



MOUNT CLEMENS MONTESSORI

2011 Annual Education Report Letter
August 15, 2011

Highly Qualified Teachers

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) places requirements on public schools to employ only highly qualified teachers in instructional positions to teach the core academic subjects. Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy has successfully met the requirement of NCLB that all teachers are highly qualified. In addition to 100% of our teachers being highly qualified, 40% have advanced degrees.

A Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff, 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 Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy. 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. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site mtclemensmontessori.com or you may review a copy from the Office.

The School Report Card provides an assessment of several measures of Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy's performance. Student achievement measures student tests, attendance, participation, performance and whether it has improved. Indicators of School Performance combine several factors, such as school facilities, attendance, and graduation rate. The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is a measure used to hold schools and districts responsible for student achievement in English Language Arts and Mathematics based on MEAP test results. Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy is proud to state it has scored an "A" for every year since the AYP has been reported. Also, our MEAP scores placed as the second highest charter school in the State of Michigan as well as second highest district in the State.

At Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy children find a caring, nurturing environment combined with academic excellence. Our students' success is achieved through our individualized curriculum, which is enriched and refined on an on-going basis. Our world is rapidly changing, creating a need for us to provide an education for students that best prepares them to become global citizens. Our students' education is enriched by the advantage of living in a culturally diverse community, and further enhanced by our efforts to help them develop the skills and attitudes necessary for successful collaboration with others from around the world.

Our educational approach is based on the work of Dr. Maria Montessori. The Montessori Method is rooted in a profound respect for the child and believes that education should be an experience which helps children deal more effectively with the real world.

Of course, I would be remiss in not mentioning the outstanding staff at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy who daily nurture and mentor the students. Similar to our focus on the whole child, it is the same approach that is used in selecting our staff. MTCMA has historically worked very hard and diligently to ensure that only the best candidates are selected. We strive to hire staff that is not only academically prepared for the challenges of the 21st century, but who are also caring and passionate individuals. So much of their work goes unobserved until we see their final "products". Integral to our student's success both academically and emotionally, requires the dedication, passion and inspiration by all of our staff members.

The 2010-2011 school year was full of remarkable student and staff achievement. The closure of another school year is a time of reflection for and by everyone. Many accomplishments, triumphs and new plateaus were attained by the students and staff at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy from Kindergarten through the Fifth Grade. I am proud and delighted to be sharing some of the highlights from this school year. Following are just a few of the noteworthy and prideful moments:

- MEAP Success- Second District in the State of Michigan
- MEAP Success – Second Charter School in the State of Michigan
- AYP - "A" report card status
- PBS (Positive Behavior Support)- total school immersion
- Designated a Michigan School of Excellence
- Designation as a Michigan Green School – Awarded Emerald Status (2nd year)
- The 5th Grade Band flourishes
- Spelling Bee Participation – raising \$4,074.00 towards materials for Technology in the classrooms
- Band Performances – Winter & Spring
- Science Olympiad – 5th Place South Macomb District
- Grants Awarded to MTCMA from the following:
 - Bay Mills Community College – Scantron Performance Series Assessments
 - Blue Cross Blue Shield - Building Healthy Community
 - United Dairy Association – Fuel-Up 60
 - Exxon Corporation – Educational Alliance
- Environmental Education Drawing Calendar Contest – Student winner, 2nd year
- Career Day-28 parent/community presenters participated in this event
- International Week-International Week Program was held with the participation of the entire student body
- Invention Convention-48 creative inventions were presented to parents and community
- St. Jude Math-A-Thon- Monies were collected from our students dedication in applying their math skills and procuring donations for St. Jude's Hospital, cancer research for children
- Community involvement- Jump Rope for Heart, Mitten Tree, Mt. Clemens Regional Medical Center, Humane Society, Macomb County Food Bank, Mt. Clemens Santa Claus Parade, and *Red, White & Blue Community Concert*
- Extracurricular Activities – Golf; Rembrandt Art, Soccer, Basketball
- Student Organizations- Student Council, Safety Patrol, Scouting, Science Olympiad Team

As we stop and take a moment to celebrate a successful 2010-2011 school year, our staff will undoubtedly be drawing upon our past experiences, accomplishments, as well as procedures which need to be addressed as our school begins its next journey. Having learned the value of and having created a system for researching best practices, collaborative work, curriculum alignment, and data analysis, our staff has a good foundation that will help us through this next phase of professional development, school improvement and achievement.

Educating children is a school-parent partnership, and one that Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy takes seriously. Open communication and parent understanding of school policies and procedures is a necessary ingredient to the educational process and achievement.

Throughout the years, Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy's dedication and parental cooperation have made significant contributions to the success of our programs.

Sincerely,

Genie P'sachoulias

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy is to develop students with a positive self-image who can apply critical thinking skills, communication skills, creativity, cooperation and respect for others in changing situations. The interdisciplinary environment of the Academy recognizes, develops, utilizes, and challenges each student's unique potential by addressing academic, aesthetic, emotional, physical, and social needs.

School Improvement

The Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy school improvement evaluation process is on-going. The Academy's short-term goals and objectives were successful.

The Staff evaluated and assessed the Academy's progress towards its goals in June 2010 and considered any necessary revisions. Staff was consulted in June 2011 to re-evaluate the effectiveness of strategies and to make the appropriate changes. We have tailored our professional development in 2011-2012 to specific goals in the school improvement plan.

The School Improvement Team selected its improvement objectives based on the Academy's strengths. The MEAP and Scantron scores were analyzed and used to determine some goals. Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy will embrace a number of goals in educating its students both with long and short-term expectations for their attainment. Identifying curricular areas to maintain at levels already achieved, the improvement objectives are oriented towards moving children to becoming independent and critical thinkers.

Parent/Teacher Conference Attendance Rates

November, 2010 97%
April, 2011 90%

Core Curriculum

The Michigan Curriculum Framework by design gives direction for skills that are to be taught. In aligning our philosophy and teaching methods to the Michigan Curriculum Framework, Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy believes that the foundation of a good education is to learn how to learn. In an era of technological revolution and social change, the Academy's course of study encompasses the full substance of the Michigan Curriculum Framework and goes beyond, to teach students how to think clearly, to apply critical thinking skills, to do their own research, to effectively communicate with the written and spoken word, and to put their knowledge to practical application.

The Academy has aligned the state content standards, benchmarks and grade level content expectations (GLCE) to our core curriculum, by grade level. This information is available on our website on the "Elementary" page.

Student Achievement: Local Assessments

The School Code requires each district to administer another assessment that is a nationally normed achievement test. Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy uses *Scantron Performance Series*. This web-based testing provides data three times a year to monitor student growth and progress. It also is allowing our students to become proficient utilizing web-based assessments. Students are assessed as to their grade level equivalency on a national basis.

100% of Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy students were assessed during the MEAP testing.

Grade Levels Equivalencies

2nd Grade

| | Reading | Math |
|------|---------|------|
| 2010 | 4.2 | 3.6 |
| 2011 | 3.9 | 3.3 |

3rd Grade

| | Reading | Math |
|------|---------|------|
| 2010 | 5.1 | 4.4 |
| 2011 | 5.1 | 4.8 |

4th Grade

| | Reading | Math |
|------|---------|------|
| 2010 | 6.6 | 5.3 |
| 2011 | 6.7 | 5.2 |

5th Grade

| | Reading | Math |
|------|---------|------|
| 2010 | 7.4 | 6.4 |
| 2011 | 8 | 6.6 |

Attendance Rates

The state minimum attendance rate for an elementary school is 85%.

Attendance rates for Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy were:
2009-10 95.4%
2010-10 9.50%

Parent Involvement

The partnership of parent and Academy is well established and understood by each parent prior to the enrollment at the school. Parents of enrolled students are invited and encouraged to attend an orientation meeting, establishing the importance and necessity of each and every parent's commitment to the Academy and their child's success. Communication and parent support are highly valued. We believe a team including teachers, parents, and children is a winning combination.

Annual Report Data Link

<http://mtclemensmontessori.com/documents/Annual%20Report/AER%20data%20report%20for%20MCMA%202010-2011.pdf>