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## Paint Creek Elementary Annual Education Report (AER)

January 28, 2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2024-25 educational progress for Paint Creek 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 Lauren Smith for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://bit.ly/49ITqwx> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2025-26 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 2024-25. 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 2024-25. 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.

We have a fully implemented Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) process and continue to address student needs with a three-tiered approach. We conduct data team meetings three times a year to ensure that our core instruction is meeting the needs of the grade level, and then look at individual students to ensure they are making gains. Grade level teams meet weekly to review any changes in data and make necessary changes as needed. If students are not making adequate academic gains, a plan is developed and progress monitoring towards specific goals is conducted to ensure academic achievement for all students. We also address the needs of students who are performing above grade level standards with individualized instruction.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### *Paint Creek Elementary and Student Enrollment*

Paint Creek Elementary is one of six elementary neighborhood schools within Lake Orion Community Schools. A neighborhood school provides enrollment to those students living within the school's boundary. Students attend school with those children who are their neighbors and playmates. This learning community provides a sense of trust and support in which children are nurtured and thrive. Parents are viewed as "partners" in the educational process.

Lake Orion Community Schools continues its Schools-of-Choice enrollment program to include out-of-district students for the 2024-25 school year. Spaces were available at selected schools in grades K through 8. Lake Orion also accepted Schools-of-Choice students in our Learning Options High School, an alternative learning environment for students in grades 10-12.

### *School Improvement*

The Michigan Department of Education has made a shift in the school improvement process to a focus on the district level. The Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) is a pathway for districts to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funds. This process includes looking at the district data and developing a goal for all buildings to work toward. The staff regularly conducts quarterly data team meetings to review the data and put interventions in place. Grade levels meet weekly to review data and make any necessary changes. We have committee meetings monthly to review our district improvement goals. The 3-5 year District School Improvement Plan may be viewed on the district website at <https://bit.ly/31mCE1f>.

Lake Orion Community Schools has identified the following goals for all buildings:

- LOCS goal is to decrease the district gap by 10% for reading and math between economically disadvantaged students and non-economically disadvantaged students as measured by state assessments and/or district benchmark assessments by June 7, 2030.

### *Specialized Schools*

Our school district provides educational programs, services, and support to certified special education students throughout the district. During the 2024-25 school year, there were 846 students who needed special education support services.

### *Curriculum*

Lake Orion Community Schools continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with Michigan Standards for all courses and subject matter, and state-mandated graduation requirements. The curriculum at Paint Creek is synonymous with the district's curriculum. Additional information on the curriculum can be found at <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/curriculum>

### *Local Assessments*

At Paint Creek we use a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods (in addition to M-STEP) to assess the whole child.

#### **Kindergarten**

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge Early Reading Composite	Reading			74	85%
FastBridge Number Identification	Math			64	89%
Star Early Literacy	Reading	59	73%		
Star Math	Mathematics	59	66%		

#### **Grade 1**

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge Early Reading Composite	Reading			100	70%
FastBridge Decomposing	Mathematics			98	57%
Star Early Literacy / Star Reading	Reading	70	87%		
Star Math	Mathematics	69	86%		

## Grade 2

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading			92	78%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics			92	72%
Star Reading	Reading	99	84%		
Star Math	Mathematics	99	78%		

## Grade 3

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading			75	58%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics			74	57%
Star Reading	Reading	94	89%		
Star Math	Mathematics	93	87%		

## Grade 4

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading			106	72%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics			106	73%
Star Reading	Reading	74	62%		
Star Math	Mathematics	74	55%		

## Grade 5

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading			66	70%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics			66	78%
Star Reading	Reading	101	78%		
Star Math	Mathematics	101	73%		

### *Parent Participation*

Parents/guardians have given a great deal of their time to support students and staff by volunteering in classrooms, on field trips, in the media center, for the PTO, and by raising funds to support school projects. Individual school-wide parent-teacher conferences are held each year, and we are very pleased with the attendance of parents and guardians. During the 2024-25 school year, parent-teacher conferences were held in-person and via video meetings.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

#### Fall Conferences

2023-2024 Total – 570/592 (96.3%)  
2024-2025 Total – 473/513 (92.2%)

#### Spring Conferences

2023-2024 Total – 535/610 (87.7%)  
2024-2025 Total – 468/516 (90.7%)

### *Points of Pride*

Paint Creek Elementary is an exemplary school that exhibits an unwavering focus on student learning. Our undivided commitment to each and every student is demonstrated through each learner's continued successes. We are proud of our students, their accomplishments, and our strong school community. We have several Points of Pride (listed below) that our Paint Creek Team are very proud of.

- Positivity Project student leadership group
- School-wide Day of Service supporting many organizations and individual community members
- PTO Fundraising to support student activities and events that enhances our school programming
- The 24-25 school year was our 21<sup>st</sup> year for participation fundraising for St. Jude's. In the 24-25 school year Paint Creek raised the most money ever donated from our school.
- We offer multiple field trips to real-life learning experiences (2nd grade Sloan Museum, 3rd grade Lansing, 4th grade OU, K OTPL and Friendship Park)
- SPLAT – Study, Play Learn and Talk is a fully community funded 6-week summer school program for students who are at risk for school failure to support academic and social, emotional learning during the summer months
- Distinguished Dragon recognition for many staff members for their outstanding work with students
- Science Discovery Night (Science Fair and Imagination Stations)
- Talent Show (School-wide with more than 150 students participating)
- Roller-skating Lessons/time to skate in our gym (all grade levels – hosted through our PE department)
- Multiple motivating/engaging activities/incentives to encourage student involvement and excitement around learning (slime the Principal, Reading Month- The Masked Reader, etc.)
- We offer a staggered start for all kindergarten students to ensure a successful transition to kindergarten for our littlest learners
- Electrified haunted houses, aligned with learning standards, are designed built by our 3rd grade students (aligned with state standards)
- 4th grade lighthouses with working search lights are designed and built by our 4th grade students (aligned with state standards)
- 2nd grade Writing celebrations hosted multiple times throughout the school year  
Costco partnership
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade students design and write individual graphic novels
- Integration of new teachers and staff members to ensure cohesiveness amongst team members
- Storybook day in kindergarten
- Multi-grade level reading buddies to build community and mentorship amongst students
- Student run news show – 2 times weekly
- Basketball Jones Assembly on Successful Attitudes
- P2 student recognition assemblies highlighting the work of 30+ students each assembly
- Detroit Lions assembly focused on effort.
- School Safety program (5th grade) to ensure a safe dismissal daily
- After school GAP classes
- After school academic focus clubs
- SEL lessons in all K-2 classrooms
- Orion Township Public Library partnership
- 4th grade Revolutionary War books
- Braggin' Dragon tickets to recognize students using the Positivity Project strengths (daily)
- Kindergarten ABC countdown – a culmination of year-long learning
- Multiple 5th grade Battle of the Books teams
- Building-wide student-led Smencil sales to fund additional learning experiences in 4th grade
- Annual Book Fair – making books accessible to all families.
- 2nd grade student written poetry books
- Three Paint Creek teachers served on the pilot committee for Mathematics
- 3rd grade animal PowerPoints for reading/research unit
- 1st grade poetry presentations

- Technology integration to enhance instruction – student use of Sway, PowerPoint, etc.
- Sphero robots used for teaching coding to Kindergarten+ students
- School-wide event to view the Eclipse safely
- Staff support and cohesiveness, mentoring of new teachers, highly effective grade-level specialists teams
- District coaching to enhance instructional skills of all teachers
- Easterseals partnership for additional mental health services for students/families
- Principal was selected for the 2023 Orion Area Youth Assistance (county-wide) Champion of Youth award

I invite you to visit our Paint Creek Elementary website <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/paint-creek-elementary-school> for more information about our students and school community.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Smith  
Principal