

WESTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT

1400 S. DEARING ROAD, PARMA, MICHIGAN 49269
Phone (517) 841-8100 Fax (517) 841-8801

District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 13, 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 Western School District 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 Curriculum Director Craig Raehtz for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer2/CombinedReport2.aspx> 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	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Bean ES		Professional Learning Communities
Parma ES		Professional Learning Communities
Warner ES		Professional Learning Communities
Western MS		Professional Learning Communities
Western HS		Professional Learning Communities
Western Career Prep HS		Professional Learning Communities

As state and federal standards for student performance continue to increase, it is the goal of Western to meet and exceed those standards for our students. With an ever changing job market in our community, state, country and world, the challenge is to prepare students to be competitive now and in the future. Through a quality education coupled with high standards, working to involve parents in the education process as partners, and by helping students learn how to be life-long learners, the Western School District is committed to preparing our students to not only be competitive, but to become leaders in a global job market.

Sincerely,

Michael Smajda, Superintendent