



John R. Rodger Elementary

Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

August 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 John R. Rodger 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 the school office for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2McpFlo> 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.

John R. Rodger Elementary was not identified with any of the above mentioned labels for the 2016-17 school year.

One of the biggest challenges when reading the 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 that are listed. The administration does review the data on all individual students yet it would be discriminatory to publish it. Assessment information is reviewed constantly by the staff to close any achievement gaps.

To better support our teachers and students, the district continued to use NWEA assessments in the 2016-2017 school year. The most recent scores show the

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majority of our grade levels at or above the national average in at least one content area. Math is the area of greatest need.

State law requires that we also report the following additional information:

Assigning Students to Schools

As the only elementary that serves students for Bellaire Public Schools, John R. Rodger Elementary, students attend the appropriate grade level based upon age. Bellaire does participate in the TBAISD Schools of Choice program and all Bellaire students have the option of applying 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 majority of the work is done through Professional Development, subject area meetings, data meetings, district staff development days, meetings with subject area specialists from TBAISD. The district's school improvement plan is submitted annually to the Michigan Department of Education.

Specialized Schools In addition to regular and special education classes within the district, Bellaire students also have access to special education programs offered by TBAISD. The center-based special education programs that are available, pending student need and qualifications include, but are not limited to the Adult Work Center, ISD Traverse Heights, Oak Park Special Education and the New Campus Center.

Curriculum Classes at John R. Rodger Elementary have a comprehensive classroom curriculum. For grades K-5 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. These content expectations for grades K-5 can be found at www.michigan.gov/mde. Bellaire Public Schools offers the following curriculum K-5: Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, Physical Education, Social Studies, Music and Computers. Band is offered to all 5th grade students. Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) was implemented building wide during the 2016-2017 in order to provide cohesiveness across grade

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levels. Math will be the next area of curriculum focus at the elementary level. Title 1 services are also available to those who qualify.

Parent Participation Formal parent-teacher conferences are held twice yearly. Additionally, informal conferences are held throughout the year as needed. Phone conversations, home visits, notes to parents, weekly work envelopes; and classroom, building and district newsletters are used to maintain communication with parents. During the fall P/T conferences 143 out of 167 students (86%) were represented by parents and 74 out of 163 students (45%) had parents attend the mid-winter conferences. At the mid-winter conferences, parents were given the choice to "opt-in" to the conference and many were comfortable with their child's grade and chose not to attend in person.

The staff looks forward to serving this community and its children. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kristi K. Poel
K-8 Principal

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