December 22, 2016

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 Midland Public 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 Mr. Brian Brutyn, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment at BrutynBR@midlandps.org or 989-923-5018 for help if you need assistance.

The Midland Public Schools AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site https://goo.gl/uMIGzT 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.

The report contains 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Status Label</th>
<th>Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpenter St. Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chestnut Hill Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastlawn Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.H. Dow High School</td>
<td>Reward School</td>
<td>Focused curriculum and instruction efforts</td>
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<td>Jefferson Middle School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midland High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast Middle School</td>
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<td>Plymouth Elementary School</td>
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<td>Siebert Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodcrest Elementary School</td>
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Midland Public Schools’ students have had a long history of strong academic success. It is my pleasure to report that this historical trend continued during the 2015-16 school year. Our students are to be commended for the passion and excitement they bring to the classroom and congratulated for their continued high academic achievement. We all realize students don’t achieve these great accomplishments without the large and varied team who work incredibly hard to bring about student success—parents, community and an extremely dedicated teaching, administrative and support staff.

Points of Pride:

* For the past five years, U.S. News and World Report ranked both H.H. Dow High School and Midland High School as 'Silver Medal' Schools.
* In 2015-2016, our family of students earned over $16,500,000 in scholarships.
* The Spring 2016 M.P.S. SAT Composite score ranks in the top 5% of all public school districts in the state of Michigan.
* Four MPS elementary schools (Adams, Chestnut Hill, Plymouth, and Woodcrest) became authorized International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) schools in Spring 2016. The three remaining elementary schools are on track to gain authorization in Spring 2017.
* In the 2016 Top-to-Bottom MDE rankings, 6 of the 11 district schools ranked above the 80th percentile. Three of the six ranked in the 90th percentile.

To sustain elite marks within summative state accountability metrics, progress will need to be made with the achievement of proficiency scores in core subjects amongst the bottom 30% of academic student populace. We are actively working to improve educational outcomes by aligning educational programs to meet individual student needs.

In addition, the implementation of a comprehensive ten year STEM strategic plan aims to aid the district in attaining many of our academic goals including:

* Increasing interest in STEM subjects
* Improving performance on math and science assessments
* Increasing attendance amongst at-risk students
* Lowering retention rates
* Decreasing the achievement gap
* Increasing enrollment in advanced science and mathematics courses
* Increasing enrollment in STEM related CTE courses
* Decreasing drop-out rates
* Increasing graduation rates
* Increasing college/post-secondary enrollment rates
* Increasing enrollment in STEM majors

Our schools have developed comprehensive school improvement plans that address academic goals, strategies and interventions in order to meet all academic improvement targets. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in many different ways in our buildings, from reading with elementary children to helping with projects and monitoring in hallways in the secondary buildings. We look forward to an exciting future as we work together to provide our students with a dynamic world-class education as they seek to gain the skills and education necessary to be successful in the ever-changing 21st Century workplace.

Educationally yours,

Michael E. Sharrow
Superintendent