



Inspire ~ Empower ~ Succeed

March 10, 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 Steele Elementary. 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 Kevin Dufresne, Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://goo.gl/w8OSg9> 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.

Steele's challenge will be to increase proficiency on M-Step in all four tested subjects. This also includes meeting the demand and rigor of the new standards. We are excited to adopt a new reading program for next year and what that will bring to our students. Another challenge will be to increase math, science, and social studies proficiency levels as measured by M-Step. Math proficiency has improved in the last three years due to clearly defined, data-driven goals and strategies in our school improvement plan. Math was a main focus of our Professional Learning Communities work this year and as a result we have seen nice growth in our math screener data.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Students are assigned to Steele Elementary primarily by residence/district boundaries. A small percentage of School of Choice students attend Steele Elementary.
2. Steele Elementary completed a Strategic Plan with schools for this year as part of our district's 3-5 year Strategic Plan. Improvements goals included implementation of PLC teams, MTSS aligned Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions in tested subjects, and implementation of PBIS.

3. Steele is a K-5 building with a student population of approximately 470 students. Steele is located in the heart of the city of Mason. 28 certified staff provide classroom and special education services to our students.

4. The core curriculum, description of its implementation, and an explanation of the variances from the State of Michigan model is available for review in the school office (517-676-6510) or the district curriculum office.

5. Steele Elementary monitors student achievement on a continuous basis through the use of AIMSweb universal screening instruments, district curriculum assessments, classroom formative assessments and the State of Michigan Assessment.

6. Parent – Teacher Conferences

2015-2106 school year – 98% parent attendance in the fall and 97% during the spring.

2016-2017 school year – 99% parent attendance in the fall. This document was prepared prior to the spring conferences.

The staff at Steele Elementary is dedicated to providing a safe, caring, and rigorous learning environment that allows all students to be successful learners. We are looking forward to our new English Language Arts program and the number of teachers trained in Next Generation Science Standards training. We welcome all of our parents to be involved in educational process of their children and we value our parent and community partnerships in this journey.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Dufresne