



Harvey is a
Michigan Blue Ribbon
Exemplary School

Annual Report of School Year 2007-2008

Reaching Higher — Indicators of Excellence successfully launched in 2007-2008 to increase student achievement

It is our expectation in Utica Community Schools that every student will achieve academically to his/her potential and prepare for and pursue some level of higher education or career training following high school graduation.

Utica Community Schools is also required to meet by 2014 the federal No Child Left Behind requirement that 100 percent of our students and student subgroups achieve proficiency on the state MEAP assessments in grades 3 - 9 and the Michigan Merit Exam in high school. In addition, each of our 40 schools is required to annually achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) based on the state standards.

To meet these expectations, *Reaching Higher — Indicators of Excellence*, a data-driven school improvement initiative, was launched in 2007-2008 in Utica Community Schools. It is our guide for increasing student achievement in all academic areas by means of a series of clear, measurable Indicators that are to be met within a specified time.

Reaching Higher is based on three district-wide goals:

- **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.

Stemming from the district goals are three tiers of Indicators — I, II and III — that define how and when the established student achievement targets will be met:

- **Tier I Indicators** — These are the district-wide *Indicators of Excellence* (seven at the elementary level and eight each at the junior and senior high levels - 30 total) designed to assess whether federal, state and district academic requirements are being met within a given time frame.

Michigan Report Card for Harvey Elementary

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) —

2006-07: Yes 2007-2008: Yes

Education YES! Grade —

2006-07: A 2007-2008: A

All UCS schools are accredited by the Michigan Department of Education. In addition, the four UCS high schools are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA).

A building report of student achievement on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) is available on-line at www.uticak12.org. Under the Information heading, click on MEAP/MME scores to find our school. The on-line report also includes information on teacher qualifications, parent-teacher conference attendance and the district retention rate.

- **Tier II Indicators** — These are school-based indicators established during the 2007-2008 school year by each UCS school. Tier II Indicators are specific to the student needs in that building and designed as the basis for targeted improvement in support of the *Indicators of Excellence*. The Tier II Indicators are supported by SMART goals (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely) for each grade level established by the building staff.
- **Tier III Indicators** — These are the schools' narrative reports on their progress in 2007-2008 toward meeting their Tier II Indicator(s). Our school's Tier II and Tier III Indicators are printed on the back of this page.

The district's Tier I Indicators for its 29 elementary schools are as follows:

Indicator 1.1: All students in kindergarten through second grade will meet or exceed district benchmarks.

Indicator 1.2: All students in third through sixth grades will meet or exceed standards and be identified as proficient on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests in reading, writing, math, science and social studies.

Indicator 1.3: Third through sixth graders who receive special education services will show specified growth on the MI-Access test in reading, writing and mathematics.

Indicator 1.4: Third through sixth graders who are part of the district's English Language Learners (ELL) program will show specified growth on the English Language Proficiency Assessment in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Indicator 1.5: All students in second through sixth grade will demonstrate proficiency on the district writing test in the areas of persuasive, informative and cause/effect writing.

Indicator 1.6: All students in kindergarten through sixth grade will demonstrate proficiency on the district math test.

Indicator 1.7: All students in third through sixth grade will demonstrate proficiency on the district science and social studies tests.

Harvey Elementary School's Tier II Indicators:

Increase the number of students in grades K-2 who score at Level 3 or 4 on the districtwide 4-point writing rubric in Writing from Knowledge and Experience.

Increase the number of students in grades 3-6 who score at Level 4, 5, or 6 on the districtwide 6-point writing rubric in Writing from Knowledge and Experience.

Increase in the number of students who score at the benchmark level or above for each specific skill area including initial sound fluency, letter naming fluency, phoneme segmentation fluency, nonsense word fluency and oral reading fluency.

Score one piece of writing with grade level team per marking period.

Align instruction with results of scoring data.

Track student progress with building-developed writing assessment data sheets.

Harvey Elementary School's Tier III Indicator:

The 2007-2008 school year was again filled with many successes for Jack Harvey's staff and students.

Our staff began the year by participating in the district's Data Team Training on how to compile, maintain and analyze student data to meet the instructional needs of all students. Insightful data analysis training has led to focused instructional strategies, targeted instruction and increased student achievement.

After reviewing data from MEAP scores and benchmark assessments, our staff identified Tier II Goals for the school year in the areas of reading and writing.

The professional development of our teachers was centered on improving writing and reading instruction at all grade levels. The Harvey staff brainstormed and discussed strategies to improve student writing with the help of Suzanne Klein, *Write Steps* author. The staff received training on how to score students' writing papers with the use of anchor papers (approved writing samples).

For the third straight year, we continued utilizing our building-wide writing plan and the Writer's Workshop model. Although our third, fourth and fifth grade students overall showed at least a 13% increase in MEAP writing proficiency, for some students, writing remains a challenge

we will continue to work on in the coming school year.

Using assessment data, teachers have also identified students "at risk" in the area of reading, writing and mathematics. These students were provided with additional research-based interventions by the classroom teacher and support staff. Many of these students also attended before- or after-school literacy or mathematics support classes.

In addition, the MiBLSI grant (Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative) provided Harvey teachers with several workshops on classroom reading interventions. These proved to be successful for our students as we analyzed results from district benchmark assessments.

Expanding the academic focus into the school community, Harvey staff provided monthly curriculum workshops for parents in the areas of reading, mathematics, writing and word study. A monthly newsletter and web site update continue to provide families with at-home support.

This year, Harvey Elementary showed outstanding improvement on the MEAP tests including 100% scores in 3rd grade reading, mathematics and ELA (English Language Arts). Our goal will continue to have all of our children become proficient at writing, reading and mathematics.

The Jack Harvey team feels that our success is a reflection of the dedication students and staff have to the academic and social success of all. We will continue as a school community to make every effort to ensure "Every Harvey Child Achieves."

Our School's Points of Pride

- We are attaining continued success in implementing the MiBLSI grant (Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative), which provides staff development to assist leadership teams in designing interventions plans based on the Response to Intervention (RTI) model by using data to facilitate change.
- School-wide positive behavior support program continues to reward students who demonstrate appropriate behaviors during the school day.
- Harvey implemented a school-wide writing plan to create a common language from kindergarten through sixth grade using Writer's Workshop while implementing curriculum mapping within each grade level.
- Harvey was awarded the 2008 First Place Healthy Schools Nutrition Award for its continued leadership in creating a healthy and safe environment for students.
- Harvey staff offered monthly Parent Curriculum Workshops that focused on helping parents understand and support curriculum endeavors at home.
- Award-winning curriculum enrichment opportunities are available to students to enhance their elementary educational program. Harvey students can participate in Science Olympiad, Social Studies Olympiad, Mathematics Club, Geography Club, Health Club, Lego Robotics, Honors Choir and sixth grade band/orchestra.