REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR

Shaker Heights City School District
2003 - 2013

Ouimet Smith, Registrar
December 2013

Shaker Heights Board of Education
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

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Introduction

Welcoming new families and returning students and promptly securing school and guidance appointments are the primary functions of the Registration Office. Since the Registration Office is frequently the first point of contact that families have with the Shaker Heights City School District, every effort is made to provide helpful enrollment and procedural information to parents. Before students may attend school, all families must provide proof of residency. The commitment of the Registrar is to identify and enroll only those students who are legally entitled to attend the Shaker schools as well as to enforce the residency and custody laws of the State of Ohio.

Since May of 2011, families must schedule an appointment to register students entering the Shaker Heights schools. Students entering grades 5–12 complete a short assessment in the subject areas of math and reading. Reports about the assessment process are positive. They have been very helpful to the middle school and high school counselors as they create schedules for new students and help them with their transitions to a new school setting.

It is our goal to make the introduction to the Shaker Heights City School District a pleasant and positive experience. As a result, we are using common registration forms with other First Ring School Districts to expedite the registration process. We want to give families a good start on their journeys as Shaker families.

Registration

Some of the ongoing services provided by the Registration Office include:

- Student enrollment, withdrawal and guardianship verification
- Enrollment of Pre-K children with disabilities
- Kindergarten outreach and registration
- Updating of registration information to District website
- Issuance of I-20 forms for international student enrollment
- Voter registration
- Residency and custody investigations
- Verification of community/charter school student enrollment

The Registration Office typically enrolls more than 700 children in a school year. Approximately half are new kindergarten students; the rest are re-entries and students who are new to the District.

During their visit to the Registration Office, parents are encouraged to tour their child's new school and are briefed on the school day, school calendar, PTO information, after-school activities, and tutoring programs. After completing registration, they are given the *Essential Information for Parents* packet.

The first Shaker Heights school opened in 1912. From that moment to the present, the Shaker Heights community has not wavered from its commitment to provide exceptional educational experiences for its youth. The District has earned a national reputation for educational excellence based upon its challenging academic and co-curricular programs, outstanding faculty and support staff, and innovative curriculum development. The District includes eight

school buildings, educates approximately 5,300 students annually, employs more than 800 people, and takes pride in the success of its more than 34,000 graduates.

The School District is particularly proud of its diverse student body. Families from virtually every economic, racial and religious background seek homes within the Shaker Heights City School District's boundaries. Increasingly, international families are attracted to the District. Currently, students are enrolled from Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Germany, Iceland, India, Italy, Libya, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand, and Vietnam, just to name a few. The pursuit of excellence in education is the common motivation that attracts them to this first-ring suburb of Cleveland, Ohio.

The High School offers 22 AP courses in core and elective subject areas and more than 200 courses in 12 departments that include academic preparation for college, the fine and performing arts, and vocational education.

The International Baccalaureate Organization has officially designated Shaker Heights High School, Boulevard, Fernway, Lomond, Mercer, and Onaway as IB World Schools. Woodbury Elementary School and Shaker Middle School are well on their way to this designation. This program allows Shaker to remain competitive by offering a world-class education.

The Shaker schools experience unique benefits and challenges due to the multicultural school population. The District staff constantly strives to meet the changing needs of a heterogeneous student body.

Residency

The Registrar regularly attends meetings with attorneys, judges, fellow registrars, and investigators in order to keep abreast of changing laws regarding student attendance, enrollment and custody. As a matter of practice, students who are improperly enrolled by their parents in the Shaker Heights City School District are immediately withdrawn and their parents are billed for tuition, as established annually by the State of Ohio Board of Education. The Registrar and District Treasurer, along with the local courts, pursue prosecution and tuition collection, and at times criminal prosecution, when illegal enrollment is determined.

At the close of the 2012-13 school year, the Registration Office conducted 229 investigations of residency. Of that number, 44 students were withdrawn due to residency. Other investigations involved returned mail because of incorrect envelope labels, unreported family moves within the District, childcare arrangements, lifestyle, or personal situations that result in actions that raise questions about residency.

Illegal student enrollment is a constant concern. To reduce the number of improper enrollments within the District, the following procedures are in place:

- Periodic communication with landlords of apartment buildings and rental homes
- Use of the *Certificate of Occupancy*, issued by the City of Shaker Heights, for any rental property as required proof of residency
- Investigation of all anonymous tips and investigation requests from staff and community members
- Analysis of returned mail and disconnected phone lines
- Use of the Cuyahoga County Auditor's website to verify home ownership and to locate landlords
- Consultation with local police and fire officials, as well as legal counsel, when appropriate

- Collaboration with City officials and First Ring school district officials to address related issues of residency and occupancy standards

Racial Composition of the Student Body

Like all public school districts in Ohio, the Shaker Heights City School District is required to provide statistical information on the racial composition of its student population. Statistical information for the current school year with comparative data from the last decade is presented in the exhibits following this report.

It is important to note some limitations of the data included here. In all the data presented, the reader must be careful not to assume that the numbers are precise. Each student's race is reported by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and sometimes reflects the child's appearance and culture more than race. International families are often unaccustomed to defining their race and sometimes use a standard different from the typical American definition of race. Moreover, the statistics change constantly as families move in and out of the District.

When the District reports data to the state and federal governments, the following revised designations are used, and parents may choose one or more of the following categories: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian, Hispanic/Latino, White, Multiracial/other.

Because the racial composition of the School District is of great interest to many people, individuals tend to compare and contrast statistics taken at various points in time. The racial composition of a small school can vary significantly when one family moves in or out of the community; therefore it is important to view the following statistics as expressing the student composition within a general range rather than a specific figure.

It should also be noted that these statistics include special education students and Pre-Kindergarten classes at Onaway Elementary School, which serves preschool children with disabilities from throughout the District. Students with disabilities who reside within the District but are educated outside the District are not included in these figures.

NOTE: All racial data contained in this report are based on a student enrollment count as of October 2013, by the District's Data Processing Department.

Exhibit #1 shows the percentage of students enrolled in the individual Shaker schools by race, as well as district-wide statistics.

Exhibit #2 shows the total enrollment and the enrollment by race on a grade-by-grade basis.

Exhibit #3 shows the ten-year racial composition of the entire District from 2003 to the present.

Shaker Heights City School District
Racial Composition of Each School Building
Exhibit 1
October 2013

School	Black		White		Hispanic		AmericanIndian/ AlaskanNative		Asian/Pacific Islander		Multiracial		Total
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	
Pre-School	31.25	15	50.00	24	6.25	3	.00	0	.00	0	12.50	6	48
Boulevard	38.48	137	33.43	119	4.77	17	.00	0	14.89	53	8.43	30	356
Fernway	32.45	110	54.87	186	3.24	11	.00	0	1.48	5	7.96	27	339
Lomond	61.94	275	23.20	103	4.28	19	.00	0	2.70	12	7.88	35	444
Mercer	43.24	147	41.74	141	1.76	6	.00	0	4.41	15	9.12	31	340
Onaway	30.66	126	53.77	221	4.62	19	.00	0	4.87	20	6.08	25	411
Woodbury	45.26	364	41.69	339	1.00	8	.00	0	3.44	28	8.61	70	809
Middle School	51.53	439	37.68	321	1.64	14	.00	0	3.87	33	5.28	45	852
High School	53.11	888	36.72	614	2.03	34	.00	0	3.11	52	5.03	84	1,672
District wide	47.58	2,486	39.12	2,044	2.49	128	.00	0	4.17	218	6.64	347	5,223

Shaker Heights City School District
Racial Composition of Students by Grade
Exhibit 2
October 2013

Grade	Black		White		Hispanic		AmericanIndian/ AlaskanNative		Asian/Pacific Islander		Multiracial		Total
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	
PreSchool	31.25	15	50.00	24	6.25	3	.00	0	.00	0	12.50	6	48
Kindergarten	41.44	155	39.57	148	4.28	16	.00	0	5.61	21	9.10	34	374
First	42.57	149	40.00	140	3.72	13	.00	0	7.14	25	6.57	23	350
Second	41.69	148	41.12	146	5.35	17	.00	0	5.92	21	5.92	21	353
Third	42.47	158	41.13	153	3.23	12	.00	0	5.91	22	7.26	27	372
Fourth	43.26	170	40.46	159	2.80	11	.00	0	4.07	16	9.41	37	393
Fifth	45.95	187	41.77	170	0.73	3	.00	0	3.69	15	7.86	32	407
Sixth	44.03	177	42.04	169	1.24	5	.00	0	3.24	13	9.45	38	402
Seventh	49.38	198	39.65	159	2.24	9	.00	0	4.24	17	4.49	18	401
Eighth	53.43	241	35.92	162	1.11	5	.00	0	3.55	16	5.99	27	451
Ninth	57.05	275	34.65	167	1.45	7	.00	0	2.70	13	4.15	20	482
Tenth	53.76	236	35.54	156	0.68	3	.00	0	4.10	18	5.92	26	439
` Eleventh	46.11	178	41.97	162	3.37	13	.00	0	3.37	13	5.18	20	386
Twelfth	54.52	199	35.34	129	3.02	11	.00	0	2.19	8	4.93	18	365
District wide	47.58	2,486	39.12	2,044	2.49	128	.00	0	4.17	218	6.64	347	5,223

Shaker Heights City School District
Racial Composition of District by School Year
2003 - 2013
Exhibit 3
October 2013

Year	Total Number	Black		White		Hispanic		American Indian/ Alaskan Native		Asian/Pacific Islander		Multiracial	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
2003-04	5566	51.22	2851	39.58	2203	1.20	67	.02	1	3.52	196	4.46	248
2004-05	5615	52.29	2936	38.72	2174	1.03	58	.01	1	3.72	209	5.33	237
2005-06	5499	52.65	2895	37.84	2081	1.13	62	.01	1	3.89	214	5.33	246
2006-07	5412	52.70	2852	36.84	1994	1.39	75	.02	1	3.95	214	5.33	276
2007-08	5458	52.95	2890	36.78	1969	1.45	79	.04	2	4.16	227	5.33	291
2008-09	5378	51.56	2773	36.85	1982	1.45	78	.06	3	4.39	236	5.69	306
2009-2010	5404	51.42	2779	36.53	1974	1.39	75	.03	2	4.35	235	6.27	339
2010-2011	5374	50.06	2691	37.53	2017	1.92	103	.04	2	4.40	237	6.05	325
2011-2012	5289	48.84	2583	38.44	2033	2.17	115	.02	1	4.25	225	6.28	332
2012-2013	5223	47.58	2486	39.12	2044	2.49	128	.00	0	4.17	218	6.64	347