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**Bellaire Jr./Sr. High School**  
**Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

July 17, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the 2018 Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Bellaire Jr./Sr. High 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 the school office for assistance.

The AER data is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following link <http://bit.ly/2MaRPxm> 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). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An 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. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Bellaire Jr./Sr. High School was not identified with any of the above labels. However, it was recognized by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation's top schools, earning a Bronze medal award in April 2017, based on things like standardized test scores, graduation rate, number of students enrolling in college, etc.

The key challenges when reading data connected to this report is to understand that our smaller size often doesn't allow the disaggregation of the information into many of the subgroups of the report that are listed at the state level. The administration does review the data of all individual students yet it would be discriminatory to publish it. Assessment information is reviewed constantly by the staff to close achievement gaps.

# Bellaire Public Schools

204 W. Forest Home Ave.  
Bellaire, MI 49615-9565

James R. Emery, Superintendent /HS Principal  
Kristi Poel, Elementary/MS Principal  
Brad Fischer, Athletic Director



The use of NWEA assessments, given at least two times each year (fall and spring) helps us determine student growth in various subject areas. State law requires that we also report additional information.

**Assigning Students to Schools** Bellaire Public Schools is comprised of two buildings: John R. Rodger Elementary for grades K-5, and Bellaire High School/Middle School for grades 6-12. All students living in the district attend the appropriate grade/program based upon age. Bellaire does participate in the TBAISD Schools of Choice program and all Bellaire students have the option to apply to attend another TBAISD school.

**School Improvement** School Improvement is a process used by schools and districts to set goals for continuous improvement. With that in mind the school improvement plan is viewed as a living document that we are constantly monitoring and making changes where necessary over the course of 3-5 years. The School Improvement Team is made up of administrators, teachers, board members, parents and students and generally meets several times each year using existing performance data to plan annual improvement goals, strategies, and supports. The focus of our latest school improvement plan includes gains in assessment scores in reading, math and science. The district's school improvement plan is submitted annually to the Michigan Department of Education.

**Curriculum** The High School/Middle School complex has a comprehensive classroom curriculum. For grades 6-8 the Michigan Common Core State Standards provide clearly defined statements of what all students should know and be able to do as the progress through the grades. The teachers use the CCSS as a guide for creating lessons in their classrooms in each core subject area. For grades 9-12, schools across the state utilize the Michigan Merit Curriculum when establishing graduation requirements. Content expectations for grades 6- 12 can be found at [www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) .

Bellaire Public Schools offers the following curriculum grades 6 – 8: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Art, Band, and Health. The 9-12 curriculum includes: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, Spanish, Band, Art, Business, Computers, and Yearbook. In addition, students may take online classes and AP courses through Michigan Virtual; dual enrollment courses from a variety of colleges (on-line or in person) and vocational courses at the TBAISD Career Tech Center. Bellaire High School students can also participate in "Early College" through TBAISD where a "13th Year" is added to their time in school and they attend college classes in a variety of programs that lead to a possible associate's degree at the time of actual

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graduation. Bellaire had two students participate in the Early College Program in 2016-17. Bellaire also had four students take dual enrollment classes for college credit totaling 22 courses. Early College and dual enrollment courses were taken by <10% of the eligible high school students. Due to our small size and limited staff, AP courses are offered as an online option only. During the 2016-17 school year one student participated in online AP courses. The Class of 2017 had 65% accepted into post-secondary institutions prior to graduation from Bellaire High School.

**Parent Involvement** Formal, parent/teacher conferences are held in the fall then during mid-winter. In addition to these conferences, staff members are available to meet with parents during their conference period and before or after school. There are as many conferences during these times as during the regularly scheduled conferences. Power School, the student management software program, allows parents (and students) to check their grades in every class anytime/anywhere – provided they have an internet connection. This ability to check grades regularly may be one reason why the percentage of parents attending conferences isn't as high as it is at the elementary level. It is important for parents and the school to work together, as partners, in preparing our students for their adult life roles by providing them with a solid educational experience. During the fall P/T conference period 103 students out of 235 (44%) were represented by parents and in the mid-winter P/T conference period 82 students out of 232 (35%) were represented by parents. Mid-winter conference numbers may be affected by weather and/or the number of parents that choose to use the student management software program, Power School to access grades and communicate with the teachers.

The staff at Bellaire High School/Middle School will continue to strive to improve the opportunities for success for all students and prepare them for the rigors of the 21st Century. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

James R. Emery  
HS Principal

Kristi K. Poel  
MS Principal

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