

## **District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

August 24, 2010

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2009-2010 educational progress for the Tri County Area School District and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws; however, our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Superintendent Jim Scholten for help if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.tricountyschools.com](http://www.tricountyschools.com) or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

The report contains the following information:

### **Student Assessment Data– Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access)**

- Presents achievement data for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 (MEAP), for grade 11 (MME) and science for grades 5 and 8 compared to targets for all students as well as subgroups of students
- Provides achievement data for English language arts, mathematics and science for students with significant disabilities (MI-Access) compared to targets for all students with disabilities as well as subgroups of students
- Helps readers understand achievement progress within schools and compare these to district and state achievement

### **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – Detail Data and Status**

Provides information from assessments, graduation and attendance rates and AYP status in relation to four criteria:

- The district must test 95% of students in total and in each required subgroup
- The district must attain achievement goals in English language arts and mathematics or reduce the percentage of students in the non-proficient category of achievement significantly ("safe harbor") annually
- The district must attain achievement goals for each subgroup that has at least 30 students in the group

- The district must meet or exceed the other academic indicators set by the state: graduation rate for high schools and attendance rate for elementary and middle schools

**Teacher Quality Data**

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

**NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8
- Cannot be compared with MEAP results for grades 4 and 8 because there are no national standards.

For 2009-2010, Tri County Area Schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics; however, all schools in the district did not make AYP. Below you will find a list of the schools not making AYP, the reasons for not making AYP and a summary of the actions underway to improve. The principal has a letter and school specific AER that will help answer your questions. These are also posted on the district and school web sites.

School Name	Reason(s) for not making AYP	Key actions underway to address the Issues
TC High School	Less than 95% of Economically disadvantaged students took the MME Mathematics test. The percent tested was 91.2%.	High School staff is working to ensure that at least 95% of the students in this category are present on test day and taking the test.

We are pleased to report that each of our schools received an A or B report card grade. Also, each of our schools have met AYP except the High School due the reasons stated above. The high school staff is aware and working to ensure that at least 95% of the students take the Math portion of the MME in 2011.

Our staff and students continue to work very diligently to improve. We encourage all to continue to be intentional about improving.

Sincerely,  
James K. Scholten

