### **D-38** (Continued from page 1)

in academic growth for free/reduced lunch students, English language learners, and those on Individual Education Plans (IEPs). Primary areas of concern were middle school reading for those with disabilities, and math and writing for those with disabilities.

Amenson said that scores may be partially related to socioeconomic situations. At the high school level, those with disabilities also fell short. Amenson acknowledged that these results may be partially due to budget cuts over the past several years that eliminated coaches and other individuals who could aid those falling behind.

## **Home School Enrichment Academy update**

Benton said that the Home School Enrichment Academy served 78 students in the 2013-14 school year, up from 53 the previous year. Programs are now offered for students in grades K-7, one day a week from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The enrichment program is intended to offer homeschooled students enrichment in the areas of art, drama, music, physical education, and creative writing. The academy also offers proctoring for required tests. Parents purchase the assessment materials.

Some field trips are also offered. All teachers are state certified and the pro-

gram is free. The district receives funds from the state (each student is counted as half-time) for offering the program, and any excess funds are reinvested in the

The goal for next year is to expand to 95 students and serve grades K-8. It is hoped that world language instruction can be offered to those at the middle school

Benton said that many of the academy's staff have homeschooled their children and have an insight into which features are useful.

### **Exceptional Student** Services update

Director of Exceptional Student Services Mary Anne Fleury said that there will be a summer institute to train staff of the Multi-Tiered System of Support and accommodations. Special education and general education teachers are being trained in Hill reading and Hill math. Work continues on standardizing transition processes from one school to another. Please see the DAAC article on page 6 of this issue for further details.

**English learners plan approved** English Language Learning Coordinator Stephanie Johnson reported that her program now has eight teachers to serve 305 students speaking 42 languages, the largest number of students in the history of the program. This is the fastest-growing segment of the student population.

Students are assessed on their ability to speak, read, write, and listen in English.

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