

For Immediate Release: Aug. 2, 2010 Contact: Stacy Morse (573) 751-3599

State Senator Joe Keaveny Applauds St. Louis School District for Improved MAP Scores

JEFFERSON CITY –As one of his legislative goals in the Missouri Senate, Sen. Joe Keaveny (D-St. Louis) commends St. Louis Public Schools for their improved MAP-testing categories and receipt of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status. A recent announcement by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) revealed the preliminary results from the 2010 MAP testing.

The <u>Missouri Assessment Program</u>, or MAP, is a series of annual standardized tests designed to assess student progress in curricular areas, including Grade-Level Assessment tests for Communications Arts and Mathematics (grades 3-8); Science (grades 5-8); and End-of-Course tests for Algebra I, Biology, English II, and American Government (grades 9-12).

Of the 58 St. Louis Public Elementary and Middle Schools taking the MAP (Grade-Level Assessment) tests, 39 schools showed improvement in MAP scores in Communications Arts, 48 schools showed improvement in Mathematics, and 35 schools showed improvement in both subjects. For students at the high school level completing MAP (End-of-Course) tests, St. Louis Public School students displayed improvements in all three exam categories — Mathematics, English, and Science.

In addition, 12 St. Louis Public Schools earned AYP status. These results are part of the federal "No Child Left Behind" law, and are based on MAP tests in Communications Arts and Mathematics, as well as attendance and/or graduation rates. Upon release of the final data from DESE, the St. Louis Public School District will announce the complete list of schools earning this status for the 2009-2010 school year.

"Great things are happening for St. Louis Public Schools and this is just the latest for the District's growing success," said Sen. Keaveny. "With the impressive progression carried out by the majority of schools in the District, we must make furthering education opportunities in the General Assembly our state's number one goal."

To find out more information regarding the St. Louis Public School District's MAP-testing scores, contact the Office of Public Information at (314) 345-2367.

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