



Homer Middle School

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Sallie Wilson, Principal

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ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT (AER) COVER LETTER

February 7, 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the educational progress for Homer 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 Homer Middle School Principal Ms. Sallie Wilson or Homer Community Schools Superintendent Michael Leskowich for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/2Ot9x5x> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the current school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in the previous year. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in the previous school year. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in the previous school year. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Homer Middle School has not been given one of these labels.

While analyzing the data, the School Improvement Team found that additional support was needed to help close the learning gap of our economically disadvantaged students compared to our non-economically disadvantaged students, as well as our students who have been identified as at risk. Key initiatives that have remained in place were the addition of Academic Paraprofessionals, one in each grade level to help strengthen tier II instruction, and the full implementation of IXL as an online intervention program, also used face to face in small groups,

available in all core content areas. We also added one ELA and one Math Instructional Coach from the CISD to support working with teachers, para's and students to improve reading instruction and intervention. Additionally, the middle school is continuing their work of curriculum mapping and unpacking of standards. The school continues to work with the support of both academic and behavioral paraprofessionals and our behavior interventionist to address more intensive student needs, and we began implementation of our School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (SWPBIS).

State law requires that we also report additional information:

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Students assigned to Homer Middle School either live within the boundaries of the school district or attend under school of choice. This process has remained consistent for current and past school years.

Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

In the last five years, the HMS School Improvement Team has focused on its continued work to align and update the middle school curriculum using a Google Doc template to document curriculum. Curriculum maps and unit/lesson plans were updated so that they are in line with the Common Core State Standards. In addition, teams have been revising their essential standards to ensure curriculum maps are continuously revised and updated to support mastery of these essentials. A major focus of the School Improvement Team for the recent school year has been behavior, with work on a new classroom managed Minor Behavior Rubric and implementation of SEL videos during seminar time.

Brief Description of Each Specialized School

Homer Middle School covers grades 5-8, with students receiving content from highly qualified teachers in the core content areas of ELA, math, science, and social studies. All students receive instruction in physical education, health, and computers, with additional offerings in instrumental music, visual arts, and agriscience education. All students also participate in a rotating selection of enrichment courses that allow for core curriculum extension activities, high interest elective content, and focused intervention support. Specialized help is also provided to all students with IEPs, 504 Plans, and those additional students identified as at risk.

How to Access Core Curriculum, Description of Implementation, and Explanation of Variances from the State's Model

Our core curriculum can be found on the district website at www.homerschools.net or by contacting the Director of Instructional Services, Shannon Shepherd, at (517) 568-4464. All core curriculum is aligned with Michigan K-12 Standards. Curriculum maps are in the process of being updated by the various departments.

Aggregate Student Achievement Results for National Normed Achievement Tests

Homer Middle School teachers use a variety of ways within their classrooms to collect data on student achievement. Pre- and post-tests to show growth, consistent writing rubrics in ELA, and classroom grades are all local ways in which

teachers monitor student achievement. Homer Middle School has also administered the nationally normed assessment of NWEA three times a year in reading, math, and science to measure student achievement results since the 2018-19 school and will continue to do so for the current and upcoming school years. The following chart shows the percent of students that met or exceeded the national NWEA norms for winter over the last two school years.

% At or Above National Norms

Grade Assessed	Reading		Math		Science	
	Winter 2019-20	Winter 2021-22	Winter 2019-20	Winter 2021-22	Winter 2019-20	Winter 2021-22
5th Grade	27%	15%	16%	21%	29%	35%
6th Grade	28%	18%	19%	11%	28%	23%
7th Grade	43%	17%	31%	9%	41%	40%
8th Grade	24%	18%	12%	14%	35%	39%

Number and Percent of Students Represented by Parents at Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are an excellent opportunity for parents to have dialogue with their child’s teachers. Conferences are held twice a year, once in the fall and again in the spring. In 2020-21, we had 36% overall participation. Although this was a significant decrease from the previous year, we expected this as all parent-teacher conferences were held remotely in the 2020-21 school year, either via Google Meet, email, or phone call. In the 2021-2022 school year, we held in person conferences and had 52% participation in the fall and 29% in the spring from our families.

In conclusion, Homer Middle School continues to strive to be the “Destination for Excellence” within our area. The last two years have provided many opportunities for learning and growth, by both our students and our staff. The pandemic has challenged us all as educators to think outside the box about not just our content, but how we present and assess this content. We have experienced challenges, but we have also experienced success. Outstanding educational and extra-curricular opportunities continue to await our students at Homer Middle School. We have great kids and a great staff...this equals a great school!

Sincerely,

Ms. Sallie Wilson
Middle School Principal