



# Jackson Public Schools

## Cascades Elementary School

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on Cascades Elementary School's 2024-2025 educational progress. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality information. If you have questions about the AER, please contact Principal Destiney Davis for assistance at 517-841-3900.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website, [MISchools Data-Cascades](#) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2025-2026 school year, schools were identified based on the previous year's 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 2024-2025. 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 2021-2022. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67%, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-2022. 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 Cascades Elementary, our key challenge is closing the achievement gaps in Math and English Language Arts (ELA) among our student subgroups. As a dedicated team of educators, we continuously assess these gaps and implement targeted strategies to bridge them. The COVID-19 pandemic has further impacted student learning, leading to increased absences and shifting social-emotional needs among students and families. These challenges have influenced academic progress, but our staff remains committed to meeting each student where they are academically and emotionally, providing individualized instruction and support to help them reach grade-level proficiency and beyond.

To strengthen our instructional approach, we have adopted new educational resources, including iReady for Math and Open Court for ELA. We also utilize best practices such as Guided Reading Groups, small group and whole group instruction, and Tier 3 support through W.I.N. (What I Need) time. To ensure ongoing progress, we closely monitor student development using Fountas and Pinnell assessments, iReady Diagnostic data, teacher observations, and small group evaluations with paraprofessionals. Additionally, we integrate various online educational platforms, including iReady MyPath, UFLI.

At Cascades Elementary, our goal is to empower every student to reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

## **1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Cascades Elementary is a neighborhood school that accepts both in district and out of district school of choice.

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

At Cascades Elementary, our School Improvement Team is made up of dedicated teachers and support staff who work together to make our school the best it can be for all students. We receive guidance from the Jackson County Intermediate School District (JCISD) through the District Improvement Team and Communities of Practice meetings that guide improvement at Jackson Public Schools.

To create our School Improvement Plan, we carefully review student assessment data from M-STEP, iReady Diagnostic assessments, and Fountas and Pinnell. By analyzing this data, we identify areas where students need more support and discuss school-wide changes that can help all students grow academically. Our plan focuses on four key areas: Reading, Math, Parent Involvement, and Student Behavior.

To better support students, we are building staff knowledge and skills with the help of our MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Coach. We also have a School Social Worker and a Behavior Interventionist who provide additional support to help students succeed both in and out of the classroom.

## **3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

At Cascades Elementary, we use Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) to create a safe and positive learning environment for all students. This helps reduce disruptions in the classroom so that every child can focus on learning and growing. Additionally, we have focused on alternative discipline models to improve student outcomes and build student confidence.

We have implemented the Trails Social Emotional Curriculum in efforts to support student advocacy when recognizing their feelings and helping students understand how to navigate social situations while maintaining healthy relationships with classmates and friends.

Additionally, our Behavior Interventionist works with students in all grade levels, helping them develop positive behaviors and supporting teachers in creating a successful classroom environment. They work intensively along-side our school social worker in making data-driven and supportive behavior plans to increase student success.

## **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**

The State Board of Education's Model Core Curriculum identifies the curriculum benchmarks and standards. Cascades Elementary School teachers follow these common core standards. The core curriculum can be found on our website at [www.jpsk12.org](http://www.jpsk12.org).

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

## Achievement or Growth on Benchmark Assessment- By Grade Level

	Spring 2023-2024 (NWEA)		Spring 2024-2025 (iReady)	
Grade Level	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
Kindergarten	61%	63%	79%	62%
First Grade	40%	56%	50%	45%
Second Grade	33%	41%	39%	31%
Third Grade	27%	24%	37%	26%
Fourth Grade	26%	25%	16%	12%
Fifth Grade	29%	14%	22%	16%

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

During the fall of 2022 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 77% of our Cascades parents attended in person.

During the fall of 2023 Parent-Teacher Conferences, <75% of our Cascades parents attended in person.

During the fall of 2024 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 68% of our Cascades parents attended in person.

At Cascades Elementary, our staff is dedicated to creating a supportive, engaging, and family-like environment where students can thrive. We believe that every child has unrealized potential, and we work tirelessly to help them discover it. Through Professional Learning Communities, our educators collaborate to support students academically, socially, and emotionally, ensuring that learning is both fun and meaningful. We are committed to educating the whole child by partnering with families, businesses, and community organizations to provide unique opportunities that inspire students to see new possibilities for their futures. Every day, we encourage students to dream big and strive for success, knowing that the work we do today will change lives for years to come.

Sincerely,

Destiney Davis  
Principal for Instruction  
Cascades Elementary

