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## School 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 Holland Woods 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. Abe Leaver, Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/TcbRFj> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's 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.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Holland Woods Middle School has made gains in achievement over the past few years yet students continue to demonstrate a need for improvement in reading and mathematics. To improve student achievement, the following best practices are being implemented: increased attention to instructional time, intensive after school tutoring, data driven targeted instruction, and the promotion of a culture of high expectation. In addition, intervention teachers are assigned to provide targeted interventions to those students demonstrating the greatest need.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### **Pupil Assignment Process**

Students in the Port Huron Area School District are assigned and enrolled as follows:

Students are assigned to schools based on outlined attendance areas. Kindergarten through 5th grades are assigned to one of our 10 elementary schools - Cleveland, Crull, Edison, Garfield, Indian Woods, Keewahdin, Kimball, Michigamme, Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are similarly divided among Central Middle School, Fort Gratiot Middle School and Holland Woods Middle school. Port Huron High School and Port Huron Northern High School serve students in grades 9 through 12.

Port Huron Area School District has a Michigan Great Start School Readiness Program grant funded pre-school instruction for early childhood students in several elementary buildings. The district also supports an Early Childhood Special Education program for qualified 3-5 year olds. Students in pre-Kindergarten programs are assigned based on enrollment in each program based classroom.

The Port Huron Area School District has a policy and process in place for both in-district and county/contiguous Schools of Choice requests. Copies of the policy and procedures are available on the district website (<http://www.phasd.us/district/enrollment>), at each school, and at the administration building.

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

- Harrison Center offers an alternative high school program, credit recovery, adult education, and an Education Continuity Program for expelled 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.

### **Status of Our School Improvement Plan (3-5 Year Plan)**

Holland Woods Middle School is working to implement the identified strategies and activities in the School Improvement Plan to improve the overall quality of teaching and learning in our school. The plan includes a detailed framework which combines core instruction, formative assessments, progress monitoring, and intervention/acceleration to ensure that all teachers are using research-based instructional strategies at all levels of instruction. Staff are working to provide differentiated levels of support to students to address social, emotional, and family needs through implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS).

We will *advocate* for our students and families in partnership with our community to assure their success inside and outside of school; continuously *innovate* our practices and programs to improve student achievement; and *educate* in ways that are relevant, relationship driven, and rigorous.

## **Core Curriculum**

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 the [Michigan Academic Standards](#) approved by the State Board of Education. As part of the core instruction, curriculum is aligned and written to support the implementation of the state expectations. It has been developed and written by Port Huron Area School District teachers, administrators and consultants who specialize in curriculum development. Curriculum for the core courses is reviewed annually. Revisions and adjustments are made as needed in order to ensure appropriate alignment and pacing. You may contact your child's school or the Instructional Services Department to review a copy of the core curriculum for a particular grade.

A balanced assessment system is also a core part of the curriculum. Assessments are given in the core curriculum to monitor student progress toward grade level expectations. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing from NWEA provides a measure of student growth in reading, grammar, and math as well as tools with which to support classrooms and individual students.

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

Port Huron Area Schools uses the NorthWest Evaluation (NWEA) Measures of Progress (MAP) to assess student growth in Reading, Language, and Math. MAP is an online, adaptive assessment which provides nationally normed data about student performance and growth. Results for this assessment may be viewed using the links provided below.

[District Fall 2015 - Spring 2016](#)

[District Fall 2014 - Spring 2015](#)

[District Fall 2013 - Spring 2014](#)

[School Fall 2015 - Spring 2016](#)

[School Fall 2014 - Spring 2015](#)

[School Fall 2013 - Spring 2014](#)

**Parent-teacher conference rate**

2014–15	31%
2015–16	42%
2016-17	50%

Holland Woods Middle School is committed to providing an environment that supports all students by working collaboratively with parents / guardians, businesses, and community members. Staff are dedicated and work tirelessly to ensure that students receive the foundational skills to be successful in high school, college and beyond.

Sincerely,

Abe Leaver  
Principal, Holland Woods Middle School