

**Academy of Waterford**  
**"Home of the Lakers"**  
**3000 Sashabaw Road**  
**Waterford, MI 48329**



**Annual Report**  
**July 2008**

**Retention Rate.**

At the end of the school year, all teachers restated their interest in returning to teach at the Academy. Our student retention rate for the 07/08 school year was 68%.

**Our Community**

At the Academy of Waterford we have a special partnership with Academic Adventures and KinderCare Learners Center. They accept our latchkey children for both before and after school services. They also provide transportation to and from our school. KinderCare Learners center also provides care for our children on days when our school is closed for such things as Professional Development/In-service days. We also have the use of Waterford Public Schools busses for our field trips. If there is ever a need to evacuate our building during an emergency, we have been offered the services of The Community Presbyterian Church who will take in our children and keep them safe until they can be picked up. We have also partnered with the Linda Macey Agency of MEEMIC insurance, Uppercuts Barber Shop, and T&C Federal Credit Union.

**Communication is Essential**

The Academy used the following ways to keep open the lines of communication:

- Open House
- Charter Day
- Newsletters
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- Book Fairs
- Science Fair
- Field Trips
- Business Expo/ Craft Show
- Workshops/Conferences
- Curriculum Night (Open House)

Academy of Waterford opened fall of 2003. Its current charter contract is in the process of being reauthorized. At the end of the 2007-2008 academic school year, the Board of Trustees/Regents of Bay Mills Community College chose to renew the Academy's contract for a three year term based on the Academy's performance.

**Enrollment and Demographics**

During the 2007-2008 school year the Academy of Waterford's staff, parents and students were very committed and focused. We have a diverse population:

- American Indian Students 2%
- Black Students - 45%
- Hispanic Students 20%
- White Students 33%

It was a year of numerous accomplishments. The year started with 205 students, many who were enrolled during the 2006-2007 school year. Our count day percentage was **98%**.

Our school offers a unique program based on entrepreneurial development. Students as early as kindergarten learn how to operate their own businesses. The students brainstorm ideas for their classroom, and then construct a business plan complete with projected monthly expenses, income and a loan payback projection. Students also work out pricing, advertising and promotional strategies. Sales are made to the student body, staff, parents and the community.

**Administered Assessments**

*Michigan law requires that schools use a nationally-recognized norm-referenced assessment or another assessment to annually assess student achievement in mathematics and literacy in grades 1-5. Below is information on which assessment(s) the Academy use.*

**Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT 8)**

Grades 1-8 took the MAT8 in the fall and all of the students grades K-8 were tested in the spring.

**Kindergarten**

Subject	Spring 2007	Spring 2008
Reading	36	+71
Math	39	+56
Language	43	+50

Kindergarten only takes the spring MAT-8

**Grade 1**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains /Loss
Reading	61	46	-15
Math	54	42	-12
Language	50	50	0
Science		63	
Social Studies		67	

**Grade 2**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains /Loss
Reading	43	35	-8
Math	29	30	+1
Language	33	48	+15
Science	54	22	-32
Social Studies	67	52	-15

Overall in grades K-2 students did not do as well as expected. Our goal is always to show improvement. We have begun teacher training to impact student learning to reflect growth in the upcoming year.

Student's scores however, are not reflective of standards and benchmarks like the MEAP.

**Grade 3**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains/Loss
Reading	35	63	+28
Math	45	52	+7
Language	29	52	+23
Science	45	74	+29
Social Studies	45	63	+18

**Grade 4**

Subject	Fall	Spring	Gains
	2008	2008	/loss
Reading	42	52	+10
Math	28	38	+38
Language	40	57	+17
Science	40	52	+12
Social Studies	40	57	+17

**Grade 5**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains/Loss
Reading	35	33	-2
Math	26	19	-7
Language	35	24	-11
Science	26	29	+3
Social Studies	22	24	+2

In grade 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> the scores were very mixed. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade improved in every area. Both grades were taught by experienced teachers that taught the same grade previously. However in 5<sup>th</sup> grade students showed minimum progress. They had an experienced teacher that transitioned from the lower grades.

**Grade 6**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains/Loss
Reading	25	38	13
Math	38	29	-9
Language	36	29	-7
Science	22	29	7
Social Studies	19	38	19

**Grade 7**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains/Loss
Reading	34	34	0
Math	22	29	+7
Language	19	29	+10
Science	28	29	+1
Social Studies	22	38	+16

**Grade 8**

Subject	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Gains/Loss
Reading	36	33	-3
Math	21	13	-8
Language	36	27	-9
Science	29	33	+4
Social Studies	29	20	-9

In 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade the scores were very mixed. All of the teachers are "new" to teaching, or to the grade level. Our goal is always to show improvement. We have begun teacher training to impact student learning to reflect growth. Student's scores however, are not reflective of standards and benchmarks like the MEAP.

**(MEAP)**

*The Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) reveals how Michigan's students and schools are doing in the core academic subjects. The MEAP test is the only common academic measure given statewide to all students and serve as a measure of accountability under NCLB and Education YES! The MEAP assess students annually in grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math, once at the elementary, middle school, and in science and social studies. Students scoring in Level 1 (Exceeded Expectations) and Level 2 (Met Expectations) are considered proficient. Students scoring in Level 3 (Basic) and Level 4 (Apprentice) are not considered proficient.*

**See attached sheet for MEAP Graph**

Academy of Waterford continues to make gains in key areas, on the MEAP Test in comparison with scores from Fall 2006. Grade 5 showed improvement in all key areas. With exceptions: Grade 3- Reading; Grade 4-ELA and Writing.

Grade 6-Writing, Grade 7-Reading; and Grade 8 Reading and Math.

The areas of Writing and Math are in great need of improvement and will be a focus of the upcoming year. A new curriculum will be implemented and training in the writing process has taken place to be implemented in the fall.

*Our school made AYP and received a Report Card Grade of "B". We will remain in Phase 1 until we pass the MEAP Test in October!*

Our accreditation status for AYP is School Improvement Phase 1 for the 08/09 school year. Our Education/Yes grade is B.

**ASSESSMENT DATA**

Students' achievement data will be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, migrant status, English proficiency, and economic status. Per Michigan Department of Education, a minimum of thirty students per category are required for the reporting to be statistically sound.

**Curriculum Narrative**

The Academy of Waterford's ("Academy") staff has aligned the curriculum with the State of Michigan Curriculum Framework Standards and Benchmarks and with the Grade Level Content Expectations where applicable. The result of this hard work and diligence can be observed in classrooms and student test scores. The adopted curriculum is developmentally appropriate with attention given to cultural differences, learning styles and individual learner abilities. The teaching staff has grade level meetings to discuss student success and how to make necessary changes in the delivery of the curriculum if students are struggling. A variety of instructional methods are used to meet the needs of the diverse student population. The curriculum is monitored, maintained, reviewed and revised on a regular basis.

The Academy has an entrepreneurial focus and instructs all students in the area of business along with the core curriculum areas of English Language Arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The Academy teaches basic entrepreneurial and economic concepts. Community resources are used to

augment the curriculum. Students are equipped with interpersonal problem solving and technical skills that enable them to be self-directed lifelong learners, involved citizens, responsible family members, and knowledgeable consumers.

The Academy, as required by the revised school code, annually updates the School Improvement Plan (SIP). The Academy submits the updated plan to the authorizer (BMCC) for review. Bay Mills Community College and or its designee review focuses on finding evidence in the SIP that the Academy has high-quality, continuous improvement processes in place. The School Improvement Planning Team evaluates the plan in an ongoing process. It is a living document and changes will be made as needed. This process includes all the stakeholders conducting an evaluation of the programs in place to achieve the goals set forth in the plan. Part of the process is identifying the strengths and weakness of the plan and more importantly constructively adjusting the weaknesses. The SIP will be evaluated as the blueprint that will lead to the Academy of Waterford reaching the goals set forth within it. The entire staff will help in monitoring around the SIP goals and objectives by focusing on them in teaching, staff meetings, and professional developments. The professional development activities will focus on areas that will strengthen and enhance the research-based strategies that are used by the Academy of Waterford's instructional team. The Academy will experience continuous improvement and increase student achievement because of the commitment to thoroughly analyze all pertinent data and implement an action plan that addresses the needs of the school

through purposeful and planned changes in school and classroom practices. The School Improvement Team (SIT) will be cognizant of the need for constant monitoring of the Action Plans.

#### School Improvement Goals

A school improvement team was formed from volunteers representing parents, board members, and community and school leaders. A School Improvement Plan was adopted by the Academy Board at the September 2007 meeting.

This Plan was the result of many meetings, parent and student surveys, and assessment/data results.

The Plan sets forth the academic goals for 2008-2011 with the focus on student growth in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

#### Professional Qualifications

All (**100%**) of our teachers at the Academy are highly qualified and have Full State of Michigan certification!

Teachers at the academy have received professional development and in-service with the goal of becoming stronger educators.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our 07-08 School year we have sustained our enrollment.
- Awards Assembly honoring our great students.
- The Basketball team and Cheer-leading squad that represented our Academy with their skills, leadership and sportsmanship.
- The GREAT staff who volunteered hundreds of hours of tutoring.
- Skate Night at the Roladium.
- Bowling night at Cherry Hill Lanes had over 75 members.
- Holiday programs
- Harvest Day Dance
- Positive Behavior Support Plan (**L.A.K.E.R.S.**)  
Listen the first time.  
Act appropriately  
Keep control  
Enter and Exit with respect  
Raise your hand for help  
Show respect for self & others

#### Our Parent Group

Our parent group earned for our school a total of \$10,485.671 during the 07/08 school year.

#### Some of the ways they earned money:

- Popcorn Friday's earned approximately \$959.50
- Burger King/Chuckie Cheese night \$131.73
- Market Day \$556.81
- Scholastic Book Fairs - Earned new books for the library. \$3,813.93
- AOW spirit tee shirts \$963
- Fun Run \$969.07
- Pizza Kits \$1,028

Some of the ways we spent the money:

- Walking with Dinosaurs school wide Field Trip
- Awards Assembly refreshments
- Eighth Grade Promotion refreshments
- Dunk Tank /Carnival games.
- Ann Arbor "Hands on Museum" school wide trip
- Refreshments for Fun Run



Mrs. Carolyn L. Edwards,  
Principal

**Destination...**

**Mission Statement**

**SUCCESS!**

**The Academy of Waterford will enhance the future by providing opportunities for all students to learn by engaging in educational and entrepreneurial activities.**

**Academy Board Members**

**Curtis Kilpatrick-President**

**Mike McDonnell-Vice President**

**Vacancy**

**Cindy Fairchild –Secretary**

**Wilma Wells- Director**

**This Report**

This report was prepared to comply with the requirements of Public Act 25 of 1990 and the

No Child Left Behind Act. This report provides for parents, the accurate and reliable information necessary to make the best educational decisions for their children's future.