ALLENDALE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 30, 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 Allendale Public 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 Superintendent Dan Jonker for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website https://goo.gl/q5mliw, 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.

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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
Allendale High School	No Label	Focus on Instructional Best Practices
New Options High School	No Label	Improving Rigor, Relevance, and Equity
Allendale Middle School	No Label	Improving Math Instructional Practices
Oakwood Intermediate School	No Label	Developing & Implementing Instructional Best Practices
Evergreen Elementary School	No Label	Focus on Student Engagement Strategies

Our District is in the first year of a new strategic plan. That plan has three objectives for academic improvement: (1) Improve student proficiencies for all subgroups through comprehensive processes; (2) Enhance college and career readiness offerings, awareness, and participation; and (3) Increase the number and variety of opportunities and number of participants for Enrichment Classes, Gifted & Talented Programs, Academic Clubs, etc.

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Each of our schools has a program to support at-risk students to improve their achievement. Our department and grade level teams meet on a monthly basis to monitor progress and discuss ways in which to improve our curriculum, instruction, and assessments for our students. Let us continue to work together as staff, parents, and community members to make our school system "a premier center of educational excellence for all students, staff, and community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daniel Jonker, Superintendent

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