

## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 21, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 and 2015-16 educational progress for Cavanaugh STEAM Elementary School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Angela Tarry for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <u>https://goo.gl/pkimVu</u>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

The 2014-15 school year brought unique challenges to our school. We were awarded a CHILD Magnet grant and were identified as a Priority school for being in the bottom 5% of the Top to Bottom ranking. Student achievement scores were suffering. With help from funding from the CHILD Magnet grant, support from staff at the Ingham Intermediate School District, and the hard work and dedication of our staff we were able to implement programming and strategic instruction strategies that helped to turn our school around. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support implementation through Intervention blocks and Project Based Learning are the key programs that we began in 2014-15 and have continued in 2015-16.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

Students were assigned to Cavanaugh STEAM Elementary through the enrollment process. Parents or guardians complete an enrollment form, provide proof of residency, birth certificate and immunization records. We became a STEAM, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics magnet school in 2014-15 and student assignment is processed through the CHILD District Magnet Office. Cavanaugh STEAM is a priority school. The School Improvement Plan is the Reform and Redesign Plan. We are utilizing the Transformation Model and the Early Learning Model. We are in the beginning stages of implementation as the 2014-15 school year was a planning year.

The Lansing core curriculum will be aligned to state standards. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) have been fully implemented and are used as the basis for the curriculum at all levels. CCSS are available on the MDE website, www.michigan.gov. Curriculum documents are available on the Assistant Superintendent of Instruction's webpage at, <u>www.lansingschools.net</u>. Teachers at Cavanaugh Elementary STEAM use the State of Michigan Standards for delivery of education. The Lansing School District has developed Pacing Guides to guide when state standards are taught.

A STEAM focus will be woven through all academic areas with an emphasis on being GREEN. Cavanaugh students will learn how humans impact living things. Students will learn through project based, hands on experiences and be able to apply them to the real world. They will be involved in projects that will expose them to the 21st Century skills they will need in the future.

At Cavanaugh STEAM we use AIMS Web to measure both math and reading. We administer a benchmark screener three times each year and progress monitor students not at benchmark regularly to adjust instruction based on student need. In the Spring of 2014-15 the percentage of students at benchmark on AIMS Web Math measures are as follows: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math Concepts and Applications, 59.4%; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Math Computation, 50%; 1<sup>st</sup> grade Math Computation, 60.3% and Kg number identification, 52.1%. In the Winter of 2015-16 the percentage of students at benchmark on AIMS Web Math measures are as follows: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math Computation, 57%; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Math Computation, 59%; 1<sup>st</sup> grade Math Computation, 37% and Kg number identification, 43.4%. Final Spring results are not currently available, however preliminary AIMS Web Spring benchmarking is showing remarkable growth at every grade level.

In the Spring of 2014-15 we had 88%, 197 out of 223, families attend parent teacher conferences. In the Spring of 2015-16 we had 82%, 197 out of 241, families attend parent teacher conferences.

Our second year as a STEAM and Priority school have gone remarkably well. Our staff is working hard to meet the needs of all of our students. The addition of new staff members in combination with veteran staff has only enhanced what is happening. The students here know and practice our schoolwide behavior expectations every day, Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be An Engaged Learner. I am proud to be the principal at this school.

Sincerely,

Angela K Tarry