

GORDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT (AER)

May 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 Gordon 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 Linda Bennink, principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site **<https://www.mischooldata.org/AER2018/CombinedReport2.aspx>**, or you may review a copy in the the office at Gordon Elementary School.

For the 2016-17 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 has not be identified with any labels for intervention purposes.

Our school has experienced several leadership changes within the last four years. We are welcoming a new principal in the fall and we are looking forward to working on our School Improvement Goals around reading, writing, and math.

State law requires that we also report additional information...

1. **Assigning pupil to school:** The process we utilize for assigning pupils to our school revolves around the concept of neighborhood school boundaries as much as possible. We also place a strong emphasis on balancing our class sizes, in order to maintain equity and an optimal learning environment.
2. **School Improvement Plan:** Our School Improvement Plan is a working document that drives our quest to continuously review, analyze, and adapt our instruction and curriculum to meet the ever-changing needs of our students. Our School Improvement Plan is utilized as a framework or map that reflects our curricular expectations and instructional practices.
3. **Specialized Schools:** Currently, we do not provide a "specialized" school at our level, as we provide a positive and appropriate learning environment for all of our students.

4. **Core Curriculum:** Our core curriculum documents are available for review within each of our classrooms and our principal's office (as per subject and/or grade level). Grade level and Content Expectations along with the Common Core State Standards are also available for review on the www.michigan.gov/mde website. We continually review and refine our core curriculum documentation and instructional practices utilizing professional staff input committees. These committees bring forth any proposed curriculum changes to our Curriculum Council for possible approval and adoption. Curriculum Council recommendations then go before our Board of Education for approval. With Board approval, professional development (if needed) takes place for all pertinent staff members. Implementation within the classroom setting is supported, analyzed, and evaluated by grade-level teacher and administrative teams.
5. **Student Achievement:** we are proud of our student achievement results on both the M-STEP (Michigan Standardized Test of Educational Progress) and our grade-level core-curriculum (Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science) assessments. 93% of our students are at, or above grade level on all of our assessments. Our 3rd through 5th graders score well above the state average on all of the M-STEP assessments.
6. **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** 100% of our students are represented by one or both parents during our November and February Parent/Teacher Conference opportunities.

We are very proud of our students and their achievements at Gordon Elementary School. We have been recognized as both a **"Rewards" School** by the Michigan Department of Education, and a **National Blue Ribbon School**, by the United States Department of Education. Our staff members work hard to provide a positive, nurturing, and engaging learning environment for all of our students and their families. We are fortunate to have wonderful parent support as we work in partnership with our families and the greater Marshall community. We celebrate small steps and special accomplishments whether they are academic, social, athletic, or extra-curricular as our children continue their "adventure" in a quality education within the Marshall Public Schools.

Sincerely,
Linda Bennink, principal, Gordon Elementary School