

Every Child  
Achieves



## HENRY FORD II High School

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Bob Monroe, Principal



Henry Ford II HS is a  
Michigan Blue Ribbon  
Exemplary School

# Annual Report of School Year 2006-2007

### Seven Indicators of Excellence identified in 2006-07

Utica Community Schools has always operated under district goals adopted by the Board of Education aimed at improving student achievement.

Our current district goal – EVERY CHILD ACHIEVES – is a simple, powerful statement that captures the reason for what we do and why we do it. It is our assurance to you that the work of every UCS employee centers on creating, improving and maintaining a high performing learning culture where every child, regardless of his or her ability, can and will achieve.

At the start of the 2006-2007 school year, the Board of Education adopted the Indicators of Excellence, which are the following seven guideposts for raising the academic bar for our students:

We believe that Every Child Achieves when...

- All children are proficient in English Language Arts, mathematics, science and social studies
- The Class of 2011 meets graduation requirements as defined by the Michigan Merit Curriculum (the state's new graduation requirements)
- Advanced Placement opportunities are expanded for all students
- The number of seventh and eighth graders who take and pass Algebra I increases
- A safe and supportive learning environment is maintained
- Parental involvement is celebrated
- Data is used to guide our decision-making

### Through Vertical Teaming, UCS teachers and administrators are working together to align what is taught from one grade level to the next

To better prepare our students to achieve higher levels of proficiency in challenging course work, Vertical Teaming was implemented districtwide in 2006-2007.

Vertical Teaming brings together Utica Community Schools elementary, junior high and senior high school teachers who teach within a common core curricular area to build upon existing programming and develop effective, research-based instructional strategies that benefit all students.

Vertical Teaming is designed to close any gaps in student learning, eliminate unnecessary re-teaching year-to-year of material already learned and enable teachers and administrators to pinpoint the unique needs of the students in a particular K-12 attendance sequence.

### Michigan Report Card for Henry Ford II HS

**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) —**  
2005-06: No      2006-07: NA

**Education YES! Grades —**  
2005-06: B      2006-07: NA

**A complete data report of MEAP achievement, AYP, teacher qualifications, attendance or graduation rates, dual enrollment, accreditation, parent-teacher conference attendance and school improvement programs is posted on the district website, [www.uticak12.org](http://www.uticak12.org).**

During 2007-2008, the Vertical Team in place at Henry Ford II High School will meet with Vertical Teams from other schools in our feeder pattern to work together to improve grade-to-grade instruction in the areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics.

### *Advanced Placement is the goal for all UCS students*

Utica Community Schools has begun its campaign to encourage and expect every student to enroll in Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. One of the goals of vertical teaming is to better prepare students in the earlier grades by introducing more of the higher level learning concepts and thinking skills they will need for success in accelerated classes when they reach high school.

### UCS launches “Indicators of Excellence — Reaching Higher,” a data driven plan to improve student achievement

To further advance student achievement toward 100 percent proficiency by 2014, as required by No Child Left Behind, and to continue exceeding state standards established by the MEAP assessments and the state's Education YES! program, the Board of Education approved in August 2007 a series of new Indicators of Excellence that will be implemented in the 2007-2008 school year.

The new Indicators are drawn from a recommendation to the Board of Education by the Accountability Advisory Committee. This was a group of district parents, employees and residents who worked together at the direction of the

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Superintendent of Schools to develop a more structured process for ensuring that UCS students continue to excel.

Progress toward reaching the new Indicators of Excellence will be measured through regular analysis of student performance data specific to each Indicator.

The Indicators of Excellence — Reaching Higher initiative is based on these three districtwide goals that set our course for the future:

- **District Goal 1 —**  
*By 2014 all students in the Utica Community Schools will meet or exceed proficiency standards in English language arts (reading and writing), math, science, social studies, fine arts and career and technical education, as identified by national, state and UCS standards.*
- **District Goal 2 —**  
*The school district will implement a world-class instructional program.*
- **District Goal 3 —**  
*Parent, business and community partnerships will be an integral part of student learning.*

The plan is structured upon three “tiers,” or levels of responsibility:

- **Tier I Indicators** apply district-wide and are designed to assess whether federal, state and district requirements are being met. For example, one Indicator of Excellence stipulates that, beginning with the graduating class of 2011, all students will meet or exceed state standards and qualify for the Michigan Promise Scholarship, based on qualifying scores on the Michigan Merit Exam.
- **Tier II Indicators** will be established by all schools and departments in the 2007-2008 school year. Tier II Indicators will be school or department specific, designed as the basis for targeted improvement in support of the Indicators of Excellence.
- **Tier III Indicators** consist of a written narrative from each school outlining both what has been done to improve student achievement and the plans and challenges specific to that building.

#### **Henry Ford II High School’s Tier III narrative for 2006-2007 is as follows:**

The 2006-2007 school year was a success in many respects for Henry Ford II High School. We have aligned our goals and initiatives toward the district goal of “Every Child Achieves.” I am happy to report on our progress as we continue to focus on student achievement.

- Advanced Placement opportunities have been expanded for all students. Eight AP classes with multiple sections of each have been the long standing choice for students. Professional development with the College Board and teacher recruitment for new AP courses have provided new choices of rigor for our students. As a result of our efforts this year we will be running 17 AP classes.

- STRIVE - Students Reaching Individual Expectations began this year to intervene with students with low performance. The students selected with a 1.5 grade point average or below attended tutoring sessions with certified teachers for one hour after school twice a week.
- Literacy continues to be a focus. Reading Apprenticeship strategies are now being used by well over half of the teaching staff. The course “Reading for the Real World” continues to be a great resource for our struggling readers. The Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) is being used to measure the progress of our student readers and then identify appropriate text that would challenge their comprehension level.
- The ACT Workshop was a huge success in its first year. More than 50% percent of the junior class attended the workshop. Anecdotal evidence from students would suggest that they felt prepared, were able to pace themselves, and were successful with problem solving on the test. Next year we look to improve to 75% attendance.
- Finally, we can’t be more proud of the eight All-County Academic students from the senior class. Not only is this the most students in our school’s history, but the most in the county this year.

#### **Our School’s Points of Pride**

Henry Ford II continues to set the standard of outstanding leadership and educational excellence. This was seen as our school was recognized at the first UCS Academic Excellence Celebration for the following achievements: National Merit Semifinalists and Commended students, outstanding work in Architecture, 3-D Assembly, and Engineering (MITES), the after-school at-risk program STRIVE, and the ACT Prep Workshop.

Henry Ford II senior and MST student **Anthony Schuller** was invited to the Vagelos Scholars Program in Molecular Life Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. This invitation is offered to only 10 incoming freshmen and includes guaranteed, paid research with completion of both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in four years or less. Anthony has pursued advanced placement and accelerated courses of study, maintaining a grade point average of 4.170.

**Lia Kirk**, Henry Ford II and Utica Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology senior, has been accepted to the Honors Health Pro Start Program at Wayne State University where she is guaranteed admission to the College of Pharmacy without having to take the PCAT entrance exam. At the end of the six year program, she will receive a PharmD degree (Doctor of Pharmacy). Only 25 incoming freshman students are admitted to the program where they may choose one of eight professional science degrees.

Henry Ford II High School A Cappella group, **Ladies and Falcons**, were selected State Champions.

The **HF II Varsity Baseball Team** was one of four high schools in Michigan named All State - All Academic. This means, as a team, they had one of the top four grade point averages in the state! What a home run!