

How Clarenceville students did on assessment tests

By Dan Vecchioni
staff writer

Results of the recent Michigan Educational Assessment Program testing received a lukewarm greeting by the Clarenceville School District.

The district, which represents portions of Livonia, Redford Township and Farmington Hills, reported declines in three of the six areas measured by the MEAP test.

The percentage of students mastering 75-100 percent of the objectives measured by MEAP was down for fourth-grade mathematics, fourth-grade reading and seventh-grade reading. Improvements were registered in seventh-grade math, 10th-grade math and 10th-grade reading.

"We'll have to look at the scores more closely before we can explain the results," said Patricia Vickery, the district's administrative assistant for instruction. "It usually takes a lengthy

time to analyze them."

Even without the analysis, however, the district has been notified that it will not be receiving state assistance to boost low scores, Vickery said.

"STATE MONEY is available for high-needs districts. We don't qualify for that money, although we did one year back around 1973 or 1974."

The state classified fourth-grade math and reading in Clarenceville as low need with stable scores, seventh-grade math and reading as low need with improving scores, 10th-grade math as moderate need with stable scores and 10th-grade reading as low need with stable scores, she said.

Clarenceville's scores ranked for the most part in the bottom half of the 24 Oakland County school districts that reported results last week. (Traditionally, Clarenceville is grouped with Oakland County school districts even though the district extends into Wayne County.)

CLARENCEVILLE RANKED 10TH in seventh-grade math, 18th in 10th-grade math, 16th in 10th-grade reading, 21st in seventh-grade reading, 22nd in fourth-grade reading and 24th in fourth-grade math.

"The state says they (the scores) are only benchmarks and shouldn't be used to interpret one school is better or worse than another," Vickery said. "Historically, though, we are higher than the districts that haven't reported yet (like Pontiac). And, historically, we are higher than the state average."

Vickery said several reasons could be listed to explain the Clarenceville scores. "WE USE THE MEAP scores as only one piece of data in curriculum planning. The state is not dictating curriculum, and we are not teaching for the test."

She said, for example, that 1,300 math objectives have been identified and yet the MEAP tests for only 23 of

them. "We meet regularly with a cluster of our teachers. If a majority agree, we modify the curriculum, but not just to meet state objectives. I'm not sure all the objectives can be measured by a test."

Also, the timetable for mastering certain objectives may differ, she said. "The state figures that by the end of the sixth grade, students should have decimals, fractions and percentages down. It's an eighth-grade objective for us."

OTHER FACTORS THAT may affect scores include a change in the questions that appear on the test (about 20 percent were changed for this year's testing) and the number of special education students that qualify to take the test, Vickery said.

Clarenceville will use the individual scores for each student to identify those to be given special attention, Vickery added.

Percent Clarenceville students mastering 75-100% of objectives

	1983-84	1982-83	1981-82	1980-81
fourth grade				
mathematics	77.3	88.5	88.9	73.8
reading	80.3	91.0	81.0	76.3
seventh grade				
mathematics	74.7	70.9	63.4	73.3
reading	77.1	86.6	74.4	82.6
10th grade				
mathematics	72.8	61.7	67.6	62.6
reading	85.0	75.8	77.1	78.2

Walled Lake students make strides

Walled Lake School District scores in the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) show "a definite trend upward in every single area, on every grade level," school officials reported.

"In spite of financial difficulties and in spite of labor problems, our teachers appear to be doing a fine job... and our students are doing a better job than ever before," said Sam Alami, director of program evaluation and testing.

Superintendent Don Sheldon will send congratulatory letters to all students who scored 95 percent or better on their MEAP tests. Of 582 fourth graders who took the tests, 283 (47 percent) will receive letters from the superintendent. Of 807 10th graders, 356 (44 percent) will receive letters. The number of seventh graders to receive letters had not been tallied, as of Friday.

MEAP TESTS are designed to measure "minimum standards" only, he said. Curriculum, other tests and the type of teachers within a district also should be considered when evaluating an educational program, Alami said.

The greatest improvement over last year came in the area of 10th grade reading which rose nearly 8 percentage points, from 78.8 in 1982 to 84.5 in 1983.

The MEAP tests are administered annually to fourth, seventh and 10th graders. The reading and mathematics tests measure minimum skills which a student should have learned by the time the tests are given. Each skill is tested with a set of three questions. If the student misses no more than one question in the set, the skill has been attained.

The school district received a summary report which indicated what percentage of its students correctly answered the questions within each skill tested. The summary also reported what percentage of students passed more than 75 percent of all skills in mathematics and reading.

SUMMARIZING the 1983 MEAP results show:

- At the fourth-grade level, 81.5 percent of the students passed over 75 percent of the math skills tested, an improvement of 1.5 percent over 1982 when 80 percent achieved over 75 percent.

- In reading, fourth graders scored highest in vocabulary and literal comprehension. Overall, 79.5 percent of the students passed over 75 percent of the reading skills tested. This was an increase of 1.5 percent over last year when 77.8 percent achieved 75-100 percent of the reading skills.

- At the seventh grade level, 79.9

percent of the students mastered 75-100 percent of all math skills tested. The seventh graders improved by 3.4 percent over 1982, when 76.5 percent achieved 75-100 percent of the math

skills. Math scores in the seventh grade have jumped nearly 10 percent since 1980, when only 70 percent of the students mastered 75-100 percent of the math skills.

Our 25th Year!

TE-AMO

"For the man who wants the best!"

ALL TOBACCO
HANDMADE MEXICAN CIGARS

EACH BOX PRICES

IMPERIAL.....	\$2.30.....	10/14.95
IMPERIAL.....	\$2.30.....	25/37.25
PIRAMIDES.....	\$2.15.....	20/27.95
CHURCHILL.....	\$2.00.....	10/12.95
CHURCHILL.....	\$2.00.....	25/32.35
PRESIDENTE.....	\$1.85.....	25/29.95
AMBASSADOR.....	\$1.60.....	25/25.95
SUPER CETRO.....	\$1.55.....	25/25.15
RELAXATION.....	\$1.55.....	25/25.15
TOROS.....	\$1.60.....	25/25.95
TOROS.....	\$1.50.....	25/22.35
MEDITATION.....	\$1.40.....	25/22.75
TORERO.....	\$1.25.....	25/20.25
AMATISTAS.....	\$1.25.....	25/21.85
TORTOS.....	\$1.40.....	25/22.75
#4.....	\$1.20.....	25/18.45
PICADOR.....	\$1.10.....	25/17.85
CORONITA.....	\$1.00.....	25/16.25
ELEGANTE.....	\$.75.....	50/24.35
EPIPURE.....	\$.70.....	50/22.65
CHARRO.....	\$1.45.....	25/23.45
MAGNIFICO.....	\$1.60.....	25/25.95

OUR CIGAR PRICES ALWAYS INCLUDE SALES TAX!

PLUS GREAT SAVINGS ON TE AMO SEGUNDOS!

NO LIMITS MAIL ORDERS ADD \$1.00 PER BOX

Humidor One The Ultimate Smoke Shop
PANACHE - Elegant Accessories for the Home

2000 West 10 Mile Road at Evergreen • 355-4600 and 355-4701
We honor Visa, Mastercard and American Express

"Truly one of America's finest Homes"

The Fisher Mansion
and
Bhaktivedanta Cultural Center
Presents
"A Lavish Mansion Reborn"

Detroit Free Press



"The Bhaktivedanta Cultural Center is a 'cultural mecca' of the Midwest"

New York Times

Dine at Govinda's Restaurant
Serving international gourmet cuisine in an exceptional setting
"Govinda's restaurant is an 'Other World' experience!"
Detroit Monitor

"Upstairs, tourists dine at Govinda's, a gourmet vegetarian restaurant, whose opulent marble and onyx decor makes Manhattan's legendary Rysman Tea Room look like an interstate truck stop!"
People Magazine

Another Great Reason to Visit Detroit This Weekend!
Discover one of Detroit's Best Kept Secrets

Estate Tours and Dining
Fri. & Sat. 12-8 p.m.
Sun. 12-4 p.m. & 8-8 p.m.
Group and club tours available during the week.

For reservations, tours and general information, call (313) 331-6740.
We'll also securely parking located on the grounds.
A project of ISACON, a non-profit, charitable, tax exempt organization.

Take Jefferson Ave. East, go 2 lights East of Conner and turn right at light 1500th on Dickerson. Stay to the left-Dickerson turns into Lenox.

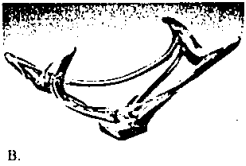
20% Off Entire Stock
of
Revelations® Boots & Shoes
in
SIZES 9 to 13
AA TO EEE

Available at Both Stores
All Sales Final - No Refunds or Exchanges

Tail-Ez SHOES

DOWNTOWN 1550 Woodward Ave. 962-8628
NORTHLAND J.C. Penney Court 569-1590

Have Yourself a Very Marie Newman Christmas.



- A. Wanted: Warm & loving home for elegant but affectionate crystal dolphins, Baccarat of course.
- B. Capture the holiday spirit - crystallize the mood! Free form crystal accessory pieces, to use or simply show. By Vannes le Chatel
- C. Sparkle your table with this silver chafing dish

Marie Newman Gifts

ALWAYS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

Bloomfield Plaza • Telegraph at Maple

Open Mon.-Fri. 10-9; Sat. 10-5:30, Sunday 12-5 • 851-5880

People Power

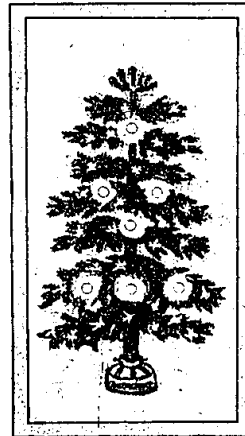


helps prevent birth defects
Support
March of



LIGHT-UP
CHRISTMAS
CARDS

What a magical way to brighten the holiday season! Delight someone special with one of these old-fashioned Christmas tree scenes. The receiver will be so surprised when the card is opened and all the tree ornaments light up. 4 x 8 1/4". \$6 each or 3 for \$15.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Jacobson's

We welcome Jacobson's Charge Card or The American Express® Card.

Birmingham

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING CONVENIENCE, NEW EVENING HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY UNTIL 9:00 P.M., SATURDAY UNTIL 6:00 P.M.