Foreword

Mission Statement:

“Wayne RESA is committed to leadership through service and collaboration for excellence in teaching and learning for all.”

Wayne RESA is committed to our mission and to ensure excellence in our leadership, programs and services provided to the 33 public school districts and 110 public school academies in Wayne County. Educational success for today’s students will play a critical role in guaranteeing future generations. We are very much aware that it is critical that our programs and services are relevant and of the absolute highest quality. Additionally, it is imperative that we continue to assist in targeting and maximizing critical resources and providing cost saving opportunities through economies of scale and collaboration.

Wayne RESA is dedicated to a continuous improvement model and is always seeking opportunities to serve the districts and public school academies within its boundaries. This 2016-15 Annual Report provides a summary of the many, although not all, of the ways the Agency pursues those opportunities through services and programs provided to Wayne County schools over this past year. In addition, it includes information regarding many of the “shared services” that are in place throughout the county which help to ensure that the limited financial resources are being utilized in the most cost effective and strategic manner possible.

For more information on Wayne RESA’s programs, services, and operations, please visit our website at www.resa.net and “like” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WayneRESA.net

—Randy A. Liepa, Ph.D., Superintendent
The State of Michigan created Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) in 1962. Initially focusing on truancy issues and special education. Over time, the role of ISDs or Educational Service Agencies (ESAs) has grown to include providing a wide variety of professional development, programs, and support services. Additionally, Wayne RESA creates economies of scale through group purchases, and offers many other services. Wayne RESA serves the largest population of any County in the State of Michigan and provides leadership and services to 33 school districts and 110 public school academies/charter schools (PSAs). There are approximately 275,000 students who attend public schools in Wayne County: 77% in districts and 23% in PSAs. The districts and PSAs served by Wayne RESA range in size from 46,000 students to less than 200 students, and represent both the poorest and some of the most affluent communities in the state of Michigan. 62% of the students in Wayne County schools are classified as Economically Disadvantaged.

Wayne County is the most culturally and linguistically diverse community in the State of Michigan with a school age population representing nearly 40 different home languages other than English. Its 1.8 million residents make it the eighteenth largest county in the nation.

Because of a drop in local property taxes due to the housing crisis of 2008 (and following) as well as decreasing population, local school districts have faced significant financial challenges, and many have reached out to Wayne RESA for assistance with consolidation of services. Wayne RESA has met these needs in a number of ways that include a variety of shared services providing a significant amount of cost savings to Wayne County school districts and PSAs.

Wayne RESA’s work is divided between the following departments:

- **Special Education**
- **Education Services** (Core and Supplemental Programs and Services)
- **Information Technology** (Student, Business and Network and Security Programs and Services)
- **Administrative Services** (Finance, Pupil Accounting, Transportation, Building Services, Food Services, Purchasing)
- **Early Childhood Management and Oversight**
- **Human Resources**
- **Medicaid**
- **Superintendent’s Office**

Wayne RESA has a cross-functional Organizational Planning Committee that focuses on continuous improvement and provides input to organizational decision-making.
Overview

**GOVERNANCE**

Wayne RESA is governed by a five member elected board, with each member serving alternating six-year terms. The Wayne RESA Board is elected by one vote from each of the 33 local school district boards. Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month. Board meetings fall under the Open Meetings Act and are posted and open to the public. Time for public comment is available at every board meeting. Board meeting minutes are posted on the website at **www.resa.net**.

**Wayne RESA Board of Education:**

- **James Petrie** .......................................................... President
- **Mary E. Blackmon** ................................................ Vice President
- **James S. Beri** .......................................................... Secretary
- **Lynda S. Jackson** ...................................................... Treasurer
- **Kenneth E. Berlinn** ................................................... Trustee

**FUNDING**

Funding for Wayne RESA operations comes primarily from state aid and $3.7 million from 1/10 of a tax mill levied in Wayne County. The 2015-2016 budget for day-to-day operations is approximately $16 million.

Wayne RESA also receives almost $126.7 million from a 3.36 mill special education property tax levy. These funds, along with $75.5 million in federal grants are distributed to local districts to educate children with disabilities. An additional $90.2 million in federal and state grants is also distributed to local districts for other special programs and services.

**Wayne RESA Funding Sources 2015-2016**

- **State Aid:** $10,435,000
- **Property Taxes:** $3,724,000
- **Other Local Funds:** $544,000
- **Transfers from Other Funds:** $812,000
- **Transfers from Other Agencies:** $628,000
- **Total Funding:** $16,635,000
Accounting practices are governed by the State of Michigan and the generally accepted accounting principles of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Wayne RESA’s financial records are audited annually by Plante and Moran, LLC, an independent public accounting firm. For 2014-2015, auditors issued an unqualified opinion on the agency’s financial statements (which are available on our website). This is the highest possible assurance regarding the fair presentation of the agency’s financial condition.

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is a system approach to embed and sustain organizational improvement. Accreditation is designed to help educational institutions boost their ongoing performance efforts for the benefit of their educational clients and students. AdvancED which is a non-profit, non-partisan, international organization that conducts rigorous, on-site external reviews of PreK-12 schools and school systems, conducted the accreditation evaluation for Wayne RESA.

Wayne RESA was fully accredited in 2015. The AdvancEd review team reviewed three primary areas 1) impact of teaching and learning, 2) capacity of leadership, and 3) use of resources. The team reviewed Wayne RESA’s programs and services, instructional quality, and constituent district feedback. This included five standards with 23 indicators.

“Powerful Practice” is the highest rating given by AdvancEd, and Wayne RESA received 11 “Powerful Practice” ratings on the 23 indicators evaluated, one of the highest overall ratings given by AdvancEd. Recommendations for improvement where also made in the areas of our comprehensive program evaluation systems.

AdvancEd recommended Wayne RESA be awarded accreditation for a five-year term.

LEADERSHIP

Wayne RESA board, administration, and staff keep current on policy, regulations and legislation relevant to the local districts and provide guidance, support and resources to stakeholders on issues directly affecting their work and their communities.

Monthly meetings for Wayne County superintendents, business officials, human resource directors, curriculum directors, special education directors, and supervisors are facilitated by Wayne RESA to keep Wayne County districts connected and up-to-date on current issues affecting local operations. Wayne RESA also hosts periodic meetings for other critical stakeholders on current events and topics affecting public education.

On the forefront of state and federal policy making, Wayne RESA’s registered school lobbyist represents the interests of the Wayne County school districts, taking to Lansing the concerns of the school superintendents and boards of education. Regular updates on pending legislation are posted on the website at www.resa.net. Wayne RESA Board members and the lobbyist accompany Wayne County school district Board members to state and national networking sessions, with lawmakers to best represent Wayne County issues and concerns.

Active on boards and associations at the local, regional, state and national level, the Wayne RESA superintendent, administration and staff represent the interests of the school districts, and monitor legislation, policy, best practices, and critical trends and issues in public education and provide resources and guidance to the Wayne County education community.
Wayne RESA staff and consultants work cooperatively with local Wayne County schools on core and supplemental services and programs focused on raising student achievement.

Highlights of services from 2015-2016 are described below.

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION SUPPORT**

- Over 600 schools in 33 school districts benefitted from technical assistance from Wayne RESA’s content and assessment and educational improvement services.

- Wayne RESA hosted more than 25,000 registered participants in Educational Services’ core and supplemental services professional development sessions this past year.

- The Formative Assessment Project continues to build assessment literacy skills of educators across Wayne County. During the 2015-2016 school year, over 330 educators have attended the various learning series, exploring the Formative Assessment approach to teaching and learning. They have studied research centered on the 5 Pillars of Formative Assessment, Clear Learning Targets, Questioning, Feedback and Self and Peer Assessing all while implementing strategies and sharing success within a professional learning environment. In addition, over 90 former participants have continued their learning through extended second through fourth year learning opportunities. A sixth cohort of learning participants is scheduled for the upcoming school year.

- Writing with the Experts: Stepping up to the Michigan ELA Standards Remix was the third cohort of a year-long series designed to support building teams’ in-depth study of best practice in writing instruction. National literacy experts shared research-based instructional strategies that are necessary to accelerate student achievement toward career and college readiness as writers. The general sessions were followed by several in-depth study sessions in which participants collaborated to delve deeper into the experts’ research, instructional stances, and the implications for teaching and learning. Over 90 K-12 educators representing 15 school districts participated.

- Close and Critical Reading, Grades 3-12

  The Close and Critical Reading four-day series, comprised of more than 80 Wayne County educators from 17 school districts, examined what instructional shifts are needed to develop students’ stamina and independence as strategic readers of increasingly complex text while advancing their critical reasoning skills. Participants explored how to support students as they move from surface-level comprehension to deep comprehension by determining the answer to four close and critical questions: What does the text say? How does it say it? What does it mean? And, so what; what does the text mean to me? Teachers walked away with a deeper understanding of what it means to read printed and digital texts closely and critically, professional resources, and instructional strategies that are aligned to the Michigan Standards in ELA.
Leveled Literacy Intervention Training
Over 100 K-8 teachers were trained in the use of the Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy System (LLI), which is a research-based early intervention program designed to prevent literacy difficulties before they turn into long-term challenges. Participants learned effective small group instructional strategies to provide the intensive support necessary for some primary and intermediate students, including English Language Learners, to achieve grade level competency in reading and writing.

Instructional Technology Professional Development
Wayne RESA offered four days of instructional technology professional development to all schools in Wayne County at no charge. The sessions allowed classroom teachers, instructional coaches, curriculum and technology staff to work together on topics such as online assessment, online/blended learning, Moodle, copyright, Google Apps/Drive, video streaming and using free online resources to support classroom instruction and professional growth.

In addition to the Wayne RESA offerings, we partner with the Regional Educational Media Centers (REMC) Association of Michigan and Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG) programs to offer educators free online professional development opportunities, as well as online instructional programs to support K-12 online and blended learning opportunities through the Michigan Learns Online portal.

Seat Time Waiver Options for Secondary Students
Wayne RESA provided seat time waiver (STW) consultation and support to districts and PSAs using the State-approved GenNET STW program. During the 2015-16 school year, STW students took over 1200 courses online to continue their secondary education.

Wayne RESA's Mathematics and Science Center is one of 33 Mathematics and Science Centers in the Michigan Mathematics and Science Centers Network (MMSCN). Wayne RESA’s M/S Center was given a continuation grant for Project PRIME (Promoting Reform in Mathematics Education). PRIME promotes using an inquiry approach to teaching mathematical topics, which is consistent with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for content and Mathematical Practices. In 2016, the US Department of Education classified PRIME as “Exemplary” in the use of research. As a result, PRIME’s leadership team was among only three MSP projects out of the 455 nationwide to be invited to participate in a 2016 - 2016 pilot of Design-Based Implementation Research (DBIR: Penuel 2013). DBIR is a process of negotiating local goals with schools and districts participating in professional development. DBIR specifically addresses the sustainability of professional development programs through the involvement of district and school personnel in negotiating project goals.
This happens through goals established by the district and its school improvement (SI) team(s) in collaboration with the organizations providing the professional development, which includes the research-based, federally-funded RESA Project PRIME.

Through DBIR, a sustained professional development program is defined as one that is a) implemented and b) continues to influence classroom instruction following the end of the funded project. It is expected that the shape of the program will change as teachers adapt it to the needs of their own students.

The Wayne RESA Mathematics and Science Center supports the following programs for students:

- **Robotics and Engineering Camps** – Summer Camps for 3rd – 8th Grade Students
- **Wayne County Green Schools** – Over 100 Green Schools in Michigan
- **You Be the Chemist** – Chemistry Competition for 5th – 8th Grade Students
- **Family Engineering Evenings** – Family Engineering Kits free loan program
- **Starlab** – Indoor planetarium

The Wayne County RESA Mathematics and Science Center supports the professional development of teachers in:

**SCIENCE**

- **Engineering is Elementary** (EiE) training for ES and MS and a loaning library of 20 kits for classroom use
- **GLOBE** (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) Training Center
- **ICCARS** (Investigating Climate Change and Remote Sensing) Project
  - **AREN** (Aerokats and Rover’s Education Network)
- **Maintained the Center’s science website** at http://resa.net/science and on Facebook at facebook.com/k12science and facebook.com/WayneRESAScience and on twitter.com/k12science
- **Michigan Science Matters eBlast** – Twice monthly electronic updates on science education resources
- **Next Generation Science Exemplar** (NGSX) professional learning series for K-12 educators
- **Quarterly Wayne County Science Leaders Meetings**
- **Science sessions** at local and state conferences
- **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) **Education**
- **Weekly podcasts** on climate change and middle school science
- **Workshops integrating science and literature** – **Picture Perfect Science**
Raising Student Achievement

**MATHEMATICS**

- **EMATHS** (Embracing Mathematics, Assessment & Technology in High Schools) – Six day graphing calculator-focused PD for teachers

- **Mathematics Curriculum Symposium** – Three day PD for teachers to support implementation of EveryDay Math curriculum series in August 2015, with a follow-up symposium scheduled for August 2016 to support implementation of Big Ideas, Math Expressions, Connected Math, and EveryDay Math curricula

- **Maintained the Center’s mathematics website** at http://resa.net/math and on Facebook at facebook.com/WayneRESAMath

- **Using Graphing Calculators to Implement Common Core in Mathematics** – Two day PD on using the TI-84 and TI-Nspire to support the Common Core in Mathematics

Wayne RESA Educational Improvement consultants’ goal is to raise student achievement by focusing on effective strategies and activities for success. Work is focused on achieving this goal in a number of ways, including:

- **Workshops on climate and culture, diversity, instructional strategies, Professional Learning Communities and many others.**

- Supporting schools and district with continuous improvement planning, including using the ASSIST tool and AdvancED accreditation.

- Supporting districts and schools through the liaison project by personalizing support on teaching and learning interventions.

- **Partnering with content and assessment consultants** for strong integration with improvement planning.

- Planning support for district technology plans.

- Facilitating elementary and secondary principal networks.

- Leading new teacher academies.

- Engaging administrators in principal-led evaluation conversations.

- Coaching and guiding Title I support.

- Providing support to Focus Schools.

- Serving on a number of statewide committees and groups to keep abreast of state and national issues to support district and school improvement.

- Providing targeted support through the Title I Regional Assistance Grant to identified Title I Priority and Focus Schools.

The New Teacher Academy is a professional learning series designed specifically to support beginning teachers by providing time for them to come together to explore topics and issues relevant to their roles as professional educators. Topics focus on establishing cultures of high performance and include professional responsibilities, promoting student achievement, delivering effective instruction, and maintaining positive learning environments. Over 70 new teachers from across Wayne County participated in this year-long learning series this school year. Our purpose is to build their professional capacity so that they can best serve the learning needs of students across Wayne County.
Raising Student Achievement

- **MISTAR Data & Assessment System**

  The new MISTAR Data & Assessment system is a 21st century tool that features technically-enhanced items (video embedded, fill-in-the-blank, multiple correct answers, selectable text, and more) that can have more than one content standard alignment to Common Core or any other standards. MISTAR Data & Assessment offers enhanced custom reporting, student groups, robust student history profile, scanning reusable student answers sheets using a document camera, online testing, and much more.

  Wayne RESA’s Assessment and Information Technology teams are leading professional learning and technical support for all districts, as they use this tool to support quality assessment practices and effective use of data. The support that Wayne RESA provides to districts is a result of the data that was collected through a needs assessment conducted with each districts leadership team.

  During these meetings, districts complete the Assessment Practices Reflection Tool that is based upon the work of Chappuis, Commodore, and Stiggins and focuses on the following four priorities:

  - **Priority I:** Balance the district assessment system to meet all key user needs and ensure assessment literacy throughout the system.
  - **Priority II:** Ensure assessment quality in all contexts to support good decision making.
  - **Priority III:** Promote the use of assessment within the context of instruction to include and meet the needs of all learners.
  - **Priority IV:** Use assessment results and data effectively to inform decisions about student learning at all levels.

  This process has helped schools identify areas that would benefit from targeted professional development and identify goals for school improvement. In addition, Wayne RESA will analyze the county-wide ratings to determine the most pressing needs, providing targeted professional development course offerings. This process has opened the door for some rather beneficial face-to-face dialogue.
SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

- **English Learners** (EL) from across Wayne County received federally mandated support services delivered by 42 RESA facilitators. Students receive in classroom and/or one-on-one help with instructional content in RESA's Title III Consortium districts and PSAs.

- **Great Start Readiness Program** received over 14,100 funded slots to serve 4-year-old children in Wayne County. This 30 week preschool experience is offered free to eligible families where factors exist that may place a child at risk for school failure. Wayne RESA serves as the fiduciary for this grant and is accountable for administrative and fiscal oversight.

- **Wayne County Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)** meetings are facilitated on the second Thursday of each month. Each school district and public school academy may nominate at least one representative parent of a child with a disability to join the committee. The PAC participates in the development of the Wayne County plan for special education services and serves as a resource for parents of children with disabilities. More information is available on the Wayne RESA website.

- **Coordination, guidance, and monitoring** of the 58 center-based programs for approximately 6,200 children with severe disabilities were provided by Wayne RESA staff.

- Grant money and technical support was provided to 59 local districts and PSAs in over 200 schools to implement the school-wide **Positive Behavior and Interventions Support (PBIS) program**. Resources and materials for implementing PBIS were made available on the Wayne RESA website.

- **School Nurse Consultant Services** were offered to support schools in safe, legal, and effective responses to the physical, social, and emotional health needs of students. Services included consultation for all Wayne County schools; collaboration with school nurses who currently provide services at the local level; on-site school nurse consultation (fee-based) for ten LEAs, four PSAs, and three early-childhood centers that currently lack access to a school nurse; and expansion of community partnerships to explore increasing access to school nursing and health services throughout Wayne County.
INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY

- Wayne RESA is a key partner in the state-wide Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG). The projects under this grant are multi-faceted and include insuring connectivity for all students and staff across the state, establishing a state-wide education network, device purchasing, data integration to ensure continuity and E-rate coordination.

- During the 2015-16 school year, Wayne RESA offered multiple enhancements to the Moodle Learning Management System which were developed through statewide partnerships. These enhancements allow additional functionality for educators to create a more efficient and user-friendly online/blended learning environment.

- Assistance was provided to all 33 Wayne County school districts and PSAs on K-12 online learning initiatives, legislative, and policy issues.

- An average of 93,000 video streams and downloads are delivered to Wayne County educators via REMC Mi Streamnet. In 2015, this included information regarding the M-STEP, MME, professional development, business/finance services and curriculum-based content for classrooms.

- Over 25 training sessions per semester were held for educators on using the MISTAR Data and Assessment software tool as part of the assessment development, data analysis, and school improvement process.

- Over 20,000 local district teachers and administrators used the MISTAR Data and Assessment software tool to develop assessments, analyze data, and measure student growth. The system is accessed an average of 482,000 times monthly.

- Over 400 video conferences, including professional development, electronic field trips and “Meet-the-Author” events were facilitated for teachers and students.
Administrative Services

Wayne RESA provides administrative services aimed at improving operational and cost efficiencies, as well as monitoring and support according to state regulations.

Support for District Operations

- All 33 Wayne County School Districts, 31 public school academies, EAA, and 49 districts in other counties are served through the Wayne RESA Computer Consortium. The Consortium is primarily funded by district membership fees.

- Records for approximately 255,000 students, including attendance, grades, schedules, behavior, and school lunch processing, transportation, and parent web-access were managed by Wayne RESA computer services systems. The MISTAR system includes a Special Education Module available to all members that assists in the development and management of special education forms that support required procedures.

- Every month, teachers, principals, counselors, and support staff log in to MISTAR, the Student Information System, over 1,550,000 times, students login in to MISTAR over 1,580,000 times and parents login to the MISTAR Parent Portal over 450,000 times.

- An average of 170,000 school district employees, parents, and students regularly log into the MISTAR Student Information System.

- 40,000 school employee paychecks are processed every two weeks through the computer service payroll application.

- Inappropriate Internet content was filtered by Wayne RESA programs on computers used by over 200,000 students.

- Technology Infrastructure Management is saving districts money and provides a broad range of technical expertise to districts.

- Back Up as a Service (BUaaS) is a new service that safely stores school district server backup data at Wayne RESA.

- Wayne RESA coordinates an optional-use, multi-county contract for an automated calling system leveraging volume discounts for schools. 63 districts and PSAs take advantage of this opportunity.

- Wayne RESA is one of 15 Michigan Department of Education authorized training agencies for transportation personnel in the state, serving 85 school districts, public school academies, and contracted transportation agencies, including Wayne County’s 33 public school districts.

- Over 3,100 school bus drivers attended training in beginning and advanced school bus driving classes in the last two year training cycle.

- On-site evaluation and consulting services were available on all aspects of school food service including USDA and State of Michigan compliance issues, nutrition and healthy meal options, cost control, employee retention, and the implementation of comprehensive training programs including, a national food safety certification program.

- State reporting including Michigan Student Data System (MSDS), Student Teacher Data Link (TSDL), Registry of Educational Personnel (REP), and Finance Information Data (FID) are automated through programming efforts of the Computer Consortium saving districts thousands of dollars.
Multiple online courses for Transportation Supervisors’ professional development have been developed in partnership with the Training Agency Association of Michigan. This tool allows Transportation Supervisors to secure their required certifications at their own computer, any time, anywhere.

The rebuilt and redesigned MIMStreamnet provides teachers efficient access to live educational events and resources.

**COST SAVINGS**

- Wayne RESA established and facilitated a 23-district temporary staffing consortium using PESG, managed by each HR office. PESG provides the substitute and temporary staffing to consortium districts. The processing and handling of state-required fingerprints across the consortium districts are simplified by Wayne RESA providing a centralized repository to help facilitate that procedure on their behalf, saving districts time and money.

- Wayne RESA coordinated a 119-district multi-county food service purchasing and commodity processing group that realized savings of $5.2 million over traditional district purchasing options while also helping districts utilize 100% of the $6.1 million of USDA commodity dollars offered to our participating districts.

- Medicaid revenue of almost $11 million was returned to 33 Wayne County school districts during 2015-2016 through Wayne RESA’s coordination of the submission of health related claims for each district’s Medicaid-eligible special education student population. An additional $8 million in Medicaid revenue was used to offset special education center program expenses and $674,000 from Michigan’s Administrative Outreach Medicaid Program was also reimbursed to Wayne County districts.

- In addition to the support provided to 33 school districts, Medicaid software and related support were provided to two other intermediate school districts.

- The Wayne County Schools Purchasing program saved member schools and school districts over $3.5 million on purchases in the categories with contracts currently in place. We are continually working to increase the number of contracts for services and supplies that our districts use.

- Wayne RESA provides the Wayne County Computer Consortium members Internet services for Instructional and Administrative support at no charge. Access is protected by cloud-based threat mitigation service helping to defend against disruptive Internet attacks resulting in more reliable Internet service.

- Network technical field services provides highly skilled network and server management for school districts at a lower cost than in-house staff.

- Wayne RESA’s county-wide telecommunication agreement for data has resulted in a 60% savings on the cost of broadband communications. There are over one hundred broadband circuits in use.

- Wayne County school districts saved over $4.5 million, which represents approximately 31% cost savings on top of education discounts, on purchases made through the Regional Education Media Center (REMC) cooperative bid purchase program. REMC sponsors bids for office, instructional and audiovisual supplies, computer equipment, software and hardware, and network electronics.
By using MIStreamnet, hosted and supported by Wayne RESA, all Michigan school districts realize an estimated savings of $2.9 million annually on professional development using on-line video programming.

Wayne RESA coordinated the collection of yearly required data for the Department of Education and served as a third party testing agency for the Michigan Department of State for school bus driver road testing.

Wayne RESA hosts and provides support for Moodle, a widely used Learning Management System. This service saves the districts approximately $575,000 annually.

Follett Destiny Library Management Services were delivered to a Wayne RESA consortium of 247 buildings, representing 31 school districts and 27 PSA’s or private schools, saving them over $650,000 in licensing and support. The consortium manages 3,387,686 library items, 189,974 textbooks and 302,952 students and staff.

Through the support of Wayne RESA’s general fund, MISTAR Data and Analysis is offered at no charge to Wayne County districts, saving over $600,000 in software and $300,000 in test items.

Over 260 Wayne County schools purchased the Discovery Streaming license at a reduced rate (68% discount) through the statewide consortium, which saved Wayne County districts over $400,000.

Members of the Garden City High School Music Program perform at the December, 2015, Wayne RESA Board Meeting
Pupil Accounting content and technical support was provided to all Wayne County school districts and academies through periodic meetings and individual consultation.

Pupil Accounting audits were conducted twice per year for the 33 public school districts, 110 public school academies in Wayne County on student counts which determine local district state funding.

Pupil accounting auditors conducted three separate audits of the graduation and dropout data, verifying district and public school academy exit codes.

Special education services provided to the 37,000 children with disabilities in Wayne County were monitored in accordance with state and federal regulations, through the Michigan Department of Education Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System (CIMS-2) for special education services. Wayne RESA consultants also provided support for districts and public school academies in the MDE Focused Monitoring of Special Education State Performance Plan Indicators.

Wayne RESA special education consultants responded to an average of 100 inquiries daily during the school year on special education related questions from parents, staff and administrators.

Support and technical assistance to Wayne County school districts and public school academies on the compliance and submissions of state and federal reporting mandates, including Michigan Student Data systems (MSD), Registry of Educational Personnel (REP), and Finance Information Database (FID), State Reform Office PERIS reporting, Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) was provided through meetings and individual consultation.

Wayne RESA currently authorizes three public school academies (PSAs): Blanche Kelso Bruce Strict Discipline Academy, Creative Montessori Academy, and Henry Ford Academy. Each of these schools serves a unique population and works to provide an effective education for the student populations they serve. Wayne RESA’s PSA Review Team, (includes staff with expertise in curriculum and instruction, assessment and evaluation, school improvement and accreditation, facilities and operations, as well as state and federal requirements) regularly reviews the progress of each school to determine its continued status as an authorized charter school.
Wayne RESA Shared Services

Across the county, sharing services has delivered significant savings, and Wayne County schools continue to work to increase these savings wherever possible.

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School districts across Wayne County have achieved further savings by working with each other, neighboring municipalities, and local organizations sharing both services and facilities.

Key areas of sharing and consolidation of services include academic programs, administration, purchasing, facilities and maintenance, and transportation.

### Improving Academics
- Sharing alternative education services
- Joining career technical service programs
- Opening specialty programs to other districts’ students, including Michigan Institute of Aviation Technology and Advanced Placement courses
- Opening non-core classes to parochial schools
- Operating summer school with universities
- Sharing professional development
- Sharing specialists, including speech therapists

### Administration
- Sharing of key personnel, including human resources directors, finance managers, business office staff, special education coordinators, technology director services, and directors of food service, transportation and maintenance
- Scheduling substitute teachers using a common system
- Developing crisis response plans collaboratively
- Sharing student health programs
- Sharing the same student information software system among all 33 school districts plus public school academies
- Sharing the same business service software among 32 Wayne County school districts plus public school academies

### Facilities and Maintenance
- Bidding with municipalities for fuel and salt
- Bidding jointly for electric and heating services
- Bidding jointly for trash removal and pest management
- Leasing space to local organizations and governments

### Purchasing
- Pooling purchasing of office, student and custodial supplies
- Sharing print services
- Seeking grant opportunities cooperatively, including energy efficiency, disaster planning, and clean diesel technologies
- Pooling insurance
- Sharing radio systems with local police
- Purchasing software jointly with local libraries
- Bidding jointly for computers
- Bidding jointly for county-wide telecommunication services
- Developed a new bid system to share contracts with Michigan county governmental unites to broaden our products, services and savings to our districts.

### Transportation
- Bidding jointly for bus purchases
- Training for drivers and transportation aids in providing for the needs special education students
- Sharing bus transportation
- Sharing special education transportation
Across the county, sharing services has delivered significant savings, and Wayne County schools continue to work to increase these savings wherever possible. Many districts have been working together to provide services such as food, transportation, information technology and special education opportunities. These partnerships save millions of taxpayer dollars each year and help to keep precious resources in the classroom.

Wayne RESA is committed to helping our school districts find further savings and implement additional efficiencies. Currently, through countywide partnerships and programs, Wayne RESA has helped local districts save over $38,485,000 million a year. We pride ourselves in joining our local districts on being at the forefront of innovative cost-saving measures.

In addition to the measures in this report, Wayne RESA is working with local school districts to achieve further savings and efficiencies in a wide variety of areas. Over the next few years, we will be expanding these shared services:

- Paperless accounts payable approval and payment system
- Payroll processing
- Bookkeeping and accounts payable processing
- Shared administrative positions
- Shared technology positions
- Facilities management
- Instructional technology services
- Additional tools for assessment and evaluation
- Coordinated school health services

Wayne RESA and our local districts continue to be engaged in a deliberate, fact-based process to ensure future shared services meet or exceed current program outcomes.

Collaboration on other potential shared services may not necessarily result in the consolidation of programs. In some cases, school districts may find the most cost-effective approach is to maintain an existing service. Such program evaluations, however, help school districts focus on their core mission and improve those services.

As one of the largest regional educational services agencies in the country, our mission is as follows: Wayne RESA is committed to leadership through service and collaboration for excellence in teaching and learning for all.

We encourage parents, teachers, students, local government officials and state policy-makers to engage with school districts in this collaborative effort. Working together, we can create a better and more efficient education system that ensures the highest achievement for our children.
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