



## Inspire ~ Empower ~ Succeed

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### Steele Elementary School

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January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 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://bit.ly/3hlo4VJ> or you may preview a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. Additional Targeted Support (ATS) School is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. 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 in M-Step in all four tested subjects in a global pandemic. This also includes balancing the demands and rigor of the standards with the needs of our students. Challenges also include providing instruction to remote students, in-person students, and both at the same time to maintain instructional pace and instructional equity. Attendance during remote learning also remains a challenge.

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 completes a Strategic Plan with schools as part of our district's 3-5 year Strategic Plan. Improvements goals have included the growth of PLC teams to include ELA and Math conversations, professional development focused on Essential Literacy Practices, increasing our use of personal math trainer lessons, completing Instructional Rounds cycles, and building on our work around growth mindset for our students and parents to create an exemplary learning community. This work has

shifted to support students and teachers with remote strategies around our hybrid/hyflex instructional platform.

3. Steele is a 1-5 building with a student population of approximately 402 students. Steele is located in the heart of the city of Mason. 25 certified staff provide classroom and special education services to our students.

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

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

6. Parent–Teacher Conferences

2018-2019 school year - 93% parent attendance

2019-2020 Fall conferences – 96% parent attendance

2020-2021 Fall Zoom Conferences – 91% parent attendance

The staff at Steele Elementary provides a safe, caring, and rigorous learning environment that allows all students to be successful learners. The hard work of our teachers and students this past year was evident by the growth and commitment to providing a robust distance learning experience. The commitment to teaching with positive relationships has kept our students engaged during this difficult time for many of our families. Our teachers model what it means to have a growth mindset by participating in coaching cycles, after school professional development, personal growth activities, and tackling the unknown challenges of teaching in a hybrid/hyflex environment. Our focus on a guaranteed and viable curriculum has resulted in fewer students on Individual Reading Plans and increased levels of performance on building level summative assessments. As a school, we are very thankful to also have the support of the Mason Public Schools Foundation and our Steele PTA and what they are doing for our students. We always welcome all of our parents to be involved in the educational process of their children and we value our parent and community partnerships on this journey.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Dufresne