

### WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8845 Main St., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 Phone: 734.449.4464 | Fax: 734.449.5336 | www.wlps.net Exceptional, Personalized Education

Superintendent Tom DeKeyser

# District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 24, 2017:

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Whitmore Lake Public School district. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact principals Mrs. Sue Wanamaker, K-6, or Tom DeKeyser, 7-12, for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <a href="https://goo.gl/LH9ndM">https://goo.gl/LH9ndM</a> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

**Student Assessment Data** – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

## **Accountability Scorecard – Detail Data and Status**

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability scorecard status.

#### **Teacher Qualification Data**

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

### **NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

 Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8



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Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of students. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiatives to Accelerate Achievement
Whitmore Lake Elementary School	Focus School	Student Learning Objectives, Everyday Math curriculum, Multi- Tiered System of Supports, Data Coach
Whitmore Lake High School	No Label	Assessment Blueprints, Student Learning Objectives, Data Coach

Our staff and students work very hard to meet the educational objectives required under both federal and state laws by creating an exceptional, personalized educational environment that both supports and encourages continued educational success. Whitmore Lake Public Schools is committed to continuing to provide an exemplary education for our students. Our future plans to increase career and college readiness for our students, we plan to better align our mathematics curriculum to the State's standards using Everyday Math curriculum in grades Kindergarten through sixth. We will also continue working towards positive behaviors for all students to increase time spent on instruction. The staff meet regularly to identify and intervene with students who are at risk of low performance. The teachers have received professional development to create interventions and track individualized progress with the help of our newly hired Data Coaches. We appreciate and value the trust and confidence that our parents and community members have placed in our hands. Please contact your student's building principal to discuss opportunities to become involved in the success of current and future students. Our students are, and always will be, our number one priority.

Sincerely,

Tom DeKeyser

Superintendent, WLPS

Principal, WLHS