

# 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT FOR SUGARBUSH ELEMENTARY



# **SUGARBUSH ELEMENTARY**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

All students at Sugarbush Elementary will have the academic foundation, social skills and cultural awareness to become responsible, productive citizens.

### **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

Sugarbush Elementary began the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a new cycle in the school improvement process through the new AdvancEd State/NCA accreditation. In addition, Sugarbush applied for district accreditation status. The Quality Assurance Review (QAR) site visit needed for this process is presently scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of 2010.

### **DISTRICT CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

Anchor Bay Schools has developed curriculum in both Language Arts and Math. The curricular objectives are aligned with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and the Michigan Grade Level Content Standards.

Core curriculum sub-committees have been established to align the district's curriculum standards with those of the State of Michigan, as well as with the district's vision and mission. The purpose of the curriculum sub-committees is to develop instructional strategies and assessment outcomes for each grade level. In addition, committees review/recommend student materials and textbooks which are necessary in all areas of curriculum for implementation of the instructional strategies. Curriculum development occurs on Professional Development Days, in after-school staff meetings, and in department and grade level meetings.

To enhance communication and to keep parents well informed of the district's focus on curricular objectives, individual websites were created for each member of the teaching and administrative staff. E-mail addresses are included to provide an alternate means for contacting school personnel.

The District's commitment to the curriculum process reflects its mission of meeting the needs of all students in the Anchor Bay Schools. This goal is accomplished by the process of continually revising curricular objectives, teaching the district core curriculum standards and the extended learning opportunities provided to students at all educational levels.

### **MEAP**

The testing window for elementary students was again held in October. Our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders were administered the English/Language Arts (ELA) and Math MEAP. In addition, 5<sup>th</sup> Graders were given the Science MEAP Tests. New State and Federal guidelines for testing require that at least 95% of the student population be tested. This includes all Special Education students who would either take the regular MEAP or the alternate assessments, MI Access or the Brigance. Sugarbush was in compliance with these guidelines.

Listed below are the MEAP Scores in all four content areas for the 2008-2009 School Year.  
**(Percentage passing is the sum of Level 1 and Level 2**

**Grade 3 – MEAP Achievement Levels – ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

All Students			Performance Levels				
Subject	Year	# of Students	4-Not Proficient	3-Partially Proficient	2-Proficient	1-Advanced	Levels 1 & 2
Reading	2008	47	0%	2%	40%	57%	98%
	2007	53	0%	0%	47%	53%	100%
Writing	2008	47	0%	15%	85%	0%	85%
	2007	53	2%	26%	72%	0%	72%
Total ELA	2008	47	0%	2%	68%	30%	98%
	2007	53	0%	4%	66%	30%	96%
Math	2008	47	0%	2%	30%	68%	98%
	2007	53	0%	2%	57%	42%	98%

**Grade 3 – 2008 Demographic Report-All Students**

All Students		Reading					Writing					Total ELA				
GENDER	Total #	Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1	4 1&2	3	2	1	4 1&2	3	2	1			
Male	26	0%	4%	27%	69%	96%	0%	19%	81%	0%	81%	0%	4%	62%	35%	96%
Female	21	0%	0%	57%	43%	100%	0%	10%	90%	0%	90%	0%	0%	76%	24%	100%

All Students		Math				
GENDER	# Tested	Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1	
Male	26	0%	4%	23%	73%	96%
Female	21	0%	0%	38%	62%	100%

**Grade 4 – MEAP Achievement Levels – ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

All Students			Performance Levels				
Subject	Year	# of Students	4-Not Proficient	3-Partially Proficient	2-Proficient	1-Advanced	Levels 1 & 2
Reading	2008	52	0%	8%	58%	35%	92%
	2007	57	0%	12%	63%	25%	88%
Writing	2008	52	0%	29%	71%	0%	71%
	2007	57	2%	58%	40%	0%	40%
Total ELA	2008	52	0%	10%	85%	6%	90%
	2007	57	2%	25%	63%	11%	74%
Math	2008	52	0%	2%	58%	40%	98%
	2007	57	2%	7%	54%	37%	91%

**Grade 4 – 2008 Demographic Report-All Students**

All Students		Reading					Writing					Total ELA				
GENDER	Total #	Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1	4 1&2	3	2	1	4 1&2	3	2	1			
Male	27	0%	7%	56%	37%	93%	0%	30%	70%	0%	70%	0%	7%	81%	11%	93%
Female	25	0%	8%	60%	32%	92%	0%	28%	72%	0%	72%	0%	12%	88%	0%	88%

All Students		Math				
GENDER	# Tested	Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1	
Male	27	0%	0%	56%	44%	100%
Female	25	0%	4%	60%	36%	96%

**Grade 5 – MEAP Achievement Levels – ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

All Students			Performance Levels				
Subject	Year	# of Students	4-Not Proficient	3-Partially Proficient	2-Proficient	1-Advanced	Levels 1 & 2
Reading	2008	57	4%	4%	51%	42%	93%
	2007	51	2%	6%	59%	33%	92%
Writing	2008	57	0%	35%	65%	0%	65%
	2007	51	2%	25%	71%	2%	73%
Total ELA	2008	57	2%	7%	72%	19%	91%
	2007	51	0%	10%	75%	16%	90%
Math	2008	57	5%	12%	33%	49%	82%
	2007	51	4%	12%	39%	45%	84%
Science	2008	57	4%	9%	33%	54%	88%
	2007	51	2%	2%	47%	49%	96%

**Grade 5 – 2008 Demographic Report-All Students**

All Students		Reading					Writing					Total ELA				
GENDER	Total #	Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1		4 1&2	3	2	1		4 1&2	3	2	1	
Male	34	6%	3%	53%	38%	91%	0%	41%	59%	0%	59%	3%	9%	68%	21%	88%
Female	23	0%	4%	48%	48%	96%	0%	26%	74%	0%	74%	0%	4%	78%	17%	96%

All Students		Math					Science				
GENDER	# Tested	Percent at Level:					Percent at Level:				
		4 1&2	3	2	1		4 1&2	3	2	1	
Male	34%	6%	15%	29%	50%	79%	6%	9%	26%	59%	85%
Female	23	4%	9%	39%	48%	87%	0%	9%	43%	48%	91%

**AYP AND REPORT CARD GRADE**

As part of the Federal Initiative, No Child Left Behind, and the State Initiative, Education Yes, a school is evaluated to determine if it has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and also must receive a grade that is based on a formula that includes MEAP Scores and 40 Performance Indicators established by the state. As a result of both of these initiatives, Sugarbush received Adequate Yearly Progress Status for the 2008-2009 school year and a Report Card Grade of “A”.

**TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

All teachers at Sugarbush are State Certified and teaching within their approved areas of expertise. Having highly qualified teachers is also one of the criteria for our successful participation in the NCA Accreditation Process.

### **CLASS SIZE**

Lower class size is always a desired goal. The district has committed itself to maintaining Kindergarten populations of 25 or less. This also meets NCA standard requirements. During the 2008-2009 school year, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades maintained an average of 21 students per grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5 grades maintained an average of 28 students per grade.

### **RETENTION RATES**

Retention is sometimes used to help students who are not developmentally prepared to advance to the next grade. At the end of the 2008-2009 school year, less than 1% of our K-2 student population were retained in order to insure a more successful school experience for all children.

### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Parent involvement is an important component of our educational program. Over 98% of the parents attended Parent-Teacher Conferences in the fall. Parent volunteers help to monitor literacy centers in the classrooms, supervise field trips and willingly volunteer for any activities in which the classroom teachers are in need of additional support.

### **PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

Our Parent-Teacher Organization continues to be an invaluable source of support for the staff and students at Sugarbush. Through their fund raising activities, they provide a variety of important services and materials. Some of these include: transportation for one field trip per class per year, magnetic calendars for every family, a daily planner for each student, an author for March is Reading Month, Staff Appreciation Week activities, Scholastic Book Fair, Friday Folders, Family Fun Night, VIP Night, Santa Shop and much, much more. The Sugarbush Staff appreciates the hard work and dedication of all the parents in our school community.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

- Food Drives were sponsored for major holidays and toys were collected at Christmas for the Goodfellows
- Both 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes raised \$1242.75 for St Jude Research Hospital. They participated in a Math-A-Thon in which they signed up pledges for money that was based on their completing a certain number of math problems.
- Fourth Graders again participated in the Leader Dog for the blind "Puppy Trainer" Program. Our new arrival was Rubee, a beautiful black Lab Retriever. As part of the program, students sign contracts that they will accept the responsibility of caring for her throughout the year. It was so special having Rubee with us all year but she has now graduated from puppy training, is officially in the Leader Dog for the Blind Program and will soon be placed with a her new sight-impaired owner. We know she will provide companionship and independence for a very special person.
- Fourth Graders also help to support the Leader Dog Program by sponsoring "Kids N' Coins". This year they collected \$150.00 for the cause.

### **POINTS OF PRIDE**

- ❑ **The Sugarbush Wellness Team** in partnership with Henry Ford Hospital of Macomb developed and implemented a school-wide, comprehensive Health Program with activities in each grade level once per month. Topics included: Nutrition, Sun Safety, Internet Safety, and Personal Hygiene. Dental Hygiene. Other special programs sponsored in this initiative were: Age Assimilation for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and Healthy Kids/ Healthy Hearts for 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The Team also developed a Character Education Program for grades K-5 which is to be implemented during the 2009-2010 school year.

- ❑ **Anti-Bullying Initiatives** became a priority. To determine the extent and focus of the problem, surveys were given to parents, staff and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Information found in the results was used to focus the direction and content of the initiatives. NO Bully Zone signs were put in every classroom, hallways, office and cafeteria. A reporting system was made accessible for students.
- ❑ **The Summer Reading Challenge** was a great success. Over 60 students read a minimum of 1,000 pages and were rewarded with a pizza lunch with the principal.
- ❑ **As a culminating activity** for our Career Education Program, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Day was held at Sugarbush. Seventeen volunteers from the community spent the afternoon discussing their careers with three different groups of students. Students had chosen the career presentations they wanted to attend and, when the sessions were completed, all students did a writing activity to summarize what they had learned.
- ❑ **For the 4th year**, Sugarbush had a large number of 4th and 5th grade students participate in the Anchor Bay School's Youth Honor's Choir. Sugarbush students joined 115 other 4th, 5th & 6th grade students for 8 weeks of rehearsal which culminated in a stellar final performance at the ABHS Auditorium.
- ❑ **The Positive Behavior Support** program continues to recognize students who are safe, responsible and respectful. Students are given PBS slips which are entered into a drawing. At the end of each month, slips are drawn and these students have lunch with the principal.
- ❑ **Star Student Awards** recognized students on a monthly basis for outstanding achievements or academic performance. Parents are invited to help us recognize their children.
- ❑ **High Five Awards** were introduced. Recipients were nominated by their classmates to recognize students who had been responsible and respectful throughout the month.
- ❑ **After-School Programs** were provided. Some were for additional academic support in Math, Reading and Writing. Others were enrichment programs that included: Sculpture, Cooking, Computers, and Intramurals.
- ❑ **Sugarbush's commitment to enhancing student multicultural awareness** included a special presentation, "Christmas Traditions Around the World" and a Black History Month Assembly, "The StoryTellers".
- ❑ **March is Reading Month Activities** centered on the theme, "Go Bananas for Books". The challenge resulted in students reading over 10,000 books. As a reward for their achievement, students saw a jungle movie and were treated to a banana split.
- ❑ **A variety of assemblies** helped to maintain student interest and enthusiasm for learning. These included: Science Alive; The Smudge Fundaes' "Bully Be Gone"; "The Pretty Planet" and "The Bucketfillers". "Young Author's Day" and Physics is Fun" were presentations which began with a whole school assembly in the morning, but then included grade level follow-up activities throughout the day.
- ❑ **Sugarbush sponsored the "Pint Size Hero Blood Drive"** in which over 42 blood donations were collected.

- ❑ **The Junior Achievement Program** was provided for the 5th year to all students in grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup>. This Social Studies program has objectives that are aligned with State Standards and Benchmarks and is taught by volunteers from the community.
- ❑ **The Michigan Reading Association** again sponsored the Kaleidoscope writing contest. All grades participated. The winning entry was submitted by Zachary Encinas, a student in Mary Ellen Hauff's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class.
- ❑ **Annually, the Macomb County Bar Association** sponsors the Law Day Poster Competition. In this year's contest the winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jenna Ferguson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Colista Piotrowski, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Amanda Gruda. In addition to a certificate, each received a \$50.00 Savings Bond.
- ❑ **Special Olympics:** Our cognitively impaired students participated in the Special Olympics and we are proud of their accomplishments.
- ❑ **Over 100 Volunteers** were invited to an afternoon tea. Their support and hard work are greatly appreciated.