



January 30, 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 Grass Lake Middle 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 Jeanene Byerly at 517-867-5550 or jeanene.byerly@grasslakeschools.com for assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/T0m4Oo>, 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. For the 2016-17 year, Grass Lake Middle School was not given a label.

The key challenges for Grass Lake Community Schools have been identified through our strategic planning process. A link to Grass Lake Community Schools' Strategic Plan can be found at <http://bit.ly/12msztr>. One of the key initiatives we are working on at GLMS is to provide more meaningful and abundant leadership opportunities. We have been incorporating the LEAD (Loyalty, Excellence, Achievement and Discipline) initiative from Leader In Me. Our Math and English Language Arts (ELA) Response to Intervention (RtI) classes are helping our students who need remediation in those areas to help them to become more successful. We also have begun our 1:1 technology initiative, where each student has their own Chromebook. This initiative's goal is to eventually have a total technology immersion into all areas of the students' learning. While our Math, Reading and Writing proficiency scores on the MStep remain at or above state proficiency levels.

Jeanene Byerly, Principal
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Be Confident, Be Connected, Be Creative, Be a Leader!

Our Science proficiency levels unfortunately are below state proficiency averages. Our School Improvement teams continue to focus on all subject areas and improving student growth.

State law requires that we also report additional information which include the processes followed by the district for the previous two years. They are as follows:

We make a concerted effort to balance class numbers in order to provide the best education for our students. The students of Grass Lake Community Schools attend one of three buildings in the district. Students in grades K-5 attend George Long Elementary, students in grades 6-8 attend Grass Lake Middle School, and students in grades 9-12 attend Grass Lake High School. Grass Lake Middle School has approximately 270 students. The middle school averaged 80% attendance during parent teacher conferences and 96% with our Fall Back To School Night. In the Middle School, parent communication is ongoing through daily PowerSchool updates, e-mails, Schoology, and personal phone calls.

The School Improvement plan is created, monitored and modified on an annual basis based on our most current needs. The district's teaching standards and benchmarks align with the Michigan Department of Education's Framework, including Grade Level Content Expectations for grades K-8 and High School Content Expectations for grades 9-12. The Common Core Standards have been studied and are continually being aligned with the district's core curriculum standards. Common Core Standards are being implemented throughout the district. The district continues to utilize curriculum mapping to ensure alignment with the Common Core Standards. More information can be found at www.grasslakeschools.com. Students are assessed using the MStep, NWEA, Fountas & Pinnell, Moby Max, Chapter Tests and Final Exams.

Grass Lake Community Schools is extremely proud of our achievement status. The Middle School continues to trend upward in our MStep scores. Student achievement data can be found on the website www.mischooldata.com, and the Annual Report. You may also get a copy in the GLMS office. The teachers, administrators, staff, community, and students are all deserving of credit for this accomplishment. In the spirit of continuous improvement, our teachers, administrators, and staff are ready to provide even greater rigor in an effort to improve upon an already impressive product.

Sincerely,

Jeanene Byerly

Principal
Grass Lake Middle School