



YOUR SCHOOLS

School District of the City of Royal Oak
1123 Lexington Blvd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073

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ROYAL OAK, MI

POSTAL PATRON

Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools – An All “A” District
www.royaloakschools.com

School Hours

High School 7:25 a.m. – 2:22 p.m.

Middle Schools 8:00 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Bussed Elementary Schools:
Oakland, Oak Ridge, & Upton
8:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Non-Bussed Elementary Schools:
Longfellow, Northwood, Starr,
Twain & Whittier
8:35 a.m. – 3:35 p.m.

School Closings Information

Information about any necessary school closings will be available from these broadcast stations:

Radio:

- CLKW-AM 800
- WJR-AM 760
- WKQI-FM 95.5
- WWJ-AM 950
- WXYT-AM 1270

Television:

- WJBK/Fox 2
- WDIV/TV 4
- WXYZ/Channel 7

Up to date information will also be available at our web site at:

www.royaloakschools.com

2006-2007

Board of Education

Gary Briggs	President
Christine Hartwig	Vice-President
Kevin McLogan	Secretary
Michael Hartman	Treasurer
Deborah Anderson	Trustee
Lisa Bradford	Trustee
Daniel Champagne	Trustee

Regularly scheduled Royal Oak School Board Meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at:

Royal Oak Board of Education Office,
1123 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak.

Your Schools is the official publication of the Royal Oak Neighborhood School District. It is mailed to residents of the Royal Oak School District as a public service. Article ideas are always welcome and response is encouraged. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Anne Redmond, 1123 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48073 (248) 435-8400, Ext. 209



News and Information About Your Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools September 2006



A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Members of the Royal Oak Schools Community,

In 1966, The School District of the City of Royal Oak served over 20,000 students. Our school system will serve approximately 5,600 students in fall 2006. In the 1960's, Royal Oak's total population was over 80,000. Today, the City of Royal Oak is estimated at 58,000 inhabitants. The Royal Oak school system has enacted three facility consolidation programs over the past four decades. Each period of consolidation has been prefaced by the overriding intention to maintain student programs and services rather than maintain buildings with small enrollments that cannot support comprehensive programs for students.

The Royal Oak School District continues to be a very attractive system to parents wishing the best opportunities for their children. How many school districts in our State offer foreign language starting in elementary grades; violin starting at 4th grade; elementary talented and gifted programming or an abundance of special services for students with special needs? Royal Oak has seen fit to maintain such programs and much more, even though consolidation has meant attending a school that may be a little farther away.

This special edition of *Your Schools* highlights the consolidation program developed in 2003 by citizen representatives. In the pages that follow you will find declining enrollment and financial considerations that have created the need to make hard choices in our school district. You will also find the basics about the current consolidation program and how it affects school buildings throughout our metropolitan school system.

The inauguration of the new Royal Oak High School in September of this school year signals the completion of the first phase in the current round of consolidation. Our middle and elementary schools proceed through transition activities this school year readying for consolidation in the fall of 2007.

Our community needs to be assured that even though our school buildings have become fewer and farther in between, opportunities remain strong for Royal Oak's students. School consolidation has been Royal Oak's wise decision in response to years of challenges. The result has been to keep our school system strong in providing many program options and services for Royal Oak's school students.

Thomas L. Moline
Superintendent

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Enrollment History

For decades, the District has implemented building consolidation plans that have resulted in building closures. These plans have all emphasized the need to reduce overhead costs, have demonstrated fiscal responsibility and have preserved instructional and co-curricular programs. The choice has been to place our

emphasis on instructional programs rather than “bricks and mortar”.

The two most recent consolidation plans, which go back to 1997, have utilized citizen based facility study teams and consolidation task forces to formulate recommendations to the Board of Education. The use of a cross section of Royal Oak citizens on these committees has ensured a well thought out long term consolidation plan that benefits the entire community now and into the future.

As a declining enrollment District, Royal Oak has been facing numerous financial challenges. With revenue based on the number of students, revenue has been declining each and every year. At the same time, costs such as health insurance premiums and retirement obligations have been increasing rapidly. In combination with declining revenue and increasing costs, budget reductions have been commonplace. Building closures have been an important strategy to reduce costs and, at the same time, maintain our instructional programs.

1966	1995	1998	2005	2006	2007
Enrollment 20,149	Enrollment 7,362	Enrollment 6,723	Enrollment 5,879	Projected Enrollment 5,631	Projected Enrollment 5,381
Buildings	Buildings	Buildings	Buildings	Buildings	Buildings
Dondero HS Kimball HS	Dondero HS Kimball HS	Dondero HS Kimball HS	Dondero HS Kimball HS	Royal Oak HS	Royal Oak HS
Addams Jr High Barton Jr High Lyon Jr High Keller Jr High	Addams Jr High Churchill Jr High Keller Jr High	Addams MS Keller MS	Addams MS Keller MS	Addams MS Keller MS	Royal Oak MS
Addams Elem Churchill Elem Emerson Elem Franklin Elem Grant Elem Jefferson Elem Lincoln Elem Lockman Elem Longfellow Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Parker Elem Starr Elem Twain Elem Upton Elem Washington Elem Whittier Elem	Addams Elem Franklin Elem Lincoln Elem Lockman Elem Longfellow Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Parker Elem Starr Elem Twain Elem Upton Elem Whittier Elem	Franklin Elem Longfellow Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Parker Elem Starr Elem Twain Elem Upton Elem Whittier Elem	Longfellow Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Starr Elem Twain Elem Upton Elem Whittier Elem	Longfellow Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Starr Elem Twain Elem Upton Elem Whittier Elem	Addams Elem Keller Elem Northwood Elem Oakland Elem Oak Ridge Elem Upton Elem
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Other District Buildings Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincoln Early Childhood Center * Churchill Community Education Center ** Board Office Maintenance/Transportation Center Catalpa Building OTC - SE </div>					

*Lincoln - Early Intervention and Spec. Ed. Early Childhood Programs included in enrollment totals

**Churchill - Alternative Education included in enrollment totals

Curriculum and Programs

Our students will face tremendous global competition for their future careers. It is imperative that Royal Oak retains the ability to provide students with programs and opportunities that will enhance their ability to succeed. By focusing on preserving programs rather than buildings, Royal Oak is able to continue to provide programs that both support and enhance academic programs such as:

- Reading Recovery for first grade students
- Strings for fourth grade students
- Band and Orchestra for fifth grade students
- Foreign Language for first through fifth grade students
- Reading Support at all levels
- Extensive athletic programs
- Wide array of advanced placement programs
- College credit classes
- Talented and Gifted program

Student Achievement

The most recent Michigan School Report Card for Royal Oak again revealed exemplary academic

Michigan Department of Education Report Card for Royal Oak Neighborhood Schools

	2005-06	2005-06
	Ed Yes!	School AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)
School	Grade	Status
Longfellow Elementary	A	Met AYP
Northwood Elementary	A	Met AYP
Oak Ridge Elementary	A	Met AYP
Oakland Elementary	A	Met AYP
Starr Elementary	A	Met AYP
Mark Twain Elementary	A	Met AYP
Alfred E. Upton Elementary	A	Met AYP
Whittier Elementary	A	Met AYP

accomplishments for our District. For the fourth year in a row, all of our elementary and middle schools achieved Adequate Yearly Progress with nine out of ten schools receiving an “A” grade from the Michigan Department of Education, and one receiving a “B”. Royal Oak is one of the few systems in Michigan to have achieved Adequate Yearly Progress each year at all educational levels since the inception of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

Accomplishments of the 2006 Dondero & Kimball High School Graduates

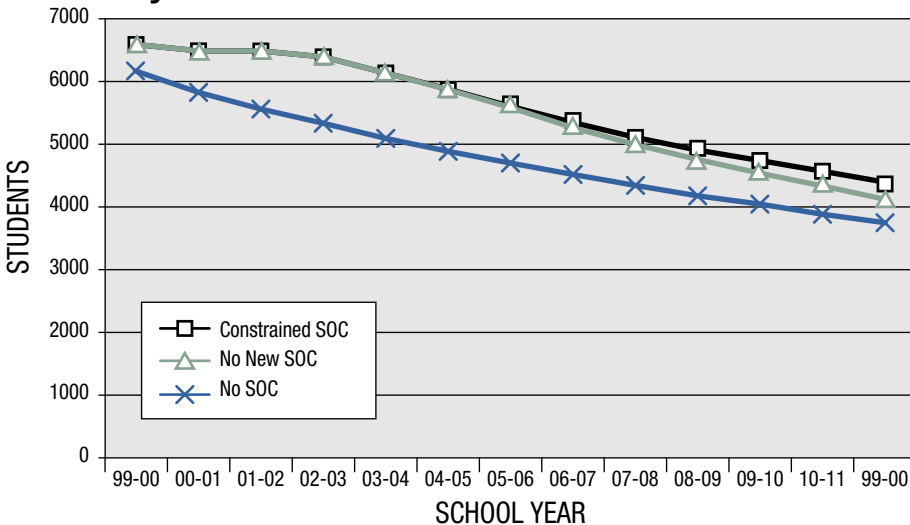
The following is a summary of the academic achievements of the 2006 Class of Dondero High School and Kimball High School:

- 475 Graduates
- 76 Phi Beta Kappa
- 85 National Honor Society Members
- 22 Summa Cum Laude
- 20 Magna Cum Laude
- 13 Cum Laude
- 54 Graduated with Distinction
- 5 National Merit Scholarship Finalists
- 6 National Merit Scholarship Commended Students
- 84 Michigan Merit Recipients
- 137 Michigan Competitive Scholarship Qualifiers
- \$2,667,490 in Scholarships, Grants and Financial Aid
- \$6,420,900 Projected 4-year Total

Additional Facts About Royal Oak Schools

- 98.57% 2004-2005 Graduation Rate
- 96.62% District Average Daily Attendance

Royal Oak - Three Levels of Schools of Choice



For years, the District has utilized a comprehensive approach to long range financial planning and long-term enrollment projections. As the District's funding is tied directly to the number of students, it is extremely important to have accurate and reliable forecasts of student enrollment. The use of an outside expert in enrollment forecasting has yielded very accurate student projections and has formed a basis for the District's consolidation plans.

Royal Oak Schools Property Disposition Update

As many residents know, the District intends to supplement the proceeds of the 2005 Bond with money generated from property sales. The Board of Education has designated all land sale revenue to cover school upgrades not included in the \$69.5 million bond passed by voters last year. In fact, the bond scope developed prior to the election identified properties worth nearly \$21 million.

To date the District has marketed the Parker Elementary School, Franklin Elementary School and Girard properties.

The District sold the former Parker Elementary site to William Beaumont Hospital for \$6.1 million for medical offices and a small residential development.

There is an agreement to sell a 3.7-acre parcel on Girard Avenue to Diversified Property Group LLC for \$975,000. Diversified will build 15 traditional style homes at the site near the Churchill Community Education Center. The 1,800-2,400-square-foot homes will have classic features and will sell in the \$300,000 range.

And, the initial purchaser of Franklin, Omega Development, elected to exercise their right to terminate the transaction. Discussions with another potential purchaser, Homestead Construction Co., are ongoing.

The next properties the District plans to market are Lincoln and Twain. Marketing activities are expected to commence in late summer and early fall with a Board decision planned by the end of the year.



Royal Oak High School Site Work

Residents may have noticed a great deal of excavating and site work on the west side of the Royal Oak High School site (formerly Kimball).

This work reflects a complete renovation of the circle drive known as the Bus Loop. This area will accommodate the 10 or 11 buses which will be scheduled for high school transportation this fall.

The large amount of excavation and black piping being installed in the ground is intended to handle storm water detention requirements. The large capacity being installed will not only fulfill storm water runoff from the Bus Loop, but is also designed to accommodate runoff from the Auxiliary Gym addition, the east lot renovation with additional capacity for other projects. It is designed to accommodate rain water runoff from a very heavy and sustained downpour.

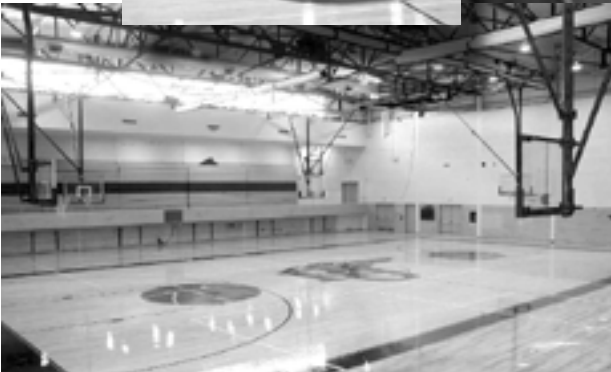
Royal Oak High School		Thank You Voters for Your Support!
ADDITION AND RENOVATIONS		
SKANSKA	Royal Oak NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS	Kingscott

Building Construction / Renovation Update Summer 2006 Work

Construction and renovation continues in buildings across the District as work approved with the 2005 Bond moves forward.

Royal Oak High School

- Asbestos Abatement
- Reconfiguration of Existing Space to Create Classrooms
- Main Gym Floor Replacement
- Upgrade Band and Vocal Rooms
- Stadium Repairs
- Bus Loop Renovation
- Material Processing and CAD Labs Renovation
- New Food Service Serving Line
- Add New Media Center Computer Lab
- Partial Completion of New Gymnasium Restrooms



Royal Oak Middle School

- Asbestos Abatement
- Selective Architectural & Infrastructure Demolition
- Roof Replacement

Upton

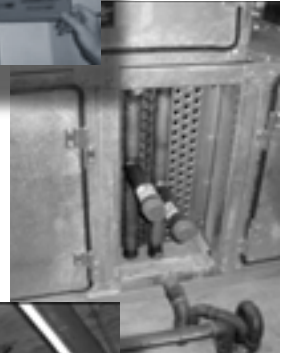
- Electronic Door Control & Card Key Access System
- Secure Main Entrance
- Roof Replacement
- Boiler Replacement
- New Classroom Heating & Air Conditioning Units
- Water Chiller for Air Conditioning
- Generator
- Electrical Upgrades

Keller

- Roof Replacement
- Boiler Replacement
- Hot Water Heater Replacement

Addams

- Hot Water Heater Replacement
- Roof Replacement



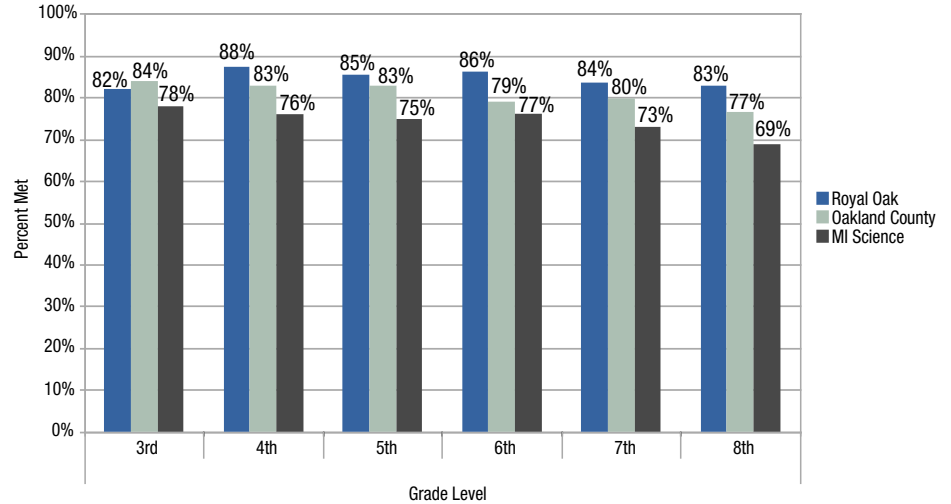
Royal Oak Schools MEAP Score Results

Royal Oak Schools' MEAP scores this year continue to indicate a strong instructional program in our schools. This was the first year that all grades, 3rd through 8th, were assessed by the State in both English Language Arts and Math. Our students consistently performed at or, in most cases, above the County and State averages. Students also scored above the County and State averages in both Science and Social Studies, demonstrating an excellent knowledge of these content areas as well.



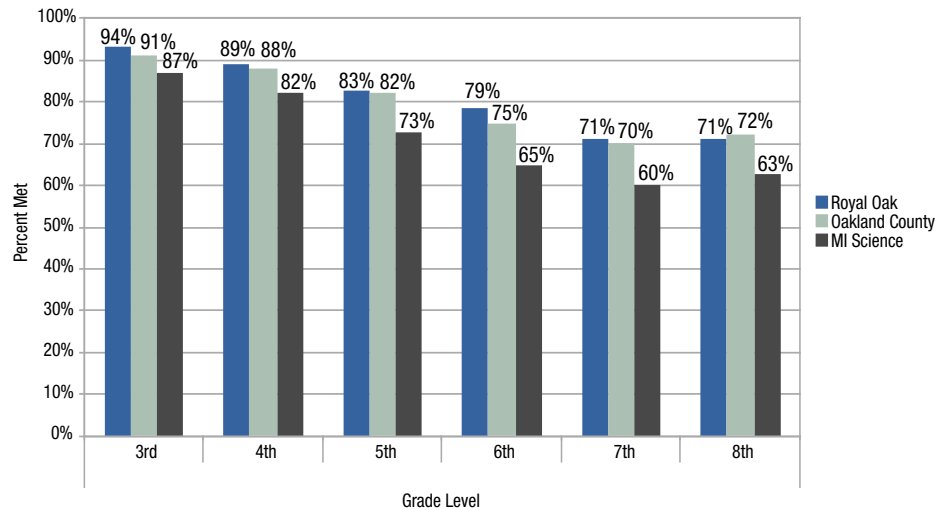
English Language Arts 3-8

Fall 2005 MEAP ELA Results



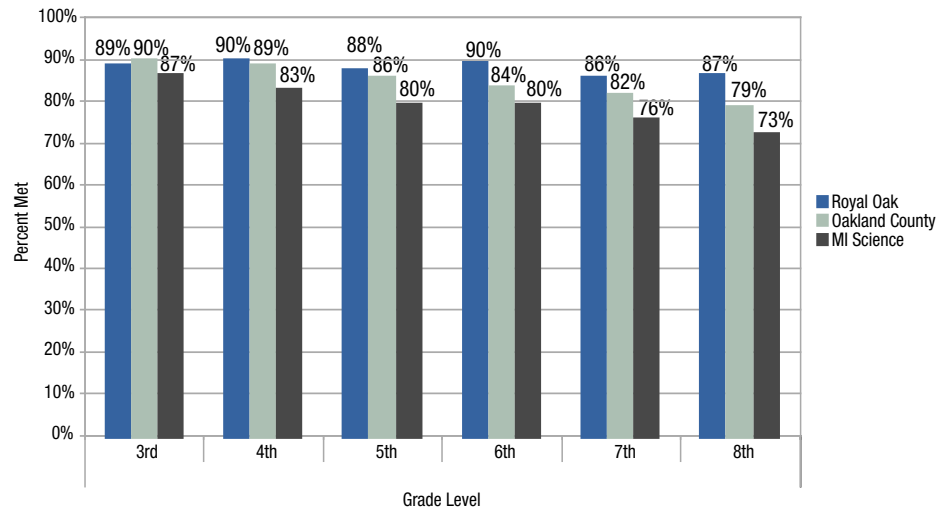
Math Grades 3-8

Fall 2005 MEAP Reading Results



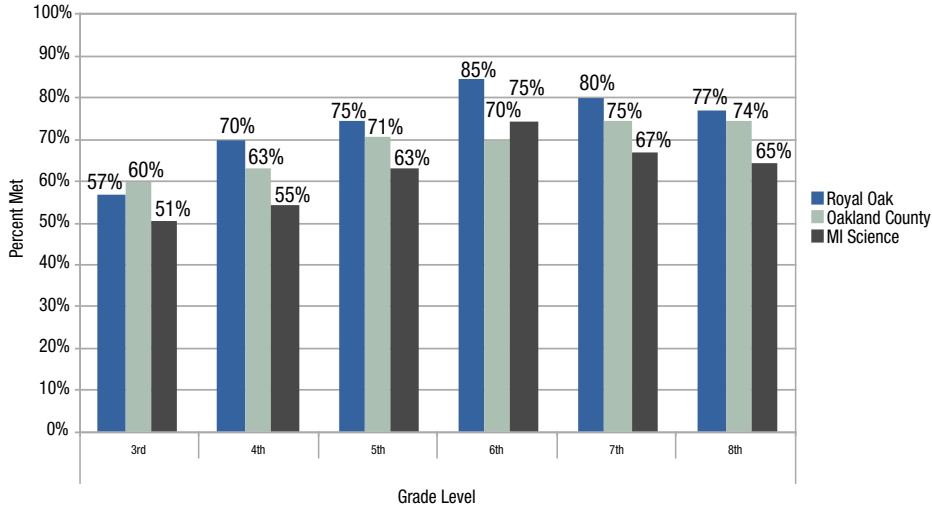
Reading Grades 3-8

Fall 2005 MEAP Reading Results



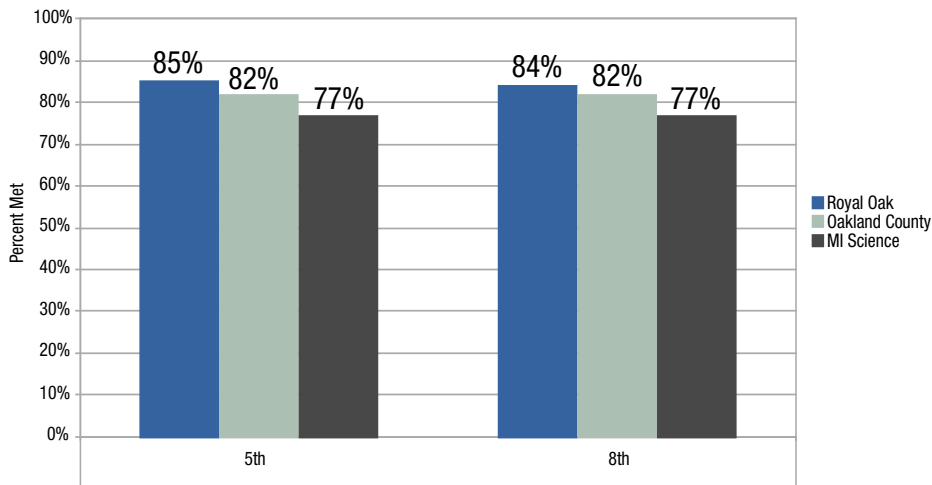
Writing Grades 3-8

Fall 2005 MEAP Writing Results



Science Grades 5 & 8

Fall 2005 MEAP Science Results



Social Studies Grade 6

Fall 2005 MEAP Social Studies Results

