

WESTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 26, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Western Middle School. 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 Principal, Ryan Tripp for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer/CombinedReport2.aspx> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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 label is given.

Our school HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN ONE OF THESE LABELS.

Western Middle School continues to work towards improving student achievement through the use of a Multi Tiered Support System. Specific adjustments include refining targeted and intensive academic interventions. The staff of Western Middle School continues to utilize the concepts of professional learning communities as well as scheduled intervention times for our students. These efforts have resulted in consistent growth in overall proficiency rates and have narrowed the achievement gap.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Students of district residents are placed in the building as they enroll. We make a concerted effort to balance class numbers among our grade level classroom as determined by contract language. We do accept a limited

number of Schools of Choice students each year; those students are assigned to classrooms based on available space.

2. Our school improvement plan is developed, monitored and adjusted on an annual basis based on identified areas of need. The Western Middle School staff will be focusing on improving student achievement in the areas of math, reading, writing, science and social studies for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. Western Middle School is a school of approximately 715 students located in Parma, Michigan.
4. Details regarding the core curriculum and its implementation can be accessed through the district website at www.wsdpanthers.org
5. Student achievement data can also be found on the district website as well as the Annual Report, with copies available in the Western Middle School office.
6. Approximately 50-60% of our parents attend parent-teacher conferences on an annual basis.

Through a process of continual collaboration, the staff at Western Middle School is dedicated to helping our students achieve academic excellence while nurturing greatness. Our many partnerships throughout the community and high level of parent participation helps provide Western Middle School students a welcoming, positive and safe environment where students can develop academically, socially, and emotionally.

Sincerely,

Ryan Tripp
Principal, Western Middle School