

A letter from the Elementary Principal/Superintendent

The North Central school family is very proud of our students and their accomplishments; from academics to the fine arts and athletics, NCAS students continue to excel.

The North Central Area School District is a small, rural, consolidated district located in the central portion of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. North Central Elementary is in the town of Hermansville and the Jr./Sr. High School is 5 miles to the east in Powers. To learn more about this beautiful area, which is rich in history, please check out our district website at www.ncajets.org and click on the community links.

Our staff is committed to providing a quality education to all NC students. The communities and townships that comprise our district provide support for all of our programs and the school is a point of pride for all citizens.

North Central Elementary focused on eliminating a



growing problem in schools today—bullying. We stressed the importance of treating others with dignity and respect. We also qualified for the “Safe Routes 2 School” program.

The NC Jr./Sr. High School’s accomplishments were many: our girls’ x-country team won their third consecutive U.P. championship; students participated in an anti-drinking program, “Every 15 Minutes”; and a new service organization (Key Club) was formed.

As we begin the current school year, NCAS has started an Energy Savings Project that will save our district energy and funds.

*Andrew M. Hongisto
NCAS Superintendent
NC Elementary Principal*

MISSION STATEMENT

“THE STAFF OF THE NORTH CENTRAL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BELIEVES THAT, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN, WE MUST HAVE THE COOPERATION OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT. TOGETHER WE SHALL PROVIDE THE SKILLS NECESSARY FOR DEVELOPING STUDENTS INTELLECTUALLY, SOCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND PHYSICALLY. BY ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING HIGH STANDARDS, WE HOPE TO DEVELOP RESPONSIBLE, PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS WHO WILL BE PREPARED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE.”

---- NCAS ----

**“A STEP TOWARD
YOUR FUTURE”**



2008-09 Annual Report

The purpose of this Annual Education Report is to meet the requirements of *Michigan Public Acts 25, 335, and 336*. This report provides district, jr./sr. high school and district information about the 2008-09 school year. As required by law, this Annual Education Report will be filed with the Menominee County Intermediate School District, will be presented to the public at a regularly scheduled Board of Education Meeting and will be posted on our district website. Copies of the report are available in the principal's office at both schools.

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

The North Central Area Schools participates in the “*Schools of Choice*” program as a 105 and 105C school. Forms are available in the principals' offices at the elementary and jr./sr. high schools. For more information please call (906) 498-7737.

NONDISCRIMINATION
NOTICE

The North Central Area Schools receives and uses Federal Funds and U.S. Department foods.

“No person because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in our United States Department of Agriculture donated food and child nutrition programs. Any person who believes they have been discriminated against should write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

If any person believes that the North Central Area Schools, or any part of the organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of (1) Title VI of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, (2) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1971, and (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, he/she may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinator at the following address:

*Andrew Hongisto, Superintendent
North Central Area Schools
W5465 Third Street, P.O. Box 159
Hermansville, MI 49847*

SCHOOL REPORT CARD
Composite Grade

A

North Central Elementary is proud to have received an “**A**” on the school report card for the fourth straight year. This Report Card provides an assessment of several measures of our school’s performance. An achievement score for each content area is computed by averaging the Status and Change scores for a content area. A preliminary aggregate achievement score is derived by averaging the MEAP scores of the English Language Arts and Math tests. The preliminary aggregate score is weighted 67% and the School Self-Assessment (Indicator Score) is weighted 33% in calculating the preliminary score/grade for a school.

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act requires elementary schools to test a minimum of 95% of enrolled students in a state assessment test aligned with state standards to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The achievement objective can be met by students performance meeting Michigan’s objective, or by improvement in student achievement measured by Safe Harbor. Elementary schools must also have an attendance rate above 90 percent.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
North Central Elementary
MEAP Scores 2007- 08

Level 1:Advanced
 Level 2:Proficient
 Level 3:Partially Proficient
 Level 4:Not proficient

Grade 3

| | Math | Reading | Writing | ELA |
|-----------------|-------|---------|---------|-------|
| Level 1 | 84.4% | 46.9% | 0% | 28.1% |
| Level 2 | 15.6% | 46.9% | 81.3% | 62.5% |
| Level 3 | 0% | 6.3% | 18.8% | 9.4% |
| Level 4 | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Met or Exceeded | 100% | 93.8% | 81.3% | 90.6% |
| Not Met | N/A | 6.3% | 18.8% | 9.4% |
| Number Tested | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |

Grade 4

| | Math | Reading | Writing | ELA |
|-----------------|-------|---------|---------|-------|
| Level 1 | 62.1% | 31% | 0% | 10.3% |
| Level 2 | 34.5% | 55.2% | 44.8% | 72.4% |
| Level 3 | 3.4% | 10.3% | 55.2% | 17.2% |
| Level 4 | 0% | 3.4% | 0% | 0% |
| Met or Exceeded | 96.6% | 86.2% | 44.8% | 82.2% |
| Not Met | 3.4% | 13.8% | 55.2% | 17.2% |
| Number Tested | 29 | 29 | 29 | 29 |

Grade 5

| | Math | Read | Science | Writing | ELA |
|---------------|-------|-------|---------|---------|-------|
| Level 1 | 70.4% | 55.6% | 51.9% | 0% | 18.5% |
| Level 2 | 22.2% | 37% | 37% | 77.8% | 74.1% |
| Level 3 | 7.4% | 7.4% | 7.4% | 22.2% | 7.4% |
| Level 4 | 0% | 0% | 3.7% | 0% | 0% |
| Met or Exceed | 92.6% | 92.6% | 88.9% | 77.8% | 92.6% |
| Not Met | 7.4% | 7.4% | 11.1% | 22.2% | 7.4% |
| Number Tested | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 | 27 |

ACHIEVEMENT COND'T.

Grade 6

| | Math | Reading | Social Studies | Writing | ELA |
|---------------|-------|---------|----------------|---------|-------|
| Level 1 | 71.9% | 46.9% | 62.5% | 0% | 28.1% |
| Level 2 | 28.1% | 46.9% | 25% | 90.6% | 65.6% |
| Level 3 | 0% | 6.3% | 6.3% | 9.4% | 6.3% |
| Level 4 | 0% | 0% | 6.3% | 0% | 0% |
| Met or Exceed | 100% | 93.8% | 87.5% | 90.6% | 93.8% |
| Not Met | N/A | 6.3% | 12.5% | 9.4% | 6.3% |
| Number Tested | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |

ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENTS

In addition to the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP), North Central Elementary students are also assessed using the MI-Access test (alternative to the MEAP test), Dibels, LETTERS, STAR and Accelerated Reader and Math. Data obtained from assessments are used to align curriculum and monitor students' progress. Revisions are then made as necessary.



ELEMENTARY STAFF

A student body of approximately 200 students are served by a staff at the elementary school consisting of 11 full-time teachers (Young 4's- 6th grade), a Title 1 teacher, a Resource Room Teacher, part-time Music, Art and Computer teachers, 5 Para- professionals (Young 4's, Title 1, and Librarian), 2 cooks, 2 custodians, 4 bus drivers, a nurse, a secretary, a principal, and 2 Foster Grand-parents.

STAFF

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Judy Smith | Young 4's Dev. Kdgn. |
| Victoria Snyder | Kdgn. |
| Vicky Kirby | Kdgn. |
| Cheryl Ekberg | Grade 1 |
| Tracy Hammar | Grade 2 |
| Jon Lorenzoni | Grade 3 |
| Marie Hanson | Grade 3 |
| Sherry Martin | Grade 4 |
| Larry LaBonte | Grade 5 |
| Denise Porath | Grade 6 |
| Whitney Beauchamp | SE |
| Linda Johnson | Art |
| Tom Howerton | Music |
| Cheri Lehto | Computers |
| Penney Parmet | Title 1 |
| Sharon Charles | Title 1 Aide |
| Doreen Fazer | Title 1 Aide |
| Yvonne Poquette | Title 1 Aide |
| Sandy Hanchek | Library Aide |
| Sandy Ammel | Young 4's Aide |
| Debbie Maule | Secretary |
| Joan Paul | Nurse |
| Linda Poupore | 1 st Cook |
| Addie Kirschner | 2 nd Cook |

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Dale Piche | Custodian |
| Sue Haelterman | Custodian |
| Carri Dellis | Bus Driver |
| Karen Gorzinski | Bus Driver |
| Ray Marsicek | Bus Driver |
| Bob Hanchek | Bus Driver |
| Dennis Hansen | Trans./Cust. Maint. Dir. |
| Wendy Granquist | Admin. Assist. |
| Andy Hongisto | Elem. Prin. Superintendent |

CORE CURRICULUM

The Core Curriculum refers to the content areas of Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading and English/Language Arts. The State of Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations are the driving force behind our school's goals. Data is gathered, studied, and revisions to the curriculum are made as necessary. Professional Development Opportunities are available for staff members, usually through the Menominee Intermediate School District. Examples of in-services are: instructional techniques, discipline, technology, content area concepts, individualized instruction and data analysis.

DATA DIS-AGGREGATION

The State of Michigan provides student scores and data analysis reports. In addition, NC Elementary receives *The Golden Package*, a set of reports designed specifically for the school improvement team in order to make the collection, organization and analysis of the MEAP data easier. This set of essential reports provides the necessary details in order to make good decisions with respect to alignment between curriculum, instruction and assessment and is valuable in assisting the SIT team in identifying areas in need of improvement.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The School Improvement Process is ongoing. The School Improvement Team, consisting of teachers, support staff and parents, meets several times a year to review progress on the current goals. Data is also analyzed to set goals for the following year. The 2008-09 SIT members included:

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Larry LaBonte | Teacher |
| Jon Lorenzoni | Teacher |
| Sherry Martin | Teacher |
| Tracy Hammar | Teacher |
| Penney Parmet | Teacher |
| Vicky Kirby | Teacher |
| Sharon Charles | Title 1 |
| Doreen Fazer | Title 1 |
| Jessica Naser | Parent |

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Vicki Bertolini | Parent |
| Jalaine Bellmore | Parent |
| Andy Hongisto | Principal |

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

- North Central students will improve their achievement in Reading.
- North Central students will improve their achievement in Writing.
- North Central students will improve their measurement skills in Math and Science.
- North Central will develop activities to encourage parent and community involvement.



ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

North Central Elementary provides several programs designed to provide additional assistance to students. They include, but are not limited to:

- Title 1
- Educational Aides
- Special Education
- Parent Volunteers
- Foster Grandparent Program

TITLE 1

North Central Elementary is a Targeted Assisted School with students in grades K-6 receiving additional assistance in Reading and Math. The Title 1 staff consists of a Title 1 teacher and 3 paraprofessionals. Services are provided within the classrooms and when necessary, small groups work with the Title 1 staff in the Title 1 room.

YOUNG 4's PROGRAM

The Young 4's class, also known as the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a state funded early childhood program designed to assist youngsters with 2 or more risk factors as determined by the State of Michigan. North Central was allocated 12 positions in the program. However, we served 16 students in our Young 4's class. This program is very important in providing at-risk students with a positive start in their first year.

STUDENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Students who go "Above & Beyond" normal expectations are recognized by their teachers. Students receive token gifts and the "Students of the Month"

receive T-shirts and have their picture in the Luft's Advertiser.

HONOR ROLL

Students are recognized for academic excellence by being named to the "HONOR ROLL" when their grades average B or better.



ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM

Banners and posters promoting Respect, Honesty, Citizenship, Integrity and the Golden Rule are very prevalent in the halls and classrooms at North Central Elementary. A program designed to eliminate bullying was instituted, with students learning the effects of bullying and strategies to stop bullies. Blaise Winter, motivational speaker and retired NFL player, was one of the presenters on the negative effects of bullying. Students also learned how to be an Advocate for their peers. Over 30 parents attended an evening session to discuss bullying and to pledge their support to help stop it.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

North Central Elementary qualified for a "Safe Routes to School" grant. In conjunction with the Delta-Menominee Health Department, a committee has identified many areas in need of improvement on the routes students use to travel to school. Grant money will be used to fix sidewalks, install signs and build an enclosed bike shelter. The main focus of the program is to promote physical activity among students by walking or biking to school.



BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES GRANT

Mrs. Paul, school nurse, was successful in obtaining a large grant through Blue Cross/Blue Shield designed to promote healthy choices and activities. Educational materials were purchased, teachers were trained on the EPIC physical education curriculum and many activities have taken place, with many more to come. This grant goes hand-in-hand with the "Safe Routes to School" grant.

2% GRANT

Mr. LaBonte, 5th grade teacher was successful in obtaining 2% grants through the Hannahville Indian Community to purchase computers for the computer lab and new Reading textbooks. We are very appreciative of our staff's efforts in obtaining grant money to purchase needed items that would be difficult to buy through our General Fund.

ATTENDANCE

North Central Elementary has an average daily attendance of 96%.

PARENT/TEACHER CONF.

At the 2008-09 Parent/Teacher Conferences, 78 % of our students had one or more of their parents or guardians in attendance.

FUNDRAISER

Despite tough economic times, our annual pizza fundraiser was successful once again. The staff and students at NC Elementary would like to thank everyone who supported our fundraiser. These funds are used for technology, books, field trips programs and classroom supplies. Without our communities' support, we could not provide some of these items.

2008-09 ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL REPORT CARD
MEAP SCORES
COMMUNITY SERVICE
FOOD & TOY DRIVES
READING MONTH
ACTIVITIES
BOOK FAIR
READING OLYMPICS
BOOK SHARE
ACCELERATED MATH
ACCELERATED READING
GYM BUDDIES
SNOW WHITE & THE
SEVEN DWARFS
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
SPRING BAND CONCERT
VETERAN'S DAY
PROGRAM
TABS FOR TOTS
CARDS FOR VETS
FIRE SAFETY
SNOWPLOW SAFETY
ECONOMICS JOB FAIR
NCA GUARANTEE
MILLION PENNY
CHALLENGE
ART EXHIBITS
CONTESTS
HANDBOOK COVER
DESIGN CONTEST
SCHOOL PRIDE DAY

HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT IN THE
SPOTLIGHT
"MISSION POSSIBLE"
SUPPORT STAFF DAY
TEACHER APPRECIATION
DAY
SCIENCE CHALLENGES
WALK TO SCHOOL DAY
MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
KINDERGARTEN ZOO
PIZZA FUNDRAISER
OLD FASHIONED
CHRISTMAS
SPELLING BEE
DISCOVERY ZONE
JONATHON RAND VISIT
BLAISE WINTER VISIT
STURGEON RIVER STRING
QUARTET PROGRAM
NORTHLAND CHOIR

FIELD TRIPS

GREEN BAY
MACKINAC ISLAND
PUMPKIN PATCH
TREE FARM
PINECREST
FIRE STATION
KOI POND
ALPACA RANCH
IRON MINE

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

The Menominee County Inter-Mediate School District operates specialized services and schools for Trainable Mentally Impaired and Severely Mentally Impaired students who live throughout the ISD.

Students eligible for any Special Education services must go through a formal diagnostic evaluation to determine if the student is eligible to receive services. If eligible, an Individual Education Plan must be developed by a team to ensure the student's needs are met. Each student will have goals and objectives that are worked on during the year. Each year a meeting is held to assess progress and to develop new goals for the following year.

The MC-ISD also provides the following services: Social Worker, Physical Therapist, Teacher, Vision and Hearing Impaired consultants, Speech/Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist and School Psychological Services.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

North Central students (high school) are eligible to attend the Phoenix Alternative School. The school is run by the North Menominee Community School and serves students from North Central, Bark River-Harris and Carney-Nadeau.

