



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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## Garfield Elementary School 2013-14 Annual Education Report

August 16, 2014

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2013-2014 educational progress for Garfield Elementary 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 Christine Santer for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.phasd.us](http://www.phasd.us) or you may review a copy in our main office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of *reward*, *focus*, or *priority*. A *Reward school* is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A *Focus school* is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A *Priority school* is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Our school has been identified as a *Focus school*.

According to assessment data our Math scores showed a significant decline in grades 3-5. We worked in collaboration this year to provide small group interventions, practice and extension 3 days a week in a Walk for Math format. We did see growth for all of our students especially those needing extended learning opportunities. We will incorporate daily math fluency instruction in grades K-5 with students tracking and measuring their own progress. Delta math resources to include pre and post tests will be used in grades 2-5 to pinpoint areas of students strengths and challenges.

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Our assessment data reveals that reading scores continue to decline. We offer tier 2 supports daily but will be adding an additional intervention block 3 days a week in a Walk to Read format. Students will be offered additional core instruction at their level.

Writing will be reinforced across all content areas. Students will engage with peers to develop a deeper understanding of content standard and will be assessed through responses in an Interactive Writing notebook. Writing stamina will be encouraged and monitored through student data tracking. We will continue to showcase one student at each grade level monthly who has grown in the area of writing.

State law also requires that we report additional information.

### **Pupil Assignment Process — 2013–14\***

Students in the Port Huron Area School District were enrolled as follows:

Elementary students were divided among 10 elementary schools serving grades K– 5 at Cleveland, Crull, Edison, Garfield, Indian Woods, Keewahdin, Kimball, Michigamme, Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.

Port Huron Area School District had Michigan Great Start School Readiness Program grant funded pre-school instruction for early childhood students in several elementary buildings.

Our District operated three middle schools serving 6th through 8th grades at Central, Fort Gratiot and Holland Woods.

Port Huron High School and Port Huron Northern High School served students in grades 9 through 12.

An alternative program and adult education were offered at the Harrison Center.

The Port Huron Area School District had a policy and process in place for both in-district and county/contiguous Schools of Choice requests. Copies of the policy and procedures were available throughout the District, in publications and at the administration building.

\*This information was the same in the 2012-13 school year.

### **School Improvement Plan Status 2013-14**

Our School Improvement plan (SIP) serves as a road map for staff and administration to increase student academic achievement as well as improve student behavior. It is reviewed and updated annually. Many of the key features that have proven to be effective will be continued but refined and monitored closely while changes have been made in other areas to address the continual decline in test scores. We will continue with technology enhanced instruction and intervention blocks. Through professional staff development and staff collaboration we put an additional emphasis on writing to learn and specific academic vocabulary instruction. We will continue to encourage parent involvement and engage students in setting academic and personal goals as well as track their own academic process in Student Leadership Binders.

### **School Improvement Plan Status 2012–13**

At Garfield we continue to focus on our five content areas with the addition of 2 more for the 2012-2013 school year. The additional School Improvement goals are:

- Garfield students will achieve proficiency in all content areas through positive relationships and increased engagement.
- Garfield students will achieve proficiency in all content areas through rigorous and relevant instruction.

The Garfield staff continues to analyze both the formative and summative data to drive our instruction in the classrooms. We have focused more time on math small group interventions this year based on the data we have collected from DELTA math.

The Garfield staff as grade level teams has provided professional staff development in student engagement strategies. We have utilized technology “experts” on staff to assist in integrating technology into lessons. We will continue to focus on making the technology more interactive and skill based. We continue to work in partnership with The International Center for Leadership in Education. We have developed a vision statement that is reflective of how the Garfield staff and community value our students-“Inspiring Leaders for Life”. We have challenged the staff to pre plan for higher level thinking questions that enable students to extend their understanding of key topics.

### **Specialized Schools and Alternative Education\***

The following programs are offered to PHASD students:

- St. Clair TEC offers countywide career and technical training to high school students.
- Woodland Developmental Center serves students with severe learning disabilities to age 26.

\*This information was the same in the 2012-13 school year.

### **Core Curriculum 2013–14**

The core academic curriculum is the foundation of the Port Huron Area School District’s instructional program. It defines the outcomes to be achieved by all students and is based on the District’s educational mission and goals. The District’s purpose is to enable students to meet or exceed state requirements for achievement, with an ongoing emphasis that encourages academic excellence for all students.

Our curriculum is based on standards approved by the State Board of Education. In addition, it has been developed and written by Port Huron Area School District teachers, administrators and consultants who specialize in curriculum development.

As part of the core instruction, ELA and math instructors have aligned and written curriculum to support and implement the Common Core State Standards. A balanced assessment system is also a core part of this movement. Measures of

Academic Progress (MAP) testing from NWEA provides teachers with screening and diagnostic tools to dig deeper into reading, grammar, and mathematic deficiencies to give teachers more data with which to support their students.

To access a copy of the core curriculum, contact the Department of Instruction at (810) 984-3101.

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### Aggregate Student Achievement Results for Local Assessment: NWEA MAP-North West Evaluation Association Measures of Progress

READING Garfield Elementary	FALL TO SPRING Mean RIT			
	Garfield Fall 2013	National Norm Fall 2013	Garfield Spring 2014	National Norm Spring 2014
Grade K	138.6	142.5	153.9	157.7
Grade 1	158.9	160.3	173.2	176.9
Grade 2	169.0	175.9	184.5	189.6
Grade 3	175.5	189.9	190.9	199.2
Grade 4	185.3	199.8	198.9	206.7
Grade 5	195.6	207.1	205.3	212.3

MATH Garfield Elementary	FALL TO SPRING Mean RIT			
	Garfield Fall 2013	National Norm Fall 2013	Garfield Spring 2014	National Norm Spring 2014
Grade K	137.9	143.7	151.1	159.1
Grade 1	160.8	162.8	177.6	179.0
Grade 2	172.2	178.2	187.5	191.3
Grade 3	182.7	192.1	193.7	203.1
Grade 4	191.2	203.8	205.2	212.5
Grade 5	203.0	212.9	211.3	221.0

### Parent-teacher conference rate

2013–14 — 98%

2012–13 — 98%

We continue to have a strong turnout of families (98%) and were thrilled to be able to add Student Led Conferences this year in the fall. Parent feedback was positive. We will continue with this practice into the 2014-2015 school year.

The Garfield Community consists of staff and families that are committed to student academic success. We will continue to build partnerships with families and encourage their participation in their son or daughter's learning. We are proud to

offer an innovative teaching approach called "Looping" where strong relationships have been built over a 2 year period of time with students and families. Our staff committed a great deal of time and passion to bringing the 7 Habits and Leader in Me to our students this year. Our students were empowered and became partners in their learning with this culture shift. Survey data from the spring revealed overwhelming support of the program from families. This May Garfield was granted a \$60,000 grant to continue implementing Leader in Me. We are excited to begin our 3-5 year journey with the I am a Leader Foundation that will ultimately lead to increased student academic achievement, enhance our teacher-student relationships and empower our students to teach their leadership potential. The commitment of the staff to this practice is commendable. We look forward to continued success in the 2014-2015 school year.

Sincerely,

*Christine Santer*

Christine Santer  
Principal, Garfield Elementary School