



# Pullman Elementary School

Jonathan Swegles

*Principal*

5580 South Ave. · P.O.Box 458 · Pullman, MI

(269)236-5235 · Fax (269)236-5307

February 17, 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 Pullman 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 Mr. Jonathan Swegles for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [<SEE Q.4 AND Q.5 OF THE 2016-17 AER FAQ DOCUMENT>](#), 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 was identified has not been giving any of the aforementioned labels.

Pullman Elementary continues to develop initiatives that are aimed at reducing our achievement gap. In the fall of 2016, we implemented a building-wide intervention period known as What I Need or W.I.N. in grades first through fifth. Early results have been positive as all student, even students in the top of their class academically are receiving extension opportunities.

There are two elementary schools in our district, Pullman Elementary and Bloomingdale Elementary. Students are assigned to each building according to specific boundary lines and bus routes. Our district is in the middle of a 3-5 year school improvement cycle. Each of the core academic areas (mathematics, reading and writing, science and social studies) has a goal related to the improvement of student performance on the M-STEP assessment. The district continues to teach a curriculum that follows state guidelines and requirements as set out by the State of Michigan.

Some of our students who are identified as having one or more handicaps are able to receive educational services at specialized schools and centers in the county. The programs are run and operated by the Van Buren ISD. The decision to place a student in any special education program is made by the Individualized Education Plan Committee (IEPC) which includes at least one of the student's parents or guardians, general education teacher, diagnostic personnel, and a school administrator. The goal of all specialized programs is to facilitate a student's educational growth to the maximum extent possible. Many of these programs are available from infancy through early childhood. These programs include: Autism, Severely Emotionally Impaired, Cognitively Impaired, Severely Multiply Impaired, Infant, and Total Communication Program.

If you are interested in learning more about our school/district curriculum you may schedule a meeting with the building administrator. They would be happy to discuss with you the each core subject area, it's implementation process, and how it is has been contextualized to fit the needs and demands of our students. If you are interested in learning more about our school's performance on any local or state achievement tests, those can also be requested from the building administrator.

Parents and community members provide tremendous support of our educational process at Pullman Elementary. Ninety-five percent of parents attended our fall parent teacher conferences in October 2016. Every effort is made to discuss with parents their child's progress and how we can best support them to reach their goals, academic or otherwise.

Pullman Elementary continues to strive toward creating contributing members of our local community and beyond. We have adopted the vision statement of "Today's Students, Tomorrow's Leaders" to guide us in all that we do to ensure that all students have the opportunity to grow in all areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jonathan W. Swegles  
Princ