

### *Doherty Elementary School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter*

**February 15th, 2024:**

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Doherty 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 Daniel Spitzley, Doherty Elementary School Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [LINK TO DOHERTY ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at our school.

For the 2023-24 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 2022-23. 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 2021-22. 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 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

*Our school has not been given one of these labels.*

At Doherty Elementary School, we're facing several challenges. These include a slight decrease in the percentage of students expected to do well on state tests, lower scores among certain groups of students, and an increase in social-emotional and mental health issues stemming from the Pandemic. We're actively working to tackle these challenges. In literacy, our Literacy Leadership Team has set professional development goals for staff and achievement goals for students in small group instruction, phonological awareness, and phonics. We're improving our main instruction methods with Proficiency Scales and tailored teaching techniques. Additionally, we're offering targeted help to students through small group sessions during and after school hours. We're also promoting positive relationships school-wide with Capturing Kids' Hearts Strategies and considering incorporating emotional intelligence lessons from the Yale RULER curriculum.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. All students at Doherty Elementary School reside in the West Bloomfield School District or have enrolled in the district under the schools of choice program.
2. We're currently in the second year of our district's 5-year Strategic Plan. This plan focuses on priorities in the Academics & Learning Environment to help us achieve specific data-driven goals. These goals include increasing the number of students meeting their growth target by 10% in each grade level cohort on the NWEA Reading & Math MAP Assessments (or reaching 70% of students), and increasing the number of students proficient in ELA & Math M-Step Assessments by 10% in each grade level cohort.
  1. In academics, our district goal is to provide engaging, meaningful, inclusive, and rigorous opportunities. It is supported by the following priority objectives:
    - i. If we deliver high-quality tier-one instruction, then we will see an improvement in student achievement.
    - ii. If we have strong, visible Proficiency Scales and aligned instructional feedback, then students will monitor their learning and make growth.
    - iii. If we consistently differentiate instruction and progress monitor, then each student will be highly engaged.



2. Our learning environment goal is to provide a positive, safe, and inclusive environment where all students' diverse learning needs are met. It is supported by the following priority objectives:
  - i. If we combine relational capacity with better instruction, then student achievement will increase.
  - ii. If we implement Social-Emotional Learning opportunities and equitable instructional practices, then we will see continued success with a positive learning environment provided to students.
  - iii. If we strengthen our family engagement plan and ways of reaching families, then we will see an increase in family satisfaction & student achievement.
3. To access information regarding the curriculum taught at Doherty Elementary, you can contact the main office. Doherty Elementary Professional Learning Communities have robust pacing guides in all subject areas based on the priority state standards, utilizing Proficiency Scales to ensure a guaranteed & viable curriculum in English Language Arts and other dynamic curricular resources like *Bridges in Mathematics*.
4. Aggregate student achievement results include the following:
  1. NWEA MAP Reading Assessment Percent of Grade Reading Growth Goal
    - i. Kindergarten
      1. Winter to Spring 23: 60%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 67%
    - ii. 1st Grade
      1. Winter to Spring 23: 63%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 65%
    - iii. 2nd Grade
      1. Winter to Spring 23: 61%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 44%
  2. NWEA MAP Math Assessment Percent of Grade Reaching Growth Goal
    - i. Kindergarten
      1. Winter to Spring: 58%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 55%
    - ii. 1st Grade
      1. Winter to Spring 23: 74%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 70%
    - iii. 2nd Grade
      1. Winter to Spring 23: 54%
      2. Fall to Winter 24: 63%
5. 93.7% of students (390) had caregiver representation at conferences in the Fall of 2023

The mission of the West Bloomfield School District is to support each student's needs by providing the opportunities, experiences, and educational tools for their journey. This mission—combined with our vision that all of our students will be empowered for their lives as *Critical Thinkers, Communicators, Collaborators, and Contributors*—drives our team to be our very best every single day. Our [five-year Strategic Plan](#) will guide everything that we do, and a data-driven, team-oriented approach will ensure that we are successful. We encourage parents to join us in our mission and connect with our administrative team if they are interested in doing so.

Sincerely,

Daniel Spitzley  
Principal - Doherty Elementary