

COLOMA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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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 Coloma Middle 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 Scott Pauley for assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site ccs.org or you may review a copy from the Coloma Middle School office at your child's school.

For 2009-2010, Coloma Middle 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.

Process of Pupil Assignment

Pre-kindergarten through first grade students are assigned to Washington Elementary. Students in second through fourth grade are in Coloma Elementary. There is only one building location for each of the 5th through 7th, 8th and 9th and the 10th through 12th grades. Secondary students have choices based on electives within the core curriculum provided. Career related classes have been developed for 10th through 12th grades. Secondary students may select career related courses sponsored by various schools in the county through a countywide "shared time" arrangement. Special education students are provided assistance within their age appropriate grade level unless the Individual Educational Placement

Coloma Middle School fosters a safe and respectful school environment while challenging students to reach their full academic and social potential. 2008

Committee (IEPC) determines the students would be best served in an alternate location. The parent is involved in this decision. Alternative schools include the following specialized schools.

Specialized Schools:

Specialized schools provide educational alternatives and opportunities for handicapped students as well as meeting their special needs. These programs are an integral part of the continuum of educational services available to special students in Berrien County. Following is a brief description of the specialized schools available to serve Coloma students.

Blossomland Learning Center (BLC) Berrien County Intermediate School District, Berrien Springs, Michigan

The purpose of BLC is to provide services to students who have been diagnosed as moderately to severely mentally impaired up to age 26 who reside within the county. The school assists students in preparing for entry into their respective communities. 14 Coloma resident children attended this program during the 2009-2010 school year. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and ISD staff along with the parents.

Lighthouse Education Center Berrien County Intermediate School District, St. Joseph, Michigan

The North Lincoln School program is operated as a therapeutic and educational program for students diagnosed as severely emotionally impaired up to age 26 who reside within Berrien County. These students exhibit a severity of emotional difficulties that prohibits them from regular attendance within the resident district. During the 2009-2010 school year, 7 Coloma Community School residents attended this program, with the goal being eventual re-integration back into Coloma Schools.

Hearing Impaired Program Berrien Springs Public Schools, Berrien Springs, Michigan

The Berrien County Hearing Impaired Program provides educational services for hearing impaired students from Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties. During the 2009-2010 school year, 2 students from Coloma Community Schools attended the program, which includes children from pre-school age through 26 years. The program is operated by the Berrien Springs Public Schools and is funded by the Intermediate School District. In addition to classroom and teacher consultant services, the program also serves as a diagnostic center and employs an audiologist for the purpose of assessing severity and type of hearing loss. Some students, when determined educationally appropriate by an Individualized Educational Planning Committee, are educated in their resident district with the support of a teacher consultant provided by the Hearing Impaired Program.

Southside Program Niles Community Schools, Niles, MI.

Niles operates center-based programs for low incidence special education students needing a full time placement:

The program for the Severely Emotionally Impaired (SEI) includes students with severe emotional or behavioral problems. These students receive a very strict, highly structured program designed to change inappropriate behavior patterns and:

- 1) Allow learning to take place. Expectations for performance are high with the goal of returning to their former school. This program serves students ages 6 through 25.
- 2) Students in the Pre-Vocational program have below average ability levels, making success in their local high schools extremely difficult. Some students in this program pursue a diploma, but most will follow a curriculum designed to promote independent living. This program serves students ages 16 through 25.
- 3) The program for the Autistic Impaired includes students who typically have severe speech and language delays, behavioral disorders and unusual or repetitive motor movements. This classroom serves students ages 16 through 25.
- 4) During the 2009-2010 school year 1 student from Coloma Community Schools attended the Southside program.

Coloma Community Schools follows a local core curriculum that defines educational outcomes to be achieved by all students and is based on the district's educational mission and locally developed goals and objectives for students. While Coloma has a comprehensive K-12 curriculum, it has also been aligned with the state recommended Frameworks Curriculum (from which the MEAP test is written). Federal mandates (No Child Left Behind) now require that language arts and math assessments be completed at each grade level, 3rd through 8th grades. To accomplish this, the Michigan Department of Education has assigned Grade Level Content Expectations from their Frameworks Curriculum to specific grade levels. This required Coloma to review their alignment to assure that the educational benchmarks are being taught at the required level, resulting in quality performance on the MEAP tests. A copy of the board-approved curriculum for all content areas is available for review at the Administration Office, Coloma Middle School Office, and our website, <http://www.ccs.coloma.org>.

Coloma Middle School has adopted a "Student Led Conferencing" strategy for our fall conferences. A total of 281 individual student's parents attended which translates into 74% participation rate. Our spring conferences are open for all parents, but parents of struggling students are specifically invited for the event. 70 individual student's parents attended which translates into 18.5% participation rate, however, over 85% of the specifically invited parents attended spring conferences.

Every year, our school community of parents, students, and staff has worked hard to the point where the Michigan Department of Education has recognized our efforts and results by awarding Coloma Middle School with a grade of A. This shows the dedication of all of our community members. Once again, congratulations on the recognition.

Sincerely,

Scott Pauley