Test from page A1

CTBS scores are compared to the national percentile rank of 50.

Individual results have been sent to parents. Districtwide results are usually reported in June, but a scering problem led to a delay in their release.

Like the Michigan Educational Assessment Program, CTBS allows the district to monitor trends and evaluate its curriculum.

On that score, district officials are pleased with the latest results.

"It matches what we saw with the Michigan Assessment pro-gram, where we saw improve-ment said Judy White, assistant superintendent of Instruction.

"We've had a real effort here in the district trying to have all the efforts of school improvement at

the building level focus on making sure the kids hit a quality line in reading and math."

MEAP scores improved in math and reading at the fourth and seventh grade levels. Results from the revamped sci-ence and writing tests will not be available until September.

available until September.
Cognitive assessments were dropped, in part, to help streamline the CTBS, especially with the increased amount of time devoted to the MEAP, said Assessment Coordinator Carolyn Methalol. Mahalak.

The assessment was helpful in identifying children for the Delta program for gifted students. However, the assessment wasn't have a provious

prehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) Results - Middle Schools READING White said. "Our goal is to take every kid that walks into kid that walks into that classroom and look for their gifts and talents, and try to enhance those, and try to support those areas where they need help. "You have to be careful when you use a test that might, be determined that this is only as far as a kid can go because their abilities don't match." A variety of meth-A variety of methods have been used to help beef up district standardized test scores, White said.

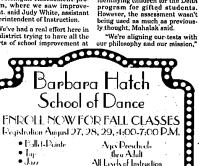
Hillside Elementary students were inadvertently given study questions taken from an actual test.

CTBS results have also been abject to scrutiny in the past.

In 1993, scores were edjusted downward to reflect a difference in test-taking periods. When compared to the previous year's results, it appeared students were scoring higher.

A frequent critic of the dis-trict's curriculum was surprised but pleased with recent test results.

"Good for them," said Hills res-ident Patti Alspach. "They're getting closer to what the demo graphics should be."





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Children who need help are referred to the Learning Center, Reading Recovery or, in the case of gifted students, to the Delta coordinator.

At some schools, children have been put in groups to work on certain skills. Enrichment cours-es have been offered and some schools have given children homework folders in order to practice.

Last year, teaching teams also went into classroom where they demonstrated skills students needed work on, White said.

Test preparation led to results on a language portion of the CTBS disqualified at one ele-mentary school.

Results were excluded on fifth grade language portion after

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Michael E. Berke, a Farmington Hills resident and vice-president of the Jowish Vederation of Metro-polita: Detroit, has been named recipient of the ninth-annual Man-dell and Madeleine Berman Award for Outstanding Professional Ser-vice.

vice.
The award recognizes outstanding contributions of communal pro-fessionals employed by Federation, its agencies and its beneficiaries. Berke, a longtime fundraising

professional for the Allied Jewish Campaign, is former executive director and Campaign director. Over the 2 1/2 decades of his ser-

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