



Charlotte Test Scores Exceed State Average in All Areas

Charlotte school officials were excited to receive good news recently from the Michigan Department of Education on the Charlotte High School test scores for state tests taken last spring. They were pleased to learn that test scores increased in five of the six categories reported and they all exceeded the state average for each category.

“We were thrilled to see good growth in the student achievement of our high school students”, Superintendent Nancy Hipkind said. “This is what we have all been working toward in light of the increased requirements from the state. Our high school is to be commended.”

After several years of planning and hard work by teachers and administrators, the results are now paying off through improved test scores. The good scores show how Charlotte High School students are adapting to the rigorous requirements of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).

High School Principal Lee Wheaton gives credit to the hard work of the high school staff as well as intense curriculum planning while incorporating Michigan content standards. “We have seen this staff come together to work for increased student achievement and it is great to see their efforts produce good results for our high school students”, Wheaton said.

The MME is the state high school assessment administered to grade 11 students. It replaced the MEAP high school assessment in spring of 2007. It is now administered each year during the month of March and is required by Federal and State laws. The ACT (American College Test) is at the core of the MME to measure the college readiness of students.

The new tests assess students in English Language Arts (reading and writing), Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The assessment items are aligned to Michigan high school content standards.

“The positive MME test scores are the result of the high school’s effort to assure success for all students”, Associate Superintendent Mary Taylor said. “Each individual building of the district and the district as a whole is committed to Charlotte Public School’s mission of being a premier learning organization. The academic success for all students is our primary goal,” Taylor said.

The MME is designed around college preparedness and works in concert with the Michigan Merit Curriculum that will take effect with the class of 2011. The test is a basis for possible scholarship money from the state under the Michigan Promise Scholarship Program. Under the program, students must take the entire MME and receive valid MME scores in Mathematics, Reading, Writing, Science, and Social Studies.

In Charlotte, the subject area showing the largest increase was social studies with a current year score of 91.7 percent compared to last year’s score of 85.9 percent. The state average for social studies is 81.3. All other scores increased within the range of 2.2 percent to 6.4 percentage points, with the exception of science which remained above state average. All scores exceeded state average by 1.6 to 10.4 percentage points.