

# 2008-09 Annual Report

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Grosse Pointe Farms,  
Michigan 48236

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## *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Brownell Middle School Community is to promote the acquisition of knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary for all students to realize their individual potential and to be contributing members of society.

*Samuel M. Brownell Middle School*

*Grosse Pointe Public School System*

**Dr. Michael B. Dib, Principal**

## **Introduction**

Brownell's 661 students completed a successful school year as evidenced by the many accomplishments listed below. Our "Brownell Points of Pride" were due to the diligent work of teachers, support staff, and parent volunteers.

Students in all three grade levels were honored and recognized for outstanding achievement in academics and citizenship.

Students participated in Math Counts Regional Competition. Students also participated in the Letters About Literature Contest, America and Me Essay Contest, Map-Tastic Contest, You Be the Chemist Competition, NASA Engineering Design Challenge, and Robotics Competition. Seventh and eighth grade students also won Michigan Interscholastic Broadcast and Press Journalism Awards.

Our Student Council raised money and purchased supplies for teachers and provided materials for a variety of classrooms.

Our STAND (Students Taking a New Direction) Club sponsored various drug free activities including a Haunted House, Memorial Garden, Fundraisers that supported Gilda's Club, Sweet Dreamzz, Leukemia and Lymphoma research, and Children's Hospital. An anti-smoking program was also presented to the student body.

Instrumental band, orchestra and vocal choir students received Superior ratings at local, state, and national music competitions.

A wide variety of extra-curricular activities (Athletics, Yearbook, Jazz Band, Girls' Choir, Drama Production, and Art Club) provided opportunities for students to explore areas of interest.

Brownell Staff sponsored and tutored students in an after school program providing "Homework Help" three days a week.

The Brownell PTO donated services and financial support to offer educational assemblies, guest speakers, and building projects.

Our school also sponsored the district's first Kids Against Hunger Project that resulted in the creation of 12,000 nutritious meals for needy people in Michigan, the United States, and around the world.

**Brownell Middle  
School opened  
in September, 1958**

## Core Curriculum

The Grosse Pointe Public School System's core curriculum is developed under the auspices of the Educational Programs Leadership Council (EPLC), a group of teachers, parents, students, and administrators who meet monthly.

The core curriculum is based upon state standards in all subjects and extends beyond those standards by incorporating exemplary national standards. Curriculum committees, comprised of teachers, parents, students and administrators develop plans for each curricular area. In addition, the views of the broader community are sought through Public Forums. The reports of the curriculum committees, which are submitted first to the EPLC and then to the Board of Education, include recommendations regarding assessment, staff development, integration of technology, and differentiated instruction to accommodate academic diversity as well as the curriculum itself. The district also offers a wide array of advanced placement and challenging enrichment courses and a comprehensive special education program.

During 2008-09 the district implemented a new mathematics program to support the prior year's curriculum implementation. *Everyday Math* was selected for grades 1-5 and Harcourt for Kindergarten. A new social studies curriculum was implemented for grades K-2 and 5 (grades 3 and 4 are still under study due to late changes in the state curriculum) and materials to support instruction were purchased. New science and music curricula were adopted with transition plans, and materials purchased to support them.

During 2009-10 the English/language arts curriculum will be the core curriculum under review. Computer Education K-12 is also under review to ensure that the district's investment and grant support in technology are well used.

The district's strong curriculum is demonstrated by the continuing high performance of our students on standardized assessments including NWEA, MEAP, ACT, SAT, and Advanced Placement tests.

### School Improvement Plan

1. Improving writing achievement across the curriculum
  - Increase the total number of students achieving a proficient score on the Grosse Pointe Writing Test
  - Increase the number of male students achieving a proficient score on the Grosse Pointe Writing Test
  - Increase the number of opportunities for students to write essays using the approved Grosse Pointe Writing prompts
  - Increase student and teacher opportunities to review writing criteria for the purpose of achieving proficient writing scores
2. Enhance academic support for all students
  - Differentiate instruction based upon readiness, interest, and learning styles of each student (common assessments, electives, academic challenge and rigor for all learners)
  - Provide additional cognitive and emotional supports for all students
  - Offer a variety of courses for struggling and gifted learners
  - Improve learning opportunities for all students through flexible course offerings
3. Improve Student Accountability
  - Students will use planners, teacher web pages, and school resources to improve academic performance

Student Average Attendance Rate: 95.2%

Percentage of Parents Participating in Parent-Teacher Conferences:

2008-2009  
92% (608 Students)

2007-2008  
94% (641 Students)

### *Education YES! Report Card*

AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) Status Met: Yes

Michigan Report Card Grade: A

North Central Association Accreditation

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT—BROWNELL MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MEAP)

MEAP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEST Grade 6											
MEAP READING				MEAP WRITING				MEAP ELA TOTAL			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	95%	94%	96%	08-09	92%	90%	93%	08-09	95%	93%	96%
07-08	97%	95%	98%	07-08	93%	96%	89%	07-08	97%	95%	99%
06-07	97%	99%	95%	06-07	90%	93%	87%	06-07	94%	96%	91%

MEAP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEST Grade 7											
MEAP READING				MEAP WRITING				MEAP ELA TOTAL			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	96%	96%	96%	08-09	94%	95%	92%	08-09	97%	97%	96%
07-08	91%	96%	86%	07-08	94%	98%	90%	07-08	93%	98%	87%
06-07	97%	97%	98%	06-07	89%	90%	88%	06-07	96%	96%	95%

MEAP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEST Grade 8											
MEAP READING – Grade 8				MEAP WRITING – Grade 8				MEAP ELA TOTAL – Grade 8			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	89%	95%	82%	08-09	91%	95%	85%	08-09	90%	96%	83%
07-08	97%	98%	96%	07-08	94%	95%	93%	07-08	97%	97%	97%
06-07	93%	97%	90%	06-07	90%	93%	85%	06-07	93%	97%	88%

MEAP MATHEMATICS TEST											
Grade 6				Grade 7				Grade 8			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY				Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	92%	91%	92%	08-09	97%	97%	96%	08-09	88%	87%	89%
07-08	94%	92%	95%	07-08	95%	96%	93%	07-08	92%	91%	93%
06-07	91%	90%	92%	06-07	90%	91%	89%	06-07	92%	92%	92%

MEAP SCIENCE – Grade 8			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	91%	95%	85%
07-08	95%	94%	97%
06-07	94%	95%	93%

MEAP SOCIAL STUDIES Grade 6			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male
08-09	94%	91%	96%
07-08	96%	95%	97%
06-07	94%	95%	92%

**NOTE:** Grade 8 Social Studies test was moved to grade 9 and reported by the high schools.

- MEAP Data is not reported by Racial/Ethnic minority group, Special Education, or Economically Disadvantaged because no group is significantly large enough to report MEAP results without revealing the identity of individual students.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT-BROWNELL

2008-09 MEAP Percentage of Students Tested								
Grade	MEAP READING	MEAP WRITING	MEAP ELA	MEAP MATH	MEAP SCIENCE	MEAP SOCIAL STUDIES	Total ELA with MI-ACCESS	Total Math with MI-ACCESS
6	98%	98%	98%	99%	Not Tested	98%	100%	100%
7	98%	98%	98%	98%	Not Tested	Not Tested	100%	100%
8	98%	98%	98%	98%	97%	Not Tested	100%	100%

**NOTE:** Total with MI-ACCESS refers to the percentage tested with either the MEAP or the MI-ACCESS (an alternative state test) in each test area.

## GROSSE POINTE WRITING

Grosse Pointe WRITING Percentage of Students Achieving SATISFACTORY									
Year	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	All	F	M	All	F	M	All	F	M
08-09	75.0%	81.8%	69.2%	63.2%	75.0%	51.8%	64.0%	77.5%	49.0%
07-08	61.4%	71.2%	51.9%	64.6%	77.5%	50.0%	70.8%	80.0%	60.8%
06-07	64.7%	73.9%	54.2%	70.0%	73.4%	66.4%	76.1%	90.8%	56.7%

Satisfactory includes scores of 4 through 7.

## NORTHWEST EVALUATION ASSOCIATION (NWEA )

Average Percentile Achieved by Brownell Students (on National Norms)

Grade	Year	Percentile READING Spring			Percentile MATH Spring		
		All	Female	Male	All	Female	Male
6	08-09	63	63	63	59	56	61
	07-08	64	64	63	60	56	64
7	08-09	68	72	64	61	60	61
	07-08	68	70	65	61	61	60
8	08-09	66	71	60	62	62	62
	07-08	69	70	68	63	60	66

**NOTES:** A percentile is the percentage of students in a national norms group who scored at or below a particular score.