

**Accreditation** – The [Michigan Revised School Code](#) requires the Michigan State Board of Education to set standards for the accreditation of public schools in Michigan. The State Board of Education has set *Education YES!* as the system to accredit Michigan schools. Some schools are also accredited through the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, which is one of six regional school accreditation authorities recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Achievement Status** – One of two achievement components in *Education YES!* Achievement Status is computed using the weighted index derived from students' scores on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program. Achievement status is measured in English language arts and mathematics at the elementary level. It includes science and social studies at the middle school and high school levels. Up to three years of data from comparable assessments are included in a school's status grade. Cut scores for the grades in achievement status were set by representative panels that assigned grades to selected schools.

**Achievement Change** – One of two achievement components in *Education YES!* It is based on the goal of 100% percent proficiency in 2013-14, as set in the No Child Left Behind Act. Achievement Change is computed by dividing the computed improvement rate (slope) by the target improvement rate, determining the ratio of the target that the school has attained, using comparable scores from the Michigan Educational Assessment Program for up to five years.

**Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)** – The measure used to hold schools and districts responsible for student achievement in English language arts and mathematics. AYP is based on Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test results, participation rates in MEAP testing, and attendance or graduation rates.

**Annual State Objective** – The level of achievement on the MEAP English language arts and mathematics tests needed to make AYP based on achievement. The annual state objective will increase gradually until it reaches 100 percent in 2014.

**Attendance Rate** – The percentage of total school days that students in a school or district are present in school.

**AYP Advisory** - An alert that is given to a school with only one year's MEAP results, indicating that the results are below the annual state objective.

**Children's Action Network** – this is an interdepartmental group working across state government to improve student achievement in schools that have been identified for improvement under the No Child Left Behind Act.

**Education YES!** – The state accountability system used in Michigan to determine how well a school is performing based on MEAP results and other school characteristics. Each school is graded on its MEAP achievement and MEAP improvement, as well as performance indicators. YES is an acronym for “Yardstick for Excellent Schools.”

**Graduation Rate** - The percentage of students in a school or district who graduate from high school with a regular diploma in the standard number of years.

**Identification for Improvement** – The No Child Left Behind Act requires that any school where federal Title I funds are used be identified for improvement if the school does not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years in the same content area (English language arts or mathematics). Once a school is identified for improvement, it continues to be identified until it makes AYP in the content area for two consecutive years. Students and parents have certain opportunities, required by federal law, if they attend schools that are identified for improvement.

**Improvement Rate – Actual** – The amount of improvement, as calculated using a trend line, in the percent proficient in each content area, for up to the past five years on comparable tests under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

**Improvement Rate - Target Slope** – The school’s target for improvement in each content area. It is the number of percentage points that the percent proficient must improve to reach the goal of 100% percent proficient in 2013-14, as set in the No Child Left Behind Act.

**Indicators of School Performance** – The indicators are investments that schools are making to improve student achievement. They are based on research and best practice. Schools completed self-ratings on 40 Key Characteristics of the School Improvement Framework. The school’s grade on the indicators is derived from its self-rating.

**Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP)** – The statewide assessment program used in Michigan to test and report student achievement in the core academic subjects at certain grade levels.

**Michigan Merit Examination (MME)** – Michigan’s high school assessment is given to students in Grade 11 and is comprised of the ACT, WorkKeys, and Michigan components that address core subject areas not covered in the ACT and WorkKeys. It replaced the high school MEAP in Spring 2007. For additional information, go to [www.michigan.gov/mme](http://www.michigan.gov/mme).

**MI-Access** – Michigan’s alternate assessment program is designed for students from whom the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team has determined that the MEAP assessments, even with assessment accommodations, are not appropriate for the student.

**No Child Left Behind Act of 2001** – The federal law that authorizes funding and contains the current requirements for Title I and other federal educational programs.

**Participation Rate** – The No Child Left Behind Act requires that at least 95% of students, in each district, school and subgroup, participate in state assessment. The participation rate is computed by dividing the number of students tested by the number enrolled, as reported through the Single Record Student Database.

**Proficient** – Students that meet or exceed Michigan standards on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program meet Michigan’s definition of proficient.

**Safe Harbor** – If a school or district, as a whole or for a subgroup, does not meet the state objective, it may make AYP by showing improvement from the prior year, using the safe harbor provision.

**Student Subgroup** – AYP is applied to the whole school or school district, and to subgroups, including racial/ethnic groups (American Indians, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Blacks, Hispanics and Whites), students with disabilities, students from low income families, and students with limited English proficiency. The goal is high levels of academic achievement for all students.

**Students with Disabilities** – Students who are determined by an individualized education program team or hearing officer to have one or more specified impairments that necessitates special education or related services.

**Students from Low-Income Families** – Students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch based on the income of their family.

**Students with Limited English Proficiency** – Students whose primary language is not English and who have difficulty speaking, reading, writing or understanding English.

**Supplemental Educational Services** – Instruction provided to students outside of the regular school day by a state-approved provider selected by the parents of each eligible student.

**Title I** – The federal education program that provides funds to help schools and districts improve student achievement through additional instruction for students, professional development for school staff and activities to help parents support their children’s education.

**Weighted Index** – The method of computing achievement status using students’ scale scores on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program as weighted by the performance category assigned to each student’s score. The intent of the weighted index is to encourage schools to place priority on improving the achievement of students that attain the lowest scores on the MEAP assessments.