



Academy for Business & Technology
Elementary Campus
5277 Calhoun St.
Dearborn, MI 48126

Academy for Business & Technology
Middle & High School Campus
19625 Wood St.
Melvindale, MI 48122

August 3, 2010

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2009-10 educational progress for the Academy for Business & Technology charter school district.

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 and www.abtelementary.com

You may also review a copy in the school leader's office at your child's school.

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

The Academy for Business & Technology serves students in kindergarten through grade 5 at its elementary campus in Dearborn and grades 6-12 at its secondary campus in Melvindale.

The academy is proudly managed by The Leona Group 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!

The 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 2009-2010, The Academy for Business & Technology made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics.

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. The elementary campus implemented the WriteSteps writing program. Reading interventions were provided by a reading specialist where struggling readers were identified and progress tracked with grade level benchmarking four times a year. A Writing Specialist provided writing interventions and school wide writing benchmarks were reviewed three times during the year. Promethean interactive white boards were installed in every classroom allowing for enhanced instruction and the integration of technology into the curriculum.

At the upper campus, the academy implemented the READ 180 program which significantly increased reading proficiency at the high school level. The Positive Behavior Support program was successfully continued at the middle school level and will be expanded to the high school level in the 2010-2011 school year. A comprehensive science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program was started for select students in grades 8, 9 and 10. The program will be offered to all students in the upcoming school year.

School improvement team, grades K-5

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

Community member

School improvement team, grades 6-12

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

Status of the curriculum

The Kent County Collaborative Core Curriculum (KC4) was used and 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 Spanish and Arabic language, physical education, health and music 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

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) for ABTE:

	Spring 2009			Spring 2010		
	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total
K	79	75	57	86	94	81
1	29	34	38	37	43	38
2	47	32	35	35	20	20
3	49	56	60	46	54	61
4	26	35	37	48	66	52
5	37	48	47	30	44	28

National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) for ABT:

	Spring 2009			Spring 2010		
	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total	Reading Total	Language Total	Math Total
6	22	31	24	21	29	17
7	26	24	25	21	24	18
8	21	24	28	31	24	22
9	21	29	20	15	24	19
10	20	28	23	23	30	23

National Percentile Ranking (NPR)

Parent-Teacher Conferences

- 2009-10:
 - K-5.....90%
 - 6-12.....69%
- 2008-09:
 - K-5..... 80%
 - 6-12..... 25%

High School:

- a. Postsecondary enrollments (dual enrollment): 3 (2%)
- b. College equivalent courses offered (AP/IB): 3
- c. Students enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP/IB): 60 (24%)
- d. Students receiving a score leading to college credit: None

Additional highlights from the 2009-10 school year:

At the elementary campus:

- The academy achieved a grade of “A” on the Michigan Department of Education(MDE) School Report Card.
- 90% of students in grades 3-4, met or exceeded the MDE's proficiency target in Reading and 99% met or exceeded the MDE's proficiency target in mathematics.
- 2009-10 was the first full year of implementation of the WriteSteps writing program, which achieved positive writing results at each grade level.
- The academy exceeded the Superintendent of Public Instruction's "Michigan School Breakfast Challenge" by providing a free breakfast to100% of its students and was placed on the 2009 Michigan School Breakfast Challenge Honor Roll
- The Academy for Business & Technology was awarded First Place: 2010 School of Outstanding Achievement for the Michigan Surgeon General’s Healthy School Environment Recognition Program
- In recognition of efforts and achievements, the City of Dearborn, City Beautiful Commission awarded a Citation to ABTE on October 28, 2009, in honor of the work of students and faculty for their contributions to a better Dearborn.

At the middle/high school campus:

- The upper campus successfully implemented the READ 180 program which significantly increased the proficiency level of students.
- High school students excelled, with the highest number of students ever making the high honor roll and honor roll.

- The high school became the first Michigan charter school to win a team state championship as the Gators claimed the Class C Boy's Basketball title.

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