

## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

May 16, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for the Gardner. 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 Priscilla Ellis for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <a href="https://goo.gl/MC32jQ">https://goo.gl/MC32jQ</a>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using new 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as a TARGETED SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT. One of the challenges that we are addressing is improving the school culture and climate through implementation of the district's CRPBIS Program. Another challenge for Gardner is increasing student achievement in reading, as well as increasing student achievement in mathematics. Gardner has implemented several instructional strategies and interventions to increase reading skills and math content knowledge at each grade level. While Gardner has not yet reached our ultimate goal, we are proud of the fact that we are making great strides and student achievement is consistently increasing.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

#### 1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

The Lansing School District has over 11,000 students and 27 schools, including several Magnets, STEAM, STEM, Foreign Language Specialties, Montessori, Visual and Performing Arts, Leadership, and International Baccalaureate programs. All students are allowed to utilize the School of Choice option in order to attend a school in the area of their interests. This is done by completing a School of Choice application and meeting the program's necessary requirements. The students that decide not to participate in the School of Choice opportunity, otherwise attends schools within the district's boundaries. Gardner Leadership, Law and Government Academy have both School of Choice students and students who live within the school's boundaries. Upon registration, Gardner encourages parents, students and teachers to sign a Promise of Commitment. This contract is an agreement that all parties share the responsibility, in a safe and secure environment, for students to learn and practice the academic, creative, emotional, physical and social skills necessary for ALL students to become contributing members of society.

#### 2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our School Improvement Plan is up to date and in progress of meeting the school's goals. We are consistently implementing interventions and teaching strategies in order to provide for the needs of all students. Presently, Gardner has incorporated curriculum support through our Read 180 and Math 180 courses. Direct vocabulary instruction is being presented to improve student reading comprehension and fluency across all subject areas and grade levels. In addition, Moby Max Online program is being utilized by each student on a weekly basis in which students and teachers are able to monitor progress. The Elementary staff members have also put into practice the Write Well program, Go Math, and have added a Literacy Specialist to provide Tier II and Tier III supports. We are confident that the goals within the School Improvement Plan will be met and the achieved objectives will be measurable. This assurance is due to the fact that there is an expectation that all teachers at Gardner will effectively provide instruction that engages students, and the teachers will employ interventions that promote success for all students.

#### 3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Gardner's focus is developing and nurturing strong, confident, global leaders for leadership in multiple areas including Law and/or Government.

# 4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

Copies of the Core Curriculum were included in each course syllabus and provided to parents at the beginning of the school year. In addition, a copy of the Core Curriculum is available in the school's Main Office.

Parents, students and community members may also access the Core Curriculum by following the instructions below:

- -Go to the following Web Site: www.lansingschools.net
- -Click on the Quicklinks tab on the top left of the screen
- -Scroll down to the Pacing Guides tab

#### Common Core State Standards for the following areas:

- English Language Arts
- Literacy in History/Social Studies
- Science
- Technical Subjects

#### K-8 Pacing Guides for the following areas:

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Social Studies

### **Elementary Curriculum for the following areas:**

- Art
- Math
- Media
- Music
- Science
- Social Studies
- Technology

<sup>\*</sup>The Lansing Schools web page will list:

### Middle School Curriculum for the following areas:

- Art
- English Language Arts
- Media Curriculum
- Science
- Drama

# 5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Local tests such as the AIMSweb and the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) are administered at all grade levels, and at scheduled intervals, during the school year. We also use QUIA school wide vocabulary, pre and post GoMATH and M-STEP. 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.

# 6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Gardner Leadership, Law and Government Academy's fall enrollment was 555 students. Our 2017-18 Fall parent teacher conference participation was 39.45%. Conferences are held in the Fall and Spring, and 33% (227) of our parents have attended parent-teacher conferences in 2015-16 and 26% (197) of parents attended in 2014-15. Parents are also encouraged to meet with teachers individually throughout the school year in order to monitor and improve student behaviors and academic progress

We appreciate the support of all of our teachers, students, parents, and community members as we strive to make Gardner Leadership, Law and Government Academy a positive environment, where every student is successful.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Ellis