



Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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**Grosse Pointe Public School System
Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

March 15, 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 the Grosse Pointe Public School System and our schools. 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 Keith Howell, Director of Pre K-Elementary Instruction, or Maureen Bur, Director of Secondary Instruction, for help if you need assistance.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.gpschools.org, 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

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 schools. 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
Defer Elementary	No Label
Ferry Elementary	No Label
Kerby Elementary	Reward
Maire Elementary	Reward
Mason Elementary	Reward
Monteith Elementary	No Label
Poupard Elementary	Reward
Richard Elementary	Reward
Trombly Elementary	No Label
Brownell Middle	Reward
Parcells Middle	No Label
Pierce Middle	No Label
Grosse Pointe North High School	No Label
Grosse Pointe South High School	No Label

As you will see in this AER, our scores remain steady and strong. Our district is among the top 1% in the state. We closely examine this data in order to meet the needs of every individual child, and we analyze trends to modify curricular materials and instruction. Under the direction of Maureen Bur and Keith Howell, we have undertaken a comprehensive curriculum review schedule which will ensure every area of instruction is reviewed every five years. We involve teachers, administrators, parents and community members in these curriculum teams. We also work closely with parents through informal and formal processes. Our Back to

School Nights and Parent Teacher conferences average over 90% attendance at every level, often attaining an impressive 100% at our elementary schools. We can only remain in the top 1% with that sort of community involvement.

During the 2015-16 school year, GPPSS started a strategic planning process and has invited dozens of diverse stakeholders into Town Hall meetings across the district since then to advise us on the action plans and next steps with our strategic plan. Under that strategic plan, the district is also developing diversity and technology plans. We welcome your involvement and your feedback. We are indeed "One GP: where everyone learns, everyday" as our new vision states. And together we will fulfill our mission to: Promote Innovation → Maximize Potential → Embrace Community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary C. Niehaus