

SAULT STE. MARIE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 29, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for the Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Amy Scott-Kronemeyer, Director of Student Achievement, at 635-3839 ext 5011 for help if you need assistance.

The Sault Area Public Schools AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/jXrfik> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

Student Assessment Data – Elementary or middle school assessment results on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), high school assessment results on the M-STEP component of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and assessment results for students with disabilities on Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access).

- Presents achievement data for all four tested subjects (English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) compared to targets for all students as well as subgroups of students
- Helps parents understand achievement progress within schools and compare these to district and state achievement

Accountability Scorecard – Detail Data and Status

Due to the transition from MEAP tests to the M-STEP test, the accountability portion of the AER is limited to assessment participation and graduation/attendance rates. Full accountability reporting will resume with the 2015-16 AER.

Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

Focus School Designation

Sault Area High School

School Improvement Plan

The district is in year two of a five year plan to improve achievement in all four core academic areas. The district continues to exceed state average and the EUPISD as a whole in most areas of the curriculum. Teachers are organized into Professional Learning Communities to ensure all students are receiving quality instruction in a caring classroom environment. We continue to offer a full range of services such as Advanced Placement, CTE, Dual Enrollment and online learning. Additional information can be found at, www.mischooldata.org.

District Assessments

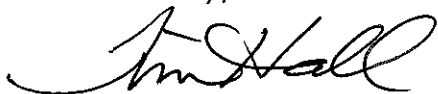
Sault Area Public Schools administers the NWEA MAP assessment for students in grades 2-11 and MPG in grades K and 1. The assessments are given three times per year and used to determine curricular needs of the student. In addition, grade level specific assessments are used to determine reading and math levels. These assessments create a roadmap for teachers to help all students achieve their maximum potential. The full assessment matrix is available for parents to review by contacting Amy Scott-Kronemeyer at amy@eupschools.org.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Sault Area Public Schools continue to get over 90% participation at grades K-5 and nearly 60% attendance in the fall for grades 6-12. We always encourage parents to connect with our staff throughout the year or check grades and attendance on the Illuminate Student Portal, <https://eup.illuminatehc.com/login>.

In closing, I want to congratulate the Sault Schools educational community for the exceptional academic performance and for taking a great interest in our students. It is the entire community that makes *Sault Area Public Schools A Great Place to Learn*.

Sincerely,



Dr. Timothy Hall
Superintendent of Schools