middle School Preparing for Today and Tomorrow: Plainwell Middle School is a safe environment where everyone cooperates to become life-long learners and responsible community members.

High School

Principal: Jeremy Wright
 Assistant Principal: Debra Burley
 684 Starr Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 (269) 685-9554

COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The staff at Plainwell High School is actively involved in continuous improvement of our academic programs. All areas of curriculum are standardized based upon benchmarks and curriculum maps. Goals and objectives were prioritized and instructional calendars are followed in each department. Additionally, each department administers common final exams for all students in each course.

In 2010-2011, all of our students will be under the new Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). We will continue to refine what that means to our students and how to best offer courses that meets their needs.

Our goals for 2010-2011 are to continue to measure test data and improve in the following areas: literacy, standardized test scores, more closely match curriculum to power standards, reflect and improve on teaching strategies, provide support to students under MMC, and increase student involvement in extra curriculum activities and technology.

POST-SECONDARY AND COLLEGE EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT

During the 2009-2010 school year, ten Plainwell High School students received credit for 29 college courses at Kalamazoo Valley Community College or Western Michigan University through Dual Enrollment. Plainwell High School offered eight advanced placement courses and 136 of our students took a total of 168 Advance Placement Exams during national testing dates in May. The graduation rate for 2009 was 96.28%; the previous year's rate was 95.56%.

COLLEGE BOUND

Senior Survey Results: A total of 164 students plan to attend a two or four year college, of which 55% are female and 45% are male, and nine will attend school out of state. Five students are seeking technical schools, six students are headed into the work force and six students joined the military. 39 students received \$1,000 or more in scholarships.

AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT SCORES

| MME Results: Percent of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the Michigan Merit Exam: | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Reading | 65 | 65 | 67 |
| Writing | 40 | 51 | 48 |
| Mathematics | 47 | 55 | 54 |
| Science | 64 | 69 | 72 |
| Social Studies | 86 | 93 | 86 |

Scores are reported for the junior class. The number of 2009 graduates who earned a Michigan Merit Scholarship Award: 216 seniors out of a class of 216.

| ACT Results Average scores on the American College Testing Program (ACT) for Plainwell H.S. | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of students | 201 | 204 | 198 |
| English | 18.1 | 19.3 | 18.7 |
| Writing | 6.5 | 7.1 | 7.3 |
| Math | 19.3 | 19.5 | 19.9 |
| Reading | 19.8 | 20.1 | 19.7 |
| Science | 20.1 | 20.8 | 20.5 |
| Composite | 19.5 | 20 | 19.8 |

| PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION |
|---|
| 2009-2010 |
| Fall: 36.5% (166 girls, 153 boys) |
| Winter: 36.6% (164 girls, 159 boys) |
| Spring: 29% (130 girls, 124 boys) |
| 2008-2009 |
| Fall 44% (202 girls, 191 boys) |
| Winter: 35% (161 girls, 144 boys) |
| Spring: 32% (138 girls, 141 boys) |

| HIGH SCHOOL STATISTICS |
|---|
| Grades Served: 9-12 |
| Certified Staff: 50 |
| Non-Certified Staff: 87 |
| Student Enrollment: 872 |
| Parent Groups: Athletic Boosters, Band Boosters, Parents Connection |

The mission of Plainwell High School is to provide students with opportunities to become responsible, productive, critically thinking citizens with the capacity to learn in a changing society.

Renaissance High School

An alternative education program

Tammy Glupker
Director of Adult, Alternative and Community Education
422 Acorn Street, Plainwell, MI 49080 (269) 685-1573

ACCREDITATION STATUS

Renaissance High School is an ancillary program to Plainwell High School. All students follow the state curriculum standards to meet their graduation requirements. We are a public school operating under the registration of the State of Michigan and Plainwell Community Schools' Board of Education.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009-2010

- 22 students earned their High School Diplomas
- 10 students completed the GED testing
- 100% of 9th grade students completed the Social Studies MEAP
- ACT scores improved in English, Reading & Science
- The ACT composite average increased by .6
- 100% of students enrolled took the ASVAB test

RENAISSANCE ADULT & ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL STATISTICS

Enrollment

- 10% On-line, Self-paced, Differentiated Curriculum
- RHS (day program) was full to capacity for the entire school year
- 80% of Juniors participated in an ACT test preparation class
- Participation in Vocational Technology programs increased 30%
- Students earned an average of two credits each trimester
- Approximately 60 students recovered lost credit

Renaissance High School Activities 2009-2010

- Safe and Drug Free Schools grant funding was used to facilitate Violence Prevention training
- Everest College hosted a field trip for group of alternative and adult students
- Alternative education students traveled to the high school weight room three days a week for weight training
- Two alternative education students were chosen to represent the state Vet Tech Program through the AAESA

Community Education

422 Acorn Street, Plainwell, MI 49080
(269) 685-9531

The Community Education office coordinates youth recreation, enrichment classes, and community events. All programs are advertised in *School Matters* three times annually. The district continues to host the annual Father-Daughter Dance and the Mother-Son Hockey Game Field Trip. 2009-2010 at a glance:

Youth Programs

Babysitting Certification
Hoopsters Basketball
Junior Spikers
Lil' Jammers
Tennis
Golf Lessons
Indoor Soccer
My Way Wrestling
Young Champions Cheer
Youthball
MadScience

Adult Programs

Co-ed Volleyball
Golf Lessons
Retirement Planning
Zumba!
Cornhole Tournament
Family Walking
Photography

Senior Citizen Programs

Monthly Potlucks
Indoor Walking
Out-to-Lunch Bunch
Yoga
Christmas Brunch
Seniors in the City
Calico Rabbit Crafts
Euchre
Spring Fling
Senior Volunteers

The mission of Renaissance High School is to provide a learning environment in which the individual potential of each student is nurtured. The program is uniquely designed to recognize and capitalize on the student's desire to make choices that suit their strengths and interests. The school's focus on choice is balanced with maintaining the need for acceptance, belonging, and consistency. Ultimately, students who graduate from Renaissance High School will be competent in pursuing their life-long goals as an employee, learner, parent, and citizen.

Parent and Community

One of the most important factors in a child's educational success is the commitment of parents or guardians, which comes in many forms, and actively involves many Plainwell parents. Parent participation in kindergarten and pre-school parenting activities increased this year. Participation in elementary parent-teacher conferences approached 100%. It is important for parents, teachers, and students to discuss each student's progress on a regular basis. To encourage and measure parental participation, records are maintained and reported on the number and percentage of students whose parents or guardians participate in the scheduled fall and spring parent-teacher conferences. Each school's individual Annual Report (printed on earlier pages) includes these numbers and percentages.

Hundreds of parents serve as volunteers in Plainwell classrooms, media centers and gyms. Parents also provide excellent leadership and support in individual building parent clubs, booster clubs in support of band and athletics, and as active members of district-wide school committees and the Plainwell Education Foundation, a non-profit organization working to enhance education in Plainwell schools.

Plainwell District Vision

Plainwell Community Schools exist to prepare our students for a changing society by developing their intellectual abilities and skills while promoting good character, health, and civic responsibility. While recognizing a shared responsibility with the home and community, we will be guided in our pursuit of excellence by the following values:

Knowledge

We will teach our students what they need to know based on a foundation of sound educational research

Challenge

We will set high curriculum and assessment standards for all students

Respect

We will recognize and honor the dignity, diversity, and worth of all individuals

Integrity

We will be honest and follow through on our commitments to each other, our students, and the community

Nurturing Environment

We will foster the development of each individual's self-worth

This report has been compiled and printed by the Plainwell Board of Education as required by law in the State of Michigan's Public Act 25 of 1990.



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

2009-2010

Central Office

Superintendent
Susan Wakefield

Director of Finance
Patricia Carr

Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Bob Van Dis

Director of Technology
Jeff McNutt

Communication & Information
Holly Harrington

Principals

High School Principal
Jeremy Wright

High School Assistant Principal
Debra Burley

Middle School Principal
Tammi Lawrence

Middle School Assistant Principal
Chris Ebsch

Cooper Elementary Principal
Brad Wyant

Gilkey Elementary Principal
Beth Green

Starr Elementary Principal
Laurie Lanphear

##

Adult, Alternative & Community
Education

Tammy Glupker

Athletic Director
Bill Andrew

Food Services
Dan Carlson

Gifted & Talented Program
Beth Green

SAFE Child Care
Nancy Gregory

Transportation Services
Myra Atkinson