

**2007-08  
Annual Report**



**Whitmore Lake  
Public Schools**

8845 Main Street, Whitmore Lake, Michigan 48189 (734) 449-4464 [www.wlps.net](http://www.wlps.net)



**WLPS Vision—**

*Providing each individual the inspiration to dream and the skills to succeed in a global society*

**WLPS Mission—**

*Partnering with students, parents, and the community to provide exceptional, personalized education*

**WLPS Guiding Principles—**

*Integrity  
Diversity  
Innovation  
Leadership  
Respect  
Stewardship  
Citizenship*

*Whitmore Lake Public Schools, 8845 Main Street, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189, subscribes to equal opportunity in its employment as required by law and does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, familial or marital status, or disability in its programs and activities.*



## Providing Exceptional, Personalized Education

Whitmore Lake Public Schools' mission is to "partner with students, parents and the community to provide exceptional, personalized education." Since 2005, the WLPS Board of Education has recognized several parents and staff members with EPE awards. Nominations of those observed providing exceptional, personalized education within the district are submitted and evaluated based on an EPE rubric. Recipients are recognized publicly at School Board meetings and presented with framed certificates.

2007/08 recipients included:

### Pamela Blount,

Media Technician, for incorporating Spanish into students' library visits and for hours spent on her own time to provide the "Eagle News" in-district TV news program.



### Wendy Lemons,

HS Science teacher, for her effectiveness in leading Volunteer Service Days, a new program with 90% of high school students participating.



Tom DeKeyser, HS Principal, for his creativity in working with students in challenging situations, serving as a role model and providing personalized curricula when needed.



### Jean Hoeft,

MS Math teacher, for providing students a unique learning experience combining math and history while on a class trip to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg.



## Introduction

The Whitmore Lake Public School District continues to strive to achieve its mission of "partnering with students, parents and the community to provide exceptional, personalized education." This annual report provides a snapshot of various measures of success as well as activities that were pursued at the building level in support of our mission. Although MEAP/MME-ACT data is only one measure of academic achievement, it does provide information for the district to use when evaluating whether the curriculum is addressing the required standards. Working together we will continue to see all students progress. We believe the annual report presents an opportunity to share with the community the ways in which the school district is working to improve achievement for all students. We appreciate the support of parents and the community in the important work of educating our children.

## 2007-08 Operating Budget

Revenue:	\$ 11,780,245
Expenditures:	\$ 11,613,099
Total Fund Balance*:	\$ 795,877

\*Of the total fund balance, \$260,510 is restricted for specific purposes and \$535,367 is unrestricted.

## Curriculum

The district curriculum area for review and focus for 2007-08 was K-12 Science. This area was chosen in anticipation of a new alternative energy program for 2008-09 at our high school, and was realigned in order to better teach our students about alternative energy and our LEED certified high school.

Our staff members are continually working to develop our curriculum in a way that best meets the needs of our students. In each building, staff members meet regularly to discuss, modify, and realign curriculum. Test scores are reviewed regularly and information from meetings and workshops is shared. The District Curriculum committee meets several times a year to discuss K-12 curriculum issues. Our goal is to provide each student with an exceptional, personalized education.

## Points of Pride

- 100% state police school bus inspections for five consecutive years
- 100% compliance of special education completion dates and counts to the state for two consecutive years
- 100% on the WISD Fall 2007 student count desk audit
- LEED® Silver certified high school opened in September 2006 continues to set an example for green school construction.



# Testing Data

## MEAP scores

MEAP scores are reported as an average of all students who took the exam.

Grade/Subject	WL2005	WL2006	WL2007	State Avg. 2007
3rd Math	86%	89%	96%	90%
	88%	94%	91%	86%
	51%	56%	67%	57%
	80%	86%	90%	81%
4th Math	82%	77%	86%	86%
	84%	86%	95%	84%
	53%	41%	50%	44%
5th Math	78%	77%	87%	76%
	68%	75%	54%	74%
	83%	83%	76%	82%
	54%	44%	54%	59%
6th Math	79%	73%	73%	78%
	78%	91%	75%	82%
	65%	59%	64%	73%
	81%	85%	88%	82%
7th Math	68%	65%	79%	73%
	74%	75%	85%	80%
	79%	76%	73%	73%
	61%	61%	78%	73%
8th Math	78%	84%	84%	77%
	69%	54%	82%	77%
	73%	79%	84%	74%
	66%	73%	57%	72%
9th Social Studies	75%	66%	78%	77%
	66%	59%	70%	70%
	73%	60%	76%	75%
	84%	82%	87%	79%

## Graduation Rates

	WLHS	State Avg.
2006/07	84.71%	75%
2005/06	78.26%	85.75%
2004/05	87.02%	87.7%
2003/04	89.22%	88.7%
2002/03	85.09%	84.8%
2001/02	84.48%	86.25%

## Drop Out Rates

	WLHS	State Avg.
2006/07*	8.24%	15.09%
2005/06	5.77%	3.79%
2004/05	3.57%	3.3%
2003/04	3.08%	3.0%
2002/03	3.46%	4.1%
2001/02	3.71%	4.14%

\*Beginning in 2006/07, the state changed the method of calculation to more accurately reflect district rates and individual student achievement.

## Disaggregated MEAP data-Fall 2007

The State requires the MEAP data be broken down, or “disaggregated” into subgroups requiring a report of the average score of only the students who passed.

Grade/Subject	Male	Female	Economically disadvantaged	Non-economically disadvantaged
3rd ELA	88%	92%	85%	93%
	94%	98%	96%	96%
4th ELA	82%	93%	71%	96%
	82%	90%	75%	92%
5th ELA	69%	75%	61%	78%
	64%	47%	46%	57%
	74%	75%	57%	82%
6th ELA	77%	93%	74%	89%
	61%	67%	57%	67%
	68%	78%	70%	74%
7th ELA	84%	84%	79%	87%
	77%	80%	75%	80%
8th ELA	76%	77%	67%	80%
	61%	53%	79%	89%
	61%	53%	79%	89%
9th Social Studies	79%	71%	70%	71%

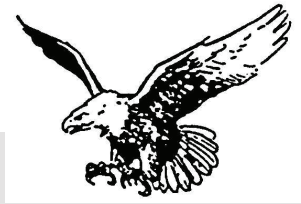
## 2008 MME

Grade/Subject	WL 2007	WL2008	State Avg. 2008
11th Reading	61%	66.6%	61.9%
Writing	41%	40%	41.1%
ELA	52%	51.3%	52.3%
Math	47%	45%	46.2%
Science	56%	57.5%	56.6%
Social Studies	88%	87.5%	79.9%

\*ELA—English Language Arts, a combined reading and writing assessment.



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## Enrollment

### September Count

	2007	2006	2005
K-garten	106	108	118
1 <sup>st</sup> grade	93	96	86
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	86	83	90
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	85	83	102
4 <sup>th</sup> grade	81	103	94
<b>Total:</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>490</b>

## Special Awards

Student awards include: Attendance Awards, Honor Roll, the Presidential Award, Safety Patrol Recognition, Student Achievement Awards, and individual classroom awards.

## Parent Participation

Parent participation is an important part of the educational process at Whitmore Lake Elementary. Ninety-four percent of our students were represented by parents or guardians at conferences during 2007-2008. Parents have participated in the education of their children through volunteering and involvement in many activities organized by our PTA. Parents and guardians are invited to many school events, such as, Open House, Book Fairs, Science Fair, Family Dance, Pioneer Day, Career Day, Reading Friends, Family Fun Night, Portfolio Night, Movies and Grade Level Music Programs. Parents are involved in direct decision making by being members on our School Improvement Team.

## Building Summary

**Education YES! Grade—A** (Composite score: 90%)

**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) - Yes**

**Highly Qualified Teachers—100%**

**Attendance Rate—94%** (The State objective is 80%.)

## School Improvement Plan

The first goal of the Leadership and Design Team was to learn how to use MAP (Measurements of Academic Progress) assessments, MEAP tests and TestWiz reports more effectively to improve student achievement. Teachers met in grade level teams to review the data and develop plans to improve curriculum. Fourth graders were given a comprehensive summer packet to review difficult areas in the math curriculum. This supported our district goal of using assessment data to plan for school improvement.

Secondly, all teachers completed mapping the math curriculum online and are in the process of mapping language arts. This goal supports a consistent and coordinated curriculum within and between grade levels. The ICT team supported students who were below their peers in math and language arts.

Our third goal was to work on writing assessment. All teachers are using 6+1 Traits to teach writing. K-2 grades are in the process of choosing a writing rubric. Cindy Allen and Candy Wilson achieved teacher trainer status through Washtenaw Intermediate School District in the Lucy Calkins program for teaching writing which will support the teaching and learning in language arts.

## Curriculum

Our district is aligned with the state standards and new grade level expectations in all content areas. Teachers continued working at grade levels on activities and assessments in math and language arts.

## Evaluation

Students are assessed using MEAP tests, MAP, pre/post testing in all core content areas, portfolios, rubrics, and other authentic classroom assessments.

## Professional Development

During the 2007-2008 school year staff development included training new members and learning how to support math with the Instructional Consultation Team, MAP review, Atlas curriculum mapping, TestWiz training, 6+1 Traits and writing rubrics, non-violent crisis intervention, Power School, math strategies, Lucy Calkins and Brain Gym.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL



## Building Summary

Education YES! Grade—B (Composite score: 86%)

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) - Yes

Highly Qualified Teachers—100%

Attendance Rate—93% (The State objective is 80%.)

## School Improvement

In 2007, the School Improvement Committee combined with the building Leadership & Design team to focus our conversations and school improvement efforts. Parents, students, staff and Board of Education members comprise the committee.

The committee focused on the following three goals:

1. **We will increase the reading proficiency for all students in the middle school by 25% each year as shown on their standardized testing data.**
2. **We will improve number sense and operations proficiency by 25% in the middle school as shown on their standardized testing data.**
3. **We will increase proficiency in detailed writing and audience purpose for all students in the middle school by 25% each year as shown on standardized testing data.**

WLMS is committed to closing the achievement gap between general education students and those students who come to us with special needs. We have made great strides in this area. For example, our 6<sup>th</sup> grade special education students went from 7% proficiency to 53% proficiency for an increase of 657%. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade special education students' aggregate scores went from 11% to 40% for an increase of 263%.

Of course, these types of gains were not realized in all areas or grade levels. In fact, our aggregate score in 8<sup>th</sup> grade math dropped from 73% proficiency to 57%. We will be examining the factors related to this decrease in order to improve.

## Curriculum

Our district and school view the curriculum as a fluid document. It is continuously reviewed and updated in response to areas of strength and weakness.

## Evaluation

Students are assessed using MEAP, MAP and local assessments. Assessments are varied and include the use of rubrics, portfolios and other best practices.

## Professional Development

Staff engaged in a wide variety of professional development opportunities. In-service training was conducted in the area of formative assessment (Measure of Academic Progress). Teachers attended various trainings and conferences such as: Non-violent crisis intervention, WISD Math Steering Committee, MEAP Assessment, MALDE, MSBOA, MAMSE, Angry Child, Technology Lab training, MACUL, Assistive Tech., Career Cruising, EDP, Reading Apprenticeship, Michigan Education Conference.

## Extra/Co-Curricular Opportunities for Students

Model UN, Student Council, STAND, Junior National Honor Society, Tech Club, Design by Nature Program – EMU, Athletics, Talent Show, Homework Club, Drama Club, Builders Club, Science Olympiad, Science Fair, Fifth and Eighth Grade DARE Program, Take Your Child to Work Day

## Enrollment

September Count

	2007	2006	2005
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	101	93	113
6 <sup>th</sup> grade	91	104	96
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	93	95	102
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	90	97	116
<b>Total:</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>427</b>

## Special Awards

Awards include: Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance, Perfect Responsibility Code, Presidential Academic Fitness, Awards for RoboFest Competitions, Athletic Awards, Physical Fitness Awards, Behavior/Responsibility Code, Students of the Month, and individual classroom awards are presented to students who earn them.

## Parent Participation

We have a Very Interested Persons (VIP) Committee of parents and staff who meet quarterly to discuss issues involving the middle school. Curriculum, MEAP testing, parenting, school improvement and enrichment activities have all been focus areas during the school year. A more comprehensive transition plan for fourth grade students and parents has been developed. We have included parents on our school improvement team and on our human sexuality committee. Fifty two percent of parents attended the parent/teacher conferences.





# HIGH SCHOOL

## Enrollment

### September Count

	2007	2006	2005
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	124	148	114
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	119	92	108
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	84	109	75
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	90	70	72
Alt. Ed.	**	**	17
<b>Total:</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>386</b>

*\*\*WLHS discontinued its 'in-house' alternative education program at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. Our district now utilizes Ypsilanti's C.O.P.E. program and Livingston County's Renaissance as a means of providing an educational opportunity to our most at-risk students. Additionally, several juniors and seniors attend Ypsilanti's RCTC program for building trades, automotive classes, graphics, and culinary arts. Alternative Education students are now included in counts by grade level.*

## Parent Participation

The staff at WLHS utilizes bi-weekly progress reports, email and websites for communication with parents. In addition, our district hosts a parent-teacher conference in the fall.

9th Grade	38	32%*
10th Grade	50	42%*
11th Grade	30	36%*
12th Grade	33	37%*
Total students represented:		37%*

\* Does not include Alt. Ed. students' parents.  
 Total represented in 2006 33%  
 Total represented in 2005 44.7%  
 Total represented in 2004 38%

## Advanced Placement

WLHS offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses to students. These are comparable to entry level college courses and prepare students to take the related AP test in May for possible college credit. In order to receive a passing test score a 3 or a 4 must be earned out of a possible 4 points.

Course	# Tested	# Passed
AP Calculus	4	3
AP Language	2	2
AP Literature	9	9
AP Government	4	4

## Building Summary

Education YES! Grade—B (Composite score: 85)

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) - YES

Highly Qualified Teachers—100%

Accreditation Status

North Central Outcomes Accredited

## School Improvement

Professional learning communities will be means by which the staff of WLHS continues to meet it school improvement requirements. Our goals are still focused on developing a rigorous and relevant curriculum for all students, improved achievement scores on ACT, PLAN, and EXPLORE tests, and striving toward a 100% graduation rate. WLHS renewed its North Central Outcomes Accreditation last year and will continue to do so in the future.

A Reading Apprenticeship program was utilized in one English class during the 2007-2008 school year. In 2008/09, freshman level social studies, English, and science teachers will be trained in the Reading Apprenticeship program.

## Curriculum

Our core academic curriculum cover grades 9 through 12. It describes what a student will know and be able to do for each core subject area. All WLHS curricula are based upon the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

## Evaluation

The school's student body is evaluated both formally (unit exams and quizzes, projects, final exams) and informally (oral questioning and answering, discussions, and debates) on a regular basis. Standardized tests (including the MEAP, EXPLORE, PLAN, and MME), along with the curriculum review process are used to evaluate the curriculum and student body.

## Professional Development

The staff at WLHS participated in several conferences last year including, but not limited to, MME assessment conferences, language arts and social studies conferences, model school conferences, and curriculum development conferences. This year's conference schedule will continue to allow staff opportunities for growth in core content areas and assessment. Additionally, a curriculum writing program called Atlas has been added and a group of teachers will work with the principal on a year-long Leadership and Design program sponsored by WISD.

## Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment, an extension of the high school curriculum, allows students to attend courses at local colleges in addition to their high school. During the 2007/08 school year, six students enrolled in one or more postsecondary courses.

## ACT Scores

The ACT test is taken by most students who will be attending college. It is given at the end of the junior year or at the beginning of the senior year and is used for college admission in the state of Michigan.

Year	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	WL	State	WL	State	WL	State	WL	State	WL	State
05/06	18.9	20.7	19.8	21.2	20.3	21.8	20.7	21.7	20.0	21.5
06/07	20.3	20.7	20.4	21.3	22.4	21.8	21.0	21.7	21.2	21.5
07/08	19.1	18.7	19.6	19.5	20.1	19.8	20.5	19.9	19.9	19.6

