



# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Academy of The Americas

### Annual Education Report (AER) 2010-2011

August 22, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for the Academy of The Americas. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact the school for assistance. You may also leave a message on the AER Hot-line (313) 873.6473 or email us at [aer@detroitk12.org](mailto:aer@detroitk12.org).

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.detroitk12.org/AER](http://www.detroitk12.org/AER) or you may review a copy in Academy of The Americas's office.

For the 2010-2011 school year, Academy of The Americas met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English Language Arts and mathematics. We are currently in AYP Phase 0. While we are pleased to have reached this important goal, we are continuously working to improve. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.

We will maintain our Phase 0 AYP status by:

- ◆ Continuing to improve the implementation of intervention in every classroom which will include data to identify and group target students, focused instruction using best practices, progress monitoring and assessment.
- ◆ Continuing to incorporate within our curriculum the use of a Dual Language model with theme based integrated instruction.
- ◆ Providing support and professional development for our Professional Learning Community
- ◆ Encouraging parents to continue their strong commitment to our learning community.

Parents have many opportunities to be involved in our learning community. They are encouraged to:

1. Attend LSCO monthly meetings
2. Attend Parent-Teacher conferences offered four (4) times per year.





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3. Attend any of several workshops offered by grade level staff and Title1 sponsored organizations in Mathematics, Reading and Science.
4. Volunteering in the school, on fields trips, in the classrooms, with school fundraisers and activities.
5. Participate in family activities offered by the school.
6. Communicate regularly with teachers regarding the progress of their children.

## Process for assigning pupils to the school

During the 2009-2010 school year, students were required to live within the boundary of the school to which they were assigned.

During the 2010-2011 school year Open Enrollment Detroit Public Schools implemented the “Open Enrollment Initiative. This initiative allows students to elect to attend any Detroit Public School without being required to live within the boundary for that school. The “Open Enrollment Initiative” does not apply to the Examination High Schools, or Application Schools. Parents may enroll their child(ren) in the school of their interest as long as the school has not reached capacity for their particular grade. Enrollment preference is given to students who live within the boundary of a school. It should also be noted that transportation will not be provided for students who select a school outside of the boundary of their home school. Open Enrollment Initiative resources can be found on our web-site at:  
[http://detroitk12.org/resources/prospective\\_students/](http://detroitk12.org/resources/prospective_students/)

## School Improvement Status

Year	School Improvement Status
2010-2011	N/A - AYP Met
2009-2010	N/A - AYP Met

## Detroit Public Schools’ Core Curriculum:

Consistent with the District academic plan, **Excellent Schools for Every Child**, there are aggressive plans to accelerate the rate of student achievement and to ensure that students graduate with the academic and social skills necessary for success in college and the workplace.

### Specific curriculum actions include:

\*alignment of the curriculum, lessons planning and pacing calendars to national and state standards





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- \*ensuring that material and texts and supplemental resources and used in the classroom are directly linked to and with the grade expectations
- \*defined grade level expectations to create alignment throughout the school
- \* Administration and review of quarterly benchmark assessments for students in grades 3-12
- \*use pre-intervention tools such as the Dynamic Indicator of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBLES) to assess language fluency for students on grades Prek-2 to ensure literacy foundation for reading success
- \*use of the data (both formal and informal) to inform teaching strategies and professional development needs for staff, including but not limited to, teachers and administrators
- \*focused professional development on the use of appropriate curriculum and teaching strategies, monitoring results and developing the interventions for re-teaching, as necessary
- \*use technology (Learning Village/an on-line instructional management system) as a tool to manage instruction and teacher practice

## Access to the Core Curriculum

The instructional strategies and grade level expectations are aligned to the state standards and the NAEP. This represents the core curriculum which is supported by the texts, materials, computer software and other school level resources used daily in the classrooms. All of the professional development activities are aligned to the core curriculum.

The implementation is a process delineated in the District Plan **Excellent Schools for Every Child**. This plan serves as the framework for each school's academic achievement plan. The frequent monitoring of the implementation of these plans is conducted by the school diagnostic visits, review of the benchmark assessments, use of the teacher evaluation tool and adherence to the pacing calendar.

The variances from the state plan can be found in the grade level expectations which are also aligned to the higher standards of NAEP.

A Summer Parent University is offered with classes to increase parenting skills, early childhood literacy, adult literacy and GED. During the school year, the Regional Parent Resource Center are a vehicle for parents and other community member to participate in regular and on-going informational and participatory sessions focused on curriculum and instruction. Learning Village (an on line instructional management system)





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Web updates and semi-annual progress reports are also a means to disseminate information to parents and community.

Detroit Public Schools Core Curriculum is currently under revision. Pacing Charts and Curriculum guided will be posted to the Academic Affairs page of our web-site in the near future.

## Parent Engagement

- \*Use the technology portal for parents to view daily lessons and to communication with teachers
- \*implement and follow through with the parent contracts
- \*increase the Volunteer Reading Corps from approximately 5000 volunteers this year to 10,000 for next school year
- \*use the Parent Resource Center to engage parents in innovative workshops and session that are practical and will result in parent support to students at home

## Student Achievement Results

Aggregate Student Achievement Results and Detroit Public Schools Quarterly Benchmark Assessment in Reading and Mathematics for Academy of The Americas can be found on the Detroit Public Schools' web-page at the Research, Evaluation and Assessment site at <http://detroitk12.org/data/rea/>. The following reports are available:

- District Profile Report
- Combined School Profile Reports
- Individual School Profile Reports
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports
- Annual Education Report

A hard copy is also available in the school's office. Contact the school's principal for more details.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences (Interactions):

School Year	Total Parent Interactions	Percent
2010-2011	1001	34.5%
2009-2010	1016	N/A





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The Detroit Public Schools' Office of Research, Evaluation, Assessment and Accountability has developed a data collection system which has enabled the district to comply with the Annual Education Report criteria of identifying the number and percent of students represented by parents at Parent-Teacher-Conferences.

- 1.0 Data from the PTC Forms represent “parent interactions” with teachers, per school, per card-marking.
- 2.0 Parent Interaction Definition: During Parent Teacher Conferences (and in some instances school open houses) Schools/Teachers are advised to have each parent participant provide a parent signature—a parent may not sign for a student if they did not talk about that student.
- 3.0 For a variety of reasons, five (5) DPS schools are not included in the data collection count due to some school closures and non-return of Parent Teacher Conference Signature List Documents.
- 4.0 Several DPS schools had a very high percentage of reported parent interactions. This may be due to a number of reasons. In at least three instances, the calculated percentages are in excess of 100%. In each instance, each of these (3) schools is an elementary school with a large parent turnout at each of the four required conferences. If during each conference one parent with two students enrolled in the school visited three teachers for each of their (two) students, this would count as six parent interactions, thus increasing the base number and resulting percentage.

We would like to wish our students, parents and community a successful school year.

Sincerely,

Denise Fielder, Principal

