



Elementary Campus  
5277 Calhoun St.  
Dearborn, MI 48126

Middle & High School Campus  
19625 Wood St.  
Melvindale, MI 48122

August 17, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-11 educational progress for the Academy for Business & Technology charter school district, comprised of the Academy for Business & Technology elementary campus (ABTE) in Dearborn and the Academy for Business & Technology middle/high school campus (ABTH) in Melvindale.

The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws; however, our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact the school leader at either campus for help if you need assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web sites:

[www.abtmelvindale.com](http://www.abtmelvindale.com) and [www.abtelementary.com](http://www.abtelementary.com)

You may also review a copy in the school leader's office at each school campus.

Excellence in academics and achievement continues to be the story at the Academy for Business & Technology. The schools' caring, effective and highly-qualified staffs know that when instruction is rigorous and relevant, every child can succeed. Students at the Academy for Business & Technology thrive in the schools' culturally diverse and caring environments. Students are exposed to a world of ideas, cultures and opportunities that prepare them for a lifetime of achievement.

The academy is proudly managed by The Leona Group, LLC and chartered by Eastern Michigan University.

## **Middle/High School Mission Statement**

Developing inspired learners to be leaders of character in a global society.

## **Elementary Mission Statement**

The Academy for Business & Technology Elementary School, in cooperation with parents and community members, will provide all students with a clean, safe, and caring environment, maximizing academic achievement, improving self-esteem, developing sound character; thereby, producing responsible citizens of a global society.

**Our Vision & Purpose:** Academic Success For All!

## **Highlights from the 2010-11 school year include:**

- Both the elementary and middle/high school campuses received accreditation by The North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), an accreditation division of AdvancED (Advancing Excellence in Education) Worldwide. AdvancED represents 27,000 public and private schools and districts across the United States and in 65 countries worldwide, and educating 15 million students.
- The Academy for Business & Technology Elementary School received full accreditation as a result of a Quality Assurance Review in November, 2010. To earn and maintain accreditation a school must: 1) Meet the AdvancED Standards and Policies for Quality Schools, 2) Engage in continuous improvement, and 3) Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review.
- The elementary campus achieved a State of Michigan School Report Card Grade of "A" for the second year in a row. The report card grade is determined by using a combined score based on student achievement and the School Self-Assessment.
- The elementary campus implemented the Response to Intervention (RtI) Program, which provides academic support for students performing below grade level. The 2010-11 focus was on reading in kindergarten through grade 2. All students were screened and progress was monitored throughout the year.
- The academy successfully implemented a transportation initiative designed to accommodate students from a closed Detroit Public School. The initiative provided for additional enrollment at ABTE of approximately 60 students.
- ABTE applied for the Green School designation. The school implemented a recycling initiative including paper, bottles, batteries and ink cartridges; planting a school vegetable garden; and adopting an endangered species, the American Crocodile, through the World Wildlife Fund.
- The middle/high school campus was removed from the Phase list, signifying a sustained improvement in achievement.
- ABTH completed its second year of the enhanced science, technology, engineering, math, or STEM program and will become a certified STEM school, able to give college credit for some STEM classes.
- The ABT Gator football team completed its first year of operation with a 3-6 record.



- High school ACT scores continue to increase thanks to concentrated reading and preparation strategies including a READ 180 intervention program and ACT prep enhancements.

**The annual education report contains the following information:**

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

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

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

- Provides information from assessments, graduation and attendance rates and AYP status in relation to four criteria:
- The district must test 95% of students in total and in each required subgroup
- The district must attain achievement goals in English language arts and mathematics or reduce the percentage of students in the non-proficient category of achievement significantly ("safe harbor") annually
- The district must attain achievement goals for each subgroup that has at least 30 students in the group
- The district must meet or exceed the other academic indicators set by the state: graduation rate for high schools and attendance rate for elementary and middle schools

**Teacher Quality Data**

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

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

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

**Our District made AYP; all schools within the district also made AYP**

For 2010-11, The Academy for Business & Technology made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics.

ABTE has made Adequate yearly Progress (AYP) continuously since the 2005-2006 school year, its third year of operation.

ABTH has made AYP for 5 of the last 6 years and 3 years in a row. The one year ABTH failed to make AYP was because of graduation rate.

**State law requires that we also report additional school-site based information:**

**Annual process for assigning pupils to the school:**

- The Academy for Business & Technology is a free, public school and adheres to all requirements outlined by its charter authorizer and federal and state law regarding enrollments.
- The academy does not charge tuition nor discriminate in admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, religion, creed, race, sex, color or national origin.
- Current students are given the opportunity to re-enroll in late winter, with preference given to them and their siblings.
- In the spring, the school holds an advertised open enrollment period, during which any Michigan resident may apply.
- In the event that any grade is over-subscribed, a public lottery is held to determine enrollment and a waiting list.
- The academy identifies, evaluates and services all children in the school who may have disabilities. For more information regarding assistance for students with disabilities or if you suspect your child may have a disability, please contact the school leader.

**The status of the 3-5 year school improvement plan:**

The school improvement team reviews student achievement data quarterly and annually in order to provide continuous evaluation and recommendations to teachers.

To support specified goals outlined in the school improvement plan, several initiatives were instituted, complementing the school's existing programs.

At the elementary school the improvement goals remain focused on increased achievement in the core subject areas. In writing, ABTE is in the second year of implementation of the WriteSteps program, which has produced a significant improvement among students taking the MEAP test. In reading, ABTE implemented a new Response to Intervention (RtI) program for students reading below grade level in grades K-2, which saw a large percentage of students reading at or above grade level.

At the secondary campus, ABTH instituted a school-wide positive behavior support (PBS) program in 2010-11 which included the high school for the first time. The middle school has had a PBS program for 3 years. The program has achieved positive results in the middle school and has been well received it's first year in the high school.

Achievement data, including Scantron, Iowa, Plan and Explore testing all indicate increased learning at ABTH and, significantly, that the longer students attend ABT the higher the achievement on these and other high stakes test including MEAP and ACT/MME.



**School improvement team, K-5**

School leadership  
Instructional coach  
Special education teacher  
Classroom teachers  
Para-educators  
Lunch coordinator  
Parents  
Board member  
Community member

**School improvement team, 6-12**

School administrators  
Instructional coach  
Teachers  
Support staff  
Board member  
Parent  
Social worker

**Status of the curriculum**

District-wide, students are instructed using the Kent County Collaborative Core Curriculum (KC4) throughout elementary and middle school, which creates a more seamless transition for students to the middle school. The curriculum is available for review in each school's office.

This quality, proven curriculum is aligned to state standards and promotes mastery of math, English language arts, science and social studies. Employing various learning styles and teaching strategies, the KC4 curriculum provides the foundation for expanded learning opportunities and enables all students to achieve academic success.

In addition, the academy offered a full complement of academic programming including instruction in French language, physical education, health and art at the elementary campus and a full range of elective and core academic offerings at the secondary campus.

Each campus has a full-time instructional coach who worked closely with teachers and administrators to plan, pace and assess curriculum to ensure its quality and alignment with state standards. The school also assessed its curriculum through state and standardized tests. Additional methods of ensuring compliance with outlined curriculum standards included lesson plan monitoring, classroom observation and submission of classroom goals to the coach.



**Aggregate student achievement results for local competency testing:**

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS); National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

	Spring 2010			Spring 2011		
	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total
K	86	94	81	75	80	63
1	37	43	38	35	46	29
2	35	20	20	40	27	36
3	46	54	61	42	33	34
4	48	66	52	38	54	42
5	30	44	28	51	70	74
6	35	35	30	38	40	31
7	33	35	32	36	37	33
8	39	39	33	34	37	35
9	28	35	31	38	43	33
10	34	39	34	29	34	35

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

2010-11:

K-5.....85%  
 6-12.....69%

2009-10:

K-5.....90%  
 6-12.....69%

**High School:**

- a. Postsecondary enrollments (dual enrollment): 3 (1%)
- b. College equivalent courses offered (AP/IB): 4
- c. Students enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP/IB): 47
- d. Students receiving a score leading to college credit: 2

We would like to personally congratulate the staff, students and families of The Academy for Business & Technology on a successful school year. Thank you for choosing The Academy for Business & Technology for your child's education. We look forward to continuing to provide a quality education to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Merritt  
 School Leader, K-5

John Kirk  
 School Leader, 6-12