

**University Preparatory Elementary School
Mark Murray Campus**

Annual Report

2008-2009



435 Amsterdam Street
Detroit, Michigan 48202

313.309.0552

Kimberly Llorens
Principal

MISSION

The mission of University Preparatory Academy is to demonstrate that urban students can succeed in post-secondary education, given personalized education and a relentless commitment to their success.

School Improvement Team: Amanda Rosman, Latisha Thomas, Danielle Montgomery, Teresa Gerring, Kija Gray

Curriculum and Staff

Core Curriculum

Core curriculum is the standard curriculum covering English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science. The core curriculum at University Preparatory Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus follows the State adopted Michigan Department of Education Curriculum Framework.

The staff of UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus engages in continuous review of curriculum in the four core content areas (English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science) to effectively align our teaching with standards and benchmarks outlined in the Michigan Curriculum Framework. During the 2008-09 school year, Mark Murray teachers also participated in a collaborative effort to identify Power Teaching Standards (the skills and content of highest importance) in all core content areas to provide common focus, facilitate consistency between schools at the same level, and ensure smooth transitions between elementary, middle and high school levels.

Copies of the core curriculum and Power Standards are available for review by contacting the school Principal at 313-309-0552.

Caring, Dedicated Staff

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires public school teachers to meet their state’s definition of Highly Qualified Teacher for each core academic subject they teach. These qualifications include a Bachelor’s degree or higher, full state teacher certification, and demonstrated competency, as defined by the State. UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus is staffed by a deeply committed and caring corps of teachers. They all meet the requirements of Highly Qualified as outlined in NCLB.

Teacher Qualification Status

	Certified Teachers	Provisional Certification	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree	Special Education Certification	% Highly Qualified Teachers
Mark Murray Elementary	31	27	21	10	1	100
Total	133	110	78	57	5	100

PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW

To comply with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Parents Right-to-Know, parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teachers and paraprofessionals, if applicable.

For more information, please contact Mr. Matthew Medley via email at mmedley@nulgroup.org or at 313-268-5624

School Improvement and Student Achievement

Student Achievement Goals

UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus utilizes the Michigan School Improvement Framework to organize its ongoing improvement efforts. We have a School Improvement Team composed of parents, teachers and building administration that develops, implements and evaluates our School Improvement Plan. This team meets periodically throughout each year to monitor implementation of their plans, make revisions as necessary, and update the plan for each coming year.

The School Improvement Team established the following goals for the current school year:

1. Improve Math Achievement – By October, 2010, there will be an decrease of at least 25% of students in grades 3-5 who fail to meet proficiency standard on the MEAP Mathematics Test. In addition, at least 80% of all students, grades K-5, will pass year-end math assessment with 75% accuracy or better.
2. Improve Reading Achievement – By October, 2010, there will be a decrease of at least 20% of students in grades 3-5 who fail to meet state standards on the MEAP Reading Test. By June, 2010, at least 80% of all students (grades K-5) will be at grade level on district Benchmark Reading Test and all students with active IEPs will meet their goals.
3. Improve Writing Achievement – By June, 2010, at least 65% of all students (grades K-5) will achieve proficient status on school’s end of year writing rubric. In addition, by October, 2010, at least 65% of students in grades 3-5 will achieve Proficient status on the MEAP Writing Test.

2008-09 Professional Development Priorities

Mark Murray staff, in collaboration with the school’s School Improvement Team, identified the following Professional Development priorities for the 2008-09 school year to support the achievement of their school improvement goals: Responsive Classroom, Balanced Literacy, Using Data to Improve Results, Differentiated Instruction in Mathematics, and School Improvement Planning and Evaluation. The staff participated in a number of activities during August training and over the course of the year to strengthen skills in these areas.

EDYes! and NCLB Report Card

All schools in the State of Michigan are required to report on their status regarding the State of Michigan’s EdYes! Program and the achievement targets set out in the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus’ results are summarized below:

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Education YES! Status						
School Name	2007-2008			2008-2009		
	English Language Arts AYP	Math AYP	Ed Yes Grade	English Language Arts AYP	Math AYP	Ed Yes Grade
Mark Murray Elementary School	Not open	Not open	Not open	Yes	Yes	B
UPA School District	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	

Attendance

Regular school attendance is critical to high academic achievement. A school's attendance rate is calculated by dividing the total days of attendance of all students in a given year by the total possible number of days of attendance. The attendance rate for UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus for the past two years can be seen in the chart below.

School	2007-2008	2008-2009
Mark Murray Elementary	Not open	94
District Total	88	93

District Cohort Graduation Rate

The graduation rate is the percentage of ninth grade students who graduate from high school within four years, adjusted for students who move out of the district. The rate is calculated by the State from data provided by the District. UPA's graduation rate for 2007-08 was 100%. The graduation rate for 2008-09 was 94%.

Dual Enrollment

Each year UPA 11th and 12th grade students who meet identified academic criteria participate in our dual enrollment program. These students take a variety of courses of their choosing for college credit. A summary of participation rates follows:

2007-2008		2008-2009	
#	%	#	%
50	9.7	54	10.3

Parent Involvement

Parents at UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus contribute to the success of our school in many ways. They volunteer in classrooms, support athletic endeavors, chaperone school trips, serve on School Improvement Teams and other decision-making committees, and provide input regarding school programs and practices. They play their most important role, however, in participating in their child's individual Learning Team Meeting several times each year. It is at this time that they help shape their child's Learning Plan, the key document that guides their child's education.

% of Students with one or more Parents Attending Learning Team Meetings

School	2007-2008	2008-2009
Mark Murray Elementary	Not open	92
District Total	82	81

Curriculum and Programmatic Enhancements

University Prep, Mark Murray Campus is a special place to learn and grow. We pride ourselves on being a tightly knit school community. In our first year, we have begun to create traditions that will enable us to provide an excellent foundation in learning for all our students. Our school programs and its leadership are intended to systemically change our community. There has been a conscious effort to create the kind of culture at UPA that will permeate into our existing culture. We make strong efforts to build relationships between our families and staff to ensure that all stakeholders embrace a firm commitment to open communications. We are finding this creates a safety net for our students to operate between home and school with the knowledge that our families, staff and administration embrace likeminded goals which encourages their academic achievement, emotional balance and social development. This in turn, supports the growth of each student to develop into a responsible adult.

UPA, Mark Murray Campus, which is located in the New Center Area of the City of Detroit, serves 384 students in grades kindergarten through five. Our staff consists of twenty-seven classroom teachers, a Resource Center Specialist, a Reading Interventionist, a part-time Speech and Language Pathologist and a part-time Social Worker. Our Family Service Coordinator, Receptionist, and Facilities Manager provide the administrative and physical demands of our academy. Further, we have numerous parent volunteers that help to keep UPA, Mark Murray Campus running smoothly. It is this collaborative effort that keeps our school safe and pleasant for all who enter.

Our teaching staff spends three week in August and monthly throughout the school year learning and growing as teachers to make certain that the best educational experiences are provided to our students. Our teachers work in grade level teams and by specialty areas to plan and implement exemplary instruction and engaging activities.

We begin each morning with Morning Meeting Activities. These activities, based upon the Responsive Classroom Approach, ensure that each child is acknowledged as being present and a part of the daily learning environment. It also allows students to share information about their lives outside of school in a structured environment. The guiding principle behind these sharing sessions is that it is easier to work together and problem-solve when personal connections are seen and felt. Our core curriculum is delivered using the Fountas and Pinnell Balanced Literacy Program, Everyday Math, the Battle Creek Area Science program and the Teacher Curriculum Institute's Social Studies program. Every student is given a one hour period each day to experience movement and the arts. Our AMPP (Art, Music, Physical and Performing Arts) program is not seen as special or extra activities, but as integral parts of our academic day. At UPA, Mark Murray we believe that a child's whole being must be challenged. We clearly want our students to feel the emotional, social and academic connectedness of each of these experiences.

Points of Pride

As a result of the talents and dedication of our entire staff, parents and community partners, we have many reasons to be proud at UPA, Mark Murray.

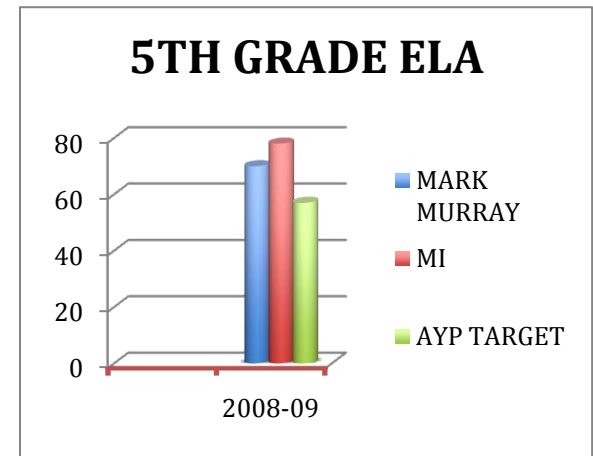
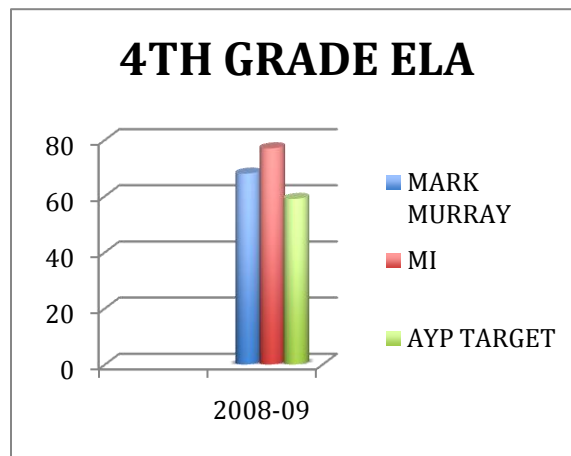
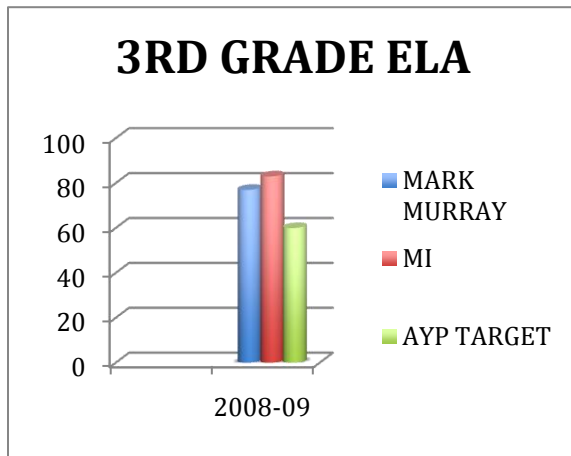
- Individualized Learning Plans ensure that each student is challenged in a variety of instructional goals that are appropriate for their ability, learning style and interest.
- Our parents provide generous support by volunteering in classrooms, attending field trips, and participating in grade level activities.
- Our fifth graders participate in a three day winter camp where they are challenged to step outside their comfort levels to take on new challenges as they learn about themselves and their potential.
- Our students were recognized for their generous spirit through the Pennies for Peace Program, Habitat for Humanities recycling program and the Detroit Police Department's Central Division Flowers for Heroes program.
- We were awarded the Blue Cross Blue Shield Building Healthy Communities Grant. This will allow our students and their families numerous opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyle choices both at school and at home.
- We held our first bi-annual Black History Month Wax Museum. This exhibition takes our students on a journey to experience the lives of historical figures from many walks of life that contributed to the black experience in America. Our students rehearse speeches and learn facts about individuals who shaped the Civil Rights Movement, athletes who broke records and reshaped the strategies of our pastimes, and politicians and scientist who have changed the face of the world in which we live. Our students, through their extensive research and passion, learn to appreciate their past history and focus on continuing in the footsteps of some of these great men and women.
- As a springboard for our literacy goals, we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday throughout the month of March. We have such inspirational days such as Poem in my Pocket – a game where any staff or teacher can stop a student at any time and ask them if they have a poem in their pocket. After the student recites his poem, he is rewarded with a bookmark or pencil.
- We were awarded a Cultural Access Grant by which our students were given the opportunity to visit museums and other points of interest throughout the city. Our students visited the Charles H. Wright African American History Museum, the Cranbrook Institute of Science Center, Detroit Science Center and a special performance by the Alvin Ailey Dancers.
- Our first fund raiser, the Fall Fest, was attended by more than two hundred students and their families. This after school event brought many of our families together and was successful in further building our school community relations.
- Kindergarten and First Grade students participated in the Flat Stanley Project. They received responses and letters from friends throughout the United States.
- Several of our students participated in the Wayne State University Power of Dreams program. This instrumental music program allowed our students to participate in weekly lessons and perform on the historic Detroit Symphony Orchestra stage.

UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY ACADEMY MEAP RESULTS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MARK MURRAY CAMPUS

2008-2009

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS		GRADE 3									GRADE 4							GRADE 5							
		Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access	Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access	Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access
ALL STUDENTS	08-09	62	0	3	19	68	10	77	77	63	0	0	35	59	6	65	65	64	0	3	33	55	9	64	64
FEMALES	08-09	31	0	0	16	77	6	84	84	27	0	0	33	52	15	67	67	26	0	0	31	62	8	69	69
MALES	08-09	61	0	6	23	58	13	74	74	36	0	0	36	64	0	64	64	38	0	5	34	50	11	61	61
AFRICAN AMERICAN ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	62	0	3	19	68	10	77	77	63	0	0	35	59	6	65	65	63	0	3	33	54	10	63	63
NON-ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	37	0	3	19	76	3	78	78	43	0	0	33	63	5	67	67	47	0	4	38	53	4	57	57
NON-ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	25	0	4	20	56	20	76	76	20	0	0	40	50	10	60	60	17	0	0	18	59	24	82	82

Only one year's data is displayed due to the fact that UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus opened for the first time in September, 2008.

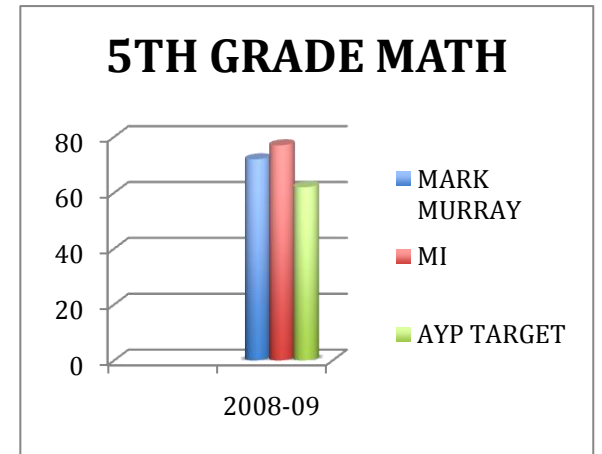
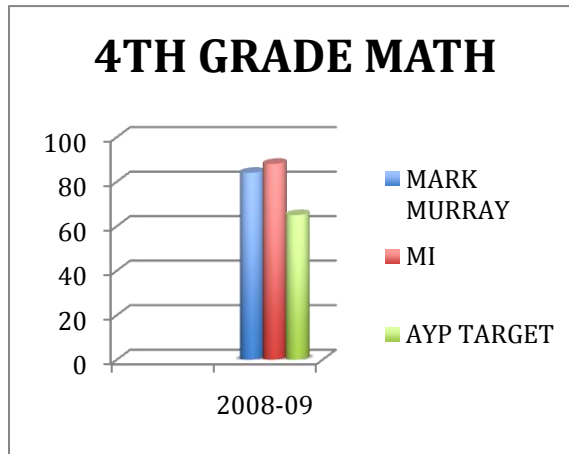
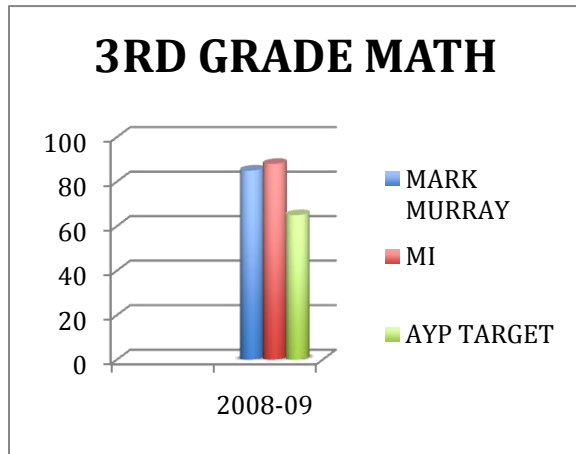


UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY ACADEMY MEAP RESULTS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MARK MURRAY CAMPUS

2008-2009

MATHEMATICS		GRADE 3								GRADE 4								GRADE 5							
		Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access	Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access	Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access
ALL STUDENTS	08-09	62	0	0	15	50	35	85	85	63	0	0	16	57	27	84	84	64	0	3	25	47	25	72	72
FEMALES	08-09	31	0	0	10	48	42	90	90	27	0	0	7	67	26	93	93	26	0	0	35	35	31	65	65
MALES	08-09	31	0	0	19	52	29	81	81	36	0	0	22	50	28	78	78	38	0	5	18	55	21	76	76
AFRICAN AMERICAN	08-09	62	0	0	15	50	35	85	85	63	0	0	16	57	27	84	84	63	0	3	25	48	25	71	71
ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	37	0	0	19	54	27	81	81	43	0	0	14	65	21	86	86	47	0	4	30	49	17	66	66
ECON. ADVANTAGED	08-09	25	0	0	8	44	48	92	92	20	0	0	20	40	40	80	80	17	0	0	0	12	41	47	88

Only one year's data is displayed due to the fact that UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus opened for the first time in September, 2008.



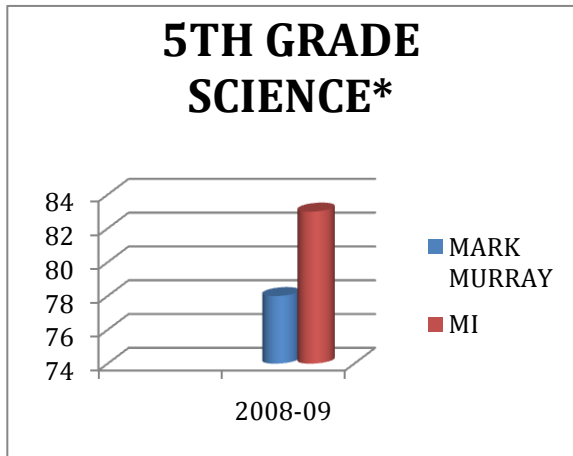
UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY ACADEMY MEAP RESULTS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – MARK MURRAY CAMPUS

2008-2009

Only one year's data is displayed due to the fact that UPA Elementary School – Mark Murray Campus opened for the

SCIENCE		GRADE 5							
		Number Enrolled	% Not Tested	Not Proficient	Partially Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Proficient Advanced	Proficient MEAP & MI-Access
ALL STUDENTS	08-09	64	0	5	17	64	14	78	78
FEMALES	08-09	26	0	8	19	62	12	73	73
MALES	08-09	38	0	3	16	66	16	82	82
AFRICAN AMERICANS	08-09	63	0	5	17	65	14	78	78
ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	47	0	6	19	62	13	74	74
NON-ECON. DISADVANTAGED	08-09	17	0	0	12	71	18	88	88

first time in September, 2008.



* There are no AYP targets for Science

Achievement Comparisons
% of students Proficient/Advanced

Test	Ellen Thompson	Mark Murray	District	State
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS				
Grade 3	85	77	81	83
Grade 4	68	65	66	77
Grade 5	70	64	68	78
READING				
Grade 3	85	82	84	86
Grade 4	77	70	74	83
Grade 5	72	67	69	82
WRITING				
Grade 3	66	47	56	61
Grade 4	31	24	27	44
Grade 5	47	48	48	63
MATHEMATICS				
Grade 3	98	85	92	91
Grade 4	79	84	81	88
Grade 5	62	72	68	77
SCIENCE				
Grade 5	65	78	72	83