

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 15,2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for the North Elementary. 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 Kailyn Jones for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <u>North Combined Report</u> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as an Additional Targeted Support School.

North has undergone a number of enrollment changes over the last 5 years due to grade reconfigurations and theme changes. During the 2017-2018 school year, North was the home of approximately 600 students who were primarily English Language Learners consisting of Kindergarten through 6th grade students. The following school year, the grade configuration changed to fourth through 8th grade and the ELL program moved to Gardener Academy. The enrollment went down to approximately 454 students. During the current school year the grade configuration changed to grades 4-7, with an enrollment of 326 students.

Many federal requirements were waived for 2019-20, including student assessment and accountability information.

The following table represents the level of proficiency by grade level based on the MSTEP from 2019

- 4TH Grade ELA- 10.5% of students are Proficient
- 5th Grade ELA-10.8% of students are Proficient
- 6th Grade ELA- 4%of students are Proficient
- 7th Grade ELA-5.7% of students are Proficient

A major strength that we have capitalized upon in the 2019-20 year is having an additional 2 instructional Coaches, and 2 Instructional Assistants who are working directly with teachers to impact English Language Arts (ELA). North has also implemented daily intervention blocks at all grade levels for 1 hour each day with an emphasis on ELA. These intervention blocks have been very successful because students are receiving more individualized instruction due to there being no more than 7 students who are assigned to a staff member. The most significant contributor towards our increase in student fluency and comprehension are our Read 180 and Systems 44 programs. North is also taking part in weekly Professional Learning Cycles and successfully implementing the Instructional Learning Cycle process which is having a direct impact on overall student achievement.

State law requires that we also report additional information. <TO HAVE THIS LETTER MEET THE STATE REQUIREMENTS, EACH SCHOOL SHOULD PROVIDE A REPORT FOR THE **TWO MOST RECENT YEARS** ON THE FOLLOWING:

- During the 2019-2020 school year, North was a fourth through seventh grade school. Currently, North Elementary is a fourth through sixth grade school. Many of our students come from our school area or are automatically enrolled from our feeder schools. Families can also apply to North through schools of choice and the district's enrollment and application process.
- 2. North Elementary continues to focus on four main goals in our School Improvement Plan. These goals include increasing student proficiency in the areas of English Language Arts, Math, culture and climate, and college and career readiness. The school improvement process at North is ongoing and involves professional development for staff on best practices to provide the optimum educational experience for our students. The staff, students, parents, and community members all play an integral part in helping North Elementary to continue making progress in meeting all of its goals.
- 3. North Elementary School is a safe and caring learning community committed to developing students' social, emotional, intellectual, and physical well-being. Administrators, teachers, support staff, students, parents, and community members strongly believe that caring relationships within our global community convey compassion and respect. High expectations for academic achievement and behavior and facilitating positive interactions provide a sense of belonging that make learning meaningful and significant. Our differences are our strengths and we praise diversity for its potential to enrich teaching and learning experiences within the North School family.

- 4. A copy of the core curriculum, in addition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), can be accessed through the Lansing School District web page at www.lansingschools.net. The teaching staff at North Elementary uses the core curriculum and content standards along with best practices for teaching and learning, to benefit each and every student.
 - North successfully implemented a thorough and comprehensive Project Based Learning Curriculum during the 2019-2020 school year which has been our biggest strength in terms of science. Our Project Based Learning Coach worked collaboratively with staff and students to design real world projects with an emphasis on scientific inquiry and investigation. The biggest challenge that we faced with implementation was our need to place such a major emphasis on ELA and Math due to previous achievement rates. Our PBL coach assisted staff with infusing project based learning projects across units to ensure that students had ample opportunities for hands-on experiences. Our PBL curriculum has been successful this year due to the following: multiple opportunities for training, staff buy in, funds for materials, and satisfaction on the part of all key stakeholders.
- 5. Local tests such as the AimsWEB were administered during the 2018-19 school year at multiple grade levels, and at scheduled intervals, during the school year. The data provided by these assessments is taken into account while planning lessons and differentiating instruction for students, and also while preparing our school improvement plan.

In the winter 2020 administration of the NWEA MAP Growth Test in math, with the exception of seventh grade, all grades, fourth through sixth grade met or exceeded projected RIT growth. With the exception of fourth grade, grades five through seven, met or exceeded projected RIT growth projections in reading. Read 180 targeted sixth graders and their NWEA projected growth was 4.2 RIT points. Sixth graders exceeded their projected growth target in reading by 1.8 RIT points. Given the same starting RIT score and the same number of weeks of instruction, the 6th graders grew more than 40% of the norm group.

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Year	Number of Families	Percentage of Families in
	Represented	Attendance
2017-2018	536/591	91%
2018-2019	190/465	41%
209-2020	27/262	10%

has a new leadership team for the 2019-2020 school year. North was also in year four of being awarded the School Improvement Grant (SIG V) which brings much needed resources to our school. This grant allows North to increase the number of teachers working with our students, and it helps us implement new programs that will increase the academic achievement of our students. The school will work with the State of Michigan to increase student proficiency in reading and math scores. Improvement will be made possible through the collaborative efforts and dedication of all involved in the education of our students.

Sincerely,

Kailyn Jones