

February 9, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Ada 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 me for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following [link](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified using 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 in 2022-2023. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. 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.

Ada teachers continue to work toward creating a culture of thinking, high levels of learning, and reflection in all subject areas. We have successfully implemented the Reading Units of Study and Writing Units of Study and see positive impacts on student achievement. In addition, we have implemented the Phonics Units of Study (K-2) to continue to strengthen our approach to literacy instruction using a workshop model. We are working to ensure differentiated instruction is provided for all students, and that students have a clear purpose for this time supported by individually set goals in all subject areas.

To accelerate student achievement, grade level teams collaborate to determine priority standards, reflect on their practices to meet the individual needs of all students, develop formative assessments to gauge progress, integrate conferring and small group instruction to meet the needs of all learners, and agree on what proficiency looks like for each grade level. With the implementation of the Units of Study, we strive to ensure that students can write clearly and skillfully and read flexibly and joyfully. Our staff is committed to enhancing student engagement and motivation around literacy. Students who are not meeting benchmark expectations are identified and receive additional targeted support. Ada staff has been working to deepen their understanding of tier 2 and tier 3 targeted instruction to begin to implement practices to close the achievement gap.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

### PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:

Students are assigned to the school in their attendance area where they live. As part of state law, the district participates in the Schools of Choice (SOC) program for non-resident families. Students admitted to the district through SOC are assigned to various schools on a space-available basis.

## THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

Ada Elementary continues to use the school improvement process to re-evaluate our current goals, establish new goals, and collaboratively work together to improve the school's performance. Ada is focused on improving our coordinated services and providing robust tiered instruction to meet the needs of all of our learners. Through the school improvement process, we have identified literacy as a targeted area and are implementing a workshop framework consistently school-wide to provide differentiated instruction to meet the diverse needs of all learners. Additionally, we are focused on providing strategic intervention and enrichment opportunities for our students.

## A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL:

Forest Hills Public Schools offers K-4; K-6; 5-6; 6-8; 7-8; and 9-12 buildings. We have three specialized schools:

[Ada Vista Spanish Immersion School \(K-4\)](#) Ada Vista is a Spanish immersion school in which all students are taught the Forest Hills curriculum using Spanish as the medium for instruction. It is amazing the way the students learn to read, write, and speak in both Spanish and English. In kindergarten and first grade, children are spoken to only in Spanish and are taught to read and write in Spanish, too. In January of the first grade year, the students begin to speak only in Spanish during class time. In second grade students begin English language arts for 30 minutes; each subsequent year that time is increased by 15 minutes. Students continue their immersion language learning at Northern Trails 5/6, Northern Hills Middle School, and Northern High School.

[Meadow Brook Mandarin Chinese Immersion School \(K-4\)](#) Meadow Brook Elementary hosts a 50/50 model Mandarin Chinese immersion program where students learn half the core content (math, science and Mandarin literacy) in Mandarin with English language arts and social studies taught in English. From the vast amount of research available, we know students can acquire any language faster and more easily if we begin as early as possible. Students in the Mandarin Chinese immersion learn to speak, read, and write at scaffold levels in each subsequent grade. Teachers in all grades begin the school year with no English and encourage students to only use the target language in class. Students continue their immersion language learning at Northern Trails 5/6, Northern Hills Middle School, and Northern High School.

[Goodwillie Environmental 5/6 School](#) Since 2001, Goodwillie Environmental School has offered fifth and sixth grade students a model educational program based primarily on learning in the "living classroom," the great outdoors. While this sounds easy on the surface, it is extremely difficult to adapt a challenging state mandated curriculum to meaningful and engaging lessons in nature. The awareness, dependency, and flexibility upon the weather are critical for weekly/daily planning. Phonology, Magic Spots, journaling, sketching, observing, writing, understanding, and of course, just enjoying nature is a special gift that these teachers are happy to share with their students.

[STEM Academy \(9-12\)](#) STEM is a four-year specialized program for high school students who are interested in pursuing post-secondary studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Mathematics. Students in the STEM academy undertake a capstone design project in their senior year. The academy is based in Northern High School and utilizes an interdisciplinary curriculum grounded in community-based partnerships.

## 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 Forest Hills Public Schools Core Curriculum is aligned with academic standards adopted by the Michigan Department of Education. Curriculum committees comprised of teachers and administrators, work to align and

update content at the district level. Further information related to the FHPS curriculum, its development, and implementation, may be obtained by contacting the Forest Hills Public Schools Instruction Office.

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

NWEA MAP Growth 2022-23 School Year

Grade	Test Window	Average Reading Scale Score	Students Tested (Reading)	Average Math Scale Score	Students Tested (Math)
K	Fall	143.8	69	152.4	68
K	Winter	152.1	69	158.9	69
K	Spring	157.8	70	163.8	70
1	Fall	162.0	66	166.0	65
1	Winter	172.7	66	176.4	65
1	Spring	178.8	64	182.9	64
2	Fall	184.9	63	184.1	63
2	Winter	191.1	61	189.5	61
2	Spring	194.6	62	193.5	62
3	Fall	196.8	75	195.2	76
3	Winter	200.7	78	202.1	78
3	Spring	203.1	78	207.1	78
4	Fall	209.0	57	210.5	57
4	Winter	213.1	56	215.7	56
4	Spring	216.7	56	221.0	56

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

Semester	Number of Students	Percentage of Students
Fall 2021	338	97%
Spring 2022	345	100%
Fall 2022	350	97%
Spring 2023	355	96%

Ada Elementary is a wonderful place to learn, gain new experiences, and make friends. Our staff truly embraces the importance of helping each student learn to his/her full potential, and we are committed to continuous improvement in learning. Our staff is focused on analyzing student data to design instruction that supports the growth of all students. Our community partnerships, strong relationship with our families, and the support of our PTO are invaluable and allow us to enrich the instructional and learning experiences of our students. We are proud to offer an educational experience that is second to none at Ada Elementary!

Sincerely,

Melanie Hoeksema  
Principal