

MAISD



Muskegon Area  
Intermediate School District

## Annual Report *to Schools and Community 2010-11*



*Wesley School students have been captivated by "Paint Arranger" Dorv MacLaren's 40-foot ocean-themed mural.*

**Constituent School Districts:** Fruitport Community Schools, Holton Public Schools, Mona Shores Public Schools, Montague Area Public Schools, Muskegon Public Schools, Muskegon Heights Public Schools, North Muskegon Public Schools, Oakridge Public Schools, Orchard View Schools, Ravenna Public Schools, Reeths-Puffer Schools, Whitehall District Schools  
**& Public School Academies and Non-Public Schools of Muskegon County**



Greetings!

While I was not in the MAISD superintendent's chair during the 2010-11 school year, I feel as if I had a front row seat! As superintendent of a local district at the time, I participated in many of the initiatives and cooperative projects of the ISD. All local district superintendents were part of the MAISD strategic planning process that

involved input from ISD staff, school personnel, and leaders of businesses, colleges, health and human service agencies, and local government. The resulting plan outlines five priorities that will guide our work from 2011 to 2014 (see below right).

To move ahead, we must first look back to the 2010-11 school year. Of all of the programs and services offered, the students served by the MAISD are the real "stars" of the year. In fact, nine students from the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC) earned the highest awards at national career competitions. Five others earned "Young Entrepreneur" awards from the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce, while nearly 50 students from 13 schools constructed Muskegon County's first-ever, student-built LEED-Certified Home. This accomplishment received a statewide "Winners' Circle" award, as did Wesley School's L3 (Language, Literacy, and Learning) program which targets curriculum access for all students and improved learning through the use of technology and intensive teacher training. In the area of early childhood, Head Start of Muskegon Oceana earned high marks on the triennial federal compliance review, and successfully led a countywide effort to identify 30 key indicators of kindergarten readiness.

In an effort to reach our older students who struggle, the YOU TURN program for expelled students was upgraded to include an online credit recovery component, community service learning, and a stronger curriculum. The ISD also launched "W-A-Y" (Widening Advancements for Youth) a year-round, student-driven, educational program for teens who have been unsuccessful in the traditional school setting.

Strapped for funding, local schools relied more heavily on MAISD business and technology services. The MUNIS financial system consortium grew from 25 districts in 2010, to 41 districts in 2011. For the first time ever, the MAISD performed business office duties in the areas of accounts payable and payroll for four local school districts.

While I have covered a few of the ways the MAISD has made a difference this past year, there are many more. Please take a closer look at this report and celebrate with us!

Sincerely,

David L. Sipka, MAISD Superintendent



## 2010-11 Board Members

Donna J. Fiebelkorn, Ed.D., President  
Dwight Vines, Vice President  
William Loxterman, Secretary  
Jason Piasecki, Treasurer  
Carol Mills, Trustee

## MAISD Mission

The MAISD provides the **leadership, programs, and services** which complement and enhance the efforts of constituent school districts in extending educational opportunities to all students. The MAISD operates the Educational Services Center, Wesley School, Head Start® of Muskegon/Oceana, the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center, and the Regional Mathematics & Science Center.

## Strategic Plan Priorities

1. Positively impact student achievement for all students
2. Collaborate on shared services to increase value and efficiencies
3. Provide facilities and programs that meet student needs
4. Inform public perception of education
5. Increase community outreach

# Special Education Services

## Special Education Services

During the last school year, **4,832** students with special needs benefited from MAISD special education services.

## Special Education Professional Development

The MAISD Special Education staff offered the following **15** professional development programs to school staff:

- *Advanced Reading & Writing Supports*
- *Behavior Team Training*
- *Classroom Management*
- *Co-Teaching Summer Institute*
- *Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) Training*
- *L3—Language, Literacy, Learning*
- *Literature Circle Book Study and Classroom Pilot*
- *Math Concepts Using Read Alouds for Middle School Mathematics*
- *Post-School Options for Transitioning Students*
- *Reading and Writing Supports for New Special Ed Teachers*
- *Reading Workshop*
- *School-Wide Information Systems Training (SWIS)*
- *Secondary Literacy Instruction and Curriculum Access for Teachers*
- *Tier 2 Literacy Interventions for Grades 6-12*
- *Words Their Way Book Study*

## Assistive Technology

The MAISD provided free assistive technology support, training, and loaned materials to school personnel to provide students with disabilities the tools and resources needed to access and succeed in the curriculum.



## Learning & Behavior Support

The MAISD supported **2** elementary schools and the North East Education Center as they began the first of **3** years of implementation of *Michigan's Integrated Learning and Behavior Support Initiative (MiBLSi) Model for Response to Intervention (RtI)*.

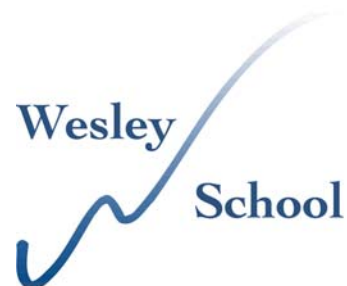
MAISD staff also supported **5** additional schools in sustaining transition efforts to an RtI model for instruction begun through MiBLSi in earlier cohorts. Grants from the Michigan Department of Education have funded MiBLSi in Muskegon County for the past **8** years. The funds pay for school-wide literacy and behavior tools and training. A total of **26** schools in Muskegon County are MiBLSi RtI schools.

## Early On®

*Early On* served **657** children and their families during the 2010-11 school year. These children are under age three, live in Muskegon County, and have experienced an established condition and/or developmental delay.

## Medicaid Reimbursement

The MAISD helped schools recapture dollars used to serve eligible special education students through a program with Medicaid.



During the 2010-11 school year, **205** students with severe physical and/or cognitive impairments attended Wesley School. Of those students, **90** (ages 17-26) benefited from one of **8** transition classroom experiences that included learning and practicing critical life skills.

## Wesley Staff Training

Wesley staff were trained in **21** topic areas, including:

- *Communication Matrix*
- *Co-Teaching in Classrooms for Severely Cognitively Impaired*
- *Moveable Buttons with Interactive Whiteboard*
- *PODD—Pragmatically Organized Dynamic Display*
- *Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS)*
- *Teaching Language, Literacy and Learning Throughout the School Day*
- *Sex Education*
- *Teaching with the Interactive Whiteboard*
- *Therapeutic Crisis Intervention*
- *Unique Learning System*
- *Universal Supports*

## Work Experience Program

The *Community Work Experience Program* offers older students an opportunity to gain valuable work skills training at a variety of staffed work sites. **69** students participated in community-based work training at **23** different sites.

# Career & Technical Education and Business & Technology Services



**762** students chose to participate in career and technical education courses by enrolling in one of **20** programs provided by the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC).

## Business Connections

The MACTC placed **41** students in unpaid internships and **185** students in day-on-the-job opportunities in local businesses and organizations. **15** students were paid to work through cooperative education agreements.

## Student Organizations

**227** students participated in *Career & Technical Student Organizations*. Of these students, **9** won top ten awards at national competitions. **4** of these students competed in the Business Professionals of America event; and **5** competed in the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America competitions.



*In May 2011, these Career Tech Center students earned top ten placements in the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.*

## Pupil Accounting

The MAISD helped public schools maximize their state aid revenues by offering official pupil accounting auditing services, training, and consultation regarding current laws, rules, and procedures. MAISD staff visited and performed on-site audits for **30** programs in **17** school buildings in 2010-11.

## Document Center

The MAISD Document Center serves a customer base of over **130** local school and non-profit organizations. During the 2010-11 school year, the Document Center produced **350** specialized print projects for constituent school districts. This year's impression counts exceeded **445,000** full color and **4,000,000** monochrome prints.

## Cooperative Purchasing

School districts in Muskegon County saved **\$1,335,885 (35%)** off educational list pricing on their purchases during the 2010 calendar year through Regional Educational Media Center 4's (REMC 4) cooperative purchasing program.

## MUNIS Financial System

The MAISD continues to provide support and training for districts in financial, payroll, and human resource software solutions. Currently, **5** Intermediate School Districts (Muskegon, Jackson, Kent, Ingham, and Ottawa) participate in the MUNIS financial system consortium, serving **41** school districts throughout the state. An advisory board was created in 2010-11 to provide recommendations for future product modules and enhancements.

## Data Warehouse

The MAISD provides support and training for educators as they use a countywide data warehouse to track student achievement and improve learning. The data warehouse contains over **200** reports in over **15** different data sets like MEAP, MME (Michigan Merit Exam), ACT and more. Districts have also begun to use the data warehouse to collect and track local assessment data.

## Technology Trainings

**19** different technology trainings were attended by school staff and included multiple courses on *MOODLE* (a free learning management system that helps educators create online courses), *Excel*, and *Google Docs and Forms*.

## Instructional Management

MAISD Technology Services managed **30,912** student records, generated report cards, and provided training and support to school staff. In addition, the MAISD hosts **16,071** employee records and assists districts in generating pay checks/direct deposit slips for those employees. An annual MAISD contribution kept REMC services and technology services costs lower than that of any other ISD offering the same breadth of services.

## Guest Teacher Registry

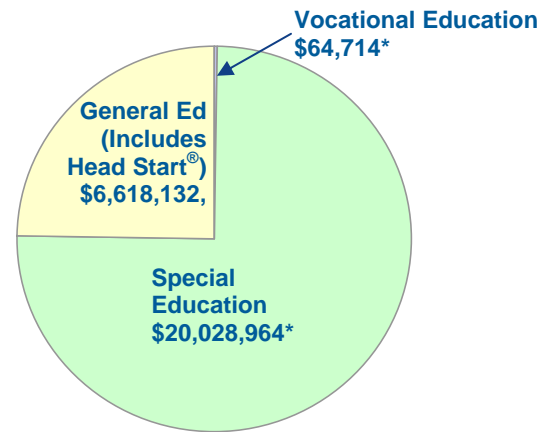
**1,743** teachers registered through the countywide online guest teacher registry.

## Road Tests

The MAISD administered **1,431** auto tests and **271** Commercial Driver's License tests.

# Total Dollars Distributed to Schools

For the 2010-11 school year, nearly half of the MAISD's actual expenditures were in fact monies that were dispersed to schools. As of June 30, 2011, the MAISD distributed **\$26,711,810\*** from local, state, and federal funds under the following headings: General Education (includes Head Start), Special Education, and Vocational Education.



## Special Education

In 2010-11 local school boards contracted with the MAISD for special education transportation.

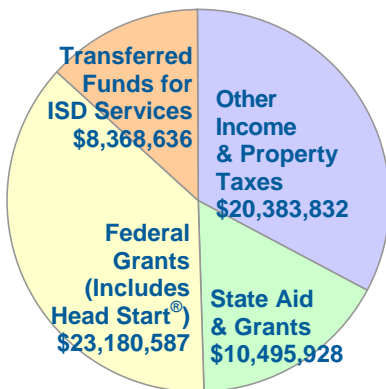
The MAISD generated an additional **\$1.4 million\*** in revenue for local districts due to a higher state reimbursement rate.

In 2010-11, local schools in Muskegon County paid **\$37.1 million\*** for special education. Even with federal dollars and state aid, grants and other funding, schools had to cover a **\$14.9 million\*** shortfall with general education dollars.

*\*Unaudited Numbers*

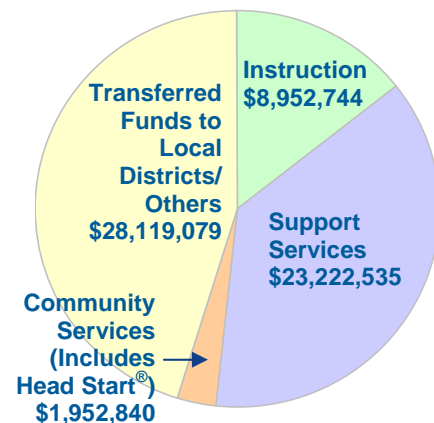
## 2010-11 Budgeted Revenues \$62,428,983

**Revenues** are generated through a variety of resources, including, but not limited to: federal and state grants, state aid, property taxes, registrations, fees for services, local foundations, and transfers from other entities, including local school districts. The MAISD generated **\$33,676,515**, more than half of its 2010-11 revenues, from federal grants, state aid, and state grants combined.



## 2010-11 Budgeted Expenditures \$62,247,198

**Expenditures** support continued operations in four basic areas: technology services, instructional services, special education, and business services. Support services to local districts are provided for centralized accounting, student records, education/training, consulting, and special education. Per state guidelines, expenditures are reported using the categories shown.



2010-11 detailed budget figures are available by calling 231-767-7207 or by e-mailing [mdemetri@muskegonisd.org](mailto:mdemetri@muskegonisd.org)

# Early Childhood Education and Instructional Services

## Early Childhood Conference

**310** early childhood educators attended the *2010 MAISD Early Childhood Conference*.

## Resources for Parents

The Great Parents/Great Start grant funded the following in 2010-11:

- **2,300** English and **60** Spanish newborn packets given away through local hospitals
- *Family Literacy Series* offered in **4** districts that was attended by more than **60** families
- Home Visiting Services through *Early On*<sup>®</sup> and Catholic Charities' *Healthy Families* program that provided intensive services to young families
- *Reach Out & Read*, an early literacy program at Muskegon Family Care
- Visits to *Early On*<sup>®</sup> families to bridge the service gap before preschool

## Head Start<sup>®</sup>

Public schools located in Muskegon and Oceana Counties served **1,114** students in Head Start<sup>®</sup> in 2010-11 and maintained a waiting list as high as **309** additional children during the school year. The MAISD serves as the federal grantee for the free preschool program for income-eligible students.

## Early Head Start<sup>®</sup>

The MAISD served **129** pregnant women and families with children under three-years-old in Muskegon and Oceana Counties. The families received either home-based care or utilized free center-based child care services.

## Professional Development Instructional Services

The MAISD offered professional development programs in **108** topic areas related to instruction during the 2010-11 school year. Here are highlights of selected instructional programs offered:

- **158** educators attended one of the *Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts* sessions
- **153** educators attended one of the *Common Core State Standards for Mathematics* sessions
- **108** teachers attended *Introduction to Response to Intervention (RtI) for Middle and High Schools*
- **98** teachers attended *Writing Across the Curriculum*
- **97** teachers attended the *Home Grown Summer Institute on Reading*
- **86** teachers attended *Reading Workshop for Grades K-2 and 3-12*
- **78** educators attended a session on *Discovery Education*
- **75** teachers attended *Reading Workshop*
- **63** teachers and administrators attended *21 Things for the 21st Century Educator*
- **60** teachers attended a grade-specific *Michigan Model for Health* workshop
- **58** educators attended *Bullies, Targets, & Bystanders: Bully-Proofing Your School*
- **55** educators attended a session on *Michigan Learns Online*
- **52** teachers attended the *Teaching American History Summer Institute*

- **48** teachers attended *Writing Units of Study for Grades K-2 and 3-6*
- **46** teachers attended *sessions on Updates to School Improvement/Advanc-Ed*
- **43** school staff attended *Medication Administration in Schools & Asthma 123*
- **41** educators attended *Creating Safe Schools for Sexual Minority Youth*
- **37** teachers attended *Writing Units in Light of the Common Core State Standards*
- **34** teachers attended the *Common Core State Standards—Literacy in History/Social Studies*
- **29** teachers attended *Embracing Mathematics Assessment & Training in High School*
- **27** teachers attended *Talking, Drawing, Writing*
- **26** teachers attended *Project CRISS (Creating Independence through Student-owned Strategies) Training*
- **25** teachers attended the *High School Science Priority Expectations* workshop
- **25** teachers attended the *Common Core State Standards: Literacy in Science* workshop
- **24** teachers attended the *Teaching American History Smithsonian Associates* workshop
- **23** educators attended *Art Avenues*
- **18** teachers attended the *HIV/AIDS Teacher Certification Training*
- **17** educators attended the *National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) High School Financial Planning* workshop

# Career Exploration and Student Programs

## Career Readiness for High School Juniors

**2,623** students and over **35** school staff from **25** area high schools in Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties attended the High School Career Fair at L.C. Walker Arena. **88** professionals represented **90** careers, as well as **122** post-secondary institutions and the military.

## Middle School Career Pathways Exploration Days

**1,833** students (8th Grade), **85** parents, **108** teachers and counselors, and **72** volunteer presenters attended the *Middle School Career Pathways Exploration Days* over the course of two days. The students were from **16** middle schools in Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana Counties.

## MACTC Summer Fun

**215** middle school students in Muskegon County took advantage of the four-day Summer Fun 2011 program offered by the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center. Students explored future career options during the half-day, hands-on classes.

## Career Exploration Software

Over **15,000** middle and high school students in Muskegon and Oceana Counties had access to the Career Cruising software provided by the MAISD. The software was used to initiate Educational Development Plans (EDPs) and explore career options for students in grades 7 through 12.

## Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative (GLSI)

**487** students and **16** teachers from Muskegon and Newaygo Counties participated in a place-based education project that addressed environmental issues in their communities.

## West Michigan Science Challenge

**58** students worked in teams or as individuals to develop science experiments that solved problems in the areas of mathematics, science, and engineering. Projects were judged by professionals from West Michigan.

## Amusement Park Physics

**948** middle school students applied their math skills and knowledge of physics principles to solve problems in the real-world setting of an amusement park.

## REAL Science

**2,850** students from high schools in Muskegon, Ottawa, and Newaygo Counties used real-world analytical instruments within their high school science labs during the 2010-11 school year. **47** teachers in **23** schools have received training and support through REsources for Authentic Learning (REAL) in Science.

## Maple Ridge School

**340** elementary-age students attended class at the historic one-room school. An on-site curator provides the expertise, supplies, materials and guidance to deliver lessons and activities that deepen understanding of numerous Grade Level Content Expectations for Grades 1-4.



*WINGS students enrolled in "Artsjam" created their own gallery.*

## WINGS—Widening Interests through New experiences for Gifted Students

**426** students attended week-long summer classes for advanced and accelerated students at Muskegon Community College.

## Musical Performances

**4,682** students, teachers, and parents attended *Fight for the Future*, an opera written for children.

## Expressions 2011—Student Art Exhibit

Over **310** students participated in the annual *Student Art Exhibit* at the Muskegon Museum of Art. The exhibit was co-sponsored by the MAISD and the Muskegon Museum of Art. **1,017** students, parents, and school staff attended one of three exhibit receptions.

## Shoah Remembrance School Outreach

**39** teens and **8** teachers from area high schools met face-to-face with Holocaust survivor and artist Miriam Winter at the MAISD. They gained a deeper understanding of the reality of the Holocaust and how it is portrayed in modern culture.

The MAISD provides a number of cost-saving services. Here are a few examples of **new services** added during the 2010-11 school year:

## Teacher Evaluation Requirements

The MAISD provided support and training to schools challenged with meeting new legal requirements involving teacher evaluations. MAISD staff helped develop a statewide toolkit to assist schools and the following training sessions were offered: *Best Practices in Teacher Evaluation*, *Tablet-Based Classroom Observations*, and *A Legal Perspective on Teacher Evaluation*.

## Customized Business Services

While the MAISD has long been a provider of financial, accounting, and payroll solutions, this year was the first for providing direct, customized business services for accounts payable and payroll operations for school customers. In 2010-11 the MAISD provided payroll services for Holton Public Schools and Mason County Central Schools, while providing accounts payable services to Fruitport Community Schools and Montague Area Public Schools.

## Direct College Credit for Career Tech Students

In 2010-11, **66** students from the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center applied for direct credit from Muskegon Community College for completion of one of **8** classes. Direct credit means the student receives college credit as well as an official college transcript.

## Parent Guides for High School Graduation

In an effort to increase awareness and understanding of the 2006 Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC), the MAISD printed and distributed **12,000** copies of *Michigan's High School Graduation Requirements Guide for Parents* to all local middle and high schools.

## W-A-Y

In June the MAISD launched W-A-Y Muskegon, a free program that provides students with an iMac computer work-station in their home, personal mentor, and student-driven, project-based method of learning. MAISD is the first in West Michigan to offer the program for teens who have been unsuccessful in the traditional school setting.

The MAISD is one of 57 intermediate school districts created by the legislature in 1962 to bring about quality and equitable educational opportunities to students and schools throughout the state. The MAISD served approximately **31,205** kindergarten through twelfth grade and adult students during 2010-11.

ISDs accomplish this mission in a number of ways; namely,

1. Creating and promoting economies of scale through such programs as cooperative purchasing and special education services;
2. Sharing current and credible research, best practices, and innovation through initiatives like the fiber project, professional development, VOIP phone system, and server virtualization;
3. Providing oversight and liaison roles through such programs as Head Start of Muskegon/Oceana and the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC).

The MAISD is guided by a local board of education elected by board members from its constituent districts. The MAISD enjoys strong working partnerships with constituent public school districts, public school academies and non-public schools. Together we maximize resources, share best practices, solve problems, and save time and money.

The MAISD facilitates the cooperative work of superintendents, business directors, human resource managers, accounting/payroll staff, special education directors, principals, teachers, curriculum directors, technology directors, media specialists, Title I staff, early childhood staff, nurses, transportation, and maintenance/operations directors from throughout the county for professional development, networking, and problem solving.



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