

North Branch Area Schools

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Thomas A. English Ed. S.
Superintendent

August 11, 2014

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2013-2014 educational progress for North Branch 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 Principal Mark Hiltunen for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting www.nbbrncos.net or you may review a copy from the High School Office (6598 Brush Street).

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

North Branch High School is focused on improving test scores in all four core areas and improving education for all students based on data. All decisions regarding school improvement are based on data. All decisions regarding school improvement are based on data gathered from MEAP/PLAN/MME/ACT test results. Our building has focused on student's ability to read and write as one of the primary strategies to assist student growth. A student's ability to read, communicate, and understand are critical to academic success in all core areas. The focus is to close persistent achievement gaps between the lowest and highest 30% of student scores. Researched based and vetted academic instructional strategies will be evaluated before, during, and after implementation.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Based on credits earned, students are placed into grade levels.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The members of the School Improvement Team, comprised of core, elective, and special education teachers, as well as counselors and administrators, have been working collaboratively with all staff to drive the school improvement process at North Branch High School. Teachers from all departments meet regularly to continue work on complete curriculum maps, common summative assessments, course alignment, and other tasks as directed by administration.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Not applicable

4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

A copy of the Core Curriculum may be attained from the State of Michigan, Department of Education Website. North Branch High School follows the recommended Core Curriculum

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Students participate in the PLAN, the ACT, MEAP, and the MME along with local assessments to identify gaps in the curriculum and make necessary adjustments ensuring our students success. These results are entered in our district student database. Student test results and historical progress may be reviewed by accessing the North Branch Area Schools website and selecting MI School Data link" <http://www.nbbrncos.net>

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Approximately a third of our parents participate in student-teacher conferences. Student progress is monitored by parents via our on-line Skyward Family Access portal as well as personal contact by staff members.

7. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGES OF AP AND POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT) AND AP SCORES LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT.

Fifteen students (1.9%) participated in Dual Enrollment classes. Nine Advanced Placement classes are currently offered with 104 students (13.33%) enrolled in those classes taking a total of 146 AP Exams. North Branch High School offers Advanced Placement courses in the following areas: Biology; Calculus; Chemistry; English Language and Composition; English Literature and Composition; Psychology; Statistics; US History; and World History. NBHS students received a qualifying score leading to 55 college credits.

I wish to thank all North Branch High School Constituents for their dedicated work over the past few years. We have worked hard to create a safe and caring school environment. In addition to our outstanding educational programs, you'll find our positive family atmosphere helps us achieve academically, and emotionally. Please spend a few moments perusing this Annual Education Report to see what's happening in our schools. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort. If you have any questions regarding the annual report, please contact the North Branch High School Office at (810) 688-3001.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Hiltunen, M.Ed.
Principal