



September 2007

Superintentionally

MSD FULLY ACCREDITED BY MSIP

On April 6, 2006, MSD experienced a “FIRST” by undergoing an assessment of its performance as compared with other school districts in Missouri. On that day, a team representing the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) descended on the campus of MSD to perform a thorough evaluation of the educational, fiscal, physical, support and outreach services, including a survey of students, parents, teachers and staff for their perceptions of MSD’s performance. The MSIP is Missouri’s tool to evaluate and determine the quality each school district in the state.

It is important that MSD participated and continues to participate in the MSIP. Many Missouri residents think of MSD as a “special school” that doesn’t utilize the same curriculum or that has different criteria for graduation than other public schools. Going through this experience will provide the data necessary to dispel that myth and provide us with information for continuous school improvement.

My sincere appreciation to Assistant Superintendent Tom Bastean, who led us through a preparatory year prior to the on-site visit by the MSIP team and the evaluation.

The results of MSD’s MSIP Review were shared with MSD administrative staff members earlier this month and to the State Board of Education on July 20, 2007. We are proud to announce that MSD received a **FULLY ACCREDITED** rating. This result serves to prove that MSD excels in its mission to educate Missouri’s Deaf/HH students and provides the data necessary to reflect that we’re doing an outstanding job compared with our peers state-wide. We are thrilled with the ability to show others what we have known all along.



Barbara Garrison
Superintendent

D. Kent King
Commissioner of Education



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Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

July 20, 2007

Dear MSD Staff:

I would like to congratulate the entire staff of the Missouri School for the Deaf, Missouri School for the Blind, and State Schools for Severely Handicapped for each school being fully accredited by the Missouri State Board of Education at their July 19, 2007, board meeting.

As a part of the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP), the State Board Operated Programs (Missouri School for the Blind, Missouri School for the Deaf, and State Schools for the Severely Handicapped) were evaluated in the spring of 2006. This systematic procedure is designed to evaluate the overall operations of Missouri schools to ensure that they are meeting current state standards. This procedure also provides recognition for excellence and assists in the development of recommendations for continued school improvement.

Obtaining accreditation is a significant accomplishment and is a reflection on the dedication of the staff of each program. I am sure your school superintendent will provide you with additional information on the results of this review. I would like to commend each of you for your efforts in preparing for this review and for providing each of our students with a quality education. Your work on behalf of our kids is much appreciated!

Sincerely,

Heidi Atkins Lieberman, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Special Education

Staff Changes

STUDENT & OUTREACH SERVICES

Larry R. Hoard joins the MSD family as Director of Student and Outreach Services (SOS) on October 1st, 2007. He is currently employed by the Department of Mental Health as an Area Supervisor in Hannibal, MO. Larry is late deafened from spinal meningitis and utilizes an interpreter for receptive purposes while speaking for himself. He is a licensed clinical social worker with experience working with families, LEAs, IEPs, counseling, and First Steps. Larry provides to MSD his managerial skills, warm personality and the clinical skills needed for the responsibilities of this position. Welcome Larry!



EDUCATION

Margilee LaBorde has again agreed to allow us to tap into her expertise by expanding her former responsibilities as MSD's Curriculum Supervisor to become Supervisor of Instruction. In this capacity, Margilee will monitor all instructional programs for K-12 classrooms, she will continue to supervise the Alternate Learning, Reading Recovery, Curriculum and Behavior Management Programs. Under her direction, our nine curriculum areas have been completely revised to meet the requirements for alignment with Missouri's Show-Me Standards. In her new position, she will work with school supervisors to review lesson plans for reflection of the curriculum in instructional plans and materials. She will work with the MSD Management Team as she monitors the school's Continual School Improvement Plan (CSIP). Thanks Margilee!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Gary Bonsall, Sr., Master CPI Instructor and former Dormitory Director in MSD's Student Life Program, has graciously accepted the responsibility supervising professional development activities for employees throughout the each department of the school under the direction of the Assistant Superintendent. While each department has done a fine job to provide professional development training opportunities for its employees, having an individual with Gary's expertise to oversee the professional development needs of our entire MSD family will allow us to better provide opportunities for our employees while being wiser and more accountable with the use of our fiscal, physical and personnel resources. Thanks Gary!



RETIREES

MSD with mixed emotions said goodbye to three family members. We are sad to not see them daily, but delighted that they can now enjoy the benefits of many years of service.



*Pictured left to right:
Evelyn Nelson—Food Services
Martha Eisenhower—Elementary Teacher
Sharon Quick—Business Office*

MSD MEETS REQUIREMENTS OF THE IDEA

On August 20, 2007, MSD received a letter from DESE Commissioner, Dr. Kent King, conveying a Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) determination category for MSD. The categories states must use for annual determinations of local agencies are established by the U.S Department of Education and are the same four categories the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) used in making determinations about each state:

- Meets the requirements and purposes of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of the IDEA
- Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of the IDEA
- Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of the IDEA

“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. Never give it. “

...Eleanor Roosevelt

The 2004 amendments to the IDEA required the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to make an annual determination as to whether each state is meeting the requirements of the statute. Under the IDEA each state is required to have in place a State Performance Plan (SPP) that evaluates its efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of IDEA and describes how the state will improve its implementation of these programs. Each state must then submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) detailing its progress in meeting the targets it established in its SPP. OSEP’s determinations about states were based on the state’s February 1, 2007 APR, information obtained through monitoring visits and any other public information, but primarily focused this first year on demonstrated compliance, including timely correction of noncompliance, progress in ensuring compliance over prior performance in that area, whether the state provided valid and reliable data for all indicators, and whether the state had other IDEA compliance issues identified in audits and the state’s progress in resolving those problems.

Although the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the state of Missouri was recently notified that OSEP placed it in the category “Needs Assistance in Implementing the Requirements of the IDEA”; an assessment of **MSD’s performance resulted in a determination category of: MEETS REQUIREMENTS AND PURPOSES OF THE IDEA.** Thank you for your hard work to make this happen! Congratulations MSD!

State Track Star Goes to the Pan Am Games



In preparation for the 2009 Deaf Olympics, Chetara was invited to compete at the Pan American Deaf Games in Venezuela in August where she placed 3rd in the 200M, 3rd in the Long Jump, and ran 12.47 in the 100M. Chetara, a 17 year old high school senior at the Missouri School for the Deaf, completed against college students. Now on to the 2009 Deaf Olympics!

GREAT JOB CHETARA!!

<http://www.tmstorm.com/chetara.html>

Campus Improvements

MSD is in the midst of renovations of the athletic areas surrounding Harrison Gymnasium.

- The swimming pool and all of its components,
- The exterior areas immediately adjacent to the gym and pool areas (on all sides) have been improved to eliminate flooding during rainstorms,
- New roofs on both the pool and gymnasium.
- The boys and the girls locker rooms,
- The replacement of windows in Harrison gym, locker rooms and the pool area, and
- The offices within the gymnasium.

The swimming pool was certainly in need of some renovation and now has added a wheelchair ramp and will be completely re-surfaced for painting. The pool enclosure



New Pool Ramp and Resurfacing

Renovated Locker Rooms



is being repainted, the air ducts replaced, and new signage installed. The entire operating system for the pool (including pump and filter) has been replaced.

The equipment room housing the filter, pump and operating system tools for the pool has been completely upgraded.

The boys and girls locker rooms have been completely stripped, windows replaced, the electrical and plumbing systems upgraded, painted and are now ready for their brand new fixtures. October is the month when all renovations are anticipated to be complete.

TOM BASTEAN RECEIVES TRUMAN L. INGLE AWARD

MSD's highest honor, the Truman L. Ingle Award, was awarded to Assistant Superintendent, Tom Bastean, on August 17, 2007 at the Opening of School Staff Meeting in Ingle Auditorium.

Truman L. Ingle was born on February 26, 1894 in St. Louis, Missouri. He received his Master's Degree at Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C. in 1925, taught at the WPSD and the California School for the Deaf, joined MSD in August, 1933 and served until his death, Veteran of WW I, married Mary Hughes, and along with three other men, founded the Missouri Boys State. MSD presents an annual award honoring the example of dedication, action and accountability set by Mr. Ingle.

“Tom Bastean is a man, whose personality, ability and effective manner has touched and consequently improved the quality of life for so many children and adults who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing, their families and the professionals who serve them. He has been and still remains our Classmate, Teacher, Coach, Athletic Director, Principal, Assistant Superintendent and Friend...”,

...MSD Superintendent Barbara Garrison.



CJ MOTIVATES MSD FAMILY

MSD Alum (Class of 1969) CJ Jones, returned from last year's graduation ceremonies to inspire and entertain faculty and staff during their workdays prior to and at the opening of school staff meeting.



Missouri School for the Deaf

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Employees Receive Service Awards Representing 320 Service Years

5 Years



10 Years



15 Years



35 Years



20 Years



25 Years

30 Years