

February 20, 2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2025-2026 educational progress for Berrien Springs Sylvester 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 Micah Lambert, Sylvester Elementary Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://bit.ly/4pNXxYq> 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 group in 2024-25. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had at least one student group 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, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, failed to exit CSI status in 2024-25, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

In response to the Read by Grade 3 legislation, the Sylvester Elementary school improvement team has committed to proactively studying data and putting plans in place to reduce the number of students at Sylvester who struggle in the area of reading. In 2024-2025 at Sylvester Elementary, 3rd Grade ELA was at 39.2% proficient as measured by the M-STEP assessment. This represents a percentage of proficiency that is 0.3% above the state average. This score also represents a five year high at the third grade.



During the 2025-2026 school year, MyView Literacy was used as our ELA curriculum. We believe that with training and implementation, we will see scores steadily go up. For the 2026-2027 school year, we will move to a science of reading based ELA curriculum, Amplify CKLA. Teachers have 90 minutes of guided reading instruction, which includes whole group and small group instruction built into their daily schedules.

PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

The enrollment process for residential students at Sylvester Elementary requires each parent/guardian to complete an enrollment packet. Non-resident students wishing to attend Sylvester Elementary are required to complete enrollment information provided by central office personnel. Acceptance for non-resident students is based upon guidelines set forth by the State of Michigan Department of Education. After the enrollment packet is received, the principal looks at enrollment data and consults with teachers as to placement into a classroom.

THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Sylvester Elementary is currently implementing the MICIP school improvement plan. The current district focus strategy identified through the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) is the district-wide implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). Sylvester Elementary has committed to our Title One identification procedures, instituting an intervention block focused on reading and/or math, and offering differentiated/small group instruction practices within our classrooms. Our school improvement team is made up of parents, teachers, and administration. The team holds monthly meetings to review progress of goals and report back to the school staff.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

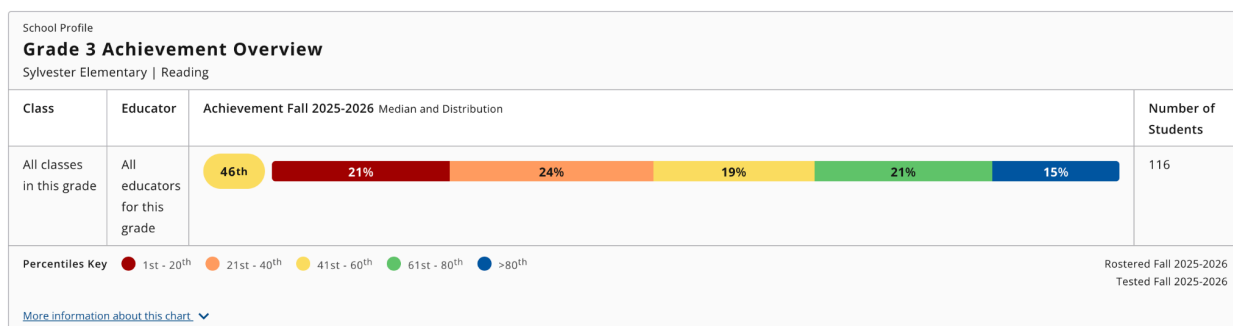
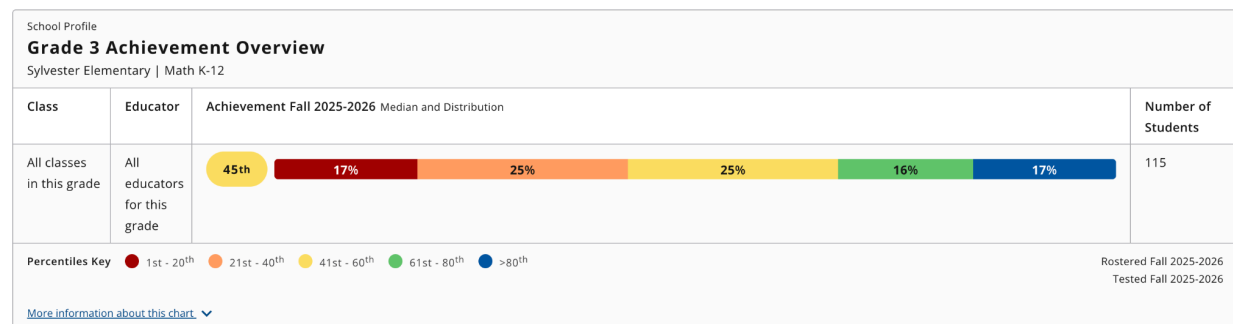
Resident students (along with students accepted through the schools of choice process) may qualify and have a need for special education programs and/or services. Click [here](#) to learn more about our special education programming.

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.



Berrien Springs has completely aligned their curriculum with the state's model curriculum, with no known variances. Common Core State Standards are implemented, built on National Standards and adopted by the Michigan Department of Education, are available on the MDE website, <https://www.michigan.gov/mde> and are used as the basis for the curriculum at all levels. Curriculum Guides for students are available upon request from the building principal.

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



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

Sylvester Elementary (Grades 3-5)

Year/# of Students	Fall Conf % of Attendance	Spring Conf % of Attendance
2025-2026 (376)	85%	N/A
2024-2025 (351)	89.4%	N/A
2023-2024 (367)	90%	N/A



TOGETHER, INSPIRING EACH STUDENT TO THINK,
LEARN, ACHIEVE AND CARE IN A GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

At Sylvester Elementary, our administration and staff are committed to ensuring that our school and district are on the right path to delivering 21st-century programming and academic opportunities that prepare every student for success in their chosen career pathway. As highlighted in our district profile, Berrien Springs is a district of choice because we offer a wide range of choices to meet the diverse needs of our students and families. We remain dedicated to utilizing highly qualified staff, research-based curriculum, and the latest technology to enhance learning experiences and outcomes.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about Sylvester Elementary, please don't hesitate to contact me at mlambert@homeoftheshamrocks.org.

Together, we can ensure every child has the opportunity to achieve their fullest potential.

Sincerely,

Mr. Micah Lambert
Sylvester Elementary Principal