



News Release

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State Announces 2010-11 Schools “Beating the Odds”

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The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) today released a list of 123 “Beating the Odds” schools who are outperforming schools with similar risk factors and demographic composition. These schools were identified by the Department through two separate studies using considerably different methodologies.

“We have good things happening in Michigan schools,” said state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan. “These Beating the Odds schools are helping students make progress and finding ways to overcome traditional barriers to academic achievement.”

The Department conducted two separate studies to identify schools that are “Beating the Odds.” Study 1 identified 60 schools that are performing above their predicted levels, based on risk factors such as percent economically disadvantaged; percent students with disabilities; percent English language learners; and percent minority students. Study 2 identified 83 schools that perform better than a comparison group of schools with similar demographics.

This year’s list differs from the list of 2009-2010 schools beating the odds published earlier this year in two ways: (1) this list is based on 2010-11 school year data while the list previously published was based on the previous year’s data, and (2) the outcome used in this year’s list has been improved. Last year’s list was based solely on percents proficient in each tested subject. This year’s list is based on a school’s ranking on the top to bottom list, which includes school-wide improvement rates and achievement gaps in addition to achievement levels.

Of the 123 schools identified, 20 schools meet both study criteria including 15 elementary, two K-8, two middle and one high school. All 20 schools were interviewed and profiled by the department.

“Beating the Odds” schools credited various factors for their success including strong building leadership; common vision; highly qualified and dedicated staff; high academic and behavioral expectations; a collaborative school culture; commitment to technology; strong community and parent involvement; and staff commitment to do whatever it takes to help students succeed.

“Beating the Odds schools have found ways to work smarter and harder, not just harder,” Flanagan said. “They have good leaders, knowledgeable and prepared teachers who engage students and a commitment to involve and embrace parents and the community.”

Flanagan said that while there is no single factor to school success, there are common themes worth studying. “I encourage all educators to explore what similar Beating the Odds schools are doing and, when appropriate, replicate what will work in their buildings,” said Flanagan.

The Beating the Odds school information is part of the Michigan Department of Education’s continuing commitment to bring “Light of Day” to school data and information to help improve elementary and secondary education.

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/beatingtheodds.

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2010-2011 MICHIGAN SCHOOLS BEATING THE ODDS

DISTRICT NAME	SCHOOL NAME	STUDY 1	STUDY 2	BOTH
Academy for Business and Technology	Academy for Business and Technology Elementary	X		
Alcona Community Schools	Alcona Community High School		X	
Ann Arbor Public Schools	Angell School		X	
Ann Arbor Public Schools	Martin Luther King Elem. School		X	
Ann Arbor Public Schools	Wines Elementary School		X	
Ashley Community Schools	Ashley Elementary School	X		
Battle Creek Public Schools	Urbandale School	X		
Bay City School District	Mackensen Elementary School		X	
Benzie County Central Schools	Crystal Lake Elementary School	X	X	X
Benzie County Central Schools	Lake Ann Elementary School	X	X	X
Berkley School District	Burton Elementary School		X	
Birmingham City School District	Birmingham Covington School		X	
Bloomfield Hills School District	Bloomfield Hills Middle School		X	
Buchanan Community Schools	Buchanan High School		X	
Business Entrepreneurship, Science, Tech. Academy	Business Entrepreneurship, Science, Tech. Academy	X	X	X
Byron Center Public Schools	Countryside Elementary School		X	
Byron Center Public Schools	Marshall Elementary School		X	
Caledonia Community Schools	Dutton Elementary School		X	
Carney-Nadeau Public Schools	Carney-Nadeau School	X		
Cass City Public Schools	Campbell Elementary School	X	X	X
Chelsea School District	Chelsea High School		X	
Chippewa Hills School District	Chippewa Hills High School		X	
Countryside Academy	Countryside Academy-Elementary	X		
Covert Public Schools	Covert Middle School	X		
Crawford AuSable Schools	Grayling Elementary School	X		
Crawford AuSable Schools	Grayling Middle School	X		
Croswell-Lexington Community Schools	Meyer Elementary School	X		
Davison Community Schools	Hill Elementary School		X	
Dearborn City School District	Howe Trainable Center and Montessori	X	X	X
Dearborn City School District	Iris Becker Elementary School	X	X	X

DISTRICT NAME	SCHOOL NAME	STUDY 1	STUDY 2	BOTH
Dearborn City School District	Lowrey Middle School	X		
Deckerville Community School District	Deckerville Elementary School	X		
DeTour Area Schools	Drummond Island Elem. School	X	X	X
Detroit City School District	Pasteur Elementary School		X	
Detroit Merit Charter Academy	Detroit Merit Charter Academy	X		
East China School District	St. Clair High School		X	
East Grand Rapids Public Schools	Wealthy School		X	
Eau Claire Public Schools	Lybrook Elementary School	X		
Edwardsburg Public Schools	Eagle Lake Elementary School		X	
El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz Academy	El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz Academy	X	X	X
Farmington Public School District	Highmeadow Common Campus School		X	
Forest Hills Public Schools	Ada Elementary School		X	
Forest Hills Public Schools	Central Middle School		X	
Forest Hills Public Schools	Central Woodlands 5/6 School		X	
Forest Hills Public Schools	Eastern High School		X	
Forest Hills Public Schools	Goodwillie Environmental School		X	
Frankenmuth School District	Frankenmuth High School		X	
Frankfort-Elberta Area Schools	Frankfort Elementary School	X		
Gaylord Community Schools	North Ohio Elementary School	X		
Glen Lake Community Schools	Glen Lake Elementary School		X	
Godfrey-Lee Public Schools	Godfrey-Lee Early Childhood Ctr.	X	X	X
Godwin Heights Public Schools	North Godwin Elementary School	X	X	X
Grand Blanc Community Schools	City School		X	
Grand Blanc Community Schools	Indian Hill Elementary School		X	
Grand Haven Area Public Schools	Griffin Elementary School	X		
Grand Haven Area Public Schools	Lake Hills Elementary School	X		
Grand Haven Area Public Schools	Peach Plains School		X	
Grandville Public Schools	Grandville South Elementary School		X	
Grandville Public Schools	Grandville West Elementary School	X		
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	Grosse Pointe South High School		X	
Gwinn Area Community Schools	K.I. Sawyer Elementary School	X		
Hamilton Community Schools	Bentheim Elementary School		X	
Hamilton Community Schools	Hamilton Middle School		X	
Hancock Public Schools	Hancock Middle School	X	X	X
Harbor Beach Community Schools	Harbor Beach Elementary School	X		
Hastings Area School District	Star Elementary School		X	
Hillman Community Schools	Hillman Elementary School	X		
Holly Area School District	Holly High School		X	
Houghton-Portage Township Schools	Houghton Central High School		X	
Hudsonville Public School District	Baldwin Street Middle School		X	
Hudsonville Public School District	Jamestown Elementary School		X	
Hudsonville Public School District	Park Elemementary School		X	
Huron Valley Schools	Muir Middle School		X	
International Academy of Flint	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	X		
Kaleva Norman Dickson School District	Brethren High School	X	X	X
Kent City Community Schools	Kent City Middle School		X	
Kentwood Public Schools	Glenwood Elementary	X	X	X
Kentwood Public Schools	Southwood Elementary	X	X	X
Kentwood Public Schools	Townline Elementary	X		
Kingsley Area Schools	Kingsley Area Elementary School	X	X	X
Lake City Area School District	Lake City Lower Elem. School	X		
Lake Orion Community Schools	Carpenter Year Round Elem. School		X	

DISTRICT NAME	SCHOOL NAME	STUDY 1	STUDY 2	BOTH
Livonia Public Schools	Webster Elementary School		X	
Madison School District (Lenawee)	Madison Middle School	X	X	X
Manton Consolidated Schools	Manton Consolidated Elem. School	X		
Martin Luther King, Jr. Education Center Academy	Martin Luther King, Jr. Education Center Academy	X	X	X
Midland Public Schools	Carpenter School	X		
Mona Shores Public School District	Ross Park Elementary School	X		
Mt. Pleasant City School District	Mt. Pleasant Senior High School		X	
New Buffalo Area Schools	New Buffalo Middle School	X		
North Branch Area Schools	Ruth Fox Elementary School		X	
North Central Area Schools	North Central Elementary School	X	X	X
North Muskegon Public Schools	North Muskegon High School		X	
Ovid-Elsie Area Schools	Leonard Elementary School	X	X	X
Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools	Pewamo-Westphalia Jr. Sr. High School		X	
Pinconning Area Schools	Pinconning Central Elementary School	X		
Portage Public Schools	Portage West Middle School		X	
Public Schools of Calumet	C.L.K. Elementary School	X		
Rochester Community School District	Brewster Elementary School		X	
Rochester Community School District	Musson Elementary School		X	
Rochester Community School District	North Hill Elementary School		X	
Rochester Community School District	Rochester Adams High School		X	
Rochester Community School District	Van Hoosen Middle School		X	
Saginaw Preparatory Academy	Saginaw Preparatory Academy	X		
Saline Area Schools	Saline High School		X	
Saugatuck Public Schools	Saugatuck Middle School		X	
School District of the City of Inkster	Meek-Milton Elementary School	X		
Shepherd Public School District	Winn Elementary School	X	X	X
Spring Lake Public Schools	Holmes Elementary School		X	
Spring Lake Public Schools	Jeffers Elementary School		X	
Springport Public Schools	Springport High School		X	
St. Joseph Public Schools	Clarke School		X	
Stanton Township Public Schools	E.B. Holman Elementary School	X		
Star International Academy	Star International Academy	X		
Stephenson Area Public Schools	Stephenson Middle School	X		
Tawas Area Schools	Clara B. Bolen Elementary School	X		
Three Rivers Community Schools	Andrews Elementary School	X		
Traverse City Area Public Schools	Willow Hill Elementary School		X	
Troy School District	Schroeder Elementary School		X	
University Preparatory Academy (PSAD)	University Preparatory Academy (PSAD) - Elementary		X	
University Preparatory Academy (PSAD)	University Preparatory Academy (PSAD) - Middle	X		
Western School District	Parma Elementary School	X		
Whittemore-Prescott Area Schools	Whittemore-Prescott Area Middle School	X		