

# Allendale Middle School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 1, 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 Allendale 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 Mr. Thompson at 892 – 5595 or thompsonroc@apsfalcons.net for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <a href="https://googl/7s775d">https://googl/7s775d</a> or you may review a copy in the main office at Allendale Middle 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.

The Allendale Middle School has not been assigned one of these labels.

The key challenges this year for Allendale Middle School are improving student achievement in the areas of reading and math. Key steps in this effort have been to implement SIMS reading strategies and SIMS math strategies at all grade levels and in all curriculums. Teachers working in the areas of math and ELA have participated in professional development aimed at preparing them with the skills necessary to prepare our students to meet the high expectations of the MSTEP test.

The Allendale Middle School has also focused on the difference in achievement between our general population of students and our sub group populations. To close this gap, we have developed an additional reading extensions course and an additional math extension course in grades six, seven and eight that targets these students specifically. We will continue to monitor student achievement and make changes as necessary.

State law requires that we report additional information about our school. These categories are: the process used for assigning students to our middle school, the status of our School Improvement Plan, an explanation of how to access our core curriculum, student achievement data for the last 2 years, and the percentage of students represented by a parent during our parent / teacher conferences.

# Process for assigning students to Allendale Middle School

The Allendale Middle School is the only middle school in our school district. All students in grades six through eight are assigned to the middle school.

#### Status of our School Improvement Plan

This year is the third year of our five year school improvement plan. The main focus points in our school improvement plan are to improve student achievement in the areas of math and English Language Arts, especially reading. The MSTEP is our state mandated assessment tool designed to access student achievement. 2015-2016 was the second year Allendale Middle School students took the MSTEP. Our initial test results of the MSTEP test were not at the level we would like. Our school improvement plan includes additional training for our math teachers and ELA teachers, as well as, having them participate in ISD wide content specific professional development. This training, along with the scope and sequence analysis, we have completed and the gap analysis that has been completed should help increase our student's performance on the MSTEP.

# Accessing the Core Curriculum

Accessing the Core Curriculum is done via our district website at <a href="https://www.allendale.k12.mi.us/district/curriculum">www.allendale.k12.mi.us/district/curriculum</a>. The Allendale Middle School follows the state curriculum in all core subjects without variation. Our department chairs work with the ISD to gather curriculum updates and communicate these updates to department personnel when the updates become available from the MDE.

#### Student Achievement 2014 – 2016

Allendale Middle School utilized Discovery Education Assessments to monitor individual student achievement and grade level student achievement. The testing results for individual students were mailed to parents each year. The grade level student achievement results are listed below. The data represent student skill achievement levels for the school years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. DEA identifies above average as a student scoring 80% or higher on their assessment. Average is 25% to 80%, and below average is scoring less than 25%.

# Discover Education Skill Summary Allendale Middle School 2014-15 / 2015-16 Comparison

Content			2014 - 2015		2015 - 2016		
MATH	Grade	Below Avg	Average	Above Ave	Below Avg	Average	Above Ave
	6th Geometry	30%	59%	11%	35%	52%	13%
	6th Numbers	26%	60%	14%	18%	65%	17%
	6th Ratios	9%	67%	24%	11%	61%	28%
	6th Statistics	32%	64%	4%	32%	67%	2%
	7th Expressions	21%	73%	6%	25%	67%	8%
	7th Geometry	18%	78%	4%	7%	76%	17%
	7th Numbers	27%	44%	29%	26%	33%	42%
	7th Ratios	19%	62%	19%	22%	63%	15%
	7th Statistics	12%	74%	14%	14%	72%	14%
	8th Expressions	21%	74%	5%	20%	76%	4%
	8th Functions	34%	62%	4%	33%	65%	2%
	8th Geometry	14%	75%	11%	24%	68%	9%
	8th Numbers	24%	66%	10%	19%	64%	18%
	8th Statistics	15%	65%	20%	9%	70%	21%
		Below					
ELA	Grade	Avg	Average	Above Ave	Below Avg	Average	Above Ave
	6th Information	18%	61%	21%	16%	60%	24%
	6th Language	7%	67%	27%	8%	60%	32%
	6th Literature	20%	67%	14%	22%	59%	19%
	6th Writing	7%	64%	29%	11%	62%	27%
	7th Information	2%	76%	22%	8%	69%	23%
	7th Language	5%	55%	40%	11%	55%	34%
	7th Literature	13%	66%	21%	16%	65%	19%
	7th Writing	11%	67%	22%	14%	66%	20%
	8th Information	10%	64%	26%	6%	70%	24%
	8th Language	3%	61%	36%	5%	61%	34%
	8th Literature	20%	59%	21%	16%	64%	20%
	8th Writing	9%	55%	37%	7%	55%	38%

### Parent / Teacher Conference Participation

During the 2015/2016 Parent / Teacher Conferences Cycle 45% of our students had a parent participate in conferences. This was a decline from the previous year when 46% of our students had a parent participate in a conference.

## **Areas of Celebration**

There have been a number of areas to celebrate at Allendale Middle School. Our student population is at an all time high with just under 600 students in the building. Our performing arts program qualified seven out of nine ensembles for state competition. Our robotics team has participated in national championships. Our Science Olympiad team qualified for state competition, our middle school received the Healthy Schools School Wellness Award for the second year in a row, and our students continue to participate in after school activities and sports while maintaining high academic standards and the values of sportsmanship.

Sincerely,

Rocky Thompson Allendale Middle School Principal