



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 15, 2022

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-22 educational progress for Whitmore Lake 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 Heidi Roy-Borland for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://bit.ly/3J92K82>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2021-22 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 2018-19. 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 2017-18. 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 2016-17. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as a school without one of these labels.

Students with disabilities and multiple risk factors including being economically disadvantaged or reporting multiple races scored significantly below state averages in most grade levels and in both content areas assessed. There continues to be large achievement gaps between the top 30 percent of students and the bottom 30 percent of students. To help improve these test scores, Whitmore Lake Elementary staff and students have made changes to improve literacy remediation and curriculum alignment. Staff have been trained to use Lucy Calkins reading and writing units of instruction. And to accelerate reading achievement, classroom teachers, reading interventionists, literacy coaches, and teacher consultants are working together to analyze individual student reading data. Students falling below grade level proficiency receive an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) to improve reading achievement in an effort to become proficient by third grade. Additionally, a new Mathematics curriculum has been implemented recently to align better with the state standards. Student data is reviewed multiple times per year with frequent progress monitoring guiding instruction. With these changes in place, the staff and students expect to close the achievement gap in the future while maintaining a safe learning environment with responsible and respectful community members.

State law requires that we also report additional information. Unless otherwise noted, the following information is valid for both the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Whitmore Lake Public Schools has only one elementary school which houses Kindergarten through grade 6 during both school years. All students in the grades listed attended Whitmore Lake Elementary School unless they had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that placed them in an alternative environment outside the district.

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

The Whitmore Lake Elementary School Improvement Plan in 2019-2020 focused on students becoming proficient in reading, writing, and math. Teachers received training in Multi-tiered Systems of Supports with the goal to improve school climate. Teachers attended professional development in the Reading Essentials units of reading to increase literacy achievement. In 2020-2021, the WLES School Improvement Plan included the addition of Writing Essentials units or writing to further literacy achievement. Orton Gillingham workshops helped teachers of students with disabilities learn to teach reading with multi-modal strategies, when content from traditional instruction was not mastered.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Currently, there are no specialized schools within Whitmore Lake Public Schools. Our district consists of two buildings, without overlapping grade spans: Whitmore Lake Elementary is K-6th grades, Whitmore Lake High School is 7th-12th grades. Students at Whitmore Lake High School have access to Early College Alliance (ECA), Washtenaw Alliance of Virtual Education (WAVE), Washtenaw International Baccalaureate High School and Middle School (WIHI). These are operated by Eastern Michigan University and/or the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD). High School students in grades 11 and 12 also have access to Livingston county's career and technical education program.

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 Whitmore Lake Public Schools follow the State of Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) and High School Content Expectations (HSCEs), which can be accessed at www.mde.gov. There are no variances from the state's model. A description of core curriculum implementation for both school years can be provided by each building principal. They can answer any specific questions you may have about any component of our curriculum. Parents can also request a copy of the core curriculum from the building principal.

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

Whitmore Lake Elementary students took the Northwest Educational Assessment (NWEA) in the Fall of 2019-2020 school year and again in the Fall of 2020-2021. Their mean RIT scores for both years were as follows:

Mean RIT scores	Fall 2019	Fall 2020
Kindergarten- Math	137.0	145.9
1 st grade- Math	160.8	160.1
2 nd grade- Math	190.1	182.4
3 rd grade- Math	189.1	191.5
4 th grade- Math	203.3	198.3
5 th grade- Math	211.3	209.0
6 th grade- Math	213.5	213.0
Kindergarten- Reading	138.1	141.8
1 st grade- Reading	162.8	156.7
2 nd grade- Reading	184.9	176.8
3 rd grade- Reading	182.6	197.1
4 th grade- Reading	195.1	198.0
5 th grade- Reading	205.8	206.5
6 th grade- Reading	211.9	211.8

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

Fall, 2019	288 out of 344 parents	83% representation
Fall, 2020	265 out of 331 parents	80% representation
Spring, 2021	289 out of 331 parents	87% representation

The 2020-2021 school year was a time for growth and development for our staff and students at Whitmore Lake Elementary School. Teachers worked collaboratively to provide an exceptional, personalized education for each of our students. With more rigorous demands coming from state expectations, and the additional hardships of a global pandemic, the community has stepped up to focus on data and individual needs. Striving to provide them with the best, most comprehensive education program in a safe environment is our number one priority.

Sincerely,

Heidi Roy-Borland
WLES Principal