



West Ottawa Public Schools

...The  heart of our community!

2007-08 Annual Education Report

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WEST OTTAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Welcome to West Ottawa Public Schools, one of the best college prep districts in the state. Our district consists of sixty-nine square miles of beautiful landscapes from the shores of Lake Michigan to east of US 31. Our district is proud of our accomplishments which are highlighted throughout this report.

The West Ottawa School District was organized in October of 1958, when 13 rural districts consolidated into one K-12 district with 2,000 students. The District encompasses major portions of four townships (Holland, Park, Port Sheldon, and Olive) in southwestern Ottawa County. We are bordered to the north by Grand Haven Public Schools, to the south by Holland Public Schools, and to the east by Zeeland Public Schools. Lake Michigan is to the west.

West Ottawa continues to be the "heart of our community." Our district has a visionary Board of Education, dedicated teachers and support staff, and talented students. Our students' accomplishments are a source of pride for our entire community.

Thank you for reviewing our Annual Report regarding the district's progress. You can learn more about West Ottawa Public Schools on our website (www.westottawa.net) and through our own cable access station, The Education Station (channel 21 on Charter Communications, channel 2 on T2 Communications).



WEST OTTAWA QUICK FACTS

Area: 69 sq. miles (Ottawa County)

District Population: 44,000+

Number of Schools: 12

9 Elementary Schools (Gr. PreK-5)

2 Middle Schools (Gr. 6-8)

1 High School (Gr. 9-12)

- ✓ Moderately above-average student results as measured by reading and math proficiency with moderately below-average core spending and state-source revenue per student, relative to other districts in Michigan
- ✓ All West Ottawa elementary and middle schools made AYP in both English Language Arts and Math
- ✓ All West Ottawa schools earned an Education Yes! grade of an A or B
- ✓ Above-average ACT scores
- ✓ Exceptionally above-average advanced placement participation and scores
- ✓ Average proportion of special needs students
- ✓ Community's median household income of \$77,611 is exceptionally above the state average of \$62,535
- ✓ Proportion of adults in the community with at least a bachelor's degree is estimated to be 30.6%, well above the estimated state average of 24.4%

Based on 2000 US Census and www.schooldatadirect.org figures

Mission Statement

West Ottawa Public Schools, a caring community, challenging and inspiring students to learn and succeed in a diverse world.

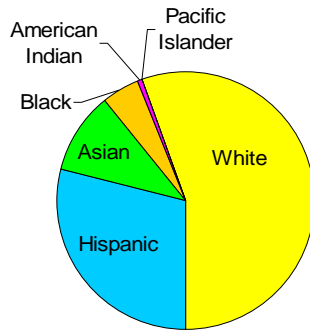
Glerum Elementary Great Lakes Elementary Lakeshore Elementary Lakewood Elementary
 North Holland Elementary Pine Creek Elementary Sheldon Woods Elementary Waukazoo Elementary
 Woodside Elementary Harbor Lights Middle School Macatawa Bay Middle School West Ottawa High School

The District at a Glance

Enrollment

Student Count: 7,786

White	55.0%
Hispanic	28.6%
Asian	10.2%
Black	4.6%
American Indian	0.5%
Pacific Islander	0.1%



Free and Reduced-Price Breakfast/Lunch Data

% of Meals Served	% of Enrollment
51.2	42.3

District & test data is available online at www.westottawa.net/ar

Graduation Rates

The graduation rate for the Class of 2007 at West Ottawa High



A Caring, Dedicated Staff

- ✓ West Ottawa's more than 480 certified staff members included regular classroom teachers; special education teachers; migrant, bilingual and ESL teachers; counselors; social workers; school psychologists; speech/language therapists; healthy living teachers; preschool teachers; teacher-librarians; art, health, music, and physical wellness teachers; and Montessori teachers.
- ✓ West Ottawa had one staff member teaching with emergency certificates. 79 teachers (16.3% of our certified staff) were in their first 3-6 years of teaching and therefore had provisional certificates.
- ✓ Percent of classes taught by "highly qualified" teachers:
 - Elementary: 100%
 - Harbor Lights: 100%
 - Macatawa Bay: 100%
 - West Ottawa High School: 100%
 - District: 100%
- ✓ More than 400 support staff also played a vital role in a child's education, transporting students safely to and from school, preparing and serving nutritious meals, keeping schools and district grounds well-maintained, and assisting students, teachers, parents, and community members.

2007-08 Financial Information

- ✓ **General Fund Budget:** \$70,328,813 (\$69,857,355 in 2006-07)
- ✓ **Taxable Value:** \$1,968,587,828 (\$1,829,707,894 in 2006-07)
- ✓ **Instructional Expenditures Per Pupil:** \$5,980
- ✓ **Total General Fund Operating Expenditures Per Pupil:** \$9,018
- ✓ **Millage Breakdown:** 6.0 mills state tax levy + 6.25 mills debt retirement + 0.30 mill repair & improvement sinking fund (+ 18.0 voted mills for non-homestead only) = 12.55 homestead; 30.55 non-homestead

2007-08 Annual Report



The District at a Glance

Facilities and Resources

Quality, equity, and accessibility describe the facilities and programs available to **all** West Ottawa students, staff, parents, and community members. Our facilities and resources provide:

- ✓ an integrated voice/video/data network
- ✓ a phone, computer(s), data projector, television, and DVD/VCR in every classroom
- ✓ television studios, production facilities, and cable television access through our The Education Station
- ✓ computer labs, automated library-media centers, music labs, cafeterias, gymnasiums
- ✓ West Ottawa Performing Arts Center/Auditorium located at Harbor Lights Middle School
- ✓ a planetarium at Macatawa Bay
- ✓ vocational/technical/robotics labs at all secondary schools



- ✓ art, music, and physical wellness at all grade levels
- ✓ child care programs
- ✓ Project ChARLIE (ChEmical Abuse Resolution Lies in Education) and PALS (Peer Assistant Listeners) intervention and prevention programs
- ✓ diversity training for students and staff
- ✓ conflict management training for students and staff
- ✓ crisis intervention teams and strategies in place



Additional Services Provided by the District



- ✓ An average of 4,797 students, including special education and parochial students, were bussed to and from school daily by our Transportation Department.
- ✓ A fleet of 60 regular education buses plus 11 special education busses and their drivers averaged 5,078 miles each day in 2007-08.
- ✓ We make every attempt to assure your child's going to school for the first time is a positive experience. A tour of their new school before new students arrive helps ease anxieties.
- ✓ Building Services staff maintain over 1.6 million square feet of building space and 440 acres of property, 136 acres of which are irrigated. Well-kept buildings and manicured grounds are evidence of our crew's diligence.

- ✓ West Ottawa provides services to parochial, charter, and private schools, including transportation, meals, art, physical wellness, technology, special education, social workers, and speech/language therapy.

District School Improvement

Every school in the district has a **School Improvement Team** focused on the development, evolution, and implementation of a school improvement process and plan. Each school improvement team submits a revised plan on a yearly basis.

School improvement involves the active participation of students, parents, staff, administrators, and community, assuring all groups are represented in creating a common mission that is in keeping with the Board of Education's goals.

The process of school improvement provides students with more instructional options and opportunities for success. Goals are student-centered, learning-focused, measurable, and targeted at every student. The main focus is on improving student achievement and meeting the varied needs of all children.

Comprehensive school improvement efforts exemplify West Ottawa's commitment to continuous improvement. Changes brought about through these efforts enhance and support teaching and learning.

A Recipe for Success

We use a variety of methods for enhancing communication between home and school.

The home-school connection and community support are key components in assuring a student's success. A child's school experience is enhanced by parent and community involvement in the educational process.

A tremendous amount of support and involvement is reflected in the 32,000+ hours of volunteer service recorded each year, active participation in PTOs and booster clubs, a high level of attendance at parent-teacher conferences and student activities (athletic contests, concerts, art and science fairs, etc.), and participation in advisory groups such as the Task Force.

Continuing efforts to meet the needs of our school community in 2007-08 resulted in:

- ✓ a completed Task Force study of K-12 programs and options
- ✓ additional courses and programs to meet the needs of all learners
- ✓ realignment of core support program through the use of Response to Intervention (RTI)
- ✓ additional programming:
 - implementation of the Michigan Merit Curriculum

at the high school.

- extended-day kindergarten.
- Michigan School Readiness Program for four-year-olds
- language classes
- Honors and Advanced Placement classes
- expansion of evening college classes on the high school campus provided through Grand Rapids Community College and Kendall School of Art and Design
- ✓ new materials and textbooks
- ✓ expanded implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) to support reading instruction
- ✓ further integration of curriculum and technology
- ✓ renewal of operational millage

Measuring Success

Assessment practices are frequently reviewed and revised. Multiple assessments are used to evaluate student performance and provide varied instructional strategies. Results assist in:

- ✓ evaluating the extent to which school improvement goals are being met,
- ✓ implementing and monitoring common assessment goals and teaching strategies, and
- ✓ defining professional development needs that will help students better meet their academic goals.



District School Improvement

Addressing the National Education Goals: The Educate America Act

READINESS FOR SCHOOL

Panther Paws Preschool was initiated in 1995-96. State aid grant increases have enabled the program to increase in sections and students served during the past few years. In 2007-08, we provided services to 124 students in four classrooms.

West Ottawa instituted the WOW preschool program in 2001-02, replacing programs previously offered by Community Education. WOW provides a theme-based curriculum which includes a variety of child-centered activities to promote social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development. The three-year-old and four-year-old programs enrolled 90 children in 2007-08.

Young Kinders provided service to 57 children in 2007-08.

West Ottawa's Panther Place offered childcare services at five schools in 2007-08, enrolling 127 children in the before- and after-school program. Two schools hosted Kinder Cubs with 47 youngsters. The summer childcare program enrolled 97 students in 2007 and 89 in 2008.

CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENTS

Adjustments in the curriculum have been made in response to analyses of student achievement levels on standardized tests and to realign with state standards. Changes implemented during the 2007-08 school year included:

- ✓ new ELA program in grades K-5
- ✓ pre-adoption of new math program in grades K – 5
- ✓ additional intervention strategies through RTI process in grades K - 5
- ✓ revised math program in grades 6 – 8
- ✓ revised science curriculum and resources in grade 8
- ✓ Michigan Merit Curriculum in 9th grade core courses
- ✓ updated Advanced Placement Courses to maintain College Board certification

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

School improvement measures, professional development, curriculum revisions, expanded course offerings, and enhanced instructional opportunities raise student achievement in core academic areas.

Maintaining a respectful environment and displaying a regard for others are district goals stressed in every school. Diversity awareness

and acceptance are important life lessons bolstered by diversity training, special assemblies, and events such as International Night.

Each school has a student council with numerous opportunities for involvement and interaction with the community. Core Democratic Values are part of the K-12 curriculum and classroom expectations. WOHS's Youth Political Awareness Club (YPAC) works to decrease apathy, promote activism, and encourage open-mindedness.

Annual Veterans' Day assemblies put students in touch with those who served our country to protect our freedoms. Eighth grade students travel to Washington, D.C. to learn firsthand about our nation's capital and to observe government in action. Participation in Model United Nations and Student Congress provide similar experiences.

Community service-learning is integrated with the curriculum at all grade levels. Special projects are incorporated into the curriculum of high school government.

Students learn about being good citizens by recycling at school, participating in mock elections, helping their peers, visiting nursing homes, working at the local food bank, and assisting service agencies. Students at all grade levels participate in food, clothing, toy, and fundraising drives.

Educational partnerships with local government and businesses created the Waukazoo Habitats and an outdoor classroom at the Keppel Preserve across from Lakewood School thanks to Community Care by Kids.

SAFE/DISCIPLINED/DRUG-FREE

Safe schools will always be an integral part of a positive learning environment. The district has taken many steps to support a safe and respectful environment. Safety policies and procedures are in place at every school and strictly enforced. Ottawa County Sheriff's deputies work in our secondary buildings and are a visible presence.

A 24-hour Safety Hotline [738-5750] is in place to report any safety concerns. A parent/staff Safe Schools Committee meets throughout the year.

Proactive intervention/prevention programs are incorporated into the curriculum:

- ✓ PALs (Peer Assistant Listeners)
- ✓ Project CHARLIE
- ✓ Michigan Model

(Continued on page 6)

District School Improvement

Teacher Qualification Status

	Staff Members	Provisional Certification	Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree +15 Credit Hours	Master's Degree	Master's Degree +15 Credit Hours	Master's Degree +30 Credit Hours	Special Education Certification	% of Highly Qualified Teachers	% of Teachers with Emergency Credentials	% of Core Classes Not Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers
Glerum	17	2	3	4	7	2	1	0	100%	0.0%	0%
Great Lakes	35	9	9	6	18	1	0	1	100%	0.0%	0%
Lakeshore	26	2	1	6	15	2	2	0	100%	0.0%	0%
Lakewood	33	3	6	6	20	1	0	0	100%	0.0%	0%
North Holland	16	3	4	2	5	2	2	1	100%	0.0%	0%
Pine Creek	30	9	10	4	13	1	1	1	100%	0.0%	0%
Sheldon Woods	14	5	5	1	8	0	0	0	100%	0.0%	0%
Waukazoo	34	2	4	7	20	3	0	0	100%	0.0%	0%
Woodside	34	5	6	2	19	3	1	3	100%	0.0%	0%
Harbor Lights Middle School	66	8	11	25	21	4	3	2	100%	0.0%	0%
Macatawa Bay Middle School	47	6	7	15	17	2	3	3	100%	0.0%	0%
West Ottawa High School	134	25	24	28	64	5	12	1	100%	0.7%	0%
Total	352	54	66	78	163	21	13	11	100%	0.3%	0%

✓ Positive Behavior Support

Students learn conflict resolution strategies. A crisis management team, immediate intervention, and response strategies are in place at each school. Crisis Management handbooks are in classrooms and offices.

A Student Code of Conduct holds all students accountable for their actions. The Non-Discrimination Policy protects students, staff, volunteers, Board members, applicants, and contractors. An Acceptable Use Policy governs the use of district technology.

ADULT LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Integration of Learner Exit Outcomes, what our students will demonstrate upon graduation, throughout the curriculum, emphasizes lifelong learning skills.

PARENTAL PARTICIPATION

The home/school connection is a key component in assuring the success of students. Family involvement enhances a child's school experience.

West Ottawa invites parent participation. Involvement is encouraged with activities such as:

- ✓ parent-teacher conferences: 89.7% (fall 2007) and 83.0% (spring 2008) average participation for grades K-12
- ✓ open houses
- ✓ school functions
- ✓ student performances

✓ PTO/PTC/PTA and booster organizations

- ✓ volunteerism
- ✓ advisory committees

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development is closely linked with school improvement goals and student success. Staff development opportunities enable the introduction and incorporation of more effective teaching and learning strategies. All new certified staff participate in an intensive, week-long orientation including technology training. They are assigned a mentor teacher to guide them through their first few years at West Ottawa.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB)

Federal law NCLB requires schools to demonstrate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in student achievement. Please see page 11 for more information regarding our AYP status.

A component of NCLB requires all teachers be "highly qualified," specifically certified to teach in a subject area, by June 30, 2006. The provision has been reviewed with all staff. The district has reviewed each teacher's certificate and transcript to ensure they are in compliance with NCLB.

Parent and Community Involvement

Cultivating a Climate for Success

The West Ottawa Board of Education is committed to parent and community involvement, a key factor in excellent schools. Participation is strongly encouraged, from tutoring to helping in classrooms. We strive to channel the rich human resources of our community into a dependable volunteer and partnership program.

VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT INSTRUCTION

Volunteers are our partners in teaching and learning. They are caring individuals of all ages, from all walks of life. They supply what tax dollars can't buy in time, talent, energy, and ideas, as well as funding, materials, services, and facilities to support and enhance the educational experiences of our students.

A broad range of programs are made possible through:

- ✓ parents, guardians, and other family members
- ✓ students
- ✓ staff
- ✓ community members
- ✓ businesses
- ✓ agencies and organizations

PARTNERSHIPS PROVIDE EXPERIENCE

Community Partners in Education links schools and community, providing practical, real-life experiences such as:

- ✓ school-to-work placements
- ✓ Co-Op, internships, and more
- ✓ educational programs such as FIRST Robotics and LEGO League
- ✓ career shadowing
- ✓ service-learning projects
- ✓ resource speakers
- ✓ mentorships

Long-term partnerships exist with Johnson Controls, Meijers, and Holland and Park Townships, to name a few.

Kids Hope pairs students with local church members who serve as tutors and mentors. Communities in Schools (Life Services Systems) places representatives of area agencies directly

Our Volunteers

Year	# of Volunteers	Hours
2007-08	1,776	32,352
2006-07	2,228	38,053
2005-06	1,995	37,307

in touch with children and families needing support services. The Co-Pilot Mentoring Program pairs staff, community members, and high school students with elementary students.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Service-learning experiences help students become responsible, involved citizens; self-directed achievers; and caring individuals.

Nationally award-winning programs such as Waukazoo's ChildTeach and Kids Healing Kids, a choir of district 3rd-5th grade volunteers who are cheerleaders for kids with catastrophic illness, are models of a student body which readily demonstrates concern for others and is eager to help those in need, including their peers. Programs such as Lakewood's Community Care by Kids take on community improvement projects.

Hundreds of our students volunteer at food banks and churches and for community projects. They collect thousands of dollars, food, clothing, and toys for those less fortunate.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

We are proud of our high level of parent involvement and support. There are a variety of opportunities for home-school communication and participation in a child's education.

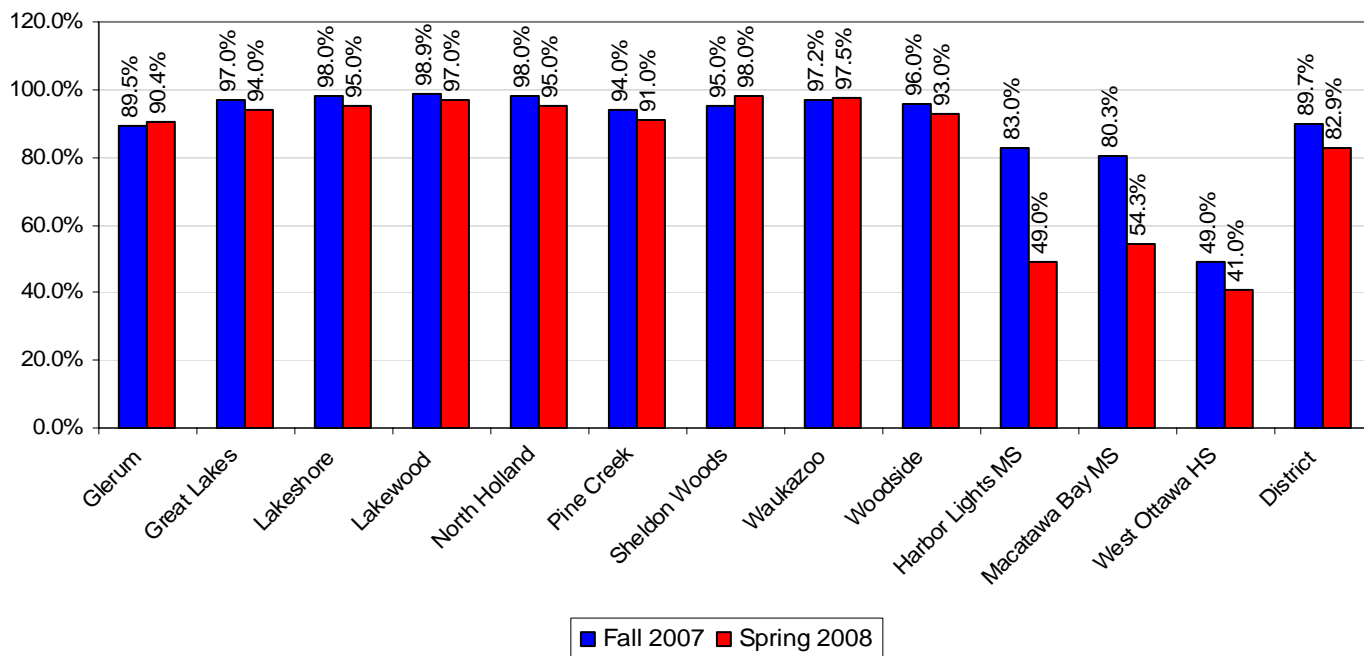
Parents demonstrate their concern for students in many ways,



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Parent and Community Involvement

Parent/Teacher Conference Attendance Rates



(Continued from page 7)

including:

- ✓ participation in parent/teacher conferences
- ✓ involvement in PTO/PTC/PTA, Academic Boosters, Athletic Boosters, Drama Boosters, Music Boosters, extracurricular activities
- ✓ attendance at school events, athletic contests, student performances, and more
- ✓ volunteering
- ✓ serving on advisory groups
- ✓ talking about school with their children
- ✓ supporting the need for quality education

Active parent/teacher and booster organizations provide much-needed support to enhance educational programs. Proceeds from fundraisers help sponsor school activities, assemblies, field trips, and programs, and supply books, equipment, and materials. Parents share their time, talents, and experiences to strengthen our schools.

West Ottawa schedules parent/teacher conferences each semester. Attendance is greater in the fall. Parents are also welcome and encouraged to arrange individual sessions with teachers and/or counselors

throughout the school year. Conferences give teachers, parents, and students an opportunity to directly communicate about a child's academic and social progress.



2007-08 Annual Report



Specialized Schools

Alternatives for Students With Special Needs

West Ottawa takes pride in being responsive to the needs of all children. Those who are identified as having a disability receive instruction with direct and indirect support in academic and/or social areas.

A broad range of special education instructional and support services were provided to 12.1% of the district's total number of students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade in 2007-08.

Eligibility

The decision to provide special education services is made by an Individualized Educational Planning Committee (IEPC) which minimally includes:



- ◆ parents
- ◆ teachers
- ◆ diagnostic personnel
- ◆ school administrators

Success of a program is monitored by improvement in the child's functioning in the areas identified within his or her IEP (individualized education plan).

Services are provided under federal and state guidelines such as IDEA, which was newly reauthorized in 2004, and the Mandatory Special Education Act (Public Act 198) for students suspected of having a handicapping condition.

Philosophy

West Ottawa is strongly committed to the concept of "least restrictive environment" for all children.

Students from birth to age 26 who are identified as being eligible for special education programs/services under Federal and Michigan guidelines are provided with appropriate experiences in their own classrooms to the greatest extent possible with special education instruction and support. Teams of diagnostic, consultative, supportive, and direct instruction professionals work with general education teachers to help each student maximize his or her potential and participate in a school's educational program as fully as possible.

The nature and extent of services provided are dependent upon individual needs. Classroom environment and curriculum may be accommodated and modified. Placements of eligible students in specialized programs outside the district are made only after all available options have been explored.

Services

Our services include:

- ◆ School psychologists
- ◆ School social workers
- ◆ Speech therapists
- ◆ Adaptive physical wellness
- ◆ Physical therapy
- ◆ Occupational therapy
- ◆ Audio enhancement
- ◆ Assistive technology



Section 504

Section 504 is the section of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which applies to persons with disabilities. Basically, it is a civil rights act which protects the civil and constitutional rights of persons with disabilities. For a student to qualify for Section 504 services, they must have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, have a record of such an impairment, or be regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include such things as walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks. If a student meets the criteria, a Section 504 is created and implemented by parents and school staff.



Auxiliary aids and services, such as signers or audio tapes of printed materials, are provided at Board of Education meetings and district functions upon receipt of seven days prior notice.

English As A Second Language (ESL) & Migrant Education



West Ottawa Public Schools believes strongly that English Language Learners (ELL) can achieve levels of academic performance comparable to those of the general English-speaking population. We are committed to providing appropriate instructional services to ensure that our students have the opportunity to learn content matter while gaining English Language proficiency. Two separately funded, yet programmatically blended

programs are offered in the district.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAM

West Ottawa Public Schools provides instructional services to students in grades K-12 who have limited English proficiency. Students qualify for the program by completing:

- A home language survey
- An evaluation using the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) in the areas of reading, comprehension, writing, speaking, and listening

Our ESL teachers are Spanish speakers with university endorsements in teaching limited English proficient children. There are English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the secondary level. In addition, West Ottawa employs educational assistants who are native speakers of Spanish, Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Lao.

High quality materials are available to staff. These programs blend the teaching of academic English with mastery of core content concepts as specified by Michigan's state standards *Phonics and Friends* is used in the early elementary program. The *Language Development Leveled Readers* supplement instruction for older elementary students, and the *High Point* series are the core texts for secondary students in ESL classes.

MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The migrant education program supports children of migratory workers involved primarily with the nursery tree industry or blueberry harvesting. Teachers and educational assistants work collaboratively with the children's general education teachers during the regular school year. During the summer months, certified and non-certified staff provide

(Continued on page 10)

Specialized Schools

Advanced and Accelerated Programs

Our primary focus is to provide higher level thinking, creative opportunities, and challenges within the regular instructional setting.

- **Accelerated learning**
 - ✓ Students progress more rapidly in specific curricular areas
 - ✓ Middle school students can take high school courses for credit at their middle school site. (Includes: math, English, science, social studies, and foreign language.)
 - ✓ 4th and 5th grade elementary students attend advanced classes at their elementary site or classes at middle school locations.
- **Advanced placement (AP) classes**
 - ✓ WOHS students may take courses which present college-level material and can earn college credit through AP testing.
 - ✓ Sixteen different AP courses are offered on our high school campus on a yearly basis.
- **District, regional, state, and national competitions** in art, creative writing, debate, forensics, geography, instrumental music, Latin, math, robotics, science, spelling, theater, vocal music, and industrial/vocational arts
- **Dual enrollment**
 - ✓ WOHS students take classes at area colleges
 - ✓ Grand Rapids Community College and Kendall School of Art and Design offer classes on our high school campus.
- **Enrichment classes and activities**
 - ✓ Offered periodically throughout the year
 - ✓ Opportunity to explore various interests and strengthen skills
- **Extracurricular activities and programs**
 - ✓ FIRST Robotics (high school)
 - ✓ LEGO Mindstorms (middle school)
 - ✓ Science Olympiad (high school and middle school)
 - ✓ Academic and service clubs/organizations
- **Midwest Talent Search (MTS)**
 - ✓ 5th-8th grade students take the SAT or ACT college entrance exam to assess academic abilities and apply to the PATH program
- **Program for Academically Talented at Hope College (PATH)**
 - ✓ Accelerated math and writing skills program
 - ✓ 7th-9th grade participants meet once a week and may receive high school credit for their work
- **School math, science, and world studies fairs**
- **Student art shows and exhibits**

<i>College Credit Statistics</i>				
	2006-07		2007-08	
	#	%	#	%
Students enrolled in Dual Enrollment classes	36	1.5%	28	1.2%
# of spots filled in Dual Enrollment classes	55	n/a	34	n/a
# of Advanced Placement (AP) classes available to students	15	n/a	16	n/a
Students enrolled in AP classes	288	12.0%	234	10.1%

(Continued from page 9)

intensive instruction for six weeks (150 hours minimum) to pre-kindergarten through eighth grade children. Program staff work diligently to ensure that student records are transferred on a timely basis between their schools in Texas, Florida, Mexico, and West Ottawa. As much as possible, children are assisted in overcoming educational disruptions and fragmentation of instruction, social isolation, health-related problems, and other factors which inhibit their success in school. The goal of the program is to provide students the resources and instructional support needed to achieve academic success.

Student Enrollment

School-Year (K-12):

- Migrant: 184
 - ELL: 1,723
- Summer (PreK-8):
- Migrant: 136



School Accreditation

Adequate Yearly Progress and Education YES!

Accreditation is a process to which the staff, administration, and Board of Education commit in order to meet a set of standards required for a quality education and desired outcomes. The process promotes school improvement through self-study, input from other educators, and evaluation of all programs and services.



(AYP) for a district, the district is considered to be one big "school." Note that a school district is considered to have "made AYP" if the district makes AYP (in both English language arts and in mathematics) at least one of the three grade ranges - elementary, middle school and high school.

West Ottawa is committed to continuous school improvement, increasing student achievement, and excellence in education.

For more information on AYP and the Michigan School Report Card, visit <https://oeaa.state.mi.us/ayp/>, click on Guide to Reading School Report Cards.

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

State Accreditation - Education YES!

Building Level - The Michigan Department of Education annually makes a determination of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for all public elementary, middle schools, and high schools in Michigan. AYP evaluates schools and school districts overall and by sub-groups in the areas of academic achievement, participation in state assessment, graduation rate for high schools, and student attendance for elementary and middle schools. In addition, the Department reports on Education YES! - a Yardstick for Excellent Schools, the state school accreditation system under which letter grades are assigned for academic achievement and indicators of school performance to determine state accreditation of Michigan schools.

The Michigan school accreditation process has been undergoing constant review and revision. Enactment of the federal legislation, **No Child Left Behind**, has resulted in the current state accreditation program, **Education YES!** These programs are intended to hold schools more accountable, to expand options, and to ensure **every** student is provided with the tools they need to be successful, productive citizens. Both detail the parameters by which a school's performance is measured.

For more information about achievement scores and AYP, visit <https://oeaa.state.mi.us/ayp/>.

2007 District AYP Status - Yes			
	AYP Status:	AYP Status:	AYP Status:
Grade Level	ELA	Math	AYP Status
Elementary	Yes	Yes	Met
Middle School	Yes	Yes	Met
High School	No	Yes	Not Met

District Level - In calculating adequate yearly progress

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Education YES! Status							
School Name	School's Grade Levels	Title I School	2007-08 Education YES Grade	Made AYP in ELA	Made AYP in Math	Made AYP Overall	AYP Phase 2007-08
Glerum	K-5	Yes	B	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Great Lakes	K-5	Yes	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Lakeshore	K-5	No	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Lakewood	K-5	No	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
North Holland	K-5	Yes	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Pine Creek	K-5	Yes	B	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Sheldon Woods	K-5	Yes	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Waukazoo	K-5	No	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Woodside	K-5	Yes	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Harbor Lights	6-8	No	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
Macatawa Bay	6-8	No	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
West Ottawa High School	9-12	No	B	No	No	No	0
West Ottawa Public Schools (District)	K-12			Yes	Yes	Yes	0



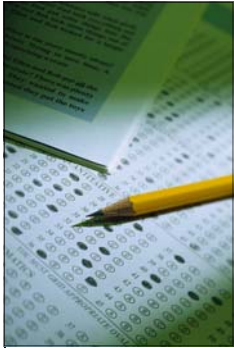
School Accreditation

Assessment Data

Multiple assessments are used to evaluate student performance and progress. Results assist in evaluating the extent to which school improvement goals are being met, revising goals and instructional strategies, and defining professional development needs. Assessment practices are frequently reviewed and revised.

A combination of in-house common assessments per marking period, standardized (MEAP, MME, and ELPA), and nationally-normed (Terra Nova) tests help measure the curriculum's effectiveness in providing students with the knowledge and skills deemed essential by the West Ottawa Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education.

Frequent progress reports and parent-teacher conferences communicate student growth and achievement levels.



Terra Nova Testing

The purpose of Terra Nova testing is to enable us to compare the scores of our students to a nationally norm-referenced group of students at the same grade level and to measure the growth or improvement of an individual student from year to year. A Normal Curve Equivalent

(NCE) score of 50 is equivalent to the median score or score in the middle of the nationally norm-referenced group. This is considered the "typical" performance level of a "typical" student at that grade level. Scores above 64 NCE represent significant achievement above the typical student within that grade level. Scores below 36 NCE represent significant achievement below the typical student within that grade level.

Tables, available online at www.westottawa.net/ar, represent the two-year average NCE scores for third and fifth grade at each of our elementary

District & test data is available online at www.westottawa.net/ar

State of Michigan Assessments

The Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and Michigan Merit Exam (MME) tests were developed to measure what Michigan educators believe all students should know and be able to achieve in five content areas: mathematics, reading, science, social studies, and writing. The test results paint a picture of how well Michigan students and Michigan schools are doing when compared to standards established by the State Board of education. The MEAP and MME tests are common measures given statewide to all students. They serve as measures of accountability for Michigan schools.



Results of MEAP tests can be used by schools for school improvement purposes. The results indicate overall strengths and weaknesses of a school district's curriculum, and can be used to



2007-08 Annual Report



West Ottawa students excel in many venues, capturing individual and team honors in a wide variety of academic and extracurricular programs. Our students have earned awards and distinction for/in: art, athletics, band, career preparation programs, community service, creative writing, debate, forensics, geography, government, jazz band, industrial arts, leadership, marketing, math, Midwest Talent Search, Model United Nations, National Merit Scholars, orchestra, robotics, rocketry, science, scholastic achievement, spelling, theater, video, vocal music, and yearbook.

Among our outstanding accomplishments in 2007-08:

Academic Honors

- Four seniors were selected as National Merit Semifinalists, with three eventually becoming National Merit Finalists.
- Eight seniors were recognized as being Advanced Placement Scholars
- The Class of 2008 had eight Valedictorians (4.0 GPA), one Top Scholar Valedictorian based on GPA, Honors Points and ACT score, and four Salutatorians (3.99 GPA).
- Thirty-nine seniors were recognized as being Top Scholars.
- Eight students received AP Scholar Awards
- 87% of our 2008 graduates indicated plans for post-secondary education:
 - 63% four-year college/university
 - 17% two-year college
 - 5% trade or vocational school
 - 2% military service
 - 3% working
 - 10% undecided
- Over 300 seniors received either a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Academic Achievement award.
- Based on the achievements of the Class of 2008, our students earned a potential \$5,000,000 in scholarships.
 - \$160,000 in scholarships from local memorials, service clubs, and businesses.
 - \$2,920,000 in college scholarships.
 - The potential to earn another \$1,890,000 in Michigan Promise Scholarships.

Arts Honors

- The WOHS Marching Band received a Division I rating at the District Marching Festival.
 - The Concert Choir, Bella Voce, Men of Vocalaires Ensemble, Concert Orchestra, and Symphony Orchestra all received Division I ratings at District Festival.
 - The Vocalaires, Women of Vocalaires, Select Women's Ensemble, Concert

Class of 2008 Highlights

- 4 National Merit Semi-Finalists, 3 National Merit Finalists
- The Class of 2008 had 8 Valedictorians (4.0 GPA), 1 Top Scholar Valedictorian based on GPA, Honors Points, and ACT score, and 4 Salutatorians (3.99 GPA)
- 39 seniors were recognized as being Top Scholars.
- 8 students received AP Scholar Awards
- 87% of our 2008 graduates polled indicated plans for some form of post-secondary education:
- 63% four-year college/university; 17% two-year college; 5% trade or vocational school; 2% military service; 3% working, 10% undecided

Recognizing that no one measure can capture the full range of student learning, WOHS uses a variety of ways to measure and report student progress and achievement. Areas commonly reviewed when considering student academic achievement include standardized testing results from PSAT/NMSQT, ACT, SAT, WorkKeys, and the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).

The information included here shows WOHS student test results on state and national measures. Most West Ottawa students score above state and national averages.

- Standardized test and entrance exam scores qualify students for Michigan Merit Award and National Merit scholarships as well as scholarships/awards to numerous post-secondary institutions.
- Class of 2008 graduates were awarded more than \$4.9 million in scholarships.
- 444 graduates earned Michigan Merit Scholarships.

Band, and Symphony Band all received Division I ratings at both District and State Festival. The Vocalaires were also selected as the Best Chamber Choir in the State.

- Two senior artists received National Scholastic Art Awards.
- Two additional senior artists have also received Congressional Art Awards allowing their art work to hang in Washington D.C.
- Senior artwork can also be seen traveling in the Governors' Traveling Art Show.
- The WOHS Percussion Ensemble was selected as the Best Percussion Ensemble in the State for the second year in a row.

Extra-Curricular Honors

- The senior-led Blood Drive produced much-needed pints of blood for local blood banks, and the WOHS Voter Registration Drive was responsible for registering over 400 enthusiastic students enabling them to vote in upcoming local, state, and federal elections.
- The Student Senate-led Month of Caring collected over 6,000 pounds of food for local food pantries.
- The West Ottawa Science Olympiad team qualified for the State Tournament for the fifth consecutive year.
- The FIRST Robotics team finished second in their division at the National Tournament in Atlanta, Georgia.
- One senior was recognized as being the top Youth Entrepreneur by the Great Lakes Junior Achievement organization.

- Ten seniors placed at the MITES State Competition for Industrial Arts
- Senior members of CTEE recently oversaw the refurbishing, packaging, and sending of 250 computers to western Africa.

Athletics Honors

- The Boys Tennis team qualified for the State Tennis finals for the eleventh consecutive year and placed eleventh in the state.
- The Girls Golf, Boys Soccer, Football, Volleyball, Girls Cross Country, Boys Water Polo, and Girls Swim and Dive teams all placed third or better in their conference in the fall.
- The Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball teams all were recognized as being Academic All-State teams.
- The Girls Volleyball team finished with an honorable mention ranking in the state.
- The Ice Hockey team established a new school record for wins and was recognized as being an Academic All-State team for the seventh time in eight years with a GPA of 3.45.
- The Boys Swim/Dive team placed fifteenth in the MHSAA State Finals.
- The Girls Soccer team was Conference Co-Champions and won the OK Red Conference Championship.
- The Girls Softball and Tennis teams finished third in the conference, with the Girls Tennis team placing in twelfth place at the State Finals.

A Core Curriculum Founded on the Basics

The core curriculum provides a framework for our educational programs. It is a set of expectations all students should achieve to progress in their schooling.

We are working to deliver a curriculum that provides all students with the knowledge and skills necessary for living effectively today and in the future.

Our curriculum provides expanded opportunities designed to meet individual needs. Course offerings exceed core curriculum requirements established by the Michigan Department of Education. Strong academic programming is supported by quality technology and facilities.

Integrated with our core academic curriculum and enhancing a student's quality educational experience are:

- childcare options
- clubs, organizations, and athletics
- community partnerships
- conflict management training
- counseling/guidance
- field trips, assemblies, and special activities/events
- forensics and debate
- industrial arts (including CAD, robotics, engineering, WoodLINKS, and architectural drawing)
- integration of technology into instruction and assessment
- library-media resources
- journalism and yearbook
- Junior Achievement
- preschool
- Project CHARLIE
- publishing centers
- special education
- student government
- technology tools/resources
- theater/performing arts
- video/television production instruction
- vocational/technical classes and experience

Measuring Success

A combination of in-house common assessments for courses and standardized testing (CTBS/Terra Nova, MEAP/MME, EXPLORE, PLAN, ACT, and SAT) measure the curriculum's effectiveness in providing students with the knowledge deemed essential by the West Ottawa Board of Education, Michigan Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Education.

Frequent progress reports communicate student growth and achievement levels. Parent/teacher conferences also communicate student academic and social progress. Access to a web-based "parent portal" allows parents to monitor student academic progress and attendance on a daily basis.

Recognizing the Individual

Student achievement remains our top priority. Higher standards and greater expectations have resulted in the implementation of a variety of instructional methods, progressive teaching strategies, and specialized programs designed to respond to the individual needs and learning styles of a diverse student population. We offer a demanding academic schedule for all students with an emphasis on college preparation skills. This program is supported by strong educational components that provide real-world vocational/technical training choices for students.

We embrace the concept of a brain-compatible learning environment, recognizing that individuals learn at different rates of growth through different methods of instruction and a variety of teaching/learning styles. Our curriculum makes provisions for the variability of academic skills, interests, and social, emotional, and physical development within our student population.

The Core Curriculum of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies has been expanded to include:

- Career Exploration
- Fine Arts (instrumental music, vocal music, visual arts, dance, and the performing arts)
- World Languages
- Healthy Living
- Physical Wellness
- Technology Standards

Continuous Improvement

Curriculum changes are driven by analysis of student achievement data. We are continually working to improve the curriculum (targeted standards), assessment system, and instructional strategies to help children succeed, and to increase the level of challenge for our students.

Curricular assessment and instructional improvement are ongoing processes. Teachers and administrators work collaboratively to evaluate, update, enhance, and realign each curricular area with state expectations and federal mandates.

The West Ottawa Leadership Team and curriculum committees serve as advisory groups which:

- aim to raise student achievement by revising the curriculum
- implement and monitor assessment data collection systems to provide feedback on student performance
- ensure that state mandates are met
- increase the level of academic rigor for all students
- focus on curriculum and assessment practices related to improving student achievement
- coordinate professional development opportunities to support district goals
- integrate technology into all classrooms, with an emphasis on information access
- support the team concept in grades 6-8
- maintain consistent, challenging K-12 educational programs
- support curriculum review, revision, and implementation year-round
- research, evaluate, and recommend new courses, textbooks, software, and related instructional materials

The district is committed to a career preparation system and through this system has expanded offerings for students. Specialized K-12th grade materials were purchased for the English as a Second Language and migrant education programs. These materials blend the teaching of English with mastery of core content recommended for all students in Michigan.

Lifelong Learning

Our instructional program is designed to serve the entire West Ottawa community. Hundreds of children and adults took advantage of extended

(Continued on page 15)

West Ottawa Schools Offer Instructional Options

The following ongoing efforts provide **responsive and individualized instructional opportunities** to help each child succeed:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ✓ Accelerated learning:
– S.A.I.L (Students Accelerating In Learning) at elementary level
– Academically advanced courses at middle school and high school | ✓ Dual enrollment
✓ English as a Second Language
✓ Enrichment classes
✓ Extended day options
✓ Extended year options (summer school)
✓ Flexible grouping of students
✓ Homebound instruction
✓ Integrated instruction
✓ Literacy learning
✓ Looping
✓ Mentoring
✓ Migrant education | ✓ Montessori elementary classes
✓ Peer-assisted learning
✓ Preschool
✓ Remediation
✓ Response to Intervention
✓ School-to-work options
✓ Seminar
✓ Service-learning
✓ Team teaching
✓ Test-out options
✓ Tutoring |
| ✓ College credit classes on high school campus | | |
| ✓ Advanced placement | | |
| ✓ Alternative education | | |
| ✓ At-risk programs | | |
| ✓ Career preparation | | |
| ✓ Cross-curricular, computer-assisted learning | | |

(Continued from page 14)

learning opportunities and support services, including those offered in conjunction with Life Services Systems, Community Education, and the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District. Options included:

- preschool
- year-round child care
- enrichment programs
- after-school study sessions and tutoring
- professional development
- Careerline Tech Center classes
- West Ottawa Bookmobile (summer)
- West Ottawa Youth Sports Program
- West Ottawa Community Pool programs
- Township recreation programs
- Ottawa Area Intermediate (OAISD) instruction and resources

Resources and Support

Staff and community contribute to the West Ottawa Educational Foundation which rewards instructional innovation, educational enhancement, and excellence in teaching. The Foundation awards between \$10,000-\$18,000 in grants to district staff each year.

In 2007-08 federal and state grants provided support and/or enhance instructional programs and increase student achievement in the following areas:

- **Michigan School Readiness** - funds preschool program for 4-year-olds who meet specific state criteria
- **Title I/ Part A: Improving Basic Programs** - provides

supplementary instruction for children who are most at risk of failing to meet district core academic curriculum standards in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies

- **Part C: Migrant Education Program** - provides educational and support services to migrant children
- **Title III** - funds programming for English language learners
- **Title V: Innovative Education Program Strategies** - supports local innovation and educational/school reform
- **State Section 31a: Programs for At-Risk Pupils** - funds supplementary instructional and pupil support services for students who meet specific state at-risk criteria
- **State Section 41: Bilingual Education** - funds support programming for English language learners
- **State Section 57.3: Gifted and Talented**- funds advanced and accelerated programs such as after-school enrichment classes



Parents Right-To-Know

To comply with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Parents Right-To-Know, parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessional, if applicable.

For more information, please contact Rich Zuker, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, via email at zukerr@westottawa.net or at (616) 738.5781.