



## 2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

August 23, 2010

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2009-2010 educational progress for Columbia Options High School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Ralph Piepkow, Principal @ 517-529-9400 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.columbiaschooldistrict.org](http://www.columbiaschooldistrict.org) or you may review a copy from the office at your child's school.

For 2009-2010, Columbia Options High School (Columbia Alternative Education) did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics because:

- We did not attain target achievement goals in English language
- We did not attain target achievement goals in mathematics.
- We did not meet the 80% graduation rate goal.
- We did not meet the 90% attendance rate goal.

Since we have not made AYP, we are identified for Restructuring. Columbia Options High School continues to modify curriculum, develop appropriate interventions and utilize State funding as available. For the 2010-2011 school year we are offering e2020 and seat-time waivers as an alternative instructional option for students.

### **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Enrollment in Columbia Options High School is done upon a referral from student's home High School or as an option through Schools of Choice. Most students come to COHS being credit deficient and at risk of not graduating with their class. Students may also come to COHS after having challenging behavior in their home district that proved to be difficult to manage in the traditional high school setting. Students may also come to COHS because they just do not "fit in" to the traditional High School setting.

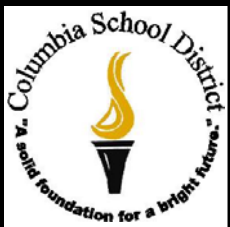
## **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Columbia Options High School engages in a continuous cycle of school improvement; conducting a comprehensive needs assessment and analyzing achievement trends, identifying areas of need, and designing and implementing strategies to address the needs. Specific goal information and their status can be found within the COHS Annual Report.

Columbia Options High School staff is working diligently to improve outcomes of all its students. Through continued support of parents and the community, we look forward to a successful 2009-2010 school year.

Sincerely,

Ralph Piepkow  
Principal



# Columbia Community Education

Annual School Improvement Report  
2009/2010

Columbia School District

CCE  
4600 North Lake Rd  
Clarklake MI 49234  
517-529-9400

Principal: Ralph Piepkow  
Ralph.Piepkow@myeagles.org

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Columbia School District, in partnership with the community, will provide a safe and positive learning environment, which will prepare ALL students to contribute and compete in a global society.

### PROFILE INFO

- Grade Span 8-12
- Number of Students: 128
- Attendance Average: 88%
- Teacher/Student Ratio: 21:1
- School Organization: 9th-12th grade, Adult Education, Special Education, Youth Enrichment.
- Cultural Diversity: American Indian 1% African American 3%, White 93% Hispanic 3%
- Student Retention: 80%
- At-Risk: 87% of student population
- Free & Reduced Lunch- 77% of students
- Graduation Rate 77% (graph in appendix)
- Employability Skills: Character Education, Portfolio/Community Service, Career Cruising, Social Skills Education and Current Events.



	ED YES Composite Grade	MADE AYP
2009-2010		
2008-2009:	__D__	__No__
2007-2008:	__D__	__No__
2006-2007:	__D__	__No__

### HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Research shows teacher quality correlates with student academic achievement. Highly qualified teachers go hand-in-hand with a quality education. Under the State of Michigan guidelines and the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, all Columbia School District teachers are certified and highly qualified.

### FACULTY AND STAFF

- Ralph Piepkow, Director
- Justin Claucherty, Science
- Melissa Francis, Social Studies
- Lisa Klink, English
- Josh Kubiak, Math
- Mindy Hetrick, Resource Teacher
- Robin Tackett, Student Services
- Jeanne Meinka, Secretary

## Community Education & Special Programs

Approximately 1500 adults and children were involved in the 22 classes offered during the 2009-2010 school year. The following is a list of classes that were available:

Night school (p.m.)

Summer School (2 sessions)

Spanish

Social Dance

Water Color Painting

Guitar lessons

Boaters Safety

Bitty Basketball

Wrestling

Cheerleading clinic

Boys Elementary Basketball

Girls Elementary Basketball

JR. High Basketball

CMS Football

Pee Wee Football

CMS Track

Fall/Spring Soccer

Girls Golf

We have other special programs available to our students. We have Student service worker, ISD social worker, Career Center and Career Cruising. We have had several guest speakers through out the school year. We have linked students with several outside services to help meet their individual needs. Through referrals from our Student service worker our students have access to Jackson county programs that are suited to fit their individual needs. We have worked with many different agencies to help meet the needs of our students. We are constantly looking for community resources and services to better serve our students.



COHS students took a canoe trip down the Kalamazoo river. Students were able to use problem solving skills and team work to make it a success.



Principal Ralph Piepkow

*“Columbia Options High School serves youth seeking another option for their secondary education. In a small, caring, student centered learning environment, we customize our students programs to address individual needs. We encourage respect, by all individuals in the learning process. Teachers have the right to teach, students have the right to learn and Failure is not a Option here at Columbia Options High School.*



Secretary Jeannie Meinka

### **GOAL: Failure is not an option. Decrease discipline issues by 10 %.**

#### STRATEGIES:

1. Professional Development: Staff meetings every 2 weeks. District P/D and conferences.
2. More intervention by COHS staff, Student Service worker and liaison officer.
3. Offer financial incentives for students with good attendance and no discipline issues. (through titled monies)
4. Using behavior and academic contracts along with time outs.

#### RESULTS:

1. Professional development opportunities were utilized by staff.
2. Staff was proactive not reactive. Students response more positive and better received.
3. This did not work very well. This would have to change to be better received by students.
4. Using contracts to motivate and encourage students who are having a difficult time. Contact with parents/guardians early intervention was key to student success.

We will be modifying this into the 2010/2011 school year. We are constantly updating and reviewing ways to decrease discipline issues and help meet the needs of our students. We will be utilizing more professional development time to help insure the continued success of this goal.

### **GOAL: Failure is not an option. Decrease drop out rate by 2%.**

#### STRATEGIES:

1. Calling students homes when not present.
2. Offer online instruction to enrich student learning experience during a marking period.
3. Professional development: staff meetings and conferences.
4. Utilize Saturday School, after school, Liaison officer, and student service worker.

#### RESULTS:

1. Calling parent/guardians to find out where students are let them know we are keeping heads up on attendance and behavior.
2. E2020 was implemented to provide our students with classes in order to meet MME standards. Also utilized for credit recovery to aid our students further towards graduation.
3. Staff meetings and teacher mentors. In depth discussions on students and new strategies and practices to best serve our students.
4. Saturday school was only utilized in the start of the school year. It was found to not be a very effective. Students had access to student service worker. Aiding them with the services that they need or matched them up with community programs.

This goal is one that we will continue with for 2010/2011 school year. It is part of our Failure is not an Option program. We were not able to meet our goal this year. Out of the students that did not graduate many had unavoidable life issues and hardships.



## GOAL: Improve percentage of students scores in writing on MME by 2%.

### STRATEGIES:

1. Have 6 week classes for 11th grade students taking the test, in each subject area, devoted to preparation for the test.
2. Use textbooks that are aligned with the MME curriculum.
3. Offer extra study sessions. After school or online preparation.

### RESULTS:

1. Due to conflict in class scheduling a class was not offered for just test preparation.
2. Books are aligned according with curriculum. New books being purchased as needed.
3. Extra study sessions were offered and online test prep was available.

We put measures in place to help test scores. Professional Development being one of those tools we used and will continue to use to improve test scores. We will be modifying this into the 2010-2011 school year. One of our new goals will be to increase percentage of proficient scores on ACT/MME.

## Seat Time Waivers/Education 2020

Perhaps the biggest change for next year is a program called Seat Time Waivers. STW can serve all students who have attendance issues, social/emotional issues, working students, teen parents with child care responsibilities, students with medical problems, accelerated learners, Expelled or suspended students and students working post secondary credits. Or any other area of need not mentioned.

In an effort to expand opportunities for Michigan High School Students, the State of Michigan Superintendent, Mike Flanagan has invited schools and school districts to seek waivers from the administrative rules and pupil accounting rules that cause barriers to innovation and student academic success. Flanagan says, "It's not about seat time, but about student centered instruction and using all

the available tools." CCE is looking for students that may qualify for this on-line learning experience. We will be spending the next few months interviewing students for the appropriateness of this experience. Students must have the initiative and the ability to work on their own with minimal guidance from a mentor who will be supervising the learning experience. Exams will be taken under the mentor's supervision and credits earned will be tabulated here at Columbia Community Education. Columbia Options HS has been using Education 2020 (e2020), an online virtual school setting, to offer courses in subjects where we lack a highly qualified teacher. These subject areas include: health, physics, and chemistry. In addition, we utilize e2020 as a credit recovery option for students who are behind in credits.



COHS Students serving lunch at Inter-faith shelter. Our students went several times during the year. Students pictured: Stephanie Boylard, Brok Martin, Alicia Williams and Tom Guild.



COHS Volleyball team: Shayla Loomis, Tori Dinius, Kristen Jones, Jenna Ramsey, Rachael McKelvey, Ciera Cochrane, and Brittany Henderson. Coached by Ralph Piepkow.



Columbia Options Basketball team. Coach Justin Claucherty. Steven McDonald, Brian Collins, Riley McCarthy, Jackson Balikowski, Matt Fisher, Karl Chesser, Jarred Leffler and Skylar Primeau.



COHS Softball team. Coach Josh Kubiak. Brittany Henderson, Rachael McKelvey, Josh Gubics, Nate Edwards, Jenna Ramsey, Kaiden Phillips, Kevin Granger, Jackson Balikowski, Greg Damon and Josh Barnes.



### COLUMBIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brent Beamish, Superintendent

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Brooklyn MI 49230  
Phone: 517-592-6641  
www.columbiaschooldistrict.org

#### STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Columbia School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities.

#### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

2009-2010	47%
2008-2009:	57%
2007-2008:	62%
2006-2007:	52%



COHS Students attending Michigan Alternative Bowling Central Region Tournament. Jeanne Meinka drove students, Jackie Bailey, Brian Collins, DJ Houghtby, Karl Chesser and Chris Knight.

## POINTS OF PRIDE

- Six week marking periods. Achieve success and credit every six weeks.
- Smaller school setting kids take ownership and pride in their school. Students help to keep the school clean. Also participate in interior and exterior projects.
- Seniors have a choice between doing a traditional portfolio or doing community service project. They must do required number of community service hours and provide necessary documentation and fulfill all parts of service project.

At Columbia Community Education we are the only Adult Education program in Jackson County. We provide High School completions and G.E. D. preparation for any student over the age of 20.

Character Education is part of our curriculum. We offer a 6 week class on the basic principals of Character education. We teach and do classroom exercises on Respect, Responsibility, Citizenship and Integrity. We place a large emphasis on Respecting others and they will respect you.

## CORE AND EXTENDED CURRICULUM

Columbia School District has a comprehensive curriculum in the four core content areas. Curriculum documents in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies include content expectations, student friendly language, instructional strategies and common assessments. These guides were developed by teachers to aid in creating a quality curriculum guide for all staff. Our documents are revised and updated based on teacher use, input and state mandates. Our curriculum documents are aligned with the Michigan's Curriculum Framework and Content Expectations.

Columbia Community Education also has curriculum offerings in...

- Adult Education
- Summer School
- G.E. D. Preparation
- Night School Classes
- E2020
- Credit recovery
- Alpha Math
- Alpha Reading
- Saturday School Classes
- Career Interests

COHS Staff: Robin Tackett, Melissa Francis, Lisa Klink, Mindy Hetrick, Jeanne Meinka, Roger Downey, Ralph Piepkow, Justin Claucherty and Josh Kubiak.

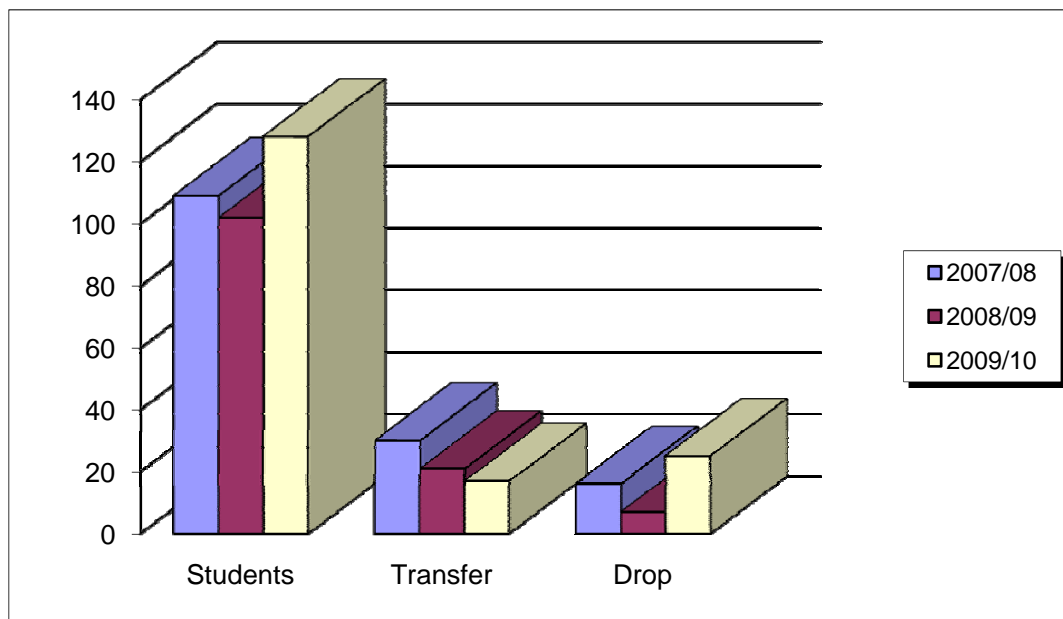


#### Core Beliefs

All Students can learn  
Failure is not an Option  
All students need a safe and positive learning environment.  
The family and community are integral parts of the educational system.  
Character Education and achievement will promote life long learning.  
All students can positively impact and contribute to our community and the global society.

## STUDENT RETENTION

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Students	109	102	128
Transfer	30	21	17
Drop	16	7	25



We are working on Student Retention as part of our Failure is not an option goal. We are calling students homes when they are not present at school. We have parent meetings, parent teacher conferences and regularly notify parents when there is an issue that needs to be addressed.

After looking at the students from the past year, we found that 12 students were from out of district that dropped out. We also concluded after contacting these students that transportation was the main reason for the students to drop out. This is just one of the many challenges that we will be addressing for the 2010/2011 school year.