



GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Each and Every Child, Each and Every Day

South 2011-12 Annual Report

Introduction

For nearly nine decades, South High School has been a fixture in the Grosse Pointe Community. More than 80 classes of students have walked these halls and have left a lasting legacy that continues today. Grosse Pointe South High School is blessed with a fabulous teaching staff, and spectacular support from parents and students that are fully committed to excellence in all they do. For these and other reasons, South continues to be recognized as a national lighthouse high school.



Over the past several years, South has performed well on standardized testing measures being recognized by US News as the best traditional high school in the State of Michigan.



South has also steadily improved in all standardized testing areas. South is in the top 5% in the state on all areas tested of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and is also rated in the 97th percentile of all schools on the State of Michigan's annual school rankings. Each year, approximately 98% of South students continue to institutions of higher learning with many attending some of the highest ranking universities across the nation.

In addition to school-wide academic success, students excel in performing arts, fine arts, athletics and many other areas. The school has a rich athletic tradition boasting scores of state championships and the participation of more than 1,000 student athletes annually. South was recognized by MaxPrep as the best high school athletic program in the State of Michigan for the 2011-12 school year. The fine and performing arts programs excel as well, modeling excellence in art, band, orchestra and one of the best choir programs in the nation. Through these and other opportunities, the school is fully committed to providing a comprehensive high school experience.

As we embark on another school year, we do so understanding that we must continue to move the school forward. We will build upon the incredible foundation laid by previous generations and work to keep South on the cutting edge of 21st education. The standards remain high as together we are fully committed to keeping South one of the premier high schools in the nation. While the challenges are great, we will rely on the collective efforts of our staff, students and community to reach these objectives. We look forward to another great year, adding to the long tradition of excellence at Grosse Pointe South High School.

Mission Statement

Grosse Pointe South High School is a community of individuals who work in partnership to provide a broad based program of academics, athletics, and activities for ALL students. It is the dedication of those individuals that provides the foundation for student success and excellence in all their endeavors.

Student Average Attendance Rate: 95.83%

Parent-Teacher Conference Participation:

2011-12
96.1% (1,644 students)

2010-11
96.0% (1,564 Students)

Education Yes! Report Card

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Met: Yes

Michigan Report Card Grade: B

Not identified for improvement.

Dual Enrollment:

11th & 12th graders enrolled concurrently in H.S. & post-secondary classes (2011-12):
1 Student

Completion/Graduation Rate:

High school students who graduate in 4 years
Class of 2011 95.73%

Dropout Rate:

Percentage of students who do not complete GPPS H.S. program
Class of 2011 (6 students)
1.51%

Retention Rate: District average (100% of high school enrollment minus high school dropout rate) 98.49%

Earned Credit by Test-Out of a Course:

19 students

Assignment of Studies

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 interest of the student. In middle school and 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.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Grosse Pointe Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin or other factors.

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. Grosse Pointe Public Schools also publishes student information via school sponsored or school-related media, including activities of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

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.gpschools.org

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 by incorporating exemplary national standards. 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.

The 2011-12 school year brought many plans and changes to the K-5 English language arts curriculum. All elementary students will have learned specific reading comprehension strategies through a program called *Making Meaning*. Please ask your elementary child to talk to you about the stories their teacher is reading to them, and the questions they are asking about the stories. Elementary teachers began training on teaching reading to students, through the Reader's Workshop approach. Staff development will begin again in September and continue on throughout the 2012-13 school year. The continued implementation and training in Reader's Workshop is part of a three-year plan to develop readers and writers in our elementary students for their success in the challenging curriculum they will be facing at the middle and high school levels.

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

For the 2010-11 school year, the School Improvement Team selected the following two goals based upon MME data from the previous school year.

Goal #1

"South High School will increase student success by reducing student failures in courses by 10% as measured by final semester grades."

Staff will be working to individualize the education of South's students and using differentiated methods to reach every student at South High School. The use of individual student data will be used to drive the decisions of our teachers.

Goal #2

"To increase overall MME core content test scores by 3% for the 2012-13 school year through quality preparation for the tests."

Staff will be working to increase literacy skills by emphasizing reading and writing in all classes. Math and Science will be supported with timely intervention for struggling students and by using student data to address the individual needs of students. Again, using data will be essential as we target the individual needs of each of our students



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MEAP)

Percentage of Grade 11 Students Achieving Satisfactory/Scholarship Levels (Levels 1 and 2)

MEAP MME LANGUAGE ARTS TEST Grade 11							
MEAP MME READING – Grade 11				MEAP MME WRITING – Grade 11			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
2011-12	82%	85%	79%	2011-12	77%	79%	74%
2010-11	83%	84%	83%	2010-11	80%	84%	76%
2009-10	83%	87%	80%	2009-10	76%	80%	72%

MEAP MME MATH				MEAP MME SCIENCE			
Year	All	Female	Male	Year	All	Female	Male
2011-12	56%	53%	58%	2011-12	48%	44%	52%
2010-11	62%	61%	63%	2010-11	56%	55%	57%
2009-10	50%	46%	54%	2009-10	52%	49%	55%

MEAP MME SOCIAL STUDIES			
Year	All	Female	Male
2011-12	65%	60%	72%
2010-11	70%	67%	74%
2009-10	68%	65%	71%

MEAP SOCIAL STUDIES Grade 9		
Year	Black, Not of Hispanic Origin	Economically Disadvantaged
2011-12	22%	17%

- 9th Grade MEAP Social Studies had a 97% tested rate

Spring 2012 MME TEST Grade 11			
Test	Black, Not of Hispanic Origin	Economically Disadvantaged	% Tested
Reading	49%	58%	97%
Writing	45%	32%	97%
Math	12%	13%	97%
Science	14%	13%	97%
Social Studies	36%	31%	97%

MEAP SOCIAL STUDIES Grade 9			
Year	All	Female	Male
2011-12	58%	51%	65%
2010-11	64%	59%	70%
2009-10	61%	54%	69%

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



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (cont.)

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ONE OR MORE AP COURSES								
YEAR	GRADE 9		GRADE 10		GRADE 11		GRADE 12	
	# and % of Students		# and % of Students		# and % of Students		# and % of Students	
2011-12	0	0.0%	110	24.7%	153	40.6%	202	52.2%
2010-11	0	0.0%	86	21.5%	185	49.1%	241	58.6%
2009-10	1	0.3%	67	17.0%	202	50.2%	242	59.3%

RESULTS OF ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) TESTS *			
Year	# of Tests Taken	# of Tests Passed	Percentage of Tests Passed
2011-12	953	692	72.6%
2010-11	957	787	82.2%
2009-10	966	812	84.1%

- * Passing an Advanced Placement Test means becoming eligible for early college credit before high school graduation.
- There were 20 AP courses offered at Grosse Pointe South High School in 2011-12.

2011-12 ACT RESULTS 12 th GRADE STUDENTS						
	# Tested	English Mean Score	Math Mean Score	Reading Mean Score	Science Mean Score	Composite Mean Score
South	356	24.9	24.2	24.8	24.1	24.6
GP District	682	23.6	23.3	23.6	23.1	23.5
Michigan	114,727	19.3	20.1	20.0	20.4	20.1
Nation	1,666,017	20.5	21.1	21.3	20.9	21.1

2010-11 SAT RESULTS 12 th GRADE STUDENTS				
	# Tested	Critical Reading Mean Score	Math Mean Score	Writing Mean Score
South	103	612	619	594
GP District	137	609.8	610.3	591.8
Michigan	5,376	583	604	573
Nation	1,647,123	497	514	489

