

ANNUAL REPORT

2007-2008

LAWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS *A Professional Learning Community*

Where All Students Learn to Harmonize with the World

Doing whatever it takes and making everyone count...



Joseph Trimboli, Superintendent

In the spring of 2008, the Lawton Community Schools grades K-12 were honored with the Education Excellence Award provided by MASB and SET/SEG for Lawton Community Schools K-12 Environmental Literacy. It is just one of the programs that sets the Lawton Community Schools apart from other districts.

In 2007-2008, district goals and objectives were redefined and all building level goals are now measurable performance goals. Each teacher is embracing the *state course, grade level, and content expectations* in daily lesson plans to better facilitate preparation for the standardized assessments, the MEAP and the Michigan Merit Exam. Our scores are on the rise and have continued to show improvement for the past four consecutive years. Each of our schools have met and superceded the expectations required for Adequate Yearly Progress. Our elementary and middle school both scored an “A” grade on the *Education Yes!* Report Card. Our high school scored a “B”. This report is required to be published each year in accordance with the *No Child Left Behind Act* and the *Michigan Yes!* Initiative.

As indicated in this report, you will find that Lawton Community Schools has a highly trained, qualified and certified faculty. This is a veteran staff that is professionally dedicated. Our faculty is perpetually improving their skills through coursework and professional development training. Many have completed college and

university course work and/or worked on attaining SB-CEU credits this past summer. Our teachers' life-long learning efforts equate to a higher levels of learning for all of our students and more effective teaching. I look forward to the opportunity to provide a first-rate quality academic program for every student at Lawton Community Schools and to enjoy the partnership between our parents and the community.

Another positive sign of excellence is that we've have shown positive growth in each of our buildings over the course of the past five years. Actually our scores increased dramatically! These scores remained high on the 2007 test which is a real accolade to our staff and their focus on teamwork and quality instruction.

Each fall our administrators and curriculum specialist have met with each teaching team in the district. As a result, teachers have spent several hours after school examining student performance on individual content expectations and developing specific assessments that can be used to improve individual student results without disrupting the well-aligned curriculum already in place.

2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT

LAWTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL!

Lawton Elementary School is located in eastern Van Buren County. The school serves approximately five hundred students in Pre-School through grade five. The principal is Mr. Chris Rice who recently completed his tenth year with the elementary school and seventeenth with the district. Mr. Rice earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Michigan University in 1989 with a major in Political Science. He also earned his Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from WMU in 2000.

The staff consists of 29 teachers, 16 of which have earned masters degrees. All teachers are highly qualified to teach in the area to which they are assigned. 20 of these teachers work in regular, general education classrooms. 9 are specialists who provide instruction in: Preschool; Physical Education; Art; Vocal and

Instrumental Music; Computer Literacy; and Title I remedial reading. In addition, we employ two full time special education teachers and a 50% FTE K-8 Counselor.

Providing support for the educational mission of our school are: a secretary and a bilingual office aide; four Title I paraprofessionals; 2 kindergarten aides; 2 library aides; one bilingual aide; one preschool aide; 3 recess aides; numerous food service and custodial employees; and bus drivers.

In addition, our school receives support from the Van Buren Intermediate School District as provided by: a school psychologist; social worker; occupational therapist; speech and language therapist; certified bilingual education instructor; and other itinerants as needed.

Daily attendance at Lawton Elementary averages over 95%. Students attend our school based on their location within the geographic boundaries of the district. Residents of Van Buren County who wish to send their children to our school are eligible to apply for admission under "Schools of Choice" legislation.

MISSION

We are very proud of our school and strive to meet the expectations set forth in our mission statement:

OUR MISSION IS: "LAWTON ELEMENTARY WILL PROVIDE A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY IN WHICH STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND STAFF WORK COLLABORATIVELY IN SHAPING OUR STUDENTS INTO LIFELONG LEARNERS AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS."

This mission statement was re-written during the 2005-06 school year as part of our new school improvement cycle.

ACCREDITATION

1. Accreditation is a continuous process whereby staff, administration, and the Board of Education meet standards set forth by an external source such as the North Central Association or the State of Michigan. Lawton Elementary has maintained State of Michigan certification since 1993. We also pursued and were granted certification by the North Central Association (NCA) during the 2000-2001 school year. NCA accredits schools that demonstrate a commitment to quality education by assigning certified teachers and administrators and by committing to an organized system of school improvement.

Our new school improvement goals, established during the fall of 2006 include:

1. **All students will improve their reading ability across the curriculum.**
2. **All students will improve their writing ability across the curriculum.**
3. **All students will improve their personal wellness including physical education and nutrition.**

At the conclusion of the 2007-08 school year, Lawton Elementary School applied for acceptance into cohort 5 of Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative. This program provides funding for Michigan schools to provide external coaching, training and funding to review and create systems of Positive Behavior Support and Literacy skills. We are pleased to announce that we have been accepted into cohort 5 and will begin work during the summer of 2008.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

Lawton Elementary uses a variety of measures to assess our students' progress. Data is collected for individual students and disaggregated according to categories such as gender, race, and socio-economic status. This data is used to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all groups of learners. These measures include: teacher observations; individual and group projects; and assessments created by teachers and textbook companies and used to measure progress toward district curriculum goals. Developmental progress is measured and recorded using writing samples, records of books read, performance on quarterly STAR reading and math assessments, and quarterly report cards. We also utilize the Dynamic Indicators of Beginning Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessment a minimum of four times annually to determine the Oral Reading Fluency of each student. This information is then used to provide those students below the benchmark level with necessary reading interventions.

Our main sources of achievement data include STAR math and reading tests from Renaissance Learning and state MEAP tests in grades 3-5. *Student test scores on the MEAP tests were as follows: (percent proficient)*

Test	Fall 2007	State Avg.
Gr. 3 Math:	96%	90%
Gr. 3 Reading:	85%	86%
Gr. 3 Writing:	56%	57%
Gr. 3 ELA:	85%	81%

Test	Fall 2007	State Avg.
Gr. 4 Math:	92%	86%
Gr. 4 Reading:	86%	84%
Gr. 4 Writing:	39%	44%
Gr. 4 ELA:	76%	76%

Test	Fall 2006	State Avg.
Gr. 5 Math	78%	74%
Gr. 5 Reading	95%	82%
Gr. 5 Writing	64%	59%
Gr. 5 ELA	91%	78%
Gr. 5 Science:	92%	82%

Note: Tests in bold print represent those for which Lawton Elementary scored at or above state average. We are quite proud of our performance in comparison to state average and will continue to work toward improving those areas that were below state average.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT and QUALIFICATIONS

So that we can provide the best possible educational experience for our students, our staff is involved in ongoing professional development activities. Typically, training focuses upon one of the three NCA school improvement goals previously listed in this document. During the 2007-08 school year,

our staff pursued training in the following areas:

- ✓ Grade Level Content Expectations in math and language arts.
- ✓ Kellogg Biological Station science program.
- ✓ Battle Creek Science kits.
- ✓ Six Traits and MEAP based writing.
- ✓ Writing Resource Binders
- ✓ Social Studies Textbook Review
- ✓ Special Education inclusion strategies.
- ✓ CPR and First Aid.
- ✓ Content area specific sessions.
- ✓ Carol White Physical Education Grant.
- ✓ DIBELS (Reading Assessment)
- ✓ Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- ✓ Various technology applications.
- ✓ Making the Grade grade book.
- ✓ Mentoring new teachers.

All teachers at Lawton Elementary are certified to teach in the area to which they are assigned. They meet the certification requirements of the State of Michigan and the North Central Association of Schools. In addition, all of our teachers and paraprofessionals have met the qualifications for “highly qualified” status as mandated by the federal “No Child Left Behind” act of 2001.

EDUCATION YES!

During the 2002-03 school year, the State of Michigan implemented a new system of school accreditation titled Education YES!. The system requires each school to conduct a self analysis in eleven categories including but not limited to: teacher quality; performance management systems; school improvement processes; family involvement; and facilities. We are very proud to report that for the 2007-08 school year, we

received a composite score of 93% which is an A.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

In January 2002, President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This law has many provisions. The most important for schools is the requirement that each make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) toward state determined educational standards. Schools who fail to make AYP for two consecutive years are subject to specific consequences. For each of the past five years Lawton Elementary is proud to announce that our school scored above the cut scores established for AYP thereby meeting the standard of Adequate Yearly Progress.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Lawton Elementary realizes the importance of school/parent collaboration in the educational process. Parents are always welcome to visit any part of our school including classrooms, the lunch room and playground. Traditionally, Lawton Elementary has a high degree of parent involvement with approximately 90-95% of parents attending parent-teacher conferences each year. Those parents who do not attend conferences are contacted by telephone to discuss their child's progress thus creating a 100% parent contact rate.

In addition, parent volunteers are present in our school on a daily basis. Our Lawton Parents Group is very active in attracting volunteers as well fund raising. They provide supplemental funds in many areas and recently have sponsored our school-family carnival and purchased new playground equipment. Other activities involving parents include but are not limited to:

- Open House
- Fall and Spring Conferences
- Holiday Classroom Parties
- Christmas Sing A Long

- School Family Carnival
- Family Reading Nights
- Family Science Night
- Parents Group Meetings
- The Spring Concert
- Track and Field Day
- Career Day
- Chaperones for Field Trips
- Classroom Volunteers

MICHIGAN SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

Lawton Elementary participates in the State of Michigan School Readiness grant program. This program provides funding for the operation of a preschool program for four year old students. Eligible children attend school on four half days each week. Our classroom license allows us to serve 16 students. Program data indicates that participants are much better prepared for Kindergarten the following year when compared to students who do not participate.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Lawton Elementary realizes the importance of participating in activities that support the educational mission of the school or promote physical fitness. Our school and community offer the following activities:

- Boys and Girls baseball and softball; basketball; soccer; wrestling; football and cheerleading; and volleyball.
- Track and Field
- Girls on The Run
- Fourth and Fifth Grade Choir
- Spring Vocal and Instrumental Music Concert
- Chess Club
- Junior Great Books Club
- Boy and Girl Scouts
- A variety of church youth programs

- Released Time Bible Study
- Spelling Bee
- Follow Your Dream Scholarship
- Read Across America
- 4th grade trip to Mackinac Island
- 5th grade trip to Sherman Lake YMCA camp
- Grade level field trips

THE ROAD TO SUCCESS

Our school motto is “The Road to Success”. Upon entering our building, you will immediately notice that our hallways have been transformed into “roadways” complete with street and traffic signs. Our students and staff are expected to follow the ‘rules of the road’. This approach has made our hallways much safer places to travel. Before and after school and during lunch times, the halls are patrolled by fifth grade safety officers who volunteer their time for the common good.

PRINCIPLES OF CHARACTER

We base our school and classroom management systems on four principles of character. They are:

- **HONESTY**
- **CARING**
- **RESPECT**
- **RESPONSIBILITY**

These principles are built into our school discipline code. An understanding of these principles helps students travel down “The Road to Success”. They also support the Core Values of American Democracy which are also a major part of our educational program. Periodic public address announcements, classroom activities and school-wide assemblies also support our principles of character and core values.

2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT

LAWTON MIDDLE SCHOOL



“Building a Better World One Student at a Time”

Mr. Timothy Cerven, Principal

*Lawton Middle School
100 Blue Pride Drive
Lawton, MI 49065*

www.lawtoncs.org

Lawton Middle School is located just down the sidewalk from the new high school embedded in a retired vineyard. The middle school serves more than 250 students in grades six through eight with a staff of 18 full and part-time teachers. Ten of those teachers are responsible for teaching the “core” subjects; five teachers are solely responsible for teaching the “elective” classes; two teachers serve special needs students; and one teacher serves as an elective instructor and has administrative duties.

Providing support for the education mission of Lawton Middle School is one secretary, two office aids, (one acts as the recess supervisor and one is the detention supervisor), one full-time library aid, several food service personnel, custodians, and bus drivers.

Additional instructional support comes from the Van Buren Intermediate School District in a social worker, psychologist, speech and language support, occupational therapist and other support as needed.

Daily attendance at Lawton Middle School averages 95%. Students that are absent from

school and the parents have not contacted the office, will receive a phone call from the attendance clerk as to the whereabouts of their child. Lawton Middle School understands the importance of attendance and its relationship with educational excellence.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lawton Middle School staff ensures continuous improvement in through an on-going process of professional development. Each year, teachers and the administrators attend several professional development activities to bolster our abilities as educators. The following are a list of professional development activities:

- 6+1 Traits of Writing
- The Love and Logic system of classroom management
- STAR Math and Accelerated Reader
- Michigan’s Grade Level Content Expectations
- Ruby Payne’s Understanding Poverty
- Kellogg Biological Station Science Partnership
- Professional Learning Communities by Rich Dufour
- State Conferences

Classroom Discipline and
Management by Marcia
McEvoy
The Carol White Physical
Education Grant
Special Education Computer
Based Documentation

EDUCATION YES

The state of Michigan has implemented a new system of school accreditation entitled *Education, Yes!* The system requires each school to conduct a self assessment using specific indicators which include performance management systems, teacher quality, continuous improvement, curriculum alignment, extended learning opportunities, and more. Lawton Middle School has received favorable grades since the implementation of *Education, Yes* and met the state's rigorous standards for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) each year.

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION STATEMENT
FOR LAWTON MIDDLE
SCHOOL IS

Lawton Middle School will educate each student through positive, innovative programs

while advocating academic excellence, personal growth and lifelong learning.

Adopted August 2005

THE SCHOOL MOTTO:

We Believe We Can Achieve at
LMS!

The staff, working through the School Improvement Team and committees, worked on the following goals:

1.) Writing Goal:

All teachers will deliver a consistent model and expectations for a good sentence, a good paragraph, and a good paper.

2.) Mathematics Goal:

This committee will be working on improving students' computations and problem solving skills.

3.) Positive Participation:

This committee will be working on improving the students' class preparation, improve student attendance and increase participation in co-curricular and extra curricular activities.

IMPLEMENTATION AND DATA

GOAL 1: The teachers will evaluate the students through year-end Language Arts writing objectives, random selection of homework from content area classes, the eighth grade Explorer Test English Results, and using random journal entries from various dates throughout the year.

GOAL 2: The teachers will evaluate the students by using the Star Math Test, classroom evaluations and the MEAP Test.

GOAL 3: The teachers will evaluate the students by randomly observing that the students are better prepared for class, monitor daily attendance and document student participation in activities beyond the school day.

The Michigan Department of Education has determined that the Core Curriculum of each school must be student outcome based. The curriculum must be based specific objectives that students must achieve when they graduate from high school. Outcomes based education is

very similar to the competency based education established in the Lawton Community Schools in the mid-1970's. We have recommitted to renew our competency based program in the years to come with certain adjustments.

Since our curriculum director came on board we have been working very hard in our major academic areas to coordinate our curriculum throughout the district as well as throughout the middle school. We now have materials in math, language arts, science and social studies that align with Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations, adopted in 2005. Teachers in the various disciplines are working with our Curriculum Director to develop objectives and instructional practices that follow along the Michigan Curriculum Framework and the various State assessments that are given to our students.

Our technology continues to grow by leaps and bounds thanks to our technologist. Each classroom has two student computers one of which has Internet access. Each teacher is equipped with a computer station that provides for a variety of uses.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Lawton Middle School offers a variety of activities after school hours for our students. General activities include student council, spelling bees, math club, Science Olympiad, writing competitions, athletic participation in football, basketball, volleyball, track, cross country, wrestling, and cheerleading.

Lawton Middle School offers students a 45 minute after school study session. A teacher supervises students who come in for various reasons. The sessions are held Monday through Thursday.

* **Retention Data** = Eleven (11) students were retained for the 2007-2008 School Year. Four

(4) students were retained for the 2006-2007 school year.

On May 17, 2005, Lawton Middle School completed the five year school improvement cycle and was officially awarded Accreditation by the North Central Association of schools. The new cycle began with the start of the 2005 – 2006 school year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT MEAP

The following is a comparative analysis of the M.E.A.P. data for 6th grade reading, writing, ELA, math and social studies; 7th grade ELA, reading, math, listening and writing and 8th grade science, social studies, reading, writing and math for the 2005-06, 2006-07 and the 2007-08 school years.

TABLE 1

<u>SUBJECT</u>	FALL		
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
READING 6	N/A	88.0	82.0
WRITING 6	N/A	75.0	70.0
MATH 6	N/A	82.0	77.0
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6	N/A	84.0	81.0
SOCIAL STUDIES 6	N/A	88.0	89.0
READING 7	78.0	89.0	80.0
WRITING 7	70.0	61.0	84.0
MATH 7	58.0	72.0	76.0
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7	75.0	84.0	83.0
WRITING 8	68.0	62.0	79.0
SCIENCE 8	85.0	87.0	89.0
READING 8	N/A	N/A	88.0
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8	N/A	N/A	87.0
MATH 8	68.0	73.0	78.0

EQUITY THRESHOLD

<u>TEST THRESHOLD</u>	<u>YEAR</u>		<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>
Reading 6	2005	(F)	93.00%	87.00%
	2006		90.00%	85.00%
	2007		84.00%	80.00%
Writing 6	2005	(F)	87.00%	53.00%
	2006		75.00%	75.00%
	2007		78.00%	63.00%
Math 6	2005	(F)	80.00%	71.00%
	2006		78.00%	85.00%
	2007		73.00%	80.00%
ELA 6	2005	(F)	93.00%	82.00%
	2006		90.00%	79.00%
	2007		84.00%	78.00%
Social Studies 6	2005	(F)	85.00%	89.00%
	2006		90.00%	85.00%
	2007		89.00%	90.00%
Reading 7	2005	(F)	88.00%	72.00%
	2006		96.00%	79.00%
	2007		78.00%	82.00%
Writing 7	2005	(F)	88.00%	72.00%
	2006		65.00%	55.00%
	2007		92.00%	78.00%

Math	7	2005	(F)	59.00%	57.00%
		2006		72.00%	71.00%
		2007		73.00%	78.00%
ELA	7	2005	(F)	88.00%	66.00%
		2006		91.00%	74.00%
		2007		84.00%	82.00%
Reading	8	2005	(F)	93.00%	62.00%
		2006		88.00%	85.00%
		2007		94.00%	80.00%
Writing	8	2005	(F)	88.00%	50.00%
		2006		79.00%	50.00%
		2007		87.00%	66.00%
Math	8	2005	(F)	78.00%	60.00%
		2006		76.00%	71.00%
		2007		79.00%	77.00%
ELA	8	2005	(F)	93.00%	60.00%
		2006		79.00%	79.00%
		2007		93.00%	77.00%
Science	8	2005	(F)	93.00%	79.00%
		2006		85.00%	88.00%
		2007		90.00%	88.00%

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) DATA

Comparisons are made between actual achievement of each group (excluding gender and migrant) and state's annual measurable objectives. The state's objectives for the 2005-06 are expressed as the percent of students considered proficient. English Language Arts state objective is 54% and Lawton Middle School is 78.4%. For Mathematics, the

state's objective is 54% and Lawton Middle School is 90.2%.

Fifty percent of the student body earned a B average or higher in all year end grades. On the average 45.7% of the student body earned Honor Roll status during any one marking period.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

During the fall Parent-Teacher Conferences 57% of the middle school parents attended at least one conference. During the spring conferences, 42% of the middle school parents attended at least one conference.

Open House for the middle school is held each fall in conjunction with the elementary school and high school. In the spring, the 6th grade hold their annual orientation and hot dog social at which time parents and prospective middle school students meet their teachers, listen to presentation and tour the building.

2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT LAWTON HIGH SCHOOL



Tammy Wilson, Principal
Lawton High School
101 Blue Pride Drive
Lawton, MI 49065
(269) 624-7800

Lawton High School Mission Statement

Lawton High School will be a community of diverse, life-long learners who establish and maintain high standards, and who create, evaluate and adapt in order to become independent thinkers and productive citizens.

This annual report is written for the purpose of informing our community of the educational status of Lawton Community High School, the progress which is being made towards school improvement, and to fulfill the requirements of the Michigan legislature in the form of Public Act 25. The entire staff of professional and support personnel are dedicated to making our school the best it can be. Members of the community are encouraged to be actively involved with their school to provide the needed input towards its development so that the best services can be provided.

School Improvement Plan Update

Lawton High School is and has been an accredited public school since 1931. The institution that evaluates and provides accreditation to many Midwest American schools is the North Central Association. This association requires schools to undergo a process of self-evaluation which is used as the basis for a carefully designed program for school improvement. Schools that follow this process and demonstrate that they have worked toward completion of the goals established in the school improvement plan are rewarded by NCA with accreditation. This serves the purpose of focusing the school's energies on self-improvement and providing the community with a sense of satisfaction that their school has been given a "stamp of approval" from a recognized education authority.

The school improvement plan is developed by the school's staff and administration in a collaborative effort. Through data interpretation and research, Lawton High School has targeted three areas of improvement: writing, problem solving/mathematics and school climate. Lawton teachers are implementing new strategies targeting these goal areas in the

upcoming school year. Some of these strategies include Six Traits of Writing as well as ACT preparation. Scores on standardized tests indicate that Lawton High School students generally score in the average to above average range compared to other students in Michigan. The goal of the staff and administration at Lawton High School is to continue the upward scoring trend.

The North Central Association improvement plan will continue to be evaluated and this information will be used to make decisions to improve student performance. At Lawton High School all teachers are teaching in subject areas with state certification, which labels all staff members as being Highly Qualified Teachers under *No Child Left Behind* guidelines.

Accreditation

Lawton Community High School has been successfully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 1931. The school uses the accreditation process to improve programs for students by evaluating programs in comparison to student needs. A high level of standards are required of the school which includes all teachers instructing in areas which they are highly qualified.

Retention Rate and Dropout Rate:

Retention Rate

Is the percentage of ninth graders who graduate from high school with four years, adjusting for the students who move in and out of the district and to alternative programs. *Retention rate for 2006-07 school year is 89.41%*

Dropout Rate is the percentage of students who leave school in any one year, adjusting for those who move in and out of the district.

Dropout rate for the 2006-07 school year is 2.02%

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences were scheduled twice during the school year. Student academic progress was discussed along with other items that were appropriate to the development of each student. The percentage of students who were represented at each conference by a parent or guardian over the last two years is as follows:

School Year	Fall	Spring
2006-07	82%	61%
2007-08	79%	63%

Student Achievement

The following sets of test measurements indicate the status of Lawton High School's students.

A.C.T. Assessment

Those who completed core:

Local	N	English	Math	Reading	Scientific	Composition
2000-01	11	22.7	23.3	24.3	23.5	23.5
2001-02	13	21.8	22.8	25.2	21.5	22.9
2002-03	11	23.9	22.8	24.5	23.3	23.8
2003-04	17	22.1	21.7	22.2	22.5	22.2
2004-05	19	22.1	21.6	21.9	21.8	22.0
2005-06	16	22.3	22.5	22.9	22.7	22.7
2006-07	29	21.8	22.5	23.7	23.4	23.0
2007-08	28	21.3	23.1	22.6	22.7	22.4

Those who completed less than core:

Local	N	English	Math	Reading	Scientific	Composition
2000-01	23	19.4	19.3	20.3	20.0	19.8
2001-02	20	18.0	19.7	19.3	20.1	19.4
2002-03	21	19.7	19.6	21.1	20.5	20.3
2003-04	22	18.2	17.8	19.3	19.8	19.0
2004-05	15	17.8	18.3	18.6	19.7	18.7
2005-06	20	19.6	20.0	19.9	21.5	20.4
2006-07	17	18.1	18.9	19.9	19.3	19.2
2007-08	45	14.8	16.7	17.5	18.6	17.0

Core courses are those that are recommended by the A.C.T. board-i.e. four years of English, four years of Mathematics, three years of Social Studies, and three years of Natural Science.

Student Awards and Honors

Students of the Month Van Buren Vocational Technical Center 2007-08	37
Students of the Year Van Buren Vocational Technical Center 2007-08	9
Academic Letters/Awards for 2007-08	125
Presidential Academic Fitness Awards 2007-08	5

Specialized School and Placement Process

A number of Lawton Community High School students attend the Van Buren-Technical Center in Lawrence. Occupational and Academic programs and services to youth and adults are provided to the twelve schools in Van Buren County. Occupational testing, career planning, job placement and remedial support are provided. Students begin thinking about attending the center by going through a career selection process while in eighth grade. Visitations to the center usually occur by students during their sophomore year before they start their selected programs. Ninety eight (98) students attend the vocational center and are enrolled in several programs, such as

Accounting
Auto Mechanics
Computer Operation
Electronics
Lab Occupations
Law Enforcement
Welding
Commercial Art

Graphic Arts
Office Occupations
CAD
Marketing
PC Technician
Auto Body
Construction Trades
Machine Tools

Plastics
Medical Occupations
Phlebotomy
Emergency Medical Occupations
Cosmetology
Child and Adult Services
Hospitality Services
O.T.P.T.