



School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 15,2022

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2020-21 educational progress for North 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 Kailyn Jones for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [North Combined Report](#) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2021-22 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2018-19. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2017-18. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2016-17. 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 Elementary 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 Learners consisting of Kindergarten through 6th grade students. The following school year, the grade configuration changed to 4th through 8th grades and the ESL program moved to Gardener International Academy. The enrollment went down to approximately 454 students. During the current school year, the grade configuration changed to grades 4-6.

North staff continues to seek out ways to improve student attendance and behavior, including the implementation of our CRPBIS program based on the North Star expectations and a recognition program. We also work with the Restorative Justice staff to assist with character building and discipline issues. School funds are being invested to provide literacy and math interventions to address low achievement in those content areas.

A major strength that we have capitalized since the 2019-20 year is having Instructional Coaches and 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 with an emphasis on ELA. These intervention blocks have been very successful because students are receiving more individualized instruction. 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. Our records point out that the average reading composite scores showed improvements from fall to spring; even though our student achievement was not at the gains observed in the national norms. For math-skill growth rates, a significant number of our students advanced towards reaching the projected average growth rate. Due to the challenges that the current COVID-19 Pandemic has posed for Michigan Public Schools, North Elementary School has not yet achieved our core goals, but we are empowered by the fact that we are making progress and student achievement is gradually increasing. Direct vocabulary instruction is being presented to improve student reading comprehension and fluency across all subject areas and grade levels. The instructional staff has also emphasized interventions from the GoMath and Collections/Journeys Curriculum.

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:

1. 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 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 2020-201 school year which has been our biggest strength in terms of science. Our staff worked collaboratively 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 and adjusting instruction to a virtual learning environment. Our teachers incorporated 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 NWEA were administered during the 2020-21 school year at all 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. The administration of the NWEA MAP Growth Test in both reading and math approached or met the projected RIT growth.

During 2020-21, our attendance and participation rates for Parent Teacher Conferences increased from last school year. Parents had the opportunity to attend virtual conferences before or after school, during lunch or during asynchronous times.

With the reconfiguration of the school, Henry H. North Elementary School has had a new leadership team for the last two school years. North was also in year five

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