

Walled Lake scores weaken

A four-year review of Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test results showed instruction in Walled Lake schools may be weakest between seventh and 10th grades.

Dr. Sami Alam, director of research, recently told the school board that the content of the MEAP tests varies greatly between seventh and 10th grade, making grade level comparisons difficult.

Nevertheless, 70 percent of the seventh grade students in 1980 scored between 75 and 100 percent on their math test. In 1983, when many of these same students took the 10th grade math test, only 68.8 percent scored in between 75 and 100 percent.

"We ought to be doing a better job between seventh and 10th grade," Alam said.

"In spite of the continued improvement... of our youngsters on the MEAP, there continues to be a need to work toward greater improvements in the following mathematics skill areas: fractions, metric measurement, ratio, proportion and percent and geometry," Alam said.

THE MEAP TESTS tests are given each fall to all fourth, seventh and 10th graders. The tests measure minimal performance on objectives set by the state in reading and mathematics. Each objective is tested by a set of three questions. The student is said to have attained the objective if two of the three questions are answered correctly. Twenty-five percent of the test items are changed each year, Alam explained.

Alam noted that 80 percent of the fourth graders achieved 75-100 percent of the reading objectives on the MEAP test. Last year, 78 percent of the fourth graders scored 75-100 percent in reading.

Eighty-two percent of the fourth graders attained more than 75 percent of the math objectives on the MEAP test, while only 80 percent of the 1982 fourth graders achieved this level.

In the seventh grade, scores on the reading test increased two percent over last year, from 83 percent of students attaining 75-100 percent of the objectives to 85 percent.

In math, 80 percent of the seventh

graders achieved 75-100 of the MEAP objectives, compared to 77 percent in 1982.

Eighty-five percent of the 10th graders achieved 75-100 percent of the reading objectives, compared to 79 percent last year.

Sixty-nine percent of the 10th graders achieved 75-100 percent of the math objectives, compared to 67 percent in 1982.

"Greater improvement appears to be warranted in the areas of critical reading and related study skills at the lower elementary level," he said.

ALL THIRD, sixth and eighth graders take the California Achievement Test (CAT) each fall. The CAT assesses a third grader's performance in phonics analysis, structural analysis, vocabulary, comprehension, spelling,

language and mathematics.

Sixth and eighth graders are tested in vocabulary, comprehension, spelling, language, mathematics and reference skills.

Results of the CAT indicate Walled Lake's third graders are one month above the national norm in reading comprehension, compared to an achievement of one month below the norm for the 1982 group of third graders, Alam said.

"Although the performance of our third, sixth and eighth grade youngsters is generally above the national norms, the need is still apparent for continued improvements in spelling skills at the lower elementary level and in language usage at all grade levels," Alam reported.



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Rescue training set at Madonna

A basic emergency medical training refresher course (EMT) will be offered this January at Madonna College, Livonia.

The refresher course will consist of 12 lessons, covering 33 specific modules of training. These modules will include lecture and workshop practice sessions totaling 32 hours including practical testing. The course will parallel the required content in the U.S. Department of Transportation EMT refresher training guide. The course will meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. five Saturdays, beginning Jan. 14. The fee is \$100.

Madonna College is located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia. For more

information call the EMT department at Madonna College, 591-5100.

The course meets requirements for recertification with the Michigan Department of Public Health and is open to practitioners whose licenses are about to expire.

George Rideout, basic EMT coordinator at Madonna College, will instruct the class. Rideout, who is also education coordinator of the Trenton Fire Department, has a bachelor of science degree from Madonna. Madonna is the only college in the state which offers a bachelor of science with a major in emergency medical technology.

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