



Columbia Middle School Annual School Improvement Report 2008/2009

Columbia School District

Columbia Middle School
321 School Street
Brooklyn MI 49230
517-592-2181

Principal: Greg Meschke
Meschke@myeagles.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Columbia School District, in partnership with the community, will provide a safe and positive learning environment, which will prepare ALL students to contribute and compete in a global society.

PROFILE INFO

- Grade Span: 6-8th
- Number of Students: 375
- Attendance Average: 90%
- Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:26
- School Organization: Teams are designed by grade level, with 6th grade composed of two teams. Each team has a special education teacher, with whom they meet with daily. In addition to our grade level teams, our staff includes an exploratory team of teachers.
- Cultural Diversity: Columbia Middle School is predominantly Caucasian
- Student Retention: 0
- At-Risk: 38%
- Free/Reduced Lunch Statistics: 93 students receive a free lunch; 30 students receive a reduced lunch.
- Employability Skills: Students at CMS are required to use an agenda for recording daily assignments and hall use. Students who demonstrate positive character and citizenship in and out of the classroom are rewarded and highlighted through our Student of the Month Program.
- Media Center: 68 Student computers and two additional computer labs; The latest educational software and internet accessibility.



Beautiful downtown village of Brooklyn

	ED YES Composite Grade	MADE AYP
2008-2009:	<u> A </u>	<u> A </u>
2007-2008:	<u> A </u>	<u> B </u>
2006-2007:	<u> A </u>	<u> B </u>

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Research shows teacher quality correlates with student academic achievement. Highly qualified teachers go hand-in-hand with a quality education. Under the State of Michigan guidelines and the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, all Columbia School District teachers are certified and highly qualified.

FACULTY AND STAFF

- Greg Meschke, Principal
- Christi O'Neil, Counselor
- Sue Cooper, Secretary
- Bonnie Bernstein, Secretary
- Krista Schatzle, 6th Grade Teacher
- Wendy Diefenthaler, 6th Grade Teacher
- Kathie Gates, 6th Grade Teacher
- Nate Moore, 6th Grade Teacher
- Nicole Elder, 6th Grade Resource Room
- Jean Walker, Cognitively Impaired Teacher
- Karen Liebau, 7th Grade Science Teacher
- John Niehaus, 7th Grade Math Teacher
- Brenda Herr, 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher
- Jill Kielhorn, 7th Grade Resource Room Teacher
- Nick Rulewicz, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher
- Donna Stein, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher
- Leslie Schmidt, 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher
- Lisa Kennell, 8th Grade Science Teacher
- Jim Blanton, 8th Grade Math Teacher
- Megan Hall, 8th Grade Resource Room Teacher
- Barb Dagenais, Informational Literacy Teacher
- Donna Guernsey, Physical Education Teacher
- Bill Cryderman, Computer Education Teacher
- Mark Schieck, Physical Education Teacher
- Craig Vitale, Technology Teacher
- Justin Clougherty, Leadership Teacher
- Patti Kanaan, Special Education Aide
- Monika Cook, Academic Behavior Change Room
- Donna Williams, Special Education Aide
- Rhonella Brelinski, Media Specialist
- Gail Maybee, Library Aide
- Dale Davis, Building Maintenance
- Ned Bernstein, Building Maintenance
- Ric Carroll, Building Maintenance
- Mary Devine, Cafeteria
- Lois Staub, Cafeteria
- Ken Sande, Technology Specialist

PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMNET

Parents at Columbia Middle School are involved in many school related events. Volunteers are required to sign a special form with a copied picture ID. These are monitored via the administration office. Participation ranges from field trip chaperones to PTO events. Parents are very willing to become involved when needs arise. Columbia Middle School offers a parent education night on a yearly basis. Topics include: cyber bullying, sexual health education, school violence and prevention and street law/truancy.

The PTO at Columbia Middle School, organized by a group of dedicated parents, hold a variety of activities and fund raising events to support the educational experience of our students. Some of the events include: yearly community fundraising school competition, dances, popcorn Friday, CMS lock-in, teacher appreciation luncheon, Box Tops for Education, and annual book fair. Monies raised through the PTO are dispersed at teacher requests. The PTO also has monthly meetings and publishes a monthly newsletter for all parents in the district.



Columbia Middle School Improvement Plan



Columbia Middle School, Brooklyn, Michigan



“Our mission is to create a well-rounded curriculum with our passion for the fine arts.” - Exploratory Team



Greg Meschke, Principal

“Columbia Middle School provides a foundation for students to be successful in a global society.”

GOAL: In 2008, Columbia students reported the following level 3 & 4 scores on the Social Studies MEAP: 6th Grade students scored 10%; 9th grade students scored 15%. Within the next three years, it is our goal to decrease this score by 2% by aligning the school wide curriculum with the state Social Studies GLCE's. Grade level teams, along with increased parental, community, and civic involvement, will identify and make decisions through the analysis of data to provide intervention for assisting struggling students.

STRATEGIES: As a School Improvement Team, we looked at MEAP data and the EXPLORE scores to determine what areas are in need of assistance. After review, CMS is focusing efforts on the bottom two levels of achievement in the MEAP and EXPLORE. To assist in achieving these goals, we have incorporated several programs that directly link to helping students succeed in the classroom. Some of these programs include advanced counseling efforts, an Academic Behavior Center, Study Island, MEAP Fridays, and after school tutoring. Our focus is to bridge the achievement gap from our struggling learners to those that are proficient. We will then monitor their assessment scores and chart the appropriate interventions that took place to attempt to increase achievement scores.

RESULTS: In the 6th grade, students successfully achieved our goal last year, by decreasing our level 3 and 4 scores by 13%. In the 9th grade, students struggled to achieve the new MEAP standards and were unsuccessful in meeting our stated goal. Improvement continues to be made in all the content areas with MEAP test results exceeding the State standards. The school improvement goals continue to focus on student achievement. Faculty members actively work to update all curriculum areas to align with the state GLCE's. Columbia Middle School aims to provide the most challenging and appropriate resources and education for each grade level.

GOAL: In 2008, Columbia 8th grade students scored 20% combined performance levels 3 and 4 on the Science MEAP. Within the next three years, it is our goal to decrease this score by 2% by aligning the school wide curriculum with the state Science GLCE's. Grade level teams, along with increased parental involvement, will identify and make decisions through the analysis of data to provide intervention for assisting struggling students.

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RESULTS: In the 8th grade, students struggled to achieve the new MEAP standards and were unsuccessful in meeting our stated goal. Improvement continues to be made in all the content areas with MEAP test results exceeding the State standards. The school improvement goals continue to focus on student achievement. Faculty members continue to update all curriculum areas to align with the state GLCE's. Columbia Middle School aims to provide the most challenging and appropriate resources and education for each grade level.





GOAL: In 2008, Columbia students reported the following level 3 & 4 scores on the Math MEAP: 6th grade students scored 5%; 7th grade students scored 9%; and 8th grade students 31%. Within the next three years, it is our goal to decrease this score by 2% by the use of Grade level Team meetings, continuation of our after school homework programs, and individual tutoring along with increased parental involvement. We will identify and make decisions through the analysis of data to provide intervention for assisting our struggling students.

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RESULTS: In the 6th grade, students successfully achieved our goal last year, by decreasing our level 3 and 4 scores by 10%. In the 7th grade, students successfully achieved our goal last year, by decreasing our level 3 and 4 scores by 20%. In the 8th grade, students struggled to achieve the new MEAP standards and were unsuccessful in meeting our stated goal. Improvement continues to be made in all the content areas with MEAP test results exceeding the State standards. The school improvement goals continue to focus on student achievement. Faculty members continue to update all curriculum areas to align with the state GLCE's. Columbia Middle School aims to provide the most challenging and appropriate resources and education for each grade level.

“Preparing students for transitions to high school and beyond is our greatest gift.” - 8th Grade Team



79% of our teaching staff have earned master's degrees or higher.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Reading Year	6 th Grade Level I & II	7 th Grade Level I & II	8 th Grade Level I & II	Writing Year	6 th Grade Level I & II	7 th Grade Level I & II	8 th Grade Level I & II
2008	96%	88%	78%	2008	92%	86%	78%
2007	84%	83%	83%	2007	81%	83%	86%

Total ELA Year	6 th Grade Level I & II	7 th Grade Level I & II	8 th Grade Level I & II	Math Year	6 th Grade Level I & II	7 th Grade Level I & II	8 th Grade Level I & II
2008	96%	89%	81%	2008	95%	90%	69%
2007	81%	87%	86%	2007	83%	72%	83%

Social Studies Year	6 th Grade Level I & II	9 th Grade Level I & II	Science Year	8 th Grade Level I & II
2008	90%	86%	2008	80%
2007	78%	86%	2007	90%

**Great job CMS!
Keep working toward our achievement goals!**



“We choose children, for all the right reasons.” - 7th Grade Team





Columbia Middle School Improvement Plan

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brent Beamish, Superintendent

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Brooklyn MI 49230
Phone: 517-592-6641
Wwww.columbiaschooldistrict.org

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Columbia School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

2008-2009:	___96%___
2007-2008:	___95%___
2006-2007:	___75%___

Did you know that CMS offers Spanish in the CORE Curriculum and 8th grade students can use this class to get a head start on their high school curriculum?

POINTS OF PRIDE

Challenge Day: Students learn about breaking down social barriers, acceptance and communication skills.

The Anti-Bullying Rubric: A behavior rubric, which allows proper discipline action to take place for bullying acts.

Student Council: Students from grades 6-8 participate in projects and volunteer work to better the greater community.

Builders Club: A group of 6-8 grade students who team up with our local Kiwanis chapter.

Athletics: We offer a variety of sports programs for males and females to participate in throughout the school year.

After School Homework Help: Provides individualized support for students who need extra help with assignments. This program meets twice a week after school.

Academic Behavior Change Room: Assists struggling students in their academic environment.

Girl Quest/Boy Quest: 6th and 7th grade girls and boys participate in a variety of activities that are designed to teach about nutrition, decision-making, self-esteem and fitness.

Guitar Lessons

Our principal offers guitar lessons to those students with a musical interest.

Teaming: Each grade level and teachers of exploratory classes function on a team approach.

Exploratory Classes: We offer a variety of classes for our students.

Transitions Class: Our Transitions class is

made up of students with special needs. They focus on learning the skills necessary for everyday living and career education.

Student Led Conferences: Students in grades 7 and 8 create portfolios and lead conferences with parents.

Career Cruising: On this computer-based system students create a comprehensive education development plan beginning in 7th grade that carries throughout high school.

Title One: We receive this grant money and use it for a variety of programs to meet the needs of kids who are at-risk.

Sex Education Curriculum: Taught at each grade level by a certified Health Educator.

Credit Union: Students build responsibility and money management skills by utilizing our student banking system.

Student of the Month: Recognition of student for their honorable work in the classroom and beyond.

Student Improvement Breakfast: Recognition of students who have made improvements in academics, behaviors or attitudes.

Individual Counseling: One on one emotional and academic support for students.

Group Counseling: Groups include a walking club, divorce group, academic success group, and various relationship-building groups.

Classroom Guidance Lessons: Lessons are taught at each grade level on various topics.

Transition Programs: Several activities for parents and students are offered to make the transition from elementary to middle and middle to high school a comfortable and secure event.

CORE AND EXTENDED CURRICULUM

Columbia School District has a comprehensive curriculum in the four core content areas. Curriculum documents in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies include content expectations, student friendly language, instructional strategies and common assessments. These guides were developed by teachers to aid in creating a quality curriculum guide for all staff. Our documents are revised and updated based on teacher use, input and state mandates. Our curriculum documents are aligned with the Michigan's Curriculum Framework and Content Expectations.

Columbia Middle School has met or exceeded the State Board of Education Core Curriculum in all of the following areas: Health and Physical Education, Language Arts Education, Math and Science Education, World Studies Education (Social Studies), Computer/Media Technology, and Music/Arts Education.

Curriculum objectives are met through a variety of instructional strategies and methodologies. Teacher and subject specialists – music, physical education, media specialist, exploratory teachers, etc., - work together to optimize the learning

experiences available at Columbia Middle School. The courses of study offer a variety of interesting subjects while emphasizing the core areas of study. This effort is seen through the following activities: Applied math; Applied technology; Instruction in student organizational skills; Fine arts for all students; Environmental awareness in the curriculum; Applied life science; and current events.

Throughout the school year, obvious efforts to offer extended learning opportunities were evident. A variety of activities were implemented through the collaboration of students, staff, parents, business partners and the community. Below are some of the activities that greatly enhanced the middle school experience: Detroit trip, ABC Room, Girls/Boys Quest, Geology trip, Accelerated Reader, Accelerated Math, Interscholastic sports, Band, Choir, Concerts, Assemblies, Student Council, Student of the Month celebrations, Spirit Week activities, After-school tutoring, Game Club, Study Island, Guitar lessons, Breakout Programs, Career Cruising, CP Federal Credit Union, Team Teaching, Builders' Club and a Comprehensive Counseling Program.



“We guide students in helping them to take that first step towards an independent future.” - 6th Grade Team