



August 22, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Karey Scholten, principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site, www.mischooldata.org or you may review a copy from the building website at www.harborps.org.

We are pleased that the AYP has been reached each year at every level in this district. At the elementary level we focus on building a foundation for educational success for our students and providing quality and equity for all students.

Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics for 2 or more years consecutively. While we are pleased to have reached this important goal, we are continuously working to improve. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff, and our community in this effort. Parents are encouraged to become involved in their child's education by attending and participating in parent teacher conferences, regularly communicating with his or her child's teacher and frequently communicating with their child about school.

Students who attend Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools are assigned to our school by their physical address or through our district adopted School of Choice policy.

Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools follow a school improvement and Title I Targeted Assistance School Improvement Plan. The plan continues and is in process. Hard copies of our school improvement plan can be obtained in the school office.

Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools follow Michigan's Core Curriculum and use the Grade Level Expectations (GLCE) as our main curriculum guide. Michigan's Curriculum can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_33232---,00.html. Hard copies of the K-5 localized curriculum maps can be obtained in the school office. The educators of both Blackbird and Shay plan and implement lessons that are sequenced logically and based upon student performance and need using research-based strategies and techniques.

Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools assess student reading progress a minimum of three times a year using the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA). The DRA is a research-based, valid measurement of accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. It is an assessment tool used to provide teachers, parents, and administrators with student performance information to determine student progress and/or intervention. The results listed are the percentages of students at each grade level that reached the proficiency benchmark in a combined average over the three trimester period.

DRA Benchmark	2010-2011		2009-2010	
	Grade Level		Grade Level	
16	1	62%	1	66%
28	2	73%	2	86%
38	3	76%	3	77%
40	4	78%	4	84%
50	5	89%	5	87%

Blackbird and Shay Elementary Schools assess student mathematical progress a minimum of three times a year using localized assessments aligned with the State of Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE). These assessments are used to provide teachers, parents, and administrators with student performance information to determine student progress and /or intervention. The results listed are the percentages of students at each grade level that reached the proficiency benchmark in a combined average over the three trimester period.

Proficiency Benchmark 80%

2010-2011		2009-2010	
Grade Level	Benchmark Score	Grade Level	Benchmark Score
1	90%	1	91%
2	98%	2	96%
3	80%	3	83%
4	74%	4	76%
5	75%	5	74%

The success of our schools could not be accomplished without the assistance and support of the parents, families, and community members. Among the various ways that parents assist our school staff is attending parent teacher conferences. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring of each school year. During the 2010-2011 school year, parent-teacher conference attendance totaled 98%.

I am grateful to the students, parents, and staff members who made the 2010-2011 school year exiting and successful.

Yours in education,
Karey R. Scholten