

# Bay-Arenac Community High School

## A Public School Academy

1608 Hudson Street

Essexville, MI 48732

(989) 893-8811

FAX - (989) 895-7749

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August 15, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian of BACHS Student:

Your child is a student at Bay-Arenac Community High School. You know that your child is important to us and that we want to provide every opportunity for success.

Each high school in Michigan is required to test students every year using the Michigan Merit Exam (MME). The results of this test, as well as participation on the test or graduation rate, are used to determine whether our school is making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

This year, Bay-Arenac Community High School is identified for improvement because our small size did not allow for a calculation of our Graduation Improvement Objective. Our graduation rate is below the 80% expected by the State of Michigan, and we rely upon our "graduation rate improvement" as a determination of one aspect of our school quality each year. With less than 30 graduates, Bay-Arenac Community High School was not afforded the opportunity by the Michigan Department of Education to calculate an improvement score. Therefore we have been identified for improvement.

However, we are proud to report that we "made the grade" with our Reading and Mathematics scores (100% proficient or provisionally proficient in Reading, and 50% proficient or provisionally proficient in math, enough of an increase over last year's scores to call the math scores a success).

A comparison of our scores to other schools in the district and the state average can be found on the next page.

In order to address the problem of a challenging graduation rate, we could do two things: (1) Change our school's mission from the current mission, which is to help and assist at-risk students who are "off track" work toward high school graduation and college enrollment, or (2) Continue to find ways to thrive as a school and provide the best education for our students in spite of the fact that the manner in which we are assessed does not always work for a small, transient school population. We choose the latter.

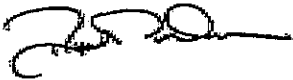
Since the school is identified for improvement, the district must offer you the opportunity to transfer your child to other area schools making 80% Graduation Rate. If the district receives more applications than can be accommodated, priority will be given to the lowest-achieving children from low-income families. You will be notified by mail of your child's transfer status.

To help you decide, we have provided test information from the schools that made AYP along with Bay-Arenac Community High School's information so you can compare them. Based on this information, you may choose a school using the enclosed transfer form. Transportation to this school will be provided via Bay Metro Transit. You must complete this form by October 15, 2011 and return it to Lisa Senk, Administrative Secretary at 1608 Hudson Street, Essexville, Michigan 48732 for consideration.

If you decide not to transfer your child and your child is eligible for free and reduced price meals, free tutoring may be available to your child. You will receive a separate letter about free tutoring.

To discuss this decision further, please call Director of Guidance and Counseling Cindra Finney at (989) 893-8811, and she will be happy to help you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RD", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Ryan A. Donlan