



# 2009-10 Annual Report

**260 Chalfonte  
Grosse Pointe Farms,  
Michigan 48236  
(313) 432-3900**

*Samuel M. Brownell Middle School  
Grosse Pointe Public School System*

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

## Introduction

### *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.

Brownell's 652 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 many academic contests, including: Letters About Literature Contest, America and Me Essay Contest, Social Studies Geography Bee, You Be the Chemist Competition, NASA Micro-g Experiment Design Challenge, and Michigan Interscholastic Press Association Awards. Brownell students won the National Micro-g first place award as well as the Great Lakes Regional first place award. *The Brownell Beat* school newspaper won the only Spartan Award earned by any middle school newspaper in the state.

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

Our NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) provided community service to elementary school students and the community.

Our STAND (Students Taking a New Direction) Club sponsored various drug free activities including a Haunted House, Memorial Garden, Fundraisers that supported Sweet Dreamzz, Race for the Cure, 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, Bridge Club, Drama Production, and Art Club) provide opportunities for students to explore areas of interest.

Brownell Staff sponsors and tutors 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.

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

Student Average Attendance Rate: 97.2%

Percentage of Parents Participating in Parent-Teacher Conferences:

2009-2010  
91.1% (594 Students)

2008-2009  
92% (608 Students)

#### *Education YES! Report Card*

AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) Status Met: Yes

Michigan Report Card Grade: A

Not Identified for Improvement

#### *Assignment of Students*

The Board has determined attendance areas and students shall be expected to attend school within that area. A parent may request a transfer or appeal a placement decision on behalf of their student.

The principal shall be responsible for assigning students to classes. In the elementary schools, the principal, in determining the grade level for any new student, may take into consideration the previous schooling of the student but may assign the student to a lower grade level or higher grade level, if in the principal's judgment such an assignment would be in the best interests of the student. In the middle school and in the senior high school students will be assigned to counselors, classes and instructors by the building principal.

The district also has in place policies and guidelines which guide promotion and retention.

## 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 curriculum 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 2009-10 the district began implementation of the new social studies curriculum for grades K-3, and 5-6. Grades 3 and 4 will be rolled out in 2010-11. English/language arts curriculum was the core curriculum under review, roll out is planned for the fall of 2010. Computer education curriculum continues to be under review, these curriculum changes will reflect the district's investment in new curriculum for teachers grades Kindergarten through twelve.

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. Variety of courses offered 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 ACHIEVEMENT MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MEAP)

MEAP READING 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
09-10	99%	99%	100%	09-10	96%	95%	97%	09-10	95%	98%	91%
08-09	95%	94%	96%	08-09	96%	96%	96%	08-09	89%	95%	82%
07-08	97%	95%	98%	07-08	91%	96%	86%	07-08	97%	98%	96%

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
09-10	94%	96%	92%	09-10	98%	96%	99%	09-10	87%	87%	88%
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%

MEAP SCIENCE – Grade 8			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male
09-10	91%	91%	92%
08-09	91%	95%	85%
07-08	95%	94%	97%

MEAP SOCIAL STUDIES Grade 6			
Percentage Achieving SATISFACTORY			
Year	All	Female	Male
09-10	93%	93%	94%
08-09	94%	91%	96%
07-08	96%	95%	97%

**NOTE:** 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.

**NOTE:** The state no longer reports ELA Scores. The new MEAP Writing test was piloted this year and will be taken in grades 4 and 7 next year.

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

2009-10 MEAP Percentage of Students Tested						
Grade	MEAP READING	MEAP MATH	MEAP SCIENCE	Meap Social Studies	Total Read with Other Tests	Total Math with Other Tests
6	96%	96%	Not Tested	96%	100%	100%
7	97%	98%	Not Tested	Not Tested	100%	100%
8	98%	98%	98%	Not Tested	100%	100%

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

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (cont.)****GROSSE POINTE WRITING**

Percentage of Students Achieving SATISFACTORY									
Year	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	All	F	M	All	F	M	All	F	M
09-10	85.4%	91.3%	78.9%	76.4%	83.7%	70.2%	88.7%	93.5%	84.2%
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%

Grade 6-8 – 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	09-10	74	77	71	74	74	74
	08-09	63	63	63	59	56	61
	07-08	64	64	63	60	56	64
7	09-10	76	75	76	68	62	73
	08-09	68	72	64	61	60	61
	07-08	68	70	65	61	61	60
8	09-10	69	73	65	66	65	68
	08-09	66	71	60	62	62	62
	07-08	69	70	68	63	60	66

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

**FERPA NOTICE:**

Grosse Pointe Public Schools may, upon request, release the following directory information: student name, address, participation in school activities, date of school attendance, honors and awards, information generally found in yearbooks, and student name, addresses and telephone numbers when requested by military recruiters.

Parents or students, 18 years or older, who do not wish this information made public should complete the Public Use-Directory Information Notice Form available at: [www.gpschool.org](http://www.gpschool.org)