



School District of the City of Pontiac

Kelley Williams, Superintendent | Nelson Henry, Principal

May 31, 2018

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2016-2017 educational progress for **Whitman 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 Mr. Nelson Henry (248.451.7950; nelson.henry@pontiacschools.org) for assistance.

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

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

1. A **Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)** school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup.
2. An **Additional Targeted Support (ATS)** school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups.
3. A **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)** school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.
4. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN ONE OF THESE LABELS.

In order to improve student learning and address this identification, we are providing, among many other programs/initiatives:

1. supplemental behavior and social/emotional supports;
2. supplemental math and reading support services during the school day (reading and math intervention specialists);
3. additional time for a very committed staff to plan and implement, with fidelity, instructional, intervention and behavioral support initiatives in the classroom;
4. additional training to staff in order to enhance instruction to the needs of each individual student (instructional coaches, adaptive schools);
5. continuous monitoring of classroom instruction using the High Quality Instruction (HQI) and Measuring What Matters (MWM) tools;
6. continuous leadership training for both school-level and district-level administrators;
7. continuous training, implementation and monitoring of The Blueprint for Turnaround; and
8. continuous training and partnership between school-level and district-level administrators.



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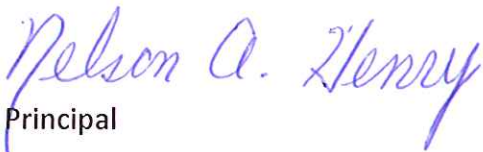
State law requires that we also report additional information.

- 1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:** Our school enrolls students from kindergarten through sixth grade. Students are assigned by the Student Services Office based on home addresses within a school attendance area.
- 2. 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN STATUS:** Our school is currently implementing and monitoring our comprehensive school-wide improvement plan. This plan was developed by our School Improvement Team that includes staff, parents, district administrators and community members. We continue to incorporate key strategies and curriculum to address the specific needs of each student. Our plan includes a multi-sensory approach to Reading, Math and Science; the use of academic strategies that presents materials for students from diverse backgrounds and addresses achievement gaps; and the use of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports that supports struggling students.
- 3. DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL:** Whitman Elementary serves kindergarten through sixth grade and is located in the west side of the City of Pontiac. Enrollment includes 610 students during the 2016-2017 school year and 615 during the 2017-2018 school year.
- 4. OUR CORE CURRICULUM:** Our Core Curriculum is housed on our Atlas Rubicon Curriculum Mapping system and is available for you to review by visiting our website at www.pontiac.k12.mi.us (left navigation section at the bottom). Copies of the core curriculum can be obtained by request from the office. Our school utilizes a curriculum that is aligned with state and federal standards. To access the state core curriculum, please go to the following web page: https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html
- 5. AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS:** Information regarding our school's student achievement results can be located at www.mischooldata.org or by visiting our website, www.pontiac.k12.mi.us, and clicking on www.mischooldata.org.
- 6. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:** Our school schedules two parent/teacher conferences during the school year (November and April). Over half our parents attended over the past two years. Parents have the availability to communicate with teachers via e-mail, telephone or personal contacts.

I would like to thank and celebrate with our entire school community for all of their efforts to see that all of our students get the best possible education. Working together, we will continue to see growth in our students' academic achievement. It is our belief that all students are special and deserve educational opportunities to enable each student to reach their maximum potential.

I encourage all parents and community members to review the information provided in this letter. Our district is encouraged by the positive results and look forward to continued success in the future.

Sincerely,


Principal