



**MICHIGAN CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MICHIGAN CENTER JR. /SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**

**Mr. Brady Cook, Jr. High Principal**

**Mrs. Lisa Falasco, H.S. Principal**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Michigan Center Schools is to engage, challenge and motivate lifelong learners towards excellence through innovation.

**VISION STATEMENT**

Michigan Center Schools – the cutting edge leader in educational advancement empowers all students for lifelong success in a changing world.

**PROFILE**

Michigan Center Jr. /Sr. High School serves approximately 661 students in grades 7 through 12. The High School Principal is Mrs. Lisa Falasco and the Jr. High School Principal is Brady Cook. There are 34 professional staff members, one media specialist, an At-Risk Coordinator, a technology director, an In-School Suspension Coordinator, and two counselors. In addition, there is the following support staff: school psychologist, school social worker, speech and language therapist, school nurse, and homebound or hospitalized services for students.

Assisting all of us in keeping operating in an organized manner, keeping the building clean, transporting students, serving nutritious food and helping teachers and students are custodians, secretaries, bus drivers, paraprofessionals and lunchroom personnel.

Our daily attendance at Michigan Center Jr. /Sr. High School averages 94.9%. Most students were assigned to Michigan Center, the past year, based on geographical boundaries, but many others choose our schools through School of Choice enrollment options.

A large number of our graduates continue their education after high school with approximately 29% enrolling in four year colleges or universities; 45% applied to two year colleges; 1% private colleges, 1% applied to trade schools and 2% entering the military. The drop out rate for Michigan Center Schools is 4.26%.

**ENROLLMENT DATA**

	<u>04-05</u>	<u>05-06</u>	<u>06-07</u>	<u>07-08</u>	<u>08-09</u>
7 <sup>th</sup>	126	108	107	90	109
8 <sup>th</sup>	119	111	109	106	89
9 <sup>th</sup>	119	120	112	109	105
10 <sup>t</sup>	103	121	112	114	127
11 <sup>t</sup>	94	100	95	106	121
12 <sup>th</sup>	85	93	92	83	110
Total	646	653	627	608	661



## **CORE CURRICULUM**

The core curriculum at Michigan Center Jr./Sr. High School provides learning experiences in all areas of language arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening), mathematics, social studies, science, health, physical education, art, music, computer instruction, business, foreign language, family ecology, technology, vocational education, career and educational planning. The state proposed core curriculum provides the basis for continuous curriculum updating.

The goal of education is to provide all learners with a solid foundation of skills, knowledge, and understandings that are necessary for their continual growth and success as students within the school setting and as adults in society. As a result of a sound education based on well defined outcomes, a Michigan Center graduate will be:

1. A person capable of learning over a lifetime.
2. A person capable of applying knowledge in diverse learning situations.
3. A person who makes decisions for successful living.
4. A caring, sensitive, and flexible person.
5. A creative and innovative person.
6. A person able to communicate effectively in written and spoken language.
7. A competent and productive participant in society.

The 2008-09 school year found Professional Development days being used as a tool to work on some of the following:

- Continuing work on strengthening the curriculum.
- Each department created/enhanced "Course Guides" for the purpose of defining/strengthening curriculum.
- A seven period day entered its sixth year in the High School, with more work being done on expanding the curriculum and course offerings to students.
- Development and implementation of crisis handbook. (Severe weather, lockdown, threats, etc.)
- Training/Implementation of Six-Traits Writing across the curriculum
- First Aid/CPR training for all staff.
- Inquiry training for Math/Science teachers.
- Data Retreat training for Math teachers.

## **PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

In order to ensure a well-trained staff that understands the importance of teaching for learning, we have been involved in staff development workshops and in-service activities. All new staff members are assigned a professional mentor to assist them in their learning and continued growth as a professional teacher. Science, Math, Technology, and English teachers attended numerous workshops in their respective content areas. Our department heads devoted time and effort in assisting our ISD in creating a new school improvement plan for Michigan Center Schools. Some of the other additional workshops our staff members attended were: MACUL training, Cooperative Learning and Special Education trainings.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**



Some students supplement their general education with support programs such as:

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Guidance Counselor             | Speech Therapy       |
| Social Work                    | Resource Room        |
| Physical Therapy               | School Psychologist  |
| Cognitively Impaired Classroom | Occupational Therapy |

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT CRUCIAL TO SUCCESS**

One of the most important factors in a student's success in school is the involvement of parents or guardians in the educational process. Open Houses are held both in the fall and spring to facilitate this involvement. 46 percent of our parents attended the Fall Open House and 23 percent attended in the spring. An academic awards night is held each year with students receiving academic letters and numerals for their achievement. In addition, teachers are asked to call and seek out parents for classroom support.

## **WE'RE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS**

Academically our students ACT composite score was a 17.1 for the 2008-09 school year with 121 students taking the test.

At the junior high school level, MEAP results were very encouraging. Seventh and Eighth graders improved from 2007 testing to 2008 testing in all of the MEAP-tested areas. Achievement in the junior high was increased in large part due to an emphasis on writing and math.

## **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & ACCREDITATION**

The purpose of school improvement is to improve outcomes (academic, social, physical, etc.) for all students in the school. Our staff has been represented on both district wide and building school improvement teams since 1989. School improvement is not a one time event but a never ending process. With the input from a variety of people including community members, staff, school board members, and others, the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Belief Statements for the Jr. /Sr. High School have been developed and adopted. The team continues to address the issues which relate to improvement.

### **School Improvement Target Areas Set**

In order to improve our outcomes for all students our staff has established these goals for attainment:

- Our goal is to align curriculum calendars for all subject areas.
- Our goal is to enhance the use of technology in the classroom.
- Our goal is to increase our ability to use data to drive instruction.
- Our goal is to use a data warehouse for organizing information so that data can be interpreted, analyzed, and utilized for school improvement.

### **Our School Is Accredited**

Michigan Center Jr. /Sr. High School have attained the status of accredited through the State of Michigan Department of Education. Michigan Center Jr. /Sr. High School have earned an Ed Yes! Letter grade of "C" for the 2007-08 school year and have "Met AYP". The results for the 2008-2009 school year are not available at this time.

## **OUR STUDENTS ARE OUR MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT**

Michigan Center students are our number one priority. Some evidence of this during the 2008-09 school year included:

- Maintaining Junior and Senior High extracurricular activities like Junior and Senior High School Government, and National Honor Society.
- The library's continual emphasis on providing the latest resources in both print and electronic media.
- Tutorial program offerings before and after school.
- Operating a "school within a school" for our Jr. High Program.
- Maintaining our relationship with Student Assistance and the Mentoring Program to help "At Risk" students and the general student population.
- Continuing to award academic letters, numerals and public recognition to those students who excel academically.