

Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.

- John F. Kennedy

Annual Report 2010-2011

Bay-Arenac ISD



SPECIAL PROGRAMS





The Board of Education and the Administrative staff take tremendous pride in presenting to you the Bay-Arenac ISD Annual Report. This report will highlight Bay-Arenac ISD **Special Programs**. This is just a sampling of what the ISD has worked on during the 2010-2011 school year and will continue to work on in the future.

As you review this report, please keep in mind that these initiatives would not have been possible without our hardworking and dedicated staff.

We believe that not only our Vision and Mission Statements illustrate this report best, but that our **Beliefs and Values Statement...a spirit of shared decision-making and cooperation** is just one more area that supports our collaborative initiatives.

Michael R. Dewey
Superintendent, Bay-Arenac ISD

Bay-Arenac ISD Public, Charter and Parochial Schools We Serve:

- Arenac Eastern School District
- AuGres-Sims School District
- Bangor Township Schools
- Bay-Arenac Community High School
- Bay City Public Schools
- Bay County Public School Academy
- Essexville-Hampton Public Schools
- Pinconning Area Schools
- Standish-Sterling Community Schools
- All Saints Central High School & Middle School
- Auburn Area Catholic School
- Bethel Evangelical Lutheran School
- Faith Lutheran School
- Grace Lutheran School
- Holy Trinity School
- Immanuel Lutheran School
- St. Anne's Catholic School
- St. Bartholomew Evangelical Lutheran School
- St. James Elementary School
- St. John the Evangelist School
- St. John Lutheran School - Amelith
- St. John's Lutheran School
- St. Michael Elementary
- St. Paul Lutheran School
- Trinity Lutheran School
- Trinity Lutheran School (Monitor)
- Zion Lutheran School (Bay City)
- Zion Lutheran School (Beaver)

Special Programs

Our Vision

Bay-Arenac ISD ... a leading educational service organization for the benefit of all students.

Our Mission

Educational Excellence

Beliefs and Values

We believe people are most effective when there is:

- a safe, healthy environment
- mutual respect and trust
- a spirit of shared decision-making and cooperation
- a sense of responsibility for performance
- a commitment to professional and personal growth

Bay-Arenac ISD Locations

Bay-Arenac ISD Educational Service Center

4228 Two Mile Rd.
Bay City, MI 48706-2324

Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center

4155 Monitor Rd.
Bay City, MI 48706-9211

Bay-Arenac ISD Living & Learning Center

Bay Campus

1435 W. Center Rd.
Essexville, MI 48732-2111

Arenac Campus

2032 Pine River Rd.
Standish, MI 48658



INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Bay-Arenac ISD's Director of Instructional Services, content area specialists and consultants assist constituent district teachers and administrators, targeting their efforts toward an overarching goal: increasing student achievement. In addition to numerous professional development offerings, their intensive efforts during 2010-11 focused on the following programs:

Unification of Instructional Services in the Great Lakes Bay Region

Leveraging Resources for Results...

Bay-Arenac ISD, Midland County RESA and Saginaw ISD have collaborated with funding and personnel to unify one instructional services department to serve schools throughout the region. The Director, Deborah Dunbar, is housed at Bay Arenac ISD this year and will work in partnership with staff at each ISD, the College of Education at Saginaw Valley State University and Delta College to support PreK-12 students and educators in the region. The collaboration represented in this venture has been recognized statewide and will serve as a model for other areas in Michigan.

Connected to a larger collaborative...

This initiative is an outgrowth of work and planning done by educators from districts across the region that have met the past 18 months at the College of Education at SVSU with the guidance of Carolyn Wierda, Interim Assistant Dean in the College of Education. The group, the Great Lakes Bay Educational Collaborative, has produced a regional strategic plan to support all schools as they work to improve student achievement. By collaborating with one another and leveraging resources we believe we can provide the highest quality of service to the region.



Educators from the Great Lakes Bay Region now participate in numerous classes and training sessions together.

Regional Use of the Pinnacle Data Warehouse in School Improvement Planning

Through a Title IID Enhancing Education Through Technology grant from the Michigan Department of Education, Bay-Arenac ISD has expanded the use of the Pinnacle Data Warehouse by Global Scholar to neighboring regions including districts in Iosco ISD and Saginaw ISD. During the 2010-11 school year over 250 school improvement team leaders, representing 25 school districts completed their school improvement plans with the assistance of the Data Warehouse, Data Coaches and a guided process that ensures that plans are completed on time, on track and with quality. The grant also provided an updated server for the operation, license renewals that carry districts through June, 2014, and continued training and support.



Educators from a 5-county area participated in Guided School Improvement

TECHNICAL SERVICES



Bay-Arenac ISD's Technical Service Department provides all of the technology services for the ISD and collaborates on various services with twenty-four individual school districts. These services include application, network, and technician support. The collaboration efforts allow districts access to necessary programs and services at a reduced cost without sacrificing quality or service.

Technician services are provided to all ISD staff, as well as Atlanta Community Schools. Every Bay-Arenac ISD technician is at a minimum A+ certified and provides services including user support, desktop/laptop/printer support, application support, and training.

Network support services are provided to eight local districts, as well as the entire ISD. These services include firewall service, web-filtering services, support of an extensive fiber network, and general network support.

The ISD collaborates with twenty-four schools to provide access, training, and support to CIMS student and financial software. The CIMS software is installed on an AS400 that is housed and supported by the ISD.

The ISD collaborates with Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) by providing evening and weekend Internet bandwidth for SVSU student use.

There are over one hundred miles of fiber in Bay-Arenac ISD's fiber network. Currently, this fiber network has several uses:

- It provides connectivity to all seven constituent districts as well as one district within Iosco county.
- It allows the ISD to provide cost savings on Internet services to the connected Districts.
- It allows the ISD to provide cost saving solutions for web content filtering, firewall service, and e-mail spam filtering.
- Through a partnership with SVSU and Bay County, a redundant loop was created for the ISD and SVSU to prevent service interruptions in the event of a fiber outage.

Regional Educational Media Center 6 (REMC6)

Services provided through REMC6 (Bay, Arenac, and Iosco Counties) include:

- Digital Video subscription service (Discovery Streaming or Learn 360) is provided to all of the school districts of Region 6. This service saves these districts up to \$575 per building.
- Free web-hosting services to its districts.
- All REMC6 school districts and parochial schools are eligible to participate in the statewide REMC bid project, a competitive and cooperative bid project.
- Access to thousands of educational videos through its video collection.
- Professional Development opportunities provided throughout the year.



CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Adult and Continuing Education

The adult education department began making changes at the end of the 10-11 school year that were implemented at the start of this school year.

The first major change was a switch in the assessment software. The adult education department began using CASAS e-Test (the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System). The e-Test version is a computer-based test and was a new product for CASAS. The adult education department was among the first in the nation to use this new assessment system. Staff members completed a series of on-line training modules to become certified to administer the assessment.

Another change was moving from a semester system for the academic classes to a trimester system. The academic school year is now divided into three sections. This change allows students to enter the program three times a year instead of two and also allows students to retest more frequently to move to the next level of class.

The last major change was the development of a GED Fast-Track class for those students who assess high and only need a short time to prepare for the GED Exam. Special emphasis is given to the math and essay parts of the test, but all 5 GED subjects are covered.

Career Education

Fourteen years ago, in 1996, while working as the Director of the Emergency Department at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Erin Riehle was frustrated with the high turnover rate in entry-level jobs that involved restocking supplies. While working to identify a solution to eliminating the high turnover rate, Cincinnati Children's had adopted a major diversity initiative, taking a policy statement from the American College of Healthcare executives. Erin wondered if people with disabilities could fill the entry level jobs she had. Not knowing anyone with a disability she turned to Great Oaks Career Campuses and the Hamilton County Board of Developmental Disability Services and asked if her idea was possible. Together with these organizations the idea of filling a handful of jobs in Cincinnati Children's Emergency Department evolved into a comprehensive program model—Project Search.



Our Story

Project SEARCH has grown from one original program site at Cincinnati Children's to over 150 across 40 states and four countries. Some of our business partners include but are not limited to: Xavier University, the Federal Department of Education, the Federal Department of Labor, and in Michigan; Blue Cross Blue Shield and Fifth Third Bank. Project SEARCH's primary objective is to secure competitive employment for people with disabilities. Project SEARCH is a partnership between a host business, education and vocational rehabilitation. The goal is to provide on-site internship experiences and acquire necessary skills for young adults with disabilities leading to competitive employment.

Delta College Project SEARCH Partners:

- Delta College provides an on-site classroom and a variety of internships that teach core and transferable skills.
- Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District provides an instructor, and student interns from their affiliated schools.
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services provides individual career guidance, job coaching and other support for each student to gain competitive employment.
- Do-All Inc. provides job coaching and job development for student interns at Delta College.
- Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health provides long term retention and support for eligible interns once they secure a job.
- Families support and assist the intern and program throughout the training and employment process.

Delta College

The Project SEARCH High School Transition Program is a one-year internship program for students with disabilities, in their last year of high school. It is targeted for students from Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District and their affiliated schools whose goal is competitive employment. The students will spend their entire school day on Delta College's campus. Total immersion in the work environment increases the teaching and learning process, as well as the acquisition of employability and marketable work skills necessary for entry-level employment at Delta College or other organizations. Students participate in three internships to explore a variety of career paths. They work with a team that includes their family, a special education teacher from Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District, Michigan Rehabilitation Services and Do-All to create an employment goal while supporting the student during this important transition from school to work.

BENEFITS of the Project SEARCH Model:

Benefits to the Students:

- Participate in a variety of internships within Delta College
- Acquire competitive, transferable and marketable job skills
- Gain increased independence, confidence, and self esteem
- Obtain work based individualized coaching, instruction and feedback from the instructor, job coaches and Delta staff
- Become a participating and contributing member of their local community
- Develop linkages to Michigan Rehabilitation Services and Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health

Benefits to Delta College

- Access to a new, diverse, talent stream with skills that match labor needs
- Gain intern/ employees with disabilities who serve as a role model for students, and Delta College staff
- Access to a demographic of the economy with intense buying power: people with disabilities represent one of the fastest growing market segments in the US
- Experience increased regional and national recognition through marketing of this unique program
- Performance and retention in some high-turnover, entry-level positions increase dramatically

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Post-Secondary Planning

Eighty percent of all Career Center students go to college, right after they graduate from high school. During the 2010-11 school year, the Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center's comprehensive collaboration with Delta College continued to offer students a successful plan toward their college education. As juniors, students work with Career Center counselors to identify colleges that offer programs related to their career path. Each fall, Career Center counselors provide all seniors with information about the college application process and timeline for completion.



During the 2010-11 school year, high school seniors were presented with information about the college/university admission process by a Delta Admissions office representative, in coordination with Career Center counseling staff. All seniors also received information about financial aid and local/regional resources to help pay for college expenses, regardless of where they planned to attend. A FAFSA Night was held in mid-February at the Career Center where families of any college-bound Career Center student could receive assistance from Delta's staff in completing the financial aid form on-line. Students that planned on attending Delta College had the opportunity to take Delta's placement test at the Career Center, as well as a chance to complete their online orientation and receive course advising from the college's staff.

The Moving Up program, conducted by Delta College's Developmental Education staff in conjunction with the Career Center's counselors, took place for seniors that were borderline in qualifying for college-level math or English. Sixty-one percent of the participating students were able to increase their score in English, math or both.

Special Programs

Articulation

Students that attend the Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center have the opportunity to earn college credit in their Career and Technical Education program. Coordination between the Career Center and the college and/or university is essential in helping students with a smooth transition from secondary to post-secondary education. At the heart of this effort is the relationship that the Career Center instructor has with his or her post-secondary partner. A wonderful example of such collaboration can be found within the welding programs at the Career Center and Delta College.

Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center welding instructor, Mr. Mike Jones, has been articulating welding classes with Delta since 1999. Recently, Mr. Jones and Mr. Bruce Faccio, Welding Technologies Department Head at Delta College, were awarded the 2011 Teacher to Teacher- Articulation Teamwork Award. Students that successfully complete the BAISD Career Center welding program can earn credit for up to five Delta welding courses. Since 2006, 31 Career Center students that received this credit have graduated from Delta College, 15 of which were during the 2010-11 school year. Since the 2006-07 school year, students from the Career Center have received 324 articulated welding credits at Delta College, for an approximate savings of \$26,000 in tuition costs alone. The number is much greater when book and supply fees coupled with transportation and other college costs are factored in. As the acronym TEAM reminds us, "Together Everyone Achieves More."



BAY ARENAC ISD CAREER CENTER

Employability Skills

Students at the Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center receive one week of formal Employability Skills training from one of our Placement Specialists. During this time, the focus is on preparing students for entry into the workforce by reinforcing the soft skills that are necessary in the 21st Century workplace. Students also practice how to present themselves effectively in person and in writing. All students leave the Career Center with an employment portfolio, complete with a polished paper and/or electronic resume, showcasing their skills and accomplishments. Upon completion of their employability skills training, students understand how to complete a job application correctly, compose a cover letter and participate in a mock interview with an employer within his or her chosen career field.

Our Placement Department works with over 500 local businesses to help provide work experience opportunities for our students. Some of these experiences include: unpaid mentorships, paid and unpaid internships and mock interviews. Employability skills are reinforced and addressed within specific career paths each day, as part of the Career and Technical Education program in which the students are enrolled. As a result, students leave with the confidence and skills necessary to obtain a job.

Maria Olivarez, Thelen Chrysler Jeep Dodge Body Shop Manager in Bay City, believes that the students trained at the Career Center are "top notch." She stated, "Your kids are so prepared for the workforce. From their attire to the way they present themselves in interviews, students from the Career Center are extremely impressive." Thelen's has hired many Career Center students for full time positions. A recent graduate is currently their head painter, making \$65,000 a year.

Placement Specialists at the Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center are always seeking out new opportunities to partner with local businesses in providing work experiences for students through innovative collaborative efforts. For example, students in the Engineering/Drafting and Early Childhood and Education departments at the Career Center are working with the Dow Bay Area Family Y on designing the Y's new childcare areas. Students in the Early Childhood and Education program shared licensing information and equipment needs with the students in the Engineering/Drafting program. The Engineering and Drafting students then created a 3 dimensional model of the facility, based upon Early Childhood class recommendations. Both classes presented their ideas to the Dow Bay Area Family Y for consideration in December, 2011.



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