



St. Clair Middle School School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

December 15, 2016

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 St. Clair 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 Michael Alley for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web address <https://goo.gl/w2XxTz> 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.

SCMS continues to examine subgroup standardized test scores in an effort to identify gaps, not only in curriculum but also instruction. The majority of our SCMS Staff members have been trained in the Kagan engagement strategies. With the new engagement techniques and our continued efforts in identifying achievement gaps, we hope to continue on the path of closing those gaps.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

East China School District has centralized enrollment that assigns students to a school based on residency boundaries established by the district. East China School District also participates in country-wide Schools of Choice.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

St. Clair Middle School engages in a continuous cycle of school improvement; conducting a comprehensive needs assessment and analyzing achievement trends, identifying areas of need and designing and implementing strategies to address the needs. The St. Clair Middle School Improvement Plan may be viewed in its entirety at www.ecsd.us/scm . Highlights include:

School Mission Statement: The mission of St. Clair Middle School is learning for all in order to prepare students for post secondary education.

2016-17 School Improvement Goals:

- Improve Math Proficiency.
- Improve Reading Proficiency.
- Improve Writing Proficiency.

Progress Toward Goals:

- We are proud of our continued progress and the direction in which we are headed. Our staff continues to focus on the academic goals of reading and writing in all curriculum areas, including in the exploratory classes. Separating ELA into a writing class and a reading class at the 6th grade level has allowed us to focus on reading strategies in a class period. Our staff is using a variety of methods to improve our students' reading comprehension in both informational text and literature. Strategies that have become part of our school culture include making inferences, connections, synthesizing and visualizing.
- Every SCMS teacher continues to integrate writing into his or her curriculum. Professional development time has been used to develop not only strategies to use writing in all classes but also a system to document these strategies. Staff members continue to share ideas with each other at our staff meetings and during professional development opportunities.
- We are in our third year of offering a Reading class for 7th and 8th grade students that need additional support in the area of Reading.
- Beyond our School Improvement Goals, St. Clair Middle School has also continued to focus on District Goals. We realize that the world we live in revolves around technology. Our community has continued to show their support of increasing the integration of technology into all SCMS core and exploratory classes. In addition, SCMS has implemented Blended Classes in many of our classes with the use of Edmodo and other online resources. The use of technology and Blended Classes is a direction that we are excited about.

- We continue to be very proud of the gains we have made, but understand that it is a continual process. With that said, we are confident that with the strong partnership that we have developed with our parents and community we can continue to make the strides necessary so that every child has a positive experience at St. Clair Middle School

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

St. Clair Middle School implements the East China School District learning standards and provides instruction to students in grades sixth through eighth. The standards incorporate the core subject areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies and are designed to challenge students to achieve their highest potential. The student population also encompasses a district program for cognitively impaired students in grades six through eight.

4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

The K-12 core academic curriculum describes what a student will know and be able to demonstrate after instruction in a particular subject. East China School District develops rigorous and aligned curricula, using the State of Michigan's core curriculum and Common Core State Standards as models when reviewing and developing content areas. Grade level and/or course content expectations are developed in each content area and instructional strategies are created along with pacing guides for instruction and assessments to measure proficiency. A copy of the core curriculum may be obtained by contacting the East China School District Department of Instruction at 810.676.1010.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

The academic progress of students in middle school is evaluated by district common assessments and reported four times annually via student report cards. Students also take the M-STEP test annually. Please refer to the linked report for specific scores and achievement trends.

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

An important means of communication is through annual parent-teacher conferences. During the 2015-16 school year, 73% of students' parents/guardians attended.

In conclusion, we are very proud of our students' achievements this year and are looking forward to continued progress in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Alley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Michael Alley