



MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2603 Leahy Street • Muskegon Heights, Michigan 49444 • Phone 231-830-3207 • Fax 231-830-3564

January 9, 2012

ROSIE HOLMES
Director of Curriculum

Dear MHAACE Parents:

Your child is a student in Muskegon Heights Adult/Alternative Community Education Program (MHAACE). You know that your child is important to us and that we want to provide every opportunity for success.

Each school in Michigan is required to test students every year using the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test/Michigan Merit Exam (MME). The results of these tests, as well as participation on the test or graduation rate are used to determine whether our school is making adequate yearly progress (AYP).

This year, MHAACE is identified for improvement because 0% of all students in grade 11 were proficient in English language arts and 0% of all students were proficient in mathematics. The number of students tested was less than 10 in each subject area. This is the second consecutive year that MHAACE did not Make AYP. A comparison of our test scores to other high schools in the district and the state average can be found on the next page.

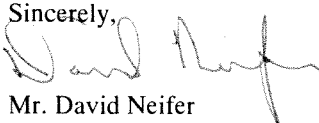
To address the academic needs, the Muskegon Heights Adult/Alternative Community Education Program is implementing a number of strategies related to the improvement of achievement and the involvement of parents. A schedule of professional development sessions addressing specific purposes and goals has been established. John Collins Writing training will give students a framework for writing in all subjects and Fusion/Frame training will provide reading and writing strategies. We have established a parent engagement plan and a parent involvement plan, encompassing the six components of the Joyce Epstein Model. Listed within the plan are activities/strategies designed to provide assistance to parents on how to work with staff to improve the performance of their child and participate in decisions relating to their child's education. In collaboration with the Michigan Principals Fellowship, a leadership coach and instructional coaches are working with staff to provide perspective and resources to the program. Student risk factors have been identified and will be addressed. A home liaison is employed to assist and provide services to students and families in the areas of truancy.

A Choice Transfer Agreement letter was provided to each of the schools listed: Fruitport High School, Mona Shores High School, Montague High School, North Muskegon High School, Ravenna High School, Reeths-Puffer High School, and Whitehall High School.

The agreement between districts was to accept students from Muskegon Heights Adult/Alternative Community Education Program under the "Choice Transfer" provision that occurs when a school is In Need of Improvement-Phase 4. The district has been unable to secure agreements and no other Choice Options are available. Students will be able to return to the Muskegon Heights High School within the district.

To discuss this decision further, please contact my office at 231-830-3240.

Sincerely,



Mr. David Neifer
Title I Director