

Local schools score on harder MEAP tests

By Wayne Peal
staff writer

Michigan public school students showed improvement on state mathematics tests last fall, education officials said Tuesday, though student reading skills remain a concern.

Statewide, students posted higher scores in mathematics and in basic reading skills, state Superintendent of Schools Donald Bemis said.

"We're pretty happy about what has been going on," Bemis said. But the superintendent added students need to show improvement in essential reading skills — those needed to get and keep a job.

IN OAKLAND COUNTY, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, Troy and West Bloomfield, within the Observer & Eccentric coverage area, scored above average in all grades and in all categories.

And, all O&E districts were above the state average in reading. Avondale's seventh grade math scores and Rochester's 10th grade math scores were below the state average. So were Southfield's seventh and tenth grade science scores and Walled Lake's tenth grade science scores.

With regard to math skills state-

wide, 88 percent of all fourth graders met or exceeded minimum math requirements — a 1 percent increase from last year. Similar increases were posted by seventh graders — 74 percent, up 1.6 percent — and high school sophomores — 70.5 percent, up 2 percent.

"Scores had been pretty flat for the past two years," Bemis said. This year's math scores were the highest among all three grade levels since the state mathematics test was revamped in 1980.

Michigan changed its reading test this year, making less use of individual skills such as identifying root words, prefixes and suffixes. Instead, greater emphasis is placed on

how well students comprehend passages they read.

"QUESTIONS ARE more detailed and they cover a longer passage of the material," state schools spokeswoman Lynne Estell said.

Some elements of the old test remain and are now considered to define "basic" reading skills. Students did well on basic skills questions, but not as well on the newer questions,

defining "essential" reading skills, said Bemis.

Some 88.8 percent of all high school sophomores met or exceeded basic reading skills on last fall's Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests — almost a 7.5 percent increase from one year ago.

Fourth graders, at 89.4 percent and seventh graders, at 89.4 percent, showed similar increases.

Michigan Educational Assessment Program: How our schools fared

Grade	4/5	7/8	10/11	4/5	7/8	10/11	4/5	7/8	10/11	4/5	7/8	10/11
Avondale	93.1	66.2	86.5	96.7	90.9	83.6	96.9	94.0	91.5	94.5	70.3	86.9
Birmingham	42.6	36.3	35.5	63.4	60.0	56.2	60.4	62.7	52.3	48.5	40.8	29.2
Bloomfield Hills	77.4	59.5	82.6	89.6	72.3	65.3	87.4	76.4	70.6	74.8	59.8	45.6
Clarencesville	92.3	82.1	87.5	95.2	86.4	62.6	96.4	77.1	70.3	95.2	92.1	85.6
Farmington	48.3	47.5	47.4	59.3	52.3	43.8	45.4	39.2	32.7	56.2	54.4	42.2
Farmington	85.5	72.8	83.3	81.4	70.9	60.2	76.2	49.5	36.7	85.8	77.7	55.1
Rochester	89.0	81.7	77.1	96.8	84.0	85.3	81.5	64.5	67.8	94.2	85.2	81.3
Southfield	40.7	42.1	30.5	59.2	57.7	45.6	31.4	27.0	20.4	45.6	45.2	34.9
Troy	74.6	56.0	37.5	80.5	67.9	56.5	67.2	39.8	34.6	78.2	61.1	46.3
West Bloomfield	91.5	80.2	80.2	86.4	63.5	78.8	67.6	75.7	73.3	82.4	65.1	66.1
Garden City	47.1	47.2	40.7	37.3	26.6	27.8	30.5	34.7	26.3	27.7	28.5	23.6
Livonia	79.4	66.7	46.5	74.4	46.8	30.2	69.7	59.2	41.8	57.8	35.4	28.8
Plymouth Canton												
Redford Union												
South Redford												
Wayne Westland												

Math and reading were tested in grades 4, 7, and 10. Science was tested in grades 5, 8, and 11. Numbers are percentage of students who have attained at least three-quarters of the skills tested.

Grade	4/5	7/8	10/11
State MEAP scores			
Math	88.8	74.0	70.5
Reading	35.8	33.1	28.6
Science	69.1	52.1	39.8



BEST DOLLHOUSE FOR AGES 4-11

- Pre-assembled
- Pre-assembled
- Pre-assembled

Jard Floor & Garage Extensions

20% Off
thru 2-10-90

Michigan's Largest Selection of Furniture, Lights & Accessories (Homeowners Club Special Bonus Program)

The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop

3947 W. 12 Mile • Berkey 543-3115
Mon., Sat. 10-5, Fri. 10-6 p.m.

LAWYERS WHO GET RESULTS

JOEL H. GOODMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

ALL LEGAL MATTERS
1988 METRO TIMES
DIVORCE LAWYER OF THE YEAR

1st VISIT **NO CHARGE**
399-1229

CLASSIC STATTON FURNITURE ON SALE NOW AT *Stewart-Glass*

SAVE 40% ON EVERY STATTON OCCASIONAL PIECE

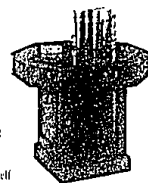


Accent your home with these richly detailed occasional pieces from Statton Furniture. Each piece is exquisitely hand-crafted from only the finest cherry wood available, making them an exceptional value. Save 40% Off the suggested retail price of every Statton living room occasional piece in their line, including special orders. But, hurry. This Sale Ends Saturday, Feb. 24.



NOW ONLY \$579

No. 1344 Sheraton Nest of Tables
24 1/2" x 15 1/2" in. Ht. 25 in.



NOW ONLY \$879

No. 6254 Bent Table
Genuine Top Grain Leather with Gold Tooling
Available Leather Colors: Red, Green, Brown
30" x 30" in. Ht. 27 in.
One drawer and a cabinet with one adjustable shelf



NOW ONLY \$499

No. 2274 Cherry Butler's Tray Table
Top 46 x 51 1/2 in. Ht. 17 in.

Stewart-Glass
Of Bloomfield Hills

2600 N. WOODWARD
JUST SOUTH OF SQUARE LAKE RD
FINE FURNITURE SINCE 1917

332-8348
OPEN MON-THURS. FRI. 10-9 PM
TUES. WED. SAT. 10-5:30 PM

SALLY'S DESIGN Boutique

Presents the entire
joan vass, usa
Signature Cotton "Cashmere" Interlock for SPRING/SUMMER 1990 and forever.
Funky, classic and Joan Vass to the core.
COLOR-BOLD, BRIGHT and TOTALLY STRIPED

TRUNK SHOWING
Thursday, February 15
Friday, February 16
Saturday, February 17
Informal Modeling Thursday February 15
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CROSSWINDS
(Orchard Lake Rd. and Lone Pine)
4301 Orchard Lake Rd. West Bloomfield, MI 48033
(313) 626-0886

Hours
Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thurs. - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sat. - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A lasting gift of romance for as little as \$79.

She'll cherish a gift of fine jewelry long after roses and chocolates are gone. Only Tapper's has such a stunning selection of the latest romantic jewelry at prices you can afford. Whatever you choose, your Valentine's gift from Tapper's comes in our special Valentine's gift wrapping. Just one of the extras that makes buying a gift at Tapper's such a pleasure.

So, for a truly memorable Valentine's gift, come to Tapper's. Where every detail matters and every customer is important.

Tapper's
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
26400 W. 12 Mile Road
Franklin Savings Centre
Southfield, MI 48034
357-5578

Open House

Sunday, February 11, 1990, 2-4 p.m.
For more information call 645-3610.



Brookside
Pre-kindergarten through Grade 5
for boys and girls

Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School
Grades 6 through 8
with separate programs for boys and girls

Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School
Grades 9 through 12
for boys and girls



After your tour, please stay to hear U of M President James Dunderstadt 4 p.m.
Kingswood Auditorium

Dr. Dunderstadt will speak about new models of education aimed at producing students capable of succeeding in the 21st Century.