

## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 14, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for Eastern High 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 Donna Pohl at 755-1050 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <u>https://goo.gl/ftZmo6</u>, or you may review a copy in the Eastern High School main office.

In accordance with our school improvement and transformation plans, and as a School Improvement Grant (SIG) recipient—receiving 1.7 million for three years, administration and staff continue training in the use of content area literacy strategies to address reading and language arts needs of all of our students. We are also strengthening strategies to improve student numeracy and will continue to provide credit recovery opportunities for students who need additional avenues for credits to graduate on time.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

- 1. Students enrolled at Eastern High School generally live within the assigned attendance area for the building. Students may also enroll via Schools of Choice, administrative transfer, and magnet application.
- 2. As a priority school Eastern High School has submitted a Transformation Plan in lieu of a School Improvement Plan. The Transformation Plan outlines the strategies implemented for the 2014-15 school year. The big ideas are academic literacy and a positive culture and climate.
- 3. All 7th through 10th grade students at Eastern are part of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP) which emphasizes cultural diversity and global mindedness. During the 2nd semester of the student's

sophomore year, they may apply to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (DP) beginning in their junior year. The IB program offers a rigorous course of study which continues the emphasis on global mindedness and cultural diversity. Eastern High School had 4 students who qualified for an International Baccalaureate Diploma granted by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

- All students at Eastern are provided instruction in the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The curriculum for the Lansing School District can be found on the Lansing School District website at <u>www.lansingschools.net</u>.
- 5. Eastern students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade scored a composite score of 18.6 on the 2014-15 ACT, a 1.4% increase from the previous year. The ACT College Readiness is a college admissions examination that measures the proficiency of high school students in English, mathematics, reading, and science. The ACT scores displayed at MI School Data are from the ACT Plus Writing portion of the Michigan Merit Examination (MME).
- 6. Parent participation in Parent-Teacher conferences continues to be a challenge at the secondary level. Parent teacher conferences were moved from individual teacher classrooms to the Field House during the 2013-14 school year. Changing the venue for parent conferences may have been a factor for the increased participation from the previous school year. In addition, during the 2015-2016 school year 2 conference nights were held (back-to-back) midway through each semester instead of 4 nights spread out at the mid-point of each marking period. Attendance rates had a significant gain when conferences were moved to the Field House, and another gain when conducted in the back-to-back model midway through the semester. Comparing the data from the first conference session held each fall, the following parent participation trends occur: 2012 at 7% parent participation (121 attending), 2013 at 27% parent participation (422 attending), 2014 at 23% parent participation (304 attending), and 2015 (345 attending) at 28% parent participation.
- 7. (a.) During the 2014-2015 academic year, Eastern offered students numerous opportunities to earn post-secondary credits.

(b.) Four students participated in the dual enrollment program earning credits at Lansing Community College. Courses possibly leading to college credit were also offered in the IB Programme, Theory of Knowledge, Environmental Science, Biology I, Biology II, History of the Americas, English Literature, English Language, Math Studies, Spanish, French, German, Art Studio, and Music Theory. (c.) The number of IB students enrolled in the DP program was 387, and 27 students were enrolled in the full Diploma Programme and four students received the full diploma earning one year of college credit. 92% of the 2015 graduating class will attend post-secondary training.

(d.) The number of Eastern students that earned college credit is six, and the percentage earning college credit was 6.6%.

Although Eastern High School remains a Priority school, we have significant reasons to be encouraged. Eastern showed great gains in the ACT composite score of 18.6, a 1.4% increase. Our continued gains lead us to be encouraged that through targeted professional development for teachers and improved teaching strategies, we will continue to show academic growth.

In addition, our 2014 graduation rate improved to 77.57 %, a 12.57% increase! Only 2.22 % shy of the State of Michigan graduation rate. We are very proud of our student body at Eastern High School.

Sincerely,

Donna Pohl, Ed.S. Eastern High School 220 N. Pennsylvania Lansing MI 48912