



North Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 1, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Henry H. 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 Ariel Rodriguez Pena for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/XQoy15>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given.

Our school was identified as a Priority school.

As the M-STEP cut scores changed, our students had difficulty achieving academic success in all content areas. North Elementary School has a very unique population. We have the highest percentage of English Learners (ELs) in the Lansing School District, at 52%. Our students represent nearly 50 different countries, and speak nearly 30 different languages. Our school is very diverse. Along with our EL and general education population, we also have Hearing Impaired (HI), Visually Impaired (VI), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and Moderately, Cognitively Impaired (MOCI) students. Each child at North is considered an individual learner, with our goal being to address the needs of each student so that they are successful in all aspects of their educational and social lives.

In 2016, in the area of English Language Arts, our 3rd grade students performed much better than our 4th, 5th, and 6th graders on the M-STEP. Using the data, our focus is going to be on Reading Comprehension for all grade levels. Beginning in the fall of 2017, mandatory reading intervention blocks will be in place for all students at North. All teachers will be trained in the Daily 5 reading program. Also, in the area of Math, our 3rd grade students outperformed our 4th, 5^t, and 6th grade students by nearly 10%. After reviewing the data, we have implemented mandatory math intervention blocks at every grade level, K-6, for every student. We are seeing gains being made by our students due to these intensive interventions.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. North Elementary is a kindergarten through sixth grade school. Many of our students come from our attendance area, in South Lansing. We also receive English Learners living south of I-496, as we provide the needed ESL services for these students.
2. North Elementary continues to focus on three main goals in our School Improvement Plan. These goals include increasing student proficiency in the areas of English Language Arts, Math, and behavior. 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, physical and ethical/moral 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, along with an understanding of our school's diversity provide a sense of belonging that

make young lives 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.
5. Local tests such as the Developmental Reading Assessment 2 (DRA) AIMSweb, and DIBELS Next are administered 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.
6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Year	Number of Families Represented	Percentage of Families in Attendance
2015-2016	460/589	78%
2016-2017	326/591	55%

Henry H. North Elementary School has a new leadership team for the 2016-2017 school year. Also, we were awarded the School Improvement Grant (SIG V) which will bring much needed resources to our school. This grant will allow us to increase the number of teachers working with our students, and it will help 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,

Ariel Rodriguez Pena
Principal