



## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for the Dwight Rich School of the Arts. 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 Angela Jackson, Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2KgeTh8> 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 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 or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

\* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Key challenges for Dwight Rich Academy in 2017-18 were attendance, suspension rates and academic achievement. Dwight Rich staff continues to seek out ways to improve student attendance and behavior, including the use of the monthly BEAR

Dollars recognition program. We also work with the Restorative Justice staff to assist with discipline issues. Title I and 31a monies are being invested to fund a literacy and math specialist to address low achievement in those content areas. Currently, Dwight Rich Academy is closed. The new school, Dwight Rich School of the Arts Magnet is beginning to collect the data and look at the needs of our current K through 6th grade configuration with the addition of 7<sup>th</sup> grade in 2019-20 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2020-21. State law requires that we also report additional information. For the 2017-2018 school year and the prior year students were able to enroll in Dwight Rich Academy PreK- 8th grade by enrolling their student at the school or welcome center. Now that Dwight Rich Academy no longer exists, and Dwight rich school of the Arts Magnet, a K – 6th grade school began, parents can apply on line and then go through a lottery process in order to be enrolled in the magnet program. The status of the school improvement plan for the 2017-2018 was continuing improvement with a focus in reading, math and school culture. Due to the fact that Dwight rich Academy no longer exists, there will not be a current plan for that school. Dwight rich school of the Arts Magnet is engaging in creating a new school improvement plan in order to help launch its first year in existence. Dwight rich School of the Arts Magnet is a K – 6th grade elementary school that specializes in Artful Learning with an art integration focus. Teachers are trained the Leonard Bernstein Model of Artful Learning and Kennedy Center Art Integration. Students learn about the curriculum through student centered, real-world problem solving challenge. Students work collaboratively and gain 21st Century skills in order to ready themselves for careers and/or college.

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](http://www.lansingschools.net) The core curriculum and content standards are implemented by the teaching staff at Dwight Rich School of the Arts Magnet through the above mentioned ways along with best practices for teaching and learning. Dwight Rich Academy used the AimsWeb tests three times a year in order to show student growth. Reading scores for Spring 2018 were 55% proficient in Reading and 57% proficient in Math. Our parent-teacher conferences have been well attended, but we always are striving for 100%. During the fall of 2016/2017 371 out of 505 (74%) of our parents attended. In the fall of 2017/2018 372 out of 523 (71%) of our parents attended. We try to offer different nights for conferences and schedule them before school or during lunch if parents are unable to attend during scheduled conference times.

Dwight Rich Academy closed at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Dwight Rich School of the Arts Magnet opened its doors in August of 2018 with a ribbon tying ceremony. We are continuously using data to drive our instruction in order to improve student achievement. We look forward to working with our district, community and families when implementing our new magnet program. Sincerely,

Angela Jackson

*Angela K Jackson*

Principal, Dwight Rich School of the Arts