

Hillsdale Community Schools
30 South Norwood Avenue
Hillsdale, Michigan 49242
517-437-4401

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter 2024/25

Gier Elementary School

February 1, 2026

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 Gier Elementary . 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 Gier Principal, Becky LaFollette for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website

https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-S,12489,122,83 or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's 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 was not identified for/given any of these labels.

The 'Annual Education Report' has brought attention to several significant challenges for our school, such as ongoing disparities in student achievement among different demographic groups and learning needs. The data reveals that specific student subgroups are not reaching academic standards, resulting in differing levels of achievement. Upon analyzing these results, it is clear that there is significant potential for improvement across all academic domains. As we move ahead, we will utilize this data to implement essential adjustments in our curriculum delivery and provide targeted assistance to students who are performing below the expected standard. Our goal is to guarantee that these students are making sufficient progress annually and to provide them with the necessary support to achieve this. One initiative that has been implemented as a result of this data is focusing on our

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Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to better meet the needs of our diverse learners and ensure that we are closing the achievement gap. Ensuring our staff members are analyzing data and being responsive to it will also contribute to our students experiencing academic growth. Strategies that we are using to ensure staff members are responsive to data include providing professional development on data analysis, establishing regular data review meetings, offering coaching and support for interpreting and acting on data, and creating a culture of data-informed decision-making within the school community. Utilizing data to guide instruction and continuing progress monitoring are in line with our district's objectives.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1.PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Students are assigned to Gier Elementary School based on residency within the district or through school-of-choice application.

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

The implementation of our school improvement plan is currently underway, and we have made significant progress in several areas. While we have achieved notable milestones, it is essential to acknowledge that there is still work to be done in all three goal areas: student engagement, literacy achievement, and math achievement. Moving forward, we are dedicated to building upon our accomplishments and addressing the challenges that lie ahead. Our focus will be on refining strategies, leveraging data-driven decision-making, and fostering a collaborative culture of continuous improvement to propel our school towards achieving excellence in student engagement, literacy achievement, and math achievement. We are optimistic about the opportunities for growth and development as we remain steadfast in our commitment to the success of every student in our school community.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Gier Elementary does not have any specialized schools at this time.

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

All students at Gier Elementary are placed into a classroom based on their age upon registration and in addition to their academic performance. Classes are taught by highly-qualified teachers in which requirements of the state core curriculum are met without variance.

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Here is a list of the current [Gier Core Curriculum](#). This list is also available in the office at Gier.

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

All test results for our school are listed within the pages of the annual report.

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

Parent Teacher Conference:	Number	Percent
Fall 2024	399	93%
Spring 2025	395	92%
Fall 2025	405	95%

This letter has provided an opportunity to share our continued goal of enhancing student engagement and academic achievement in the areas of reading and math. We are committed to creating a learning environment that cultivates a love for reading and fosters a deep understanding of mathematical concepts for our students. Our objective is to introduce innovative programs and initiatives that will not only increase student engagement but also lead to improved academic performance in these critical subjects. With your invaluable support and collaboration, we can empower our students to excel academically and develop a lifelong passion for learning. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the educational journey of our students and ensure their success in both reading and math.

Sincerely,

Becky LaFollette

Gier Elementary School Principal