

Polk Elementary School

Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

Wednesday, August 17, 2011

Dear Polk Elementary School 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 Polk Elementary School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact the Polk Elementary School office for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <URL TO THE SCHOOL AER> or you may review a copy from the Polk Elementary School main office.

For 2010-2011, the students of Polk Elementary School made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics. While we are pleased to have reached this important goal, we are continuously working to improve. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort. State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Like all Dearborn Heights School District #7 elementary school buildings, Polk Elementary is assigned students based primarily on geographic location. That is, most students that attend Polk Elementary School live within the designated region of Dearborn Heights so as to allow easy walking access to the school. We at Polk Elementary School like to preserve the continuity of our school community, so long as that coincides with the wishes of our families, so schools of choice families – as much as possible – are kept within the same buildings. That is to say, if a school of choice student attends Polk Elementary School, then his or her siblings will also attend Polk Elementary School. Attendance at Polk Elementary School is also contingent on available space, so students are placed based on those numbers as well. Finally, the school district does its best to place students according to parent requests whenever possible.
2. The Polk Elementary School Improvement Plan was revised during the 2010-11 school year. Our school improvement goals – improvement in Mathematics, Reading and Writing – remained the same, but our strategies for achieving those goals were updated to reflect the processes and procedures that we intend to use in the classrooms to improve our performance in these areas as determined by the *Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP)*, the *Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)*, and locally-produced classroom assessments.
3. Polk Elementary is an elementary school serving Kindergarten through 5th grade – as well as a group of special needs pre-school students (PPI) – in all core subject areas. Further, all students receive special area instruction in Art, Music and Physical Education.
4. The Michigan Department of Education provides all Michigan schools with a core curriculum for all core academic areas, including Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. Copies of this curriculum can be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.corestandards.org>. These core standards align closely with the Michigan Department of Education's Grade Level Content Expectations for English Language Arts and Mathematics, and provide the foundation for learning at the elementary level. This core curriculum has been customized to the needs of students in Dearborn Heights School District #7 by teachers of all grade levels working in concert with district administration. The material presented is identical to what is expected by both the state and federal governments, but is tailored to the specific student populations of District #7 elementary school students.

5. Presented below in table format are the Polk Elementary School aggregate student achievement results for both MEAP and NWEA Measures of Academic Progress for the past two school years. The values listed on the table indicate the percentage of students identified as Proficient (or better) in each area.

Grade 3 MEAP Math 2009-2010		Grade 3 MEAP Reading 2009-2010		Grade 3 MEAP Math 2010-11		Grade 3 MEAP Reading 2010-11	
100%		90%		94%		71%	
Grade 3 NWEA Math 2009-2010		Grade 3 NWEA Reading 2009-2010		Grade 3 NWEA Math 2010-11		Grade 3 NWEA Reading 2010-11	
88%		78%		75%		56%	
Grade 4 MEAP Math 2009-2010		Grade 4 MEAP Reading 2009-2010		Grade 4 MEAP Math 2010-11		Grade 4 MEAP Reading 2010-11	
85%		65%		93%		78%	
Grade 4 NWEA Math 2009-2010		Grade 4 NWEA Reading 2009-2010		Grade 4 NWEA Math 2010-11		Grade 4 NWEA Reading 2010-11	
66%		64%		78%		69%	
Grade 5 MEAP Math 2009-2010	Grade 5 MEAP Reading 2009-2010	Grade 5 MEAP Science 2009-2010	Grade 5 MEAP Math 2010-11	Grade 5 MEAP Reading 2010-11	Grade 5 MEAP Science 2010-11		
72%	95%	79%	78%	77%	58%		
Grade 5 NWEA Math 2009-2010		Grade 5 NWEA Reading 2009-2010		Grade 5 NWEA Math 2010-11		Grade 5 NWEA Reading 2010-11	
75%		83%		68%		74%	

6. Polk Elementary School is fortunate to regularly have over 95% of all families represented at fall Parent-Teacher Conferences, and over 95% of those families invited to attend spring conferences as well.

We at Polk Elementary School are exceptionally pleased with our continued progress and with our students' noteworthy performance on the State-defined measures of school success. We continue to work as a staff and as a school community to do what is best for the students of Polk Elementary School so that they may go on to achieve further success in school as well as in later life.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Brenton
Principal
Polk Elementary School