



## **Mt. Hope Elementary School**

### **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

April 8, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-2015 educational progress for the Mt. Hope 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 Elizabeth Jones for assistance.

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

Last year, our school transitioned to a magnet school with a focus on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics). Teachers have engaged in extensive professional learning to teach using a project-based learning model, art integration principles, and engineering design processes. Students are actively engaged in the learning process through the interactive curriculum and tools that have been successfully implemented. We utilize community groups, local universities, and MSU Service Learning students to provide support and enrichment opportunities during and after school. After school tutoring in math and all subjects are provided by highly-qualified teachers. We have a student assistance provider who helps to determine underlying causes for student behavioral issues that may impede student achievement. Our M-STEP data indicates that there continues to be an achievement gap in various demographic groups. We plan to continue to analyze and monitor our student achievement data in efforts to close the achievement gap.

Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School's curriculum is aligned with the state's model curriculum, with no known variances. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) have been fully implemented and are used as the basis for the curriculum at all levels. Curriculum documents are available on the MDE website, [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_64839\\_65510---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html) and the LSD website at [www.lansingschools.net](http://www.lansingschools.net). In addition, Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School implemented an engineering program with units that are aligned to the science curriculum.

State law requires that we also report additional information.



1. During the 2014-15 school year, students were assigned to Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School based upon schools of choice applications. As a magnet school, all incoming 4<sup>th</sup> graders and new students must apply and submit an enrollment form to attend. Applications are approved by the Magnet Office prior to students being allowed to officially enroll.
2. Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School monitors the implementation of the School Improvement Plan throughout the school year. Staff meeting time is allocated for the discussion of strategies in the plan and to make adjustments to activities, as needed. The parent teacher organization is apprised of school improvement activities and input sought at their monthly meetings.
3. At Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School, we use a teaching method of Project Based Learning, or PBL, to help students learn better. Projects give students the chance to apply the skills they learn in school to personally relevant and real-world situations. The students in our school are learning how to think like young engineers and design products that may be solutions to real-world problems. They apply their knowledge of science and mathematics, learn skills to think critically, work in teams, make presentations, and use technology.
4. Parent-friendly guides to the core curriculum are made available at our school and distributed to families. Our staff provides outlines of the curriculum to parents and discuss expectations for grade level competencies during conferences.
5. M-STEP data for 2014-15 indicates the following proficiency rates for our students in ELA: 4<sup>th</sup> grade 21%, 5<sup>th</sup> grade 39.1%, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade 26.2%. Proficiency rates in math were as follows: 4<sup>th</sup> grade 17.3%, 5<sup>th</sup> grade 12.6%, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade 16.4%. Science was administered in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and the proficiency rate was less than 10% with 17.5% partially proficient. In social studies, less than 10% were proficient with 62.1% partially proficient.
6. Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance Data:

Year	Fall
2014-15	223 (91%)
2015-16	213 (93%)

Mt. Hope STEAM Elementary School will continue to analyze data, use AIMSweb progress monitoring in ELA and math, and incorporate instructional strategies to actively engage students in their learning. We anticipate an increase in student achievement across all grade levels.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Jones  
Principal