
Middle Cities

EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2004 ANNUAL REPORT



Creating Opportunities for the Urban Learner

Middle Cities

EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Creating Opportunities for the Urban Learner

OUR MISSION

Middle Cities Education Association is a consortium of urban school districts which was formed out of a shared commitment to improving educational opportunities for the urban learner. The unique mission and emphasis of Middle Cities is to serve as an advocate for member districts to insure quality educational programs for all students.

OUR STAFF

Raymond S. Telman
Executive Director

William H. Tunncliff
Governmental & Legislative Liaison

Laura Wotruba
Director of Communications & Member Services

Shirlean Hauser
Manager of Financial Services

Patricia Alderman
Executive Assistant & Webmaster

Karen Klegon
Administrative Assistant





MEMBERS & SUPERINTENDENTS

Albion Public Schools	Carol Hansen
Battle Creek Public Schools	Charles Coleman
Bay City Public Schools	David Hutton
Beecher Community Schools	Kenneth Jackson
Benton Harbor Area Schools	Paula Dawning
Buena Vista School District	Deborah Clarke
Ferndale Public Schools	Gary Meier
Flint Community Schools	Felix Chow
Garden City Public Schools	Richard Witkowski
Grand Rapids Public Schools	Bert Bleke
Hazel Park Community Schools	Victor Mayo
Highland Park School District	Theresa E. Saunders
Inkster Public Schools	W. Howard Morris
Jackson Public Schools	Daniel Evans
Kalamazoo Public Schools	Janice Brown
Lansing School District	E. Sharon Banks
Monroe Public Schools	David Taylor
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	T.C. Wallace, Jr.
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools	Gary Allen
Muskegon Public Schools	Joseph Schulze
Muskegon Heights Public Schools	Edmond Beverly
Niles Community Schools	Douglas Law
Pontiac School District	Mildred Mason
Port Huron Area School District	William Kimball
Romulus Community Schools	Joel Carr
Saginaw City School District	Gerald Dawkins
Southfield Public School District	Cecil Rice
Traverse City Area Public Schools	Jim Pavelka
Waterford School District	Tom Tattan
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	Gregory Baracy
Westwood Community School District	Ernando Minghine
Willow Run Community Schools	Douglas Benit
Ypsilanti Public Schools	David Zuhlke



PAST PRESIDENTS

2004	Gregory Baracy, Wayne-Westland Community Schools
2003	William Kimball, Port Huron Area School District
2002	David Zuhlke, Ypsilanti Public Schools
2001	Howard Heitzeg, Waterford School District
2000	Joseph Schulze, Muskegon Public Schools
1999	Judyth Dobbert, Albion Public Schools
1998	David Taylor, Monroe Public Schools
1997	Blanche Fraser, Mount Clemens Community Schools
1996	Michael Bitar, Battle Creek Public Schools
1995	John Huffman, Niles Community Schools
1994	Richard Halik, Lansing School District
1993	Ira Rutherford III, Beecher Community Schools
1992	Larry Moeller, Port Huron Area School District
1991	James Agee, Muskegon Public Schools
1990	Frank Rapley, Kalamazoo Public Schools
1989	William Pearson, Jackson Public Schools
1988	Odell Nails, Pontiac School District
1987	Richard Klahn, Marquette Public Schools
1986	Foster Gibbs, Saginaw City School District
1985	James Hawkins, Ypsilanti Public Schools
1984	Joseph Pollack, Flint Community Schools
1983	Harry Howard, Ann Arbor Public Schools
1982	William Austin, Muskegon Public Schools
1981	George Owen, Midland Public Schools
1980	George Owen, Midland Public Schools
1979	John Sydnor, Muskegon Heights Public Schools
1978	Jack Mawdsley, Battle Creek Public Schools
1977	Phillip Runkel, Grand Rapids Public Schools
1976	Jack Taylor, Saginaw City School District
1975	I. Carl Candoli, Lansing School District
1974	I. Carl Candoli, Lansing School District
1973	I. Carl Candoli, Lansing School District



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dr. Gregory J. Baracy, Superintendent
Wayne-Westland Community Schools*

During the course of the past year, it has been my profound pleasure to serve as president of Middle Cities Education Association. Middle Cities is one of the most effective organizations that I have been associated with during my career as an educator. The association is built around the mission of serving as an advocate for member districts to insure quality educational programs for all students. Within the pages of this year's annual report, you will find evidence of the actions and activities that make the association's mission a reality.

Once again this year, Middle Cities successfully addressed the challenges of educational and legislative change. Working together, we have accomplished much. The following list highlights some of this year's major activities and accomplishments.

- Middle Cities continued to be a viable political voice in Lansing. Among the major issues addressed this year were: school funding issues; election consolidation; and high school MEAP vs. ACT.
- Middle Cities Education Association, Middle Cities Risk Management and Trust and North Central Accreditation entered into a partnership to construct a new building in Lansing. The project will bring all three organizations together under one roof and should be completed in the spring of 2005.
- Both Middle Cities Education Association and the Michigan School Energy Cooperative (MISEC) played key roles in The Consumers Choice Coalition, a grassroots group brought together to fight legislation that would drastically change the amount many of our members pay for electricity.
- Middle Cities also played a key role in two major statewide collaborations: the K-16 Coalition for Michigan's Future, a group of associations fighting to secure funding for public K-12, community college and higher education; and Your Child, a collaboration between education associations, teachers' unions, child advocates and state government to investigate and improve the parent/school partnership.

Despite the many hardships that our districts faced this year as a result of the state's budget crisis, urban schools across Michigan continue to strive for excellence. Every district in the Middle Cities roster has success stories, and this year's winners of the Robert and Patricia Muth Excellence in Leadership Award are no exception. On behalf of Middle Cities, I would like to congratulate Ballard Elementary School in Niles and Garfield Elementary School in Port Huron; the efforts, dedication and compassion of the staffs at both of these schools have helped students excel and served as excellent examples of school improvement in an urban setting.

It is nearly impossible to talk about Middle Cities without mentioning the task forces. The task forces provide information and guidance in addressing many of the education policy issues impacting urban schools in Michigan. Task force representatives devote their time and energy, share their expertise, provide input and help the association develop positions on issues. As a result of their work, we have a forum to make the needs and challenges of our school districts and students known which provides a unique opportunity to shape education policy. We need to strongly encourage their continued participation.

A special thank you also goes to the staff members of Middle Cities Education Association and Middle Cities Risk Management Trust and Workers' Compensation Fund. The staff does an excellent job keeping abreast of all the issues of importance to our districts and consistently providing us with information that affects our mission as educators. Their efforts allow us to solve problems as they emerge and move forward proactively.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to my fellow colleagues for their leadership and dedication. The superintendents who help oversee the association's activities and operations are key individuals in setting the standards and modeling the support for Middle Cities that is so important to its success. As a result of their work, urban schools in Michigan have a forum to make the needs and challenges facing our students and our school districts known and that provides a unique opportunity to shape education policy.



MCEA VALUES

Integrity Without Compromise

Having integrity means being honest and forthright with ourselves and in working with our members and each other. Moreover, we say what needs to be said not simply what people want to hear. Above all else, be true to our mission and values.

Do Right by All Our Customers

Doing right means acting with the best interests of the other party in mind. We treat each other, our business partners and our colleagues with the same care and respect with which we treat our members.

It's the People

We have great people who want to do well, who are committed to our mission, who are capable of doing great things, and who come to work fired up to achieve them. Great people flourish in an environment that liberates and amplifies their energy.

Excellence Through Continuous Improvement

We seek to adopt the best ideas and to be the best at whatever we do. We believe we can always get better. We strive continually to improve our processes, to help people do their jobs better and to produce high quality services and products.

Teams Work

Believing that Together Everyone Achieves More, we promote a culture of teamwork. Working in cooperation with others leads to better solutions and success for all. In a quality team, empowerment partners with ownership.

Listen, Understand, and Respond

We have a responsibility to create an environment that encourages people to speak openly, knowing they will be listened to when they do. Listening, however, is only a first step. It's also key to verify our understanding and to respond - if not through direct action, then through acknowledgement or feedback.

Members Define Quality

Part of adapting to changing member needs and desires is knowing what our members want. We actively solicit input from our membership.

Think Forward, Think Boldly

We are continually in search of forward thinking people, new ideas and new possibilities. We support courageous behaviors necessary to go forward in the face of risk. We look beyond conventional borders to find fresh perspectives.

Attention to Detail

We strive for simplicity, clarity and accuracy to help our audience understand the message. We look with a critical eye to eliminating the unnecessary. Clutter is catastrophic. It's often the lack of attention to little details that trip up the best ideas.

We Care and Give Back

We seek to contribute to our community in ways that reflect broadly held values, have meaningful impact, draw on our unique strengths as a service organization, and, whenever possible, reinforce our goals.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Raymond S. Telman

It is my honor to present the 2004 Middle Cities Education Association Annual Report. The Annual Report serves as a record of activities and initiatives impacting MCEA districts; I trust that you will find this document both informative and useful. Within this report, you will find a summary of our activities over the course of the past year, a review of legislative and governmental activities, reports from task forces and statistical information relative to our member districts.

Middle Cities Education Association is a unique organization with a clear mission relative to urban schools in Michigan – to serve as an advocate for our member districts to insure quality educational programs for all students. That mission is apparent in all the activities reviewed in this year's edition of the MCEA Annual Report. From task force meetings to work on legislative issues, MCEA superintendents, task forces and staff are dedicated to using their considerable talent and industry in focusing on student success in Michigan's urban centers.

Each month during the school year, our task forces come together to gather information on statewide initiatives and to network with other urban school colleagues regarding programs, initiatives, concerns and challenges. The 2003-04 school year was another successful year with regard to task force participation.

I am proud of the efforts of MCEA members and staff. Our members are sophisticated and hardworking, and their leadership reflects those qualities. As our school districts prepare for the challenges, successes and opportunities that are sure to come our way over the course of the next school year, MCEA will continue to advocate for Michigan's urban school districts as we strive to make our mission a reality.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Laura Wotruba, Director of Communications & Member Services

One of the goals of Middle Cities' public relations efforts is to help create one voice for urban education in Michigan. With that goal in mind, Middle Cities pursued a number of initiatives designed to garner attention for urban issues and gather public input on educational issues.

One of the most challenging issues facing school districts this year was the worsening state budget crisis. As MCEA districts continued to bear the burden of an increasingly dire situation, Middle Cities joined forces with a group of education associations representing K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, the K-16 Coalition.

The goal of the K-16 Coalition centers around bringing to light the struggles schools are enduring while trying to maintain focus on a quality education to students from kindergarten through the university level. As part of the effort, Middle Cities helped organize a news conference at the Capitol in early 2004. Dr. Felix Chow, superintendent of Flint Community Schools, and two teachers from his district played an integral role in the news conference by helping to communicate how the state's budget crisis is impacting urban school districts. The K-16 Coalition continues to work on "showing the pain" that schools are facing.

Middle Cities also participated in a series of surveys designed to gauge public opinion on school-related issues. The association participated in a general education survey in the fall of 2003. The survey provided insights into public opinion on a wide variety of education issues, from who people most trust to deliver school-related news (teachers) to people's perspectives on school funding.

MCEA also participated in a survey conducted by Your Child, a coalition of associations and organizations striving to improve the parent/school relationship. The information gleaned from the Your Child survey shed light on the disconnect between teachers, schools and parents when it comes to such issues as discipline and day-to-day school

readiness among other things. Efforts surrounding Your Child initiatives are expected to continue throughout the coming year.

Middle Cities' Public Relations Task Force also plays a key role in keeping MCEA apprised of the public relations issues facing many of our districts on a local level; their input helps focus on efforts on issues that may be overlooked from a statewide perspective. On the other hand, MCEA works to help keep the members of the Public Relations Task Force "in the loop" when it comes to such initiatives as No Child Left Behind, legislation, Education YES!, annual reports and others.

In addition to Middle Cities external efforts, day-to-day public relations efforts throughout the year included the following projects:

- MCEA 2003 Annual Report: a summary of association activities over the course of a year.
- MCEA District Summary, Winter 2004 MEAP test: a report compiling district results for four subject areas of the elementary and middle school Michigan Educational Assessment Program.
- 2003-2004 MCEA Administrators' Salary and Benefit Survey: a detailed review of salary and benefit information for Middle Cities superintendents and central office administrators.
- 2004 Robert and Patricia Muth Excellence in Leadership Award: the award honors Middle Cities schools that show sustained school improvement through student achievement, community involvement, professional development activities and other measures of success. Two schools received the award this year: Ballard Elementary School, Niles Community Schools; and Garfield Elementary School, Port Huron Area School District. Middle Cities oversees the application and selection process for award.



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

William H. Tunnickliff, Legislative & Governmental Liaison

STATE LEGISLATURE

Although the major focus of legislators was on budgetary concerns exacerbated by the failure of the state economy to experience the recovery enjoyed throughout most of the nation, they still had time to work on a plethora of education bills. After years of attempting to wrestle control of school elections from school districts, they finally succeeded in passing a package of “reforms” on **election consolidation**. Rep. Chris Ward (R-Brighton) successfully steered the package of bills through the Local Government Committee and House floor and delivered them to the long standing proponent in the next chamber, Senator Beverly Hammerstrom (R-Temperance), who added the finishing touches which included compromising on a “floater” election date. The legislation (PA298-306 of 2003) becomes effective January 1, 2005. The legislation removes school officials from the control of school elections and places the control with the county clerk. It also establishes uniform dates in which school elections can be held in February, May, August and November (on select Tuesdays) in addition to allowing a “floater” special election under some conditions. School districts are advised to consult with their school attorney to assure compliance with this legislation.

Another lingering issue was resolved in a bi-partisan fashion as House Minority Leader Diane Byrum (D-Onondaga) and Rep. Lorence Wenke (R-Richland), chair of the House Tax Policy Committee, successfully maneuvered **Streamlined Sales Tax** through the legislative process. The package of bills (PA172-175 of 2004) position the state of Michigan to participate with approximately 40 other states to provide uniformity in the collection of taxes on sales and use taxes through Internet and catalogue purchasing. When fully implemented, analysts suggest that the state will collect upwards of \$200 million annually on taxes due through such purchases.

Abstinence from sex was elevated to a higher priority in the teaching of sex education as a result of the passage of SB943 by Sen. Wayne Kuipers

(R-Holland) and HB5478 by Rep. John Stahl (R-North Branch). Enacted as PA165 and PA166 of 2004, the legislation also changes requirements for membership on the sex ed advisory board, establishes a complaint process and a one percent loss in State Aid for noncompliance.

Another item that warranted considerable attention of the Senate Education Committee was the controversial proposal of the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals to replace the high school **MEAP** test with a college placement assessment, most likely the **ACT** which is widely used in Michigan. The proposal was based on a desire to find a test that was deemed of significant importance for students to take seriously and also to reduce the time taken for administering the assessment and to quicken results reporting. After conducting several hours of hearings, the committee is holding SB1153-1157 in anticipation of their relevance to the study of higher education by the **Cherry Commission** (chaired by Lieutenant Governor John Cherry). Governor Granholm hopes to double the number of graduates from Michigan's colleges and universities within the next decade and commissioned the 40-member group to study the issue and make recommendations by January 2005.

The issue which, unfortunately, received the greatest media focus in the 2003-2004 school year was certainly the alleged scandals within **intermediate school districts** investigated by a House Education Subcommittee chaired by Rep. Ruth Johnson (R-Holly). This issue began with an investigation into the use of special education bond proceeds for the construction of a new administration building at Oakland ISD. It was followed with allegations of conflict of interest and misappropriation of funds through awarding of contracts and culminated with the firing of the Oakland ISD superintendent and subsequent pressure upon the ISD board members to resign from office. At about the same time, accusations of excessive spending on travel and entertainment expenses of board members and administrators surfaced at Genesee ISD as well as other ISDs. The incidents led to the introduction of several pieces of legislation designed to "reform" ISDs. Proposed solutions included calling for direct election of ISD board members, as well as a proposal to call for referendums in several larger ISDs to dissolve the intermediate districts entirely. School lobbyists and education associations negotiated with legislators during the first round of fixes leading to the passage of HB4338 (PA234 of 2004), sponsored by Rep. Johnson, which provided for the recall of intermediate board members under certain conditions. HB4947 (PA233 of 2004), sponsored by Rep. John Gleason (D-Flushing), called for ISD elections to take place in an open meeting, and HB5376 (PA 232 of 2004), sponsored by Rep. Bruce Caswell (R-Hillsdale), provided for the posting and solicitation of competitive bids in ISD construction projects.

The issue was not resolved, however, with the passage of this legislation. The subcommittee continued its investigation and, with subpoena power in hand, sought further concessions from the ISDs in their **ISD Accountability 101** package. These proposals include requirements of random audits of ISDs by the Department of Treasury; release of information on salary, benefits, travel and other financial information on the Internet; provisions that special education and

vocational education bonding cannot be spent for other purposes and cannot exceed 25 years; and prescribed penalties for misuse of district funds. At the time of writing this report, it is not certain if school groups and members of the House Education Committee have come to agreement on the second (and presumably final) round of proposals.

SCHOOL FUNDING INADEQUACY CONTINUES

School officials received adequate warning that funding for schools in the 2003-04 school year was on precarious ground. Lawmakers and the administration claimed that education was the number one priority; however, economists and others analyzing school funding voiced concern over the continuing depressed economy in Michigan and cited infrastructural problems in the revenue stream funding schools. One-time sources of revenue had been used to balance the budget for each of the two previous school fiscal years. Soon after the state began its fiscal year, it was obvious that there was insufficient revenue to fund the School Aid Act for 2003-04. With the reality of a pro-ration inevitable, school groups held together in demanding that pro-ration be administered as stipulated in the State Aid Act under Sec.11 on an equal dollar basis per pupil. The school community was not interested in returning to the divisive approach of the previous year which saw all but exempt categorical funding reduced by close to 4 percent. In the final analysis, school districts received a \$74 per pupil reduction in their funding to correct the approximate \$130 million shortfall in revenue. This marked the second year in a row of reduction in funding for schools. The foundation allowance was effectively reduced by \$69 per pupil in 2002-03 and again in 2003-04 by \$74.

The outlook for 2004-05 is equally as bleak. Although School Aid Fund revenues for fiscal year 2005 were forecast in January to increase by \$400 million or approximately 4 percent, the Governor's budget recommendation proposed a significant reduction in the General Fund supplement to negate the increase in revenue. Whereas school districts, since the initiation of Proposal A, had received supplements of \$400-500 million annually, the executive recommendation called for only \$130 million for 2004-05 school funding. The recommendations also called for no increase in the foundation, leaving it at \$6,700 for the third year in a row.

The Senate K-12 Subcommittee on School Aid began its work in early spring and passed SB1069 after several weeks of hearings. The bill followed the Governor's recommendation for a \$6,700 foundation but differed with respect to the membership count blend, preferring to maintain the 20-80 percent blend as opposed to the Governor's 50-50 percent, February-September formula for determining per-pupil funding. Further, the Senate bill proposed reducing Sec.31(a) "At Risk" funding by \$9.9 million, a categorical the Governor had "held harmless" at the current year level of \$314 million. Both the Governor and the Senate propose reducing Sec.81 "ISD General Operations" by \$6.5 million and \$12.5 million, respectively. The Governor had also proposed a reduction in funding for Sec.20(j) "Hold Harmless" high foundation districts, a proposal rejected by the Senate and the House.

The House-passed version of SB1069 had very little in the way of points of difference. The administration and legislative leaders spent several weeks in August attempting to agree on revenue sources and budget targets. On Sept. 8, conferees on the K-12 budget issued their conference report which included provisions agreed to by leadership. The foundation remains at \$6,700, and the Governor prevailed, in part, on an agreed membership blend of 25-75 percent. At-Risk remained at \$314.2 million, Sec. 32(d) "Michigan School Readiness Program" remained at \$72.6 million, and the Sec. 61(a) "Vocational Education" remained at \$30 million. The only significant hit to categoricals was the \$14 million reduction to Sec. 81 "ISD General Operations." The conference report was quickly approved in both chambers and awaits signature by the Governor and completion of the entire state budget process.

In any event, the situation facing school districts as the new school year approaches is very bleak. In addition to less than flat funding, districts are facing major increases in expenditures as the MPSERS rate increases from 12.99 percent to 14.87 percent, and many school districts are facing 20 percent plus increases in their health insurance premiums for 2004-05. Unfortunately, there is virtually little chance of any willingness on the part of the administration or Legislature to pursue significant revenue enhancements to rectify the situation for the long term.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

SENATE BILLS

SB25 Local Zoning Ordinances (V. Garcia, R-Howell) - Requires local school districts to conform to local zoning ordinances.

SB157 Reform School Board (M. Scott, D-Highland Park) - Establishes an August 2003 election for the voters of Detroit to consider retention of the Reform Board. *[Passed in Senate; on Second Reading in the House.]*

SB179 Sports Training (B. Hammerstrom, R-Temperance) - A bill to require that high school coaches have a course in sports safety training. *[Passed in the Senate.]*

SB183 Proration Percent (A. Cropsey, R-Dewitt) - A bill to amend proration language to be determined by an equal percent for all districts.

SB192 Proration Equal Dollar (R. Jelinek, R-Three Oaks) - A bill to amend proration language to be determined by an equal dollar amount per pupil.

SB307 Parent Involvement (N. Cassis, R-Nov) Requires that school districts have a policy relative to parent involvement in the schools. *[Enacted as P.A.107 of 2004, Effective 5/20/2004.]*

SB320 Student Work (T. Stamas, R-Midland) – Changes the amount of time a 16-17 year old student may work to a set amount of hours (22 hours per week) from the current combined school and work week of 48 hours. *[Passed in Senate and House; Vetoed by Governor.]*

SB364 180-Day Requirement (V. Garcia, R-Howell) - A bill to eliminate the 180 days of school requirement while retaining the 1,098 hour requirement. *[Passed in the Senate; Passed in the House; vetoed by the Governor; key provision incorporated into HB4401 (State Aid Act).]*

SB365 CEPI (N. Cassis, R-Nov) - A bill to require that all state agencies coordinate their school data collection through CEPI. *[Enacted as P.A. 180 of 2003 with immediate effect.]*

SB366 Professional Development Days (A. Cropsey, R-Dewitt) - A bill to eliminate the professional development day requirement for beginning and all teachers. *[Passed in the Senate.]*

SB367 At-Risk and School Readiness (W. Kuipers, R-Holland) - A bill to remove restrictions and requirements on the use of Sec. 31(a) and Sec. 32(b) categorical funds. *[Substitute bill was reported out with "School Readiness" component deleted and Small Class Size included in flexibility of use. Passed in Senate; referred to House Appropriations; key provisions incorporated into HB4401 (State Aid Act).]*

SB368-369 Accreditation (S. Johnson, R-Royal Oak) - Bills that would eliminate Education YES! and remove the penalty for non-compliance. *[Under consideration in the Senate Education Committee.]*

SB393 Charter Schools (W. Kuipers, R-Holland) - A bill to lift the cap on charter schools by 30 new charters per year for next 10 years in addition to 5 new high schools each of next 10 years. *[Substitute version affecting only 15 new urban high schools in Detroit enacted as P.A. 179 due to a technicality and failure of Governor to veto within timeline.]*

SB427 Retirement (J. Barcia, D-Bay City) - Provides early retirement incentive by changing multiplier from 1.5% to 1.75% of final average compensation effective April 1, 2004. *[Under consideration in Senate Education Committee.]*

SB479 Bus Stops in Manufactured Housing Park (R. Basham, D-Taylor) – A bill that gives school districts the authority to determine number of stops and locations in a manufactured housing park. *[Reported out of Senate Ed Committee.]*

SB482 and SB761 Energy Conservation in Schools (W. Kuipers, R-Holland) – These bills provide that a district may contract with a qualified provider to conduct energy conservation projects for the district; also permits an architectural firm to be directly affiliated with the qualified provider. *[Enacted as P.A. 255 of 2003.]*

SB520 Homestead Exemption Violators (C. Brown, R-Sturgis) - A bill to establish an audit process to identify individuals who claim the homestead exemption for both their residence and a second (vacation) home. *[Enacted as P.A. 105 of 2003 with Immediate Effect.]*

SB599 Children of School Employees (R. Basham, D-Taylor) – Amends School Aid Act to allow a district to count an employee's child in membership without the consent of the child's district of residence. *[Enacted as P.A.227 of 2004; Immediate Effect.]*

SB619 School Programming Outside District Boundaries (M. Switalski, D-Roseville) – This bill amends the school code by prohibiting a school district from operating a school or educational program in another district without their written consent. *[Referred to Senate Ed Committee.]*

SB625&662 Scholarships/Grants Extended to Theology (N. Cassis, R-Nov, G. VanWoerkom, R-Muskegon) - Allows for scholarships and grants to be continued for students who concentrate studies on theology. *[Enacted as P.A.180 of 2004; Immediate Effect.]*

SB701 Merit Award Deadline (G. VanWoerkom, R-Muskegon) – Due to the delay in MEAP results, changes the date for application of a MEAP Scholarship from September 15 to November 15 for 2003 only. *[Enacted as P.A. 1868 of 2003 with immediate effect.]*

SB770 Form 1099s (A. Cropsey, R-DeWitt) – Requires that a copy of Form 1099, contracted earnings over \$600, be sent to the State Treasury as well as Internal Revenue Service. *[Enacted as P.A. 211 of 2003.]*

SB783-784 Anti-Hazing (M. McManus, R-Lake Leelanau and N. Cassis, R-Nov) – Defines hazing as an act directed against an individual relative to initiation or pledging for membership in a group or organization; identified as a crime when it endangers health or safety of another; ascribes penalties. *[Enacted as P.A.111 & 112 of 2004, Effective August 18, 2004.]*

SB787 Missing MEAP Tests (B. Hardiman, R-Kentwood) – A bill to assure that a school or district is not penalized under the state's accreditation system or federal AYP status as a result of the state or test contractor losing the student's answer sheets. *[Passed in Senate and House and presented to Governor for signature.]*

SB877 Election Consolidation (B. Hammerstrom, R-Temperance) – Amends the Michigan Election Law to establish four regular election dates per year; prescribes dates for school elections and special elections. Tie-barred to HB4820-4828 which established control of school elections under county clerks; establishes "floater" date. *[Enacted as P.A.298 of 2003; Effective 1/1/05.]*

SB943 Sex Education Instruction (W. Kuipers, R-Holland) – Elevates to a higher priority the teaching of abstinence in sex education courses; revises membership of health education advisory board. *[Enacted as P.A.165 of 2004; Effective 6/24/2004.]*

SB1069 State Aid Act FY-05 (S. Johnson, R-Royal Oak) – Provides for school aid funding for FY-05. *[Passed in Senate and House and presented to the Governor for signature.]*

SB1073 **Administrator CEUs** (W. Kuipers, R-Holland) – Amends the School Code to clarify that CEU requirements begin upon initial employment for subsequent 5 years. *[Enacted as P.A.148 of 2004; Effective 6/15/2004.]*

SB1153-1157 **ACT/MEAP** (W. Kuipers, R-Holland, Primary Sponsor) – A package of bills that provide for the replacement of the high school MEAP test with another assessment instrument like the ACT. *[Hearings in Senate Education Committee.]*

HOUSE BILLS

HB4025 **Psychotropic Drugs** (S. Tabor, R-Lansing) - Provides for a model state policy and a district policy regarding chronic misbehavior and psychotropic medication. *[Passed in House; referred to Senate Education Committee.]*

HB4038 **C.P.R.** (S. Rocca, R-Sterling Hts.) - Requires that new teachers be certified in C.P.R. prior to certification. *[Passed in the House; referred to Senate Health Policy Committee which reported it out to the full Senate; passed in Senate; Enacted as P.A. 18 of 2003.]*

HB4054 **Sinking Funds** (G. Whitmer, D-East Lansing) - Expands permissible uses of sinking fund millage consistent with bond issues.

HB4128 **Compulsory School Age** (K. Daniels, D-Detroit) - Increases the compulsory school attendance age to 18.

HB4161 **Prevailing Wage** (F. Sheen, R-Plainwell) - Eliminates the prevailing wage requirement on public school construction projects.

HB4207-08-09 **Truancy Policies** (A. Hardman, D-Detroit) – Requires ISDs to develop area-wide truancy policies with county prosecutors. *[Referred to House Education Committee.]*

HB4215 **School Elections** (C. Ward, R-Brighton) - Provides for the cancellation of uncontested school board elections. *[On House floor.]*

HB4218 **Cell Phones** (M. Middaugh, R-Paw Paw) - Provides authority to local school boards to establish cell phone policy. *[Enacted as P.A. 132 of 2003.]*

HB4227 **Proration** (M. Pumford, R-Newaygo) - A bill to change the proration language to an equal dollar amount per pupil. *[Passed in House; Incorporated into Senate substitute for HB4401 (State Aid Act).]*

HB4261 and HB4525 **Income Tax Credit** (P. Condino, D-Southfield and M. Milosch, R-Lambertville) – Allows income tax credit for teachers and administrators purchasing school supplies for instruction. *[Passed in House.]*

HB4322 **School Attendance** (R. Johnson, R-Holly) - Exempts "take our children to work day" from the 75% attendance rule to count as a day of instruction.

HB4338 **ISD Board Elections** (R. Johnson, R-Holly) – Provides for the recall of intermediate school district boards of education under certain conditions; and also provides for local district review and approval of ISD budgets. *[Enacted as P.A.234 of 2004; Effective 7/21/2004.]*

HB4340 **MPSERA Amendment** (B. Caswell, R-Hillsdale) – Allows retirees, under certain emergency conditions, to return to work for a school district, and exceed the one-third final average compensation, for six years rather than current three years; and extends date of eligibility to those retiring to prior to July 1, 2003. *[Enacted as P.A. 5 of 2004.]*

HB4401 **School Aid** (M. Shulman, R-West Bloomfield) - Provides funding for FY04 K-12 school aid. *[Enacted as P.A. 158 of 2003.]*

HB4453 **Retirement** (J. Hoogendyk, R-Portage) – A bill to change the MPSERS requirement to qualify for a year of service credit for retirement from 170 days to 1,020 hours per fiscal year. *[Enacted as P.A. 175 of 2003, immediate effect.]*

HB4613 **Korean Vets** (H. Hopgood, D-Taylor) – Authorizes school districts to award diplomas to Korean conflict vets, as well as, World War II vets who enlisted or were drafted during the Korean conflict. *[Enacted as P.A. 203 of 2003.]*

HB4693 and HB4724 **Ed-Flex** (B. Palmer, R-Bruce Twp.) - Allows school districts to apply for waivers to statutes and regulations via a student performance-based contract between the school and the state superintendent. *[Passed in House and Senate; Vetoed by Governor Granholm.]*

HB4714 **Principal's Leadership Academy** (D. Farhat, R-Muskegon) – Provides for the use of federal funds to provide for principal's leadership academy. *[Enacted as P.A. 202 of 2003, immediate effect.]*

HB4716 **Teacher Certification Panel** (M. Nofs, R-Battle Creek) – Provides for a 14-member advisory committee of school administrators, teachers and board members to review and make recommendations relative to teacher certification rules. *[Passed in House; referred to Senate Education Committee.]*

HB4719 **Distance Learning** (T. Casperson, R-Escanaba) – Provides that a student receiving all or a majority of instruction through a distance learning program operated by a school district or charter could be counted in membership. *[Passed in House; referred to Senate Education Committee.]*

HB4720-4722 **DMB Purchasing** (P. LaJoy, R-Canton) – Provides for the Department of Management and Budgeting to establish a cooperative purchasing program for public schools and exempts items on joint bids list from competitive bidding requirements. *[Passed in House and Senate; Vetoed by the Governor.]*

HB4820-28 **Election Consolidation** (C. Ward, R-Brighton) - A package of bills covering election consolidation issues, i.e., control of election, number of elections per year, dates, ballot questions, etc. *[Enacted as P.A.299-306 of 2003; Effective 1/1/05.]*

HB4935 **ISD Reform Board** (R. Johnson, R-Holly) – Allows for appointment of a reform board to replace ISD boards under certain circumstances. *[In House Education Committee.]*

HB4947 **Open Elections/ISD Boards** (J. Gleason, D-Flushing) – Requires that local districts vote for their candidate for ISD board in an open session. *[Enacted as P.A.233 of 2004; Effective 7/21/2004.]*

HB5059 **Suicide Warning Signs** (C. Ward, R-Brighton) – Requires schools to include in their curricula warning signs and risk factors related to suicide and depression. *[Referred to House Education Committee.]*

HB5065 **Property Transfers** (S. Taub, R-Bloomfield Hills) – Provides for an area of a school district to secede following a vote of the residents involved and acceptance of the receiving district's board of education. *[Referred to House Education Committee.]*

HB5087 **Epinephrine in Schools** (M. Shulman, R-West Bloomfield) – Amends the School Code to allow students to possess and use an epinephrine injection or inhaler to treat severe allergic reactions to insect bites, foods or medication. *[Enacted as P.A. 73 of 2004, Immediate effect.]*

HB5247 **Career Days** (P. LaJoy, R-Canton) – Requires school districts that have Career Days provide same opportunity and access to skilled trades association's as extended to colleges and universities. *[Passed in House and Senate; Enacted as P.A. 264 of 2003.]*

HB5280 **Bomb Search** (C. Ward, R-Brighton) – Provides that employees cannot be required to remain in a school building vacated for a bomb scare without receiving appropriate training by law enforcement on conducting a search. *[Enacted as P.A. 56 of 2004, Immediate Effect.]*

HB5310 **Health Insurance Bidding** (B. VanderVeen, R-Allendale) – Requires insurance company to provide claims experience to school district to solicit bids for health insurance coverage. *[In House Education Committee.]*

HB5376 **Posting Bids** (B. Caswell, R-Hillsdale) – Allows districts to post for construction bids on local or Department of Management and Budget website as opposed to local newspaper. Requires ISDs to competitively bid construction projects. *[Enacted as P.A.232 of 2004; Effective 7/21/2004.]*

HB5446 **School Board Participation on County Planning Commission** (C. Ward, R-Brighton) – Requires a school board member to sit on the county planning commission.

HB5476 **Suspension of Certificates** (C. DeRoche, R-Nov) – Calls for summary suspension of teaching certificate upon conviction of a felony. *[Passed the House; Referred to Senate Education Committee.]*

HB5478 **Sex Education Instruction** (J. Stahl, R-North Branch) – Provides for a complaint process for failure to comply with provisions requiring the teaching of abstinence in sex education programs; establishes penalties of 1% loss in State Aid. *[Enacted as P.A.166 of 2004; Effective 6/24/2004.]*

HB5502-5505 **Streamlined Sales Tax** (L. Wenke, R-Richland) – A package of bills to simplify the collection of sales and use taxes through internet and catalogue purchasing; provides for participation with other states to provide uniformity in collection policies. *[Enacted as P.A.172-175 of 2004; Effective 9/1/2004.]*

HB5545 **Reimbursement for Collection of SET** (J. Moolenaar, R-Midland) – Provides for municipal to withhold \$2.50 per parcel for the summer collection of the 6 mill State Education Tax. *[Enacted as P.A. 108 of 2004, Effective 5/20/2004.]*

HB5660 **School Site Review** (P. LaJoy, R-Canton) – Requires that school districts allow review of site plans on new construction and building renovations over 20% of total square feet by municipal planning boards; final decisions if disputed still determined by State Superintendent. *[Passed in House; sent to Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.]*

HB5682 **Graded Health Benefits** (M. Pumford, R-Newaygo) - Prorates health care benefits for MPSERS retirees based on years of service; 3% increments for co-pays between 10 and 30 years of service credit; applies to new hires.

HB5696 **Purchasing Retirement Service Credit** (M. Pumford, R-Newaygo) - Calculates the cost of purchasing service credit for MPSERS to include the actuarial cost of the monthly health care premium in addition to the pension cost.



TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES

2003-04 TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES REPORT

MCEA Task Forces are a key vehicle for communication, leadership, mentoring and networking. The task forces, each with representation from MCEA districts, meet monthly during the school year to focus on their areas of specialization and promote success among urban students. Each task force is assisted by MCEA staff members who facilitate their efforts. The task forces play a key role in state and federal policy matters and often work on issues of common concern.

During the 2003-04 school year, a timely and thought-provoking series of Lead-In programs complementing the monthly task force meetings continued to generate strong attendance. The intent of the Lead-In programs is to provide information while promoting communication and collaboration among MCEA Task Forces. Oftentimes, the Lead-In speaker will meet with task force members following a presentation to answer questions and get feedback from Middle Cities districts. A summary of the 2003-04 task force programs and other task force activities are highlighted below.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

Dr. David Plank, co-director of the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University, helped kick-off MCEA's Fall Roundup with a presentation about Michigan's 216 "failing" schools as identified under the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

Plank recently researched the composition of those schools which have not made adequate yearly progress (AYP). Not surprisingly, he found that many schools were located in or around urban centers in Michigan and served high populations of disadvantaged and special needs students. The districts in which many of the schools are located are also dealing with issues such as declining enrollment and aging infrastructure. Those struggles combined with the impact of some of Michigan's past initiatives -- schools of choice, charter schools, etc. -- have created an environment of "winners" and "losers" where urban schools serving disadvantaged students are disproportionately targeted by the punitive side of the federal law.

Plank went on to discuss the “just do it” philosophy of school improvement in NCLB by discussing the reasons why NCLB interventions are unlikely to succeed in turning around failing schools. According to the research Plank has conducted, there is little reason to hope that these strategies will achieve better or more consistent results when they are implemented on short timelines under the threat of federal sanctions in thousands of schools across the county. Turning schools around is harder work than the NCLB policy mandates acknowledge.

Plank also indicated that while research has been conducted regarding the characteristics of effective schools, little research has been done with regard to the process through which previously ineffective schools become effective.

Plank also discussed the potential assistance that could be offered to high priority schools from school districts, state and local government, universities, education management organizations and intermediate school districts. While each outside group had positives and negatives when it comes to the depth and breadth of the assistance they can offer to high priority schools, Plank found that intermediate school districts, in general, were best positioned to offer assistance of any other outside entity. Plank went on to say that the problem with the external organizations identified in NCLB is that none of them has a particularly strong track record in improving student achievement. The expectation that student achievement in failing schools will improve as a consequence of the governance changes required by NCLB amounts to nothing more than wishful thinking.

For more information on the study, visit the Education Policy Center’s Web site at www.epc.msu.edu.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1, 2003

At MCEA’s Oct. 1 task force meeting, Paul Bielawski, special assistant for underperforming schools with MDE, provided MCEA task force members with an update on the Michigan School Report Card.

Bielawski reviewed a number of changes that were made to Education YES! prior to the launch of the report card. One of the major developments was the State Board of Education’s decision to delay the “growth” score of Education YES! until Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) testing is implemented for grades 3-8. Due to extensive reporting problems with the 2003 MEAP tests, pilots of the new tests are expected in 2004-05 with full implementation slated for 2005-06. Psychometric problems that emerged due to the current lack of grade-level testing in Michigan also contributed to the decision to delay the growth component.

With the growth score delayed, the Michigan school report card will feature a single letter grade comprised of three components: achievement status; achievement change; and school performance indicators. The report card will also feature a building’s AYP status as required by the federal No

Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Each component is described in further detail below:

- **Achievement Status:** Achievement status reflects a school's success through the academic achievement of students on the MEAP test.
- **Achievement Change:** The achievement change score is also based on students' MEAP scores. The score represents the amount of progress a school makes in each grade-level subject area from year to year in meeting a state-determined target rate. The target rate is based on how much a school needs to improve each year in order to show that 100 percent of its students score proficiently on the MEAP by 2013-14.
- **Performance Indicators:** The performance indicators grade represents how a school measures itself in three non-test based areas: instructional quality, engagement and learning opportunities.
- **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP):** AYP stems from NCLB requirements and measures achievement and participation rates of students on the MEAP test. Under Education YES!, a school not making AYP cannot receive an A as a final letter grade. On the other hand, a school that makes AYP cannot receive an F.

The MDE is planning to release the report cards publicly through a Web site that will allow visitors to conduct searches based on school district or building name.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2003

Andrew Henry, director of the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), was on hand at MCEA's November Task Force Meeting to discuss MI-Plan with task force members. MI-Plan is a Web-based school improvement tool that is designed to make the process of constructing a school improvement plan and satisfying an increasing number of reporting requirements easier. The online tool was developed by CEPI, with input from North Central Association and a host of other education associations and organizations.

Development of MI-Plan began in Feb. 2003 and was modeled after similar statewide systems in Maryland and Washington. The system is designed to provide a framework for schools to review data, identify research-based best practices and generate reports that satisfy requirements such as the Title I requirements of No Child Left Behind, Education YES!, annual reporting (PA 25) and North Central Association's school improvement protocols.

According to Henry, MI-Plan is designed to be used as a building-level tool, and principals are viewed as the site administrators. The system is designed to bring together a school's data from multiple state sources, so principals and others have access to their data through one system. The data can then be tied to the school improvement process and used in other reports.

"It's one tool to fulfill multiple requirements. That's one of the very big benefits of MI-Plan," Henry said. "We're trying to facilitate data-driven decision making."

The school improvement process built into MI-Plan is designed around a series of eight steps: assessment for readiness to benefit; collection, sorting and selection of data; building and analyzing

school profile; setting and prioritizing goals; studying and selecting research-based practices; crafting an action plan; implementing and monitoring the plan; and evaluating the plan's impact on student achievement.

As a school moves through the step-by-step improvement process, relevant data are either available through the system or can be uploaded into the site. Data are presented in numerical formats or through graphs and trended so schools can evaluate year-to-year progress. Additionally, a school can enter the school improvement process at any point in time, rather than starting over from scratch, a common problem schools often encounter when switching to different planning methods.

Superintendents are expected to receive a list of passwords for each school in their district sometime in November. They will then be asked to share those passwords with building principals and school improvement team members. The level of access provided to outsiders is controlled by the building principal.

While the performance indicator self-assessment for Education YES! will be conducted through the MI-Plan site this year, districts are under no obligation to use the tool. There is no charge to districts that want to use the site.

Informational MI-Plan trainings will be conducted in coming months regionally through intermediate school districts. For more information in the meantime, visit www.michigan.gov/cepi.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2003

Bruce Montgomery, vice president at Michigan Virtual University, and Chuck Wilbur, deputy chief for policy and planning in the Governor's office, provided task force attendees with an update on the Freedom to Learn Initiative at the Dec. 3 task force meeting.

Freedom to Learn (FTL) was initiated by House Speaker Rick Johnson (R-LeRoy) in 2001 and expanded by Gov. Granholm. The program was intended to provide every sixth grader in the state with a wireless laptop computer. While this year's School Aid Act includes almost \$40 million in funding for the program, the Governor recently indicated the Freedom to Learn program may fall victim to the budget crisis. But even if all the state money is eliminated, nearly half the money is federal and will be spent on technology.

According to Wilbur, Gov. Granholm remains committed to closing the digital divide and making sure all students are computer literate. However, in response to the state's worsening budget situation, the Governor would like to pause the income tax rollback. She also would like to pull back the state's share of funding for FTL, so that the program would rely solely on federal funding. As a result of the decreased financial resources, Wilbur indicated that the Governor would like to focus the remaining FTL funding on helping high priority schools, those schools identified as not making adequate yearly progress (AYP) under NCLB.

Schools interested in pursuing the Freedom to Learn program may now apply for the program through a grant. Montgomery and his staff reviewed the grant application process for task force members and discussed the various stages of implementation for Freedom to Learn. In 2002-03, phase I of the program will begin with six demonstration sites and nine application sites slated for areas across the state. In 2003-2004, a total education solution is in the works and will focus on middle school. Montgomery also announced at the meeting that Hewlett Packard won the state contract to provide computers and training for the Freedom to Learn program.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2004

Ed Sarpolus, vice president of the Lansing-based polling firm EPIC-MRA, was on hand to discuss with task forces the importance of message and marketing in district communications with key audiences. He discussed two education-related surveys his firm conducted recently and how the survey findings can be used to help guide public communications.

Sarpolus has worked extensively with school districts in Michigan and throughout the Midwest. According to an education survey conducted in the fall of 2003, Sarpolus said that most people still think highly of their local public schools; however, confidence in Michigan public schools in general showed a slight dip compared to similar surveys he conducted in the past. Sarpolus attributed the dip in public confidence to the continual attacks against public schools that began during the administration of Gov. John Engler. Sarpolus encouraged schools to begin going on the offensive and taking a more prominent role in addressing these kinds of attacks.

Sarpolus reviewed his findings from a survey conducted in January 2004 on school finance. His survey found that while the public believes schools are facing a budget crisis, they expect legislators to solve the funding problems. Sarpolus said the survey suggested that the public wants and expects educators to focus on the job of education and are not yet ready to hear funding solutions from educators. He encouraged schools to share with their key audiences the budget cuts that they must endure due to the state's current funding crisis; however, Sarpolus cautioned attendees to make sure they talk about their budget issues in terms of how they impact students and the community as opposed to talking about budget issues in terms of dollars and cents, a concept that can be very difficult for the general public to ascertain how certain budget cuts will affect them personally.

MARCH 3, 2004

Dr. Edward Roeber, senior executive director of the Mich. Dept. of Education's Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA), was on hand at MCEA's March Task Force Meeting to discuss how his office is making improvements to Michigan's assessment and accountability programs.

Roeber provided task force members with an in-depth review of his plans for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) following the program's move from the Dept. of Treasury

to the MDE in response to an executive order from Gov. Granholm. In addition to addressing problems that arose during the 2003 MEAP testing cycle, MDE officials are also working to comply with the testing requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

The 2003 MEAP test was plagued by a series of problems that caused big headaches for schools last year. According to Roeber, the most common problems encountered during last year's test included, delayed test results due to miscoded answer sheets, duplicate bar codes and innovative reporting that was tried and failed. Missing answer sheets, inaccurate information (especially demographics) and lack of staffing were also a problem.

In an attempt to stop the same problems from occurring this year, Roeber went back to using paper-based reporting, built a comprehensive schedule and followed it, put together a field-based advisory committee and hired additional staff to handle district inquiries.

Next year, Roeber said he'd like to see schools be able to verify demographic data before getting test results. He noted that while the state must address issues regarding the accuracy and verification of do a better job of making sure their data are accurate when submitted to the state.

In addition to cleaning up data, Roeber is also looking at instituting training for assessment staff and selecting new test development and test administration contractors. The new contractors could be chosen as early as next fall, so their development process can overlap with current contractors.

As required by NCLB, the state must implement testing in grades 3-8 by the 2005-06 school year. Roeber is planning to implement a new MEAP structure that would dovetail with the NCLB timeline. The new testing structure would include two components: a core test and matrix sampling.

The core test would be based on benchmarks that are currently being assessed and would include an item analysis report. The test would also be publicly released each year after testing. Student results on the core test would count toward a school's adequate yearly progress (AYP).

The matrix sampling component would broaden the coverage of the core skills assessment. It would be designed to sample skills that could be added to the core test in the future (every 4-5 years), but would not count toward a building's AYP status.

In addition to the new MEAP testing structure, Roeber said he would also like to investigate moving all testing to the fall of the year for 2005-06. Moving elementary, middle and high school MEAP testing to the fall would allow the state to satisfy NCLB reporting requirements in a more timely fashion. According to Roeber, the current MEAP testing timelines make it difficult for the state to compile and make public the results of the Michigan School Report Cards.

Report cards for the 2003-04 school year are expected to be available for preliminary review by

elementary and middle schools sometime in July. High school report cards are not expected to be ready for review until September or October.

Recently announced guidelines from the U.S. Dept. of Education are also causing the MDE to review testing policies for two specific groups of students: special needs students and students with limited English proficiency (LEP).

The federal government recently stated that only one percent of special needs students' test scores can be counted as making AYP under NCLB. Assessments for special needs students account for about three percent of the tests given in Michigan.

Roeber observed that the newly announced regulation creates a faulty system that automatically tags two percent of special needs students in the state as failures. He said an exemption from the limit is possible, but it may not occur. In the meantime, the state is trying to determine how students beyond the one percent will be reported at the state and district levels.

With LEP students, the state is currently trying to determine MEAP testing policies, especially in light of a new federal rule that says test scores for students enrolled in a U.S. school for less than one year do not count toward English Language Arts test requirements of AYP.

As a result of the issues and decisions that the MDE needs to address with regard to assessments and accountability, Roeber has formed an advisory committee to help guide program development. The committee will provide input, review assessment programs, accountability systems and program plans, develop recommended policies and practices, raise issues from local educators or professional groups and help resolve programmatic issues.

The advisory committee is made up of educators from across the state. Dr. Noni Miller, executive director of educational services for Ypsilanti Public Schools and co-chair of the MCEA Instructional and Professional Development Task Force, is representing MCEA on the committee. The committee's first meeting is slated for March.

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2004

Yvonne Caamal Canul, director of the Office of School Excellence at the Mich. Department of Education, was on hand to discuss the development and rollout of the grade 3-8 Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) following a process that took more than a year to complete. As a result, Caamal Canul said Michigan now has expectations in place that are being recognized for their excellence.

"We have some of the best expectations for children in the nation in our state," Caamal Canul said.

The GLCEs were developed, in part, as a result of the requirements of the federal No Child Left

Behind Act. Because NCLB requires testing in grades 3-8 by 2005-06 and Michigan did not have grade-level testing in place, the content standards needed to be developed in order to develop new grade-level tests and help guide and inform educators of the state's instructional requirements. While the expectations do not provide teachers with a curriculum, they do provide them with an outline of learning expectations that will be used to drive curriculum and instruction for the next several years.

Caamal Canul reviewed the process of how the GLCEs for English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8 were developed and ultimately approved. She discussed how classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, academicians and staff from the Mich. Department of Education worked together throughout 2003 and 2004 to produce the end product. Attendees received a *Great Expectations=Great Expectations* tote bag which contained both the English Language Arts and Mathematics content expectations along with CDs containing a Power Point presentation on the GLCEs and clips from the March 2004 Great Expectation Conference hosted by Michigan State University's Office of K-12 Outreach Programs.

Beginning on May 10, rollout sessions are scheduled to take place at intermediate school districts across the state. All information on the GLCEs will be distributed through ISDs from this point forward. Caamal Canul also encouraged task force attendees to visit the Learn Port Web site at www.learnport.org for instructional modules, question-and-answer documents and other

ACTIVITIES REPORT BY TASK FORCE

Adult Education – Lynn Aldrich Spearing (Muskegon) and Gary Tweddle (Kalamazoo), Co-chairpersons

- Discussed funding issues which consumed much attention due to the vulnerability of adult education funding to state cuts.
- David Mills and Jeremy Hughes from MDE met with the task force regarding regulations and issues related to the pupils served by adult and community education programs.
- Met regularly with Diane Duthie from the Department of Labor and Economic Growth for updates on departmental regulations and issues.
- We spent time discussing how to continue to provide service within the context of a 75 percent reduction in state funding.

Business – Dick Powell (Saginaw) and Stephanie Wilkinson (Port Huron), Co-chairpersons

- Discussed current State Aid concerns, including state revenue forecasts for future fiscal years.
- Shared categorical revenue concerns specifically affecting Middle Cities districts.
- Reviewed communication efforts with district staff, community and legislators.
- Discussed applicable new or pending legislation that may impact schools financially or otherwise.

Career and Technical Education – Ralph Carducci (Monroe), Chairperson

- Discussed No Child Left Behind and Education YES! and how it relates to CTE students. Also discussed career pathways and Michigan.
- Guest speaker, Doug Neal of MSU, discussed the topic of comprehensive counseling and guidance programs and its relationship to CTE students and general population.
- Examined what different districts are doing in relation to work-based learning. Shared handouts with regard to this issue.
- Discussed the high school senior year in relation to the senior project and how it ties into Career Pathways. Also talked about authentic instruction.
- Discussed the topic of the new Business Management, Marketing and Technology Pathways and the new upcoming features of national and Michigan clusters.

Early Childhood – Jill Swanson (Battle Creek), Chairperson

- Discussed funding for early childhood education.
- Discussed the alignment of curriculum between early childhood and kindergarten.
- Discussed the political climate with regard to early childhood education.
- Worked on promoting more membership/interest in the task force.

Educational Technology – Mike Travis (Mt. Pleasant) and Mark Law (Port Huron), Co-chairpersons

- Examined and made recommendations covering the Freedom to Learn program that received statewide attention. Involved directly with MVU and MDE meeting several times.
- Established a mission statement for our task force.
- Reviewed procedures for the purchasing and implementing of software.
- Discussed high school graduation requirements for computer applications.

Instructional/Professional Development – Cathy Lozen (Port Huron) and Noni Miller (Ypsilanti), Co-chairpersons

- Addressed types and uses for the following assessments: MEAP, computerized and MLPP.
- Discussed MEAP: who should have access to student data; packaging of materials; and not retaining MEAP booklets.
- Talked about the implications of NCLB legislation and AYP by subgroups.
- Reviewed and discussed “drafts” of grade-level benchmarks (math and ELA) posted on the Web.
- Reviewed and discussed performance indicators (Education YES!) posted on the Web.

ELA/Social Studies – Ingrid Snyder (Waterford) and Mari Treece (Monroe), Co-chairpersons

- Hosted a guest presentation from Jane Faulds, MDE, regarding reading, interpretation and scoring of the MEAP test in English language arts. Also reviewed samples of constructed responses.
- Hosted a guest presentation from Faith Stevens, MDE, regarding curriculum and schedule for Reading First Schools.
- Discussed cross content applications with regard to ELA and Social Studies and shared districts' materials.
- Discussed concerns and next steps with the grade level content expectations, which Middle Cities took an active roll in.
- Discussed concerns about the future of social studies education.

Personnel/Labor – Don Thomas (Brighton), Chairperson

- Discussed vacancy, transfer and assignment (contract language).
- Reviewed professional development (certified and administrative staff) initiatives.
- Discussed implications of the Registry of Educational Personnel.
- Hosted an informational session with Andrew Henry, director of CEPI.
- Discussed concerns regarding staff reductions, staff retention and negotiations
- Compared insurance providers (MESSA vs. others)
- Strategized ways for combating health care costs.
- Hosted an informational session on the “Troops to Teachers” program with guest speaker – David Ratajik, program manager.
- Shared with each other various district hiring practices (testing, physicals, drug screening, etc.)

Principals – Lea Gourlay (Port Huron) and Betty Kirby (), Co-chairpersons

- Discussed inequalities in assessments from state-to-state for NCLB. We need to look at child groups not unrelated groups (different teachers, different students, etc.).
- Hosted a guest presentation with Keith Etheridge, executive director for the Michigan Victims Alliance and Glen Stutzki, MSU Social Work Department, regarding bullying and teasing. Other current and past principals discussed hinderances to prevention and proposals that help.
- Hosted a guest presentation on Love & Logic by Marti Discol - this is a discipline program that is built around the premise that children need to be responsible for their own actions.
- Provided input and discussed the standards for principal preparation.
- Discussed job stresses and the need for an avenue for principals to talk about and/or help each other with stress.

Public Relations – Kenneth Kraft (Port Huron), Chairperson

- Discussed the impact of AYP, Education YES!, NCLB, etc., and how these initiatives changed the way schools operate and provide for the education of students. This became a recurrent topic because of the regular changes set forth by these programs.
- Discussed various forms of communication and how we disseminate information both internally and externally.
- Discussed annual reports and community surveys - meeting the deadlines, identifying the requirements, dealing with data delays, providing disclaimers, how the information is presented (online vs. hard copy).
- Addressed and communicated concerns regarding budget cuts and funding issues - letting the community know about retirement incentives, spending, staff cuts, etc. vs. state funding cuts.
- Discussed expectations of district public relations departments, including crisis managements, communication and publication, marketing procedures, addressing issues and representing the district.

Pupil Personnel – John McCoy (Flint), Chairperson

- Reviewed and shared discipline procedures and policies.
- Discussed state database: SRSD and SID, specifically, as well as related processes, UIC, Ed YES, etc.
- Discussed student attendance: student system vs. web-based reporting.
- Hosted a presentation from Grand Rapids on health care.

Science/Math – Pat Adams (Romulus) and Kathy Berry (Monroe), Co-chairpersons

- Hosted guest speaker Chuck Allan about the changes to the math, science and language arts benchmarks
- Dedicated a lot of time dealing with the new grade-level content expectations and the constant changes to them.
- Discussed Bill Schmidt's TIMSS report and its implications for changes to the benchmarks and the MEAP.
- Shared what districts are doing for students/schools that are not making adequate yearly progress (AYP), such as summer school, MEAP coaching, etc.

Special Education – Cindy Green (Kalamazoo), Chairperson

- Reviewed the progress of the Early Childhood Committee at the state level. One special education director from Middle Cities is a member of this committee. The committee is reviewing ways to provide special education services to 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds in a more integrated setting.
- Dr. Mamie McGlinchey presented information on a new grant (Michigan Integrated Behavioral Learning Support, MiBLSi) to support school-wide supports to all students. This grant is based on a problem-solving model with Middle Cities schools represented.
- The group discussed budget reductions and constraints. Directors shared current dilemmas such as declining enrollment, increased students with temporary placement IEPs and staffing reductions.
- The guidelines for highly-qualified teachers were shared in relation to No Child Left Behind. There have been clarifications made for special education teachers at the elementary and secondary levels.



STATISTICAL REPORTS

The following reports are included in this section:

- DISTRICT FUNDING DATA, 2003-2004
 - Ranked by Enrollment
 - Ranked by Foundation Grant
 - Ranked by TV/PP

- SELECT COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL DATA, FY2003-2004
 - Revenues
 - Expenditures
 - Miscellaneous Financial Data

- TITLE 1 ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING, 2003-2004

- FREE- AND REDUCED-LUNCH PARTICIPATION, 2003-2004

- TEACHER SALARY & BENEFIT DATA, 2003-2004

- STUDENT RACIAL/ETHNIC DATA, 2002-2003

**Middle Cities Education Association
2003-2004 District Funding Data**

District	General Ed.			Special Ed.			Pupil Count	Taxable Value Per Pupil	Debt Millage Rate	Total Foundation Per Pupil
	Spring '03 FTE	Fall '03 FTE	Blended FTE	Spring '03	Fall '03 FTE	Blended FTE				
Albion Public Schools	1,580.19	1,624.44	1,643.64	115.69	113.91	113.69	1,757.33	100,102.81	3.7000	6,728
Battle Creek School District	6,943.15	7,062.23	7,059.51	536.11	508.05	503.97	7,563.48	78,540.53	0.0000	6,924
Bay City Public Schools	9,412.84	9,473.29	9,449.98	397.17	369.86	370.04	9,820.02	151,539.17	1.2000	6,700
Beecher Community Schools	1,904.86	1,898.27	1,908.56	163.89	162.63	160.45	2,069.01	40,250.99	0.0000	7,319
Benton Harbor Area Schools	4,397.92	4,520.82	4,550.04	442.33	421.94	423.97	4,974.01	110,412.84	0.0000	6,700
Buena Vista School District	1,083.47	1,126.13	1,131.41	158.32	144.02	145.56	1,276.97	165,807.31	0.0000	7,700
Ferndale Public Schools	3,667.25	3,786.83	3,770.63	115.20	106.92	108.86	3,879.49	158,377.42	7.0000	7,609
Flint Community Schools	18,115.43	18,633.14	18,733.25	1,416.72	1,384.07	1,381.33	20,114.58	71,196.57	0.0000	7,252
Garden City Public Schools	4,618.73	4,671.35	4,655.13	550.96	548.79	552.46	5,207.59	115,833.83	5.8829	7,184
Grand Rapids Public Schools	19,748.63	20,141.78	20,178.93	3,321.24	3,251.53	3,268.47	23,447.40	145,359.93	0.9800	6,782
Hazen Park Community Schools	4,446.02	4,507.87	4,459.14	379.14	376.23	397.37	4,856.51	78,120.72	7.0000	7,234
Highland Park School District	3,123.78	3,121.10	3,143.53	261.86	251.69	249.50	3,393.03	37,434.01	0.7000	7,374
Inkster School District	1,268.63	1,174.60	1,196.57	85.87	74.90	74.10	1,270.67	83,940.81	9.0000	7,487
Jackson Public Schools	6,457.93	6,608.49	6,616.65	445.93	429.60	429.89	7,046.54	164,440.04	1.9500	6,752
Kalamazoo Public Schools	10,010.66	10,234.44	10,240.01	477.21	466.42	475.98	10,715.99	194,984.14	4.2000	7,171
Lansing School District	14,951.91	15,339.65	15,358.61	1,500.70	1,461.43	1,473.07	16,831.68	133,903.30	1.0856	7,105
Monroe Public Schools	6,936.17	7,018.04	6,994.52	154.70	157.61	154.48	7,149.00	225,477.39	0.0000	6,710
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	2,719.08	2,772.55	2,782.42	274.53	259.52	260.43	3,042.85	147,131.28	9.4200	7,404
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools	3,716.75	3,763.86	3,764.66	197.61	182.94	183.54	3,948.20	161,473.34	7.9400	6,762
Muskegon Public Schools	5,183.69	5,329.56	5,329.84	756.28	758.23	769.16	6,099.00	85,593.71	7.0000	6,958
Muskegon Heights Public Schools	1,954.68	2,016.78	2,011.48	251.83	227.63	229.70	2,241.18	46,201.81	12.5000	7,190
Niles Community Schools	3,641.74	3,690.89	3,676.03	359.37	344.32	349.22	4,025.25	113,955.40	1.3500	6,700
Pontiac School District	9,539.78	9,725.91	9,772.17	1,119.08	1,077.42	1,078.79	10,850.96	308,196.33	2.8000	6,884
Port Huron Area School District	10,776.41	10,913.35	10,944.24	891.78	860.85	857.85	11,802.09	136,169.89	2.0000	6,700
Romulus Community Schools	3,962.10	4,034.64	4,016.87	227.82	218.82	219.73	4,236.60	219,993.83	7.5000	8,373
Saginaw City School District	10,115.33	10,295.42	10,322.13	1,393.01	1,389.56	1,386.11	11,708.24	72,376.07	0.0000	6,983
Southfield Public Schools	9,794.99	9,873.35	9,856.50	415.60	403.91	403.93	10,260.43	307,720.50	2.2600	10,802
Traverse City Area Public Schools	10,434.96	10,515.24	10,510.24	454.09	413.81	416.31	10,926.55	269,617.95	3.1000	6,700
Waterford School District	10,810.28	11,063.17	10,999.70	840.13	807.38	822.49	11,822.19	209,055.36	3.1700	7,068
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	12,959.73	13,150.35	13,171.29	965.37	939.56	939.94	14,111.23	160,942.05	4.7000	7,396
Westwood Community Schools	2,077.21	2,140.33	2,082.31	193.79	179.33	175.82	2,258.13	112,357.50	0.0000	7,410
Willow Run Community Schools	2,492.22	2,577.66	2,610.90	102.29	91.40	92.99	2,703.89	119,997.52	10.3000	7,083
Ypsilanti School District	4,484.69	4,543.46	4,509.76	216.59	200.90	204.37	4,714.13	169,057.48	7.0000	7,424

Middle Cities Education Association Ranked by 2003-2004 Enrollment

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>2003-2004 ENROLLMENT</i>
Grand Rapids Public Schools	23,447
Flint Community Schools	20,115
Lansing School District	16,832
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	14,111
Waterford School District	11,822
Port Huron Area School District	11,802
Saginaw City School District	11,708
Traverse City Area Public Schools	10,927
Pontiac School District	10,851
Kalamazoo Public Schools	10,716
Southfield Public Schools	10,260
Bay City Public Schools	9,820
Battle Creek School District	7,563
Monroe Public Schools	7,149
Jackson Public Schools	7,047
Muskegon Public Schools	6,099
Garden City Public Schools	5,208
Benton Harbor Area Schools	4,974
Hazel Park Community Schools	4,857
Ypsilanti School District	4,714
Romulus Community Schools	4,237
Niles Community Schools	4,025
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools	3,948
Ferndale Public Schools	3,879
Highland Park School District	3,393
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	3,043
Willow Run Community Schools	2,704
Westwood Community Schools	2,258
Muskegon Heights Public Schools	2,241
Beecher Community Schools	2,069
Albion Public Schools	1,757
Buena Vista School District	1,277
Inkster School District	1,271
TOTAL ENROLLMENT	246,124
AVERAGE ENROLLMENT	7,458

Data Source: MDE State Aid Database, (6/2004)

Middle Cities Education Association Ranked by 2003-2004 Foundation Grant

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>2003-2004 GRANT</i>
Southfield Public Schools	\$10,802
Romulus Community Schools	8,373
Buena Vista School District	7,700
Ferndale Public Schools	7,609
Inkster School District	7,487
Ypsilanti School District	7,424
Westwood Community Schools	7,410
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	7,404
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	7,396
Highland Park School District	7,374
Beecher Community Schools	7,319
Flint Community Schools	7,252
Hazel Park Community Schools	7,234
Muskegon Public Schools	7,190
Garden City Public Schools	7,184
Kalamazoo Public Schools	7,171
Lansing School District	7,105
Willow Run Community Schools	7,083
Waterford School District	7,068
Saginaw City School District	6,983
Muskegon Heights Public Schools	6,958
Battle Creek School District	6,924
Pontiac School District	6,884
Grand Rapids Public Schools	6,782
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools	6,762
Jackson Public Schools	6,752
Albion Public Schools	6,728
Monroe Public Schools	6,710
Bay City Public Schools	6,700
Benton Harbor Area Schools	6,700
Niles Community Schools	6,700
Port Huron Area School District	6,700
Traverse City Area Public Schools	6,700
AVERAGE	\$7,229

Data Source: MDE State Aid Database, (6/2004)

Middle Cities Education Association Ranked by 2003-2004 TV/PP

<i>DISTRICT</i>	<i>2003-2004 TV/PP</i>
Pontiac School District	\$308,196
Southfield Public Schools	307,721
Traverse City Area Public Schools	269,618
Monroe Public Schools	225,477
Romulus Community Schools	219,994
Waterford School District	209,055
Kalamazoo Public Schools	194,984
Ypsilanti School District	169,057
Buena Vista School District	165,807
Jackson Public Schools	164,440
Mt. Pleasant Public Schools	161,473
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	160,942
Ferndale Public Schools	158,377
Bay City Public Schools	151,539
Mt. Clemens Community Schools	147,131
Grand Rapids Public Schools	145,360
Port Huron Area School District	136,170
Lansing School District	133,903
Willow Run Community Schools	119,998
Garden City Public Schools	115,834
Niles Community Schools	113,955
Westwood Community Schools	112,358
Benton Harbor Area Schools	110,413
Albion Public Schools	100,103
Muskegon Public Schools	85,594
Inkster School District	83,941
Battle Creek School District	78,541
Hazel Park Community Schools	78,121
Saginaw City School District	72,376
Flint Community Schools	71,197
Muskegon Heights Public Schools	46,202
Beecher Community Schools	40,251
Highland Park School District	37,434
AVERAGE	\$142,290

Data Source: MDE State Aid Database, (6/2004)

**Middle Cities Education Association
Select Comparative Financial Data—Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003
REVENUE**

District	Local Revenue Amt Per Pupil	Ranking With Other Districts*	State Revenue Amt Per Pupil	Rank	Federal Revenue Amt Per Pupil	Rank	All Revenue Amt Per Pupil	Rank
Albion	\$758	368	\$6,339	363	\$959	84	\$8,421	196
Battle Creek	\$856	326	\$6,393	341	\$893	93	\$9,187	108
Bay City	\$997	287	\$5,986	514	\$442	271	\$7,955	296
Beecher	\$502	488	\$7,470	38	\$2,641	13	\$10,704	34
Benton Harbor	\$1,150	255	\$6,962	152	\$1,326	45	\$9,526	81
Buena Vista	\$2,926	72	\$7,097	115	\$1,352	43	\$11,626	27
Ferndale	\$801	348	\$5,837	554	\$695	148	\$7,655	419
Flint	\$985	291	\$7,354	62	\$1,455	34	\$10,121	56
Garden City	\$473	502	\$6,430	326	\$111	641	\$8,063	260
Grand Rapids	\$1,020	285	\$6,388	343	\$713	137	\$8,773	148
Hazel Park	\$780	356	\$6,722	210	\$685	151	\$9,744	72
Highland Park	\$563	458	\$6,463	312	\$808	114	\$8,123	242
Inkster	\$647	424	\$8,181	9	\$2,147	19	\$11,006	30
Jackson	\$1,204	238	\$6,573	258	\$758	124	\$9,441	85
Kalamazoo	\$1,846	135	\$6,132	463	\$882	97	\$9,576	78
Lansing	\$1,318	213	\$6,955	154	\$1,304	46	\$10,370	50
Monroe	\$2,218	107	\$4,929	659	\$322	357	\$7,977	289
Mount Clemens	\$1,803	141	\$7,238	79	\$671	156	\$10,018	59
Mount Pleasant	\$1,567	166	\$5,469	616	\$687	150	\$8,585	169
Muskegon	\$1,022	284	\$7,083	119	\$1,111	69	\$10,585	37
Muskegon Heights	\$862	323	\$7,747	19	\$1,183	59	\$10,429	46
Niles	\$706	398	\$6,354	354	\$401	298	\$8,012	278
Pontiac	\$3,855	51	\$3,712	699	\$1,267	48	\$9,629	77
Port Huron	\$971	297	\$6,150	459	\$408	290	\$8,021	274
Romulus	\$2,978	70	\$5,635	592	\$450	262	\$9,315	93
Saginaw	\$738	383	\$7,141	104	\$1,104	71	\$9,329	91
Southfield	\$6,302	18	\$4,771	672	\$291	394	\$12,055	23
Traverse City	\$2,159	108	\$4,863	666	\$176	545	\$7,352	576
Waterford	\$1,084	267	\$6,283	388	\$232	459	\$7,990	283
Wayne-Westland	\$1,382	204	\$6,294	381	\$348	337	\$8,605	166
Westwood	\$1,117	261	\$7,262	75	\$506	224	\$9,262	99
Willow Run	\$1,277	218	\$7,199	94	\$1,164	62	\$10,669	35
Ypsilanti	\$1,549	169	\$6,508	296	\$628	174	\$9,976	61

* Statewide rankings include charter schools and LEAs for a total of 735.

**Middle Cities Education Association
Select Comparative Financial Data—Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003
EXPENDITURES**

District	Basic Instr'l Per Pupil	Rank	Added Needs Instr'l Per Pupil	Rank	Adult Ed Instr'l Per Pupil	Rank	Total Instr'l Per Pupil	Rank
Albion	\$3,526	414	\$1,142	164	\$3,781	101	\$4,771	256
Battle Creek	\$3,833	219	\$1,606	41	\$2,209	153	\$5,500	74
Bay City	\$3,757	252	\$968	274	\$1,077	182	\$4,739	267
Beecher	\$3,902	188	\$1,376	76	\$5,242	78	\$5,438	81
Benton Harbor	\$2,772	668	\$2,333	7	\$0	0	\$5,105	140
Buena Vista	\$3,383	514	\$2,856	4	\$0	0	\$6,347	29
Ferndale	\$2,405	714	\$690	497	\$1,878	162	\$3,657	632
Flint	\$3,807	229	\$1,378	75	\$5,336	77	\$5,333	96
Garden City	\$3,479	448	\$947	292	\$3,005	124	\$4,583	352
Grand Rapids	\$3,061	610	\$1,602	42	\$2,080	156	\$4,803	239
Hazel Park	\$3,496	434	\$1,639	37	\$4,442	84	\$5,663	56
Highland Park	\$2,843	656	\$963	279	\$1,288	178	\$4,058	571
Inkster	\$2,910	642	\$2,728	5	\$0	0	\$5,646	58
Jackson	\$4,096	124	\$1,392	69	\$1,806	163	\$5,501	73
Kalamazoo	\$4,616	64	\$1,163	157	\$2,557	140	\$5,814	47
Lansing	\$4,002	155	\$1,723	32	\$3,493	112	\$5,821	46
Monroe	\$3,604	351	\$855	380	\$0	0	\$4,460	413
Mount Clemens	\$4,917	41	\$1,282	104	\$0	0	\$6,199	32
Mount Pleasant	\$3,163	597	\$1,376	76	\$1,497	172	\$4,665	308
Muskegon	\$3,022	618	\$2,120	11	\$4,123	94	\$5,345	94
Muskegon Heights	\$3,754	253	\$1,620	38	\$3,353	115	\$5,524	70
Niles	\$3,067	609	\$1,750	31	\$7,156	57	\$4,890	209
Pontiac	\$3,224	574	\$2,045	15	\$11,049	35	\$5,477	77
Port Huron	\$3,296	553	\$1,508	52	\$3,339	117	\$4,869	215
Romulus	\$3,743	258	\$1,055	211	\$19,622	18	\$5,143	130
Saginaw	\$3,414	488	\$1,933	21	\$4,419	85	\$5,386	88
Southfield	\$5,419	28	\$1,390	70	\$0	0	\$6,809	25
Traverse City	\$3,526	414	\$729	470	\$0	0	\$4,254	507
Waterford	\$3,303	551	\$1,098	189	\$8,207	49	\$4,515	386
Wayne-Westland	\$3,548	398	\$1,037	219	\$4,372	86	\$4,666	307
Westwood	\$3,969	164	\$1,310	94	\$2,437	143	\$5,406	85
Willow Run	\$3,785	238	\$1,593	43	\$6,585	63	\$5,584	62
Ypsilanti	\$3,185	591	\$1,952	20	\$2,037	158	\$5,230	111

Data Source: MDE Bulletin 1014, (5/2004)

**Middle Cities Education Association
Select Comparative Financial Data—Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003
EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED)**

<i>District</i>	<i>Instructional Support Per Pupil</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Administration Per Pupil</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Operations & Maintenance Per Pupil</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Total Support Per Pupil</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Albion	\$811	157	\$955	423	\$831	293	\$2,944	294
Battle Creek	\$1,172	43	\$968	405	\$999	175	\$3,417	185
Bay City	\$455	431	\$981	388	\$702	471	\$2,535	471
Beecher	\$1,612	13	\$1,215	247	\$1,741	42	\$4,847	34
Benton Harbor	\$1,177	42	\$1,225	243	\$1,044	166	\$3,914	117
Buena Vista	\$1,206	38	\$1,890	121	\$1,135	131	\$4,572	50
Femdale	\$1,208	37	\$1,023	349	\$1,095	143	\$3,594	155
Flint	\$1,130	54	\$1,033	340	\$1,297	96	\$3,888	123
Garden City	\$888	122	\$906	490	\$890	233	\$2,989	280
Grand Rapids	\$1,055	74	\$1,034	338	\$830	300	\$3,348	203
Hazel Park	\$1,170	45	\$1,003	369	\$1,099	141	\$3,454	181
Highland Park	\$915	110	\$1,142	282	\$1,250	104	\$3,457	178
Inkster	\$1,228	32	\$1,710	148	\$1,365	84	\$4,912	31
Jackson	\$1,111	57	\$1,163	271	\$790	342	\$3,489	174
Kalamazoo	\$1,190	41	\$1,018	354	\$892	230	\$3,498	173
Lansing	\$1,611	14	\$1,142	282	\$1,049	163	\$4,268	75
Monroe	\$746	194	\$907	487	\$820	314	\$2,862	319
Mount Clemens	\$1,083	62	\$943	435	\$805	332	\$3,110	257
Mount Pleasant	\$1,367	26	\$743	665	\$910	220	\$3,340	205
Muskegon	\$1,888	7	\$970	402	\$1,047	164	\$4,231	80
Muskegon Heights	\$1,214	35	\$1,299	218	\$1,163	126	\$4,083	97
Niles	\$835	145	\$737	669	\$713	446	\$2,650	408
Pontiac	\$1,067	68	\$1,350	212	\$1,076	149	\$3,853	127
Port Huron	\$817	154	\$706	692	\$711	450	\$2,477	506
Romulus	\$1,109	58	\$1,235	239	\$1,386	81	\$4,378	64
Saginaw	\$1,214	35	\$1,194	258	\$927	212	\$3,564	164
Southfield	\$1,345	27	\$1,454	191	\$1,239	106	\$4,630	46
Traverse City	\$668	233	\$798	610	\$710	452	\$2,655	407
Waterford	\$890	118	\$1,094	304	\$939	199	\$3,171	238
Wayne-Westland	\$1,023	82	\$839	560	\$1,051	162	\$3,281	214
Westwood	\$908	115	\$1,421	202	\$1,043	167	\$3,573	161
Willow Run	\$2,056	5	\$1,255	234	\$1,001	174	\$4,758	37
Ypsilanti	\$1,519	18	\$1,002	370	\$1,124	135	\$4,124	93

Data Source: MDE Bulletin 1014, (5/2004)

Middle Cities Education Association
Select Comparative Financial Data—Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2003
MISCELLANEOUS

District	Avg K-12 Teacher Salaries	Rank	Total State Aid Membership	Rank	Pupil/Teacher Ratio	Total # of K-12 Basic Ed Teachers
Albion	\$49,612	234	1,890	257	22	80.00
Battle Creek	\$45,396	384	8,011	34	18	447.02
Bay City	\$54,128	104	9,980	27	21	441.30
Beecher	\$47,781	297	2,173	218	20	99.80
Benton Harbor	\$35,266	538	5,146	75	21	na
Buena Vista	\$50,235	208	1,307	338	19	56.00
Ferndale	\$54,845	89	5,542	62	21	228.42
Flint	\$51,173	173	21,593	4	20	962.50
Garden City	\$61,514	20	5,501	64	21	219.70
Grand Rapids	\$50,354	204	25,882	3	21	1120.67
Hazel Park	\$61,964	18	5,429	67	21	213.87
Highland Park	\$24,547	582	4,579	88	9	86.00
Inkster	\$29,080	574	1,396	324	16	70.00
Jackson	\$55,685	72	7,212	41	20	128.00
Kalamazoo	\$48,755	259	11,173	22	16	661.54
Lansing	\$52,730	125	17,808	7	19	303.50
Monroe	\$49,744	231	7,119	43	21	320.06
Mount Clemens	\$50,951	184	3,156	148	16	152.10
Mount Pleasant	\$54,172	102	4,348	91	22	176.78
Muskegon	\$47,648	303	6,655	47	22	260.30
Muskegon Heights	\$43,362	433	2,412	198	16	111.00
Niles	\$48,660	262	4,068	103	22	179.00
Pontiac	\$39,448	498	11,529	21	21	618.15
Port Huron	\$50,589	197	12,202	17	21	610.57
Romulus	\$51,872	144	4,281	94	21	190.40
Saginaw	\$48,116	287	12,141	18	20	592.71
Southfield	\$68,658	4	10,299	26	19	531.50
Traverse City	\$49,167	249	11,010	23	20	513.33
Waterford	\$38,700	509	11,950	19	17	435.55
Wayne-Westland	\$52,615	127	14,607	12	22	610.78
Westwood	\$51,164	174	2,169	222	18	108.30
Willow Run	\$51,471	160	2,908	161	21	120.50
Ypsilanti	\$47,714	300	4,872	82	22	208.20

Data Sources: MDE Bulletin 1014, (5/2004); Registry of Educational Personnel, CEPI (12/2003)

**Middle Cities Education Associations
2003-2004 Title I Allocations**

District	Oct. 2002 Free Lunch Eligibles	Census Eligibles	Enrollment	Poverty Percentage	Basic Grant Allocation	Concentration Grant Allocation	Total Allocation
Albion	894	543	1,839	23.215	\$589,183	\$144,417	\$911,129
Battle Creek	4,144	1,988	7,798	21.863	\$2,389,850	\$589,378	\$3,650,504
Bay City	2,743	2,013	9,846	15.302	\$1,806,973	\$381,806	\$2,770,806
Beecher	1,721	1,264	2,106	42.303	\$1,502,934	\$295,848	\$2,461,211
Benton Harbor	3,906	3,103	5,145	40.834	\$2,854,127	\$629,196	\$4,900,848
Buena Vista	979	587	1,307	30.01	\$665,209	\$132,351	\$1,020,383
Ferndale	925	574	3,884	13.474	\$543,789	\$151,864	\$822,228
Flint	13,256	9,477	20,994	35.155	\$9,314,335	\$2,062,628	\$15,693,943
Garden City	650	220	5,214	3.825	\$195,128	\$0	\$196,569
Grand Rapids	14,643	7,053	24,136	19.734	\$6,586,379	\$1,370,151	\$10,824,905
Hazel Park	1,793	743	4,783	15.732	\$897,908	\$261,640	\$1,328,955
Highland Park	2,600	1,416	3,682	39.498	\$1,570,612	\$361,200	\$2,620,775
Inkster	1,126	985	1,396	33.098	\$1,090,811	\$257,714	\$1,762,140
Jackson	3,954	2,237	7,160	20.823	\$2,074,974	\$431,842	\$3,173,855
Kalamazoo	5,668	3,563	11,020	24.324	\$3,307,447	\$689,219	\$5,285,915
Lansing	8,703	5,293	17,329	23.189	\$5,176,598	\$1,072,706	\$8,311,386
Monroe	1,639	1,085	7,119	12.119	\$1,005,916	\$208,304	\$1,495,630
Mt. Clemens	1,568	402	3,156	20.16	\$478,767	\$183,008	\$762,833
Mt. Pleasant	793	593	3,984	12.448	\$523,310	\$109,111	\$765,327
Muskegon	4,197	2,088	6,327	26.619	\$2,161,777	\$454,222	\$3,354,196
Muskegon Heights	1,800	1,282	2,304	42.521	\$1,163,666	\$239,025	\$2,078,029
Niles	1,296	520	4,027	11.349	\$476,085	\$0	\$590,752
Pontiac	7,268	4,632	11,312	29.2	\$4,506,819	\$1,202,089	\$7,541,213
Port Huron	3,546	1,936	11,965	14.947	\$1,700,578	\$496,689	\$2,758,789
Romulus	1,607	721	4,206	15.002	\$716,621	\$158,173	\$1,040,274
Saginaw	7,814	4,876	12,029	34.091	\$5,048,536	\$1,004,464	\$8,126,780
Southfield	2,503	1,197	10,299	9.849	\$963,347	\$0	\$1,282,993
Traverse City	1,929	919	11,011	6.73	\$939,018	\$0	\$1,167,266
Waterford	1,559	872	11,784	6.901	\$734,456	\$0	\$945,096
Wayne-Westland	3,727	1,349	14,335	8.208	\$1,342,754	\$0	\$1,710,623
Westwood	1,231	473	2,056	15.093	\$549,950	\$120,469	\$774,724
Willow Run	1,367	810	2,818	21.833	\$804,346	\$166,563	\$1,181,055
Ypsilanti	2,086	1,311	4,649	23.562	\$1,078,850	\$247,556	\$1,743,858

Data Source: MDE 2003-2004 Title I Allocation Report

**Middle Cities Education Association
2003-2004 Free and Reduced Lunch Participation**

District	Enrollment	Free Lunch Applications	Percent Free Lunch	Reduced Applications	Percent Reduced Lunch	Total Free/Reduced Applications	Free/Reduced Percentage of Enrollment
Albion	1,915	1,082	56.50	149	7.78	1,231	64.28
Battle Creek	8,023	4,151	51.74	465	5.80	4,616	57.53
Bay City	9,867	2,903	29.42	710	7.20	3,613	36.62
Beecher	2,539	1,771	69.75	146	5.75	1,917	75.50
Benton Harbor	5,096	4,109	80.63	313	6.14	4,422	86.77
Buena Vista	1,272	1,024	80.50	49	3.85	1,073	84.36
Ferndale	3,258	1,093	33.55	340	10.44	1,433	43.98
Flint	20,924	13,908	66.47	646	3.09	14,554	69.56
Garden City	5,128	668	13.03	273	5.32	941	18.35
Grand Rapids	23,521	15,650	66.54	1,897	8.07	17,547	74.60
Hazel Park	4,646	1,828	39.35	548	11.80	2,376	51.14
Highland Park	2,634	2,012	76.39	103	3.91	2,115	80.30
Inkster	1,339	1,141	85.21	44	3.29	1,185	88.50
Jackson	7,330	3,993	54.47	564	7.69	4,557	62.17
Kalamazoo	11,221	5,796	51.65	899	8.01	6,695	59.66
Lansing	17,479	9,120	52.18	1,597	9.14	10,717	61.31
Monroe	7,257	1,936	26.68	394	5.43	2,330	32.11
Mount Clemens	3,157	1,733	54.89	317	10.04	2,050	64.94
Mount Pleasant	3,890	818	21.03	252	6.48	1,070	27.51
Muskegon	6,409	4,259	66.45	570	8.89	4,829	75.35
Muskegon Heights	2,545	2,008	78.90	122	4.79	2,130	83.69
Niles	3,940	1,312	33.30	377	9.57	1,689	42.87
Pontiac	11,569	6,617	57.20	665	5.75	7,282	62.94
Port Huron	11,778	3,749	31.83	978	8.30	4,727	40.13
Romulus	4,294	1,681	39.15	332	7.73	2,013	46.88
Saginaw	12,536	8,394	66.96	695	5.54	9,089	72.50
Southfield	10,264	2,613	25.46	937	9.13	3,550	34.59
Traverse City	11,503	2,022	17.58	1,003	8.72	3,025	26.30
Waterford	11,988	1,972	16.45	714	5.96	2,686	22.41
Wayne-Westland	13,866	3,769	27.18	1,233	8.89	5,002	36.07
Westwood	3,000	1,882	62.73	390	13.00	2,272	75.73
Willow Run	2,859	1,567	54.81	276	9.65	1,843	64.46
Ypsilanti	5,003	2,247	44.91	406	8.12	2,653	53.03

Data Source: MDE School Breakfast and Lunch Report, (10/2003)

Middle Cities Education Association 2003-2004 Teacher Salary Survey

District	BA Min	BA Max	Steps	MA Min	MA Max	Steps	Max Salary	% Increase	Work Days	Instruction Days
Albion	Not Available									
Battle Creek	Not Available									
Bay City	\$32,309	\$56,087	13	\$36,127	\$62,287	13	\$63,950	2.75	185	180
Beecher	Not Available									
Benton Harbor	Not Available									
Buena Vista	\$37,488	\$62,228	24	\$39,676	\$67,676	24	\$67,676	-0.55	190	185
Ferndale	Not Available									
Flint	\$32,617	\$55,588		\$35,937	\$61,246		\$67,780	3.48	200	180
Garden City	Not Available									
Grand Rapids	Not Available									
Hazel Park	\$32,698	\$62,702	10	\$35,971	\$73,211	10	\$78,363	2.50	186	183
Highland Park	Not Available									
Inkster	Not Available									
Jackson	Not Available									
Kalamazoo	Not Available									
Lansing	\$33,278	\$56,629	22	\$35,940	\$67,308	22	\$70,060	0.76	185	180
Monroe	\$34,357	\$52,452	11	\$38,310	\$65,573	17	\$69,036	-	183	180
Mount Clemens	Not Available									
Mount Pleasant	Not Available									
Muskegon	Not Available									
Muskegon Heights	Not Available									
Niles	Not Available									
Pontiac	Not Available									
Port Huron	\$31,771	\$58,252	11	\$34,645	\$63,441	11	\$71,762	3.00	188	183
Romulus	\$39,322	\$66,303	9	\$43,825	\$77,870	9	\$83,542	3.00	191	185
Saginaw	\$33,689	\$56,070	11	\$35,634	\$63,237	11			188	183
Southfield	Not Available									
Traverse City	\$29,982	\$53,217	16	\$32,099	\$59,908	16	\$62,300	1.00	186	182
Waterford	\$35,065	\$61,503	10	\$38,730	\$70,980	11	\$73,854	2.00	190	181
Wayne-Westland	Not Available									
Westwood	Not Available									
Willow Run	Not Available									
Ypsilanti	\$32,229	\$51,297	10	\$39,091	\$63,966	10	\$66,101	-	186	180
AVERAGE	\$20,240	\$34,616	8	\$22,299	\$39,835	8	\$38,721	0.94	113	109

Data Source: 2003-04 MASB Teacher Contract Settlement Report

**Middle Cities Education Association
2003-2004 Teacher Salary Survey (Continued)**

District	Longevity Min		Longevity Max		Health Plan	Dental Plan	Vision Plan	LTD %	Life Amount		Sick Days		Contract Status
	Year	Amt	Year	Amt					Pd/Yr	Max			
Albion	Not Available												
Battle Creek	Not Available												
Bay City	17	\$1,615	27	\$2,881	SCI	80/80/80	Y	60%	\$0	14	Unlimited		3/4
Beecher	Not Available												
Benton Harbor	Not Available												
Buena Vista	14	\$0	28	\$0		80/80/70	Y	66%	\$0	10	75		3/5
Ferndale	Not Available												
Flint	16	\$350	20	\$500	SMI	80/80/80	Y	67%	\$5,000,000	10	Unlimited		2/3
Garden City	Not Available												
Grand Rapids	Not Available												
Hazel Park	16	\$2,000	26	\$2,700	SCI/CHOIC	80/80/80	Y	66%	\$0	12	Unlimited		3/3
Highland Park	Not Available												
Inkster	Not Available												
Jackson	Not Available												
Kalamazoo	Not Available												
Lansing	0	\$0	0	\$0	Health PAK	80/80/80	Y	66%	\$0	10	Unlimited		1/3
Monroe	0	\$0	0	\$0	SCI	70/70/70	Y	0%	\$0	12	0		1/1
Mount Clemens	Not Available												
Mount Pleasant	Not Available												
Muskegon	Not Available												
Muskegon Heights	Not Available												
Niles	Not Available												
Pontiac	Not Available												
Port Huron	0	\$0	0	\$0	SMI	80/80/80	Y	50%	\$5,000,000	0	205		1/1
Romulus	0	\$0	0	\$0	MVF2		Y	60%	\$0	12	Unlimited		4/4
Saginaw	0	\$0	0	\$0	SCI	100/90/90	Y	66%	\$5,000,000	10	135		1/4
Southfield	Not Available												
Traverse City	15	\$0	20	\$0	SCI	90/70/70	Y	0%	\$0	10	125		3/3
Waterford	0	\$0	0	\$0	SCI	100/50/70	Y	60%	\$6,000,000	130	0		1/1
Wayne-Westland	Not Available												
Westwood	Not Available												
Willow Run	Not Available												
Ypsilanti	0	\$0	0	\$0	BC/BS	75/50/50	Y	0%	\$0	18	241		2/2

Middle Cities Education Association 2002-2003 Student Racial/Ethnic Report

District	Native American		Asian		African American		Hispanic		Caucasian		Multi Racial		Total		Minority	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Albion	2	0.11	10	0.57	910	52.06	61	3.49	765	43.76	0	0.00	1,748	56.23		
Battle Creek	129	1.67	47	0.61	2,779	36.08	495	6.43	4,252	55.21	0	0.00	7,702	44.79		
Bay City	124	1.26	82	0.83	499	5.07	606	6.15	8,523	86.52	17	0.17	9,851	13.48		
Beecher	2	0.1	0	0.00	1,816	86.85	43	2.06	228	10.90	2	0.10	2,091	89.11		
Benton Harbor	2	0.04	0	0	4,614	94.2	100	2.04	176	3.59	6	0.12	4,898	96.40		
Buena Vista	0	0.00	6	0.47	1,190	93.55	33	2.59	43	3.38	0	0.00	1,272	96.61		
Ferndale	42	1.07	58	1.47	2,096	53.28	36	0.92	1,702	43.26	0	0.00	3,934	56.74		
Flint	85	0.42	55	0.27	15,614	77.99	525	2.62	3,741	18.69	0	0.00	20,020	81.30		
Garden City	18	0.38	20	0.42	125	2.62	52	1.09	4,548	95.49	0	0.00	4,763	4.51		
Grand Rapids	309	1.38	303	1.35	10,054	44.89	5,690	25.41	6,039	26.97	0	0.00	22,395	73.03		
Hazel Park	141	2.94	76	1.58	534	11.13	76	1.58	3,971	82.76	0	0.00	4,798	17.23		
Highland Park	8	0.23	4	0.12	3,393	99.3	0	0	12	0.35	0	0.00	3,417	99.65		
Inkster	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,234	98.64	2	0.16	15	1.20	0	0.00	1,251	98.80		
Jackson	90	1.27	87	1.23	2,640	37.35	273	3.86	3,979	56.29	0	0.00	7,069	43.71		
Kalamazoo	146	1.36	194	1.81	5,020	46.74	866	8.06	4,515	42.04	0	0.00	10,741	57.97		
Lansing	204	1.22	818	4.88	6,969	41.56	2,545	15.18	6,234	37.17	0	0.00	16,770	62.84		
Monroe	3	0.04	71	0.99	602	8.36	248	3.45	6,274	87.16	0	0.00	7,198	12.84		
Mount Clemens	16	0.52	34	1.11	1,451	47.56	74	2.43	1,459	47.82	17	0.56	3,051	52.18		
Mount Pleasant	288	7.32	102	2.59	117	2.98	80	2.03	3,315	84.31	30	0.76	3,932	15.68		
Muskegon	97	1.4	111	1.6	3,098	44.69	673	9.71	2,953	42.60	0	0.00	6,932	57.40		
Muskegon	8	0.35	40	1.77	2,116	93.55	49	2.17	49	2.17	0	0.00	2,262	97.84		
Niles	18	0.45	20	0.5	616	15.3	157	3.9	3,207	79.68	7	0.17	4,025	20.32		
Pontiac	52	0.49	513	4.82	6,728	63.26	1,728	16.25	1,615	15.18	0	0.00	10,636	84.82		
Port Huron	245	2.08	92	0.78	1,096	9.31	291	2.47	10,050	85.36	0	0.00	11,774	14.64		
Romulus	24	0.56	9	0.21	2,254	52.65	67	1.57	1,927	45.01	0	0.00	4,281	54.99		
Saginaw	26	0.22	116	0.99	7,379	62.83	1,524	12.98	2,699	22.98	0	0.00	11,744	77.02		
Southfield	15	0.15	118	1.16	9,122	89.34	38	0.37	749	7.34	169	1.66	10,211	92.68		
Traverse City	180	1.67	115	1.07	63	0.58	266	2.47	10,166	94.22	0	0.00	10,790	5.79		
Waterford	34	0.29	257	2.2	509	4.37	633	5.43	10,224	87.71	0	0.00	11,657	12.29		
Wayne-	143	1.02	220	1.57	2,644	18.9	349	2.5	10,630	76.00	0	0.00	13,986	23.99		
Westwood	8	0.34	16	0.68	1,728	73.56	34	1.45	563	23.97	0	0.00	2,349	76.03		
Willow Run	10	0.36	113	4.10	1,506	54.68	34	1.23	1,091	39.62	0	0.00	2,754	60.37		
Ypsilanti	7	0.15	65	1.37	2,804	59.23	142	3.00	1,716	36.25	0	0.00	4,734	63.75		
TOTALS	2,476	1.01%	3,772	1.54	103,320	42.17%	17,790	7.26%	117,430	47.92%	248	0.10%	245,036	52.08%		



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