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## **Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter: Lakeland Elementary School**

February 15, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Lakeland 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 Mrs. Angela Nichols for assistance.

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

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2023-24. 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 2023-24. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has been given none of these labels.

Through a continuous improvement plan, Lakeland continues to focus on student achievement and research-based instructional practices. Elk Rapids Schools utilizes research-based resources in reading and mathematics that were adopted district-wide in 2017. ERS also utilizes a Response To Intervention model in mathematics and reading which focuses on bridging the gaps for identified students. Our district utilizes benchmarking data via NWEA and AIMSweb Plus in the areas of mathematics and reading and also progress monitors students throughout the school year. Mathematics continues to be an area of continuous academic focus.



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Our teaching staff is currently working within a three-year commitment to utilizing formative assessment data, success criteria, summative assessments, and student-centered classroom techniques as well as improving student/teacher relationships to improve student capacity in mathematics and all curricular areas.

**Assigning Pupils to Our Building:** Elk Rapids Schools assigns students to the appropriate school based on their grade level, needs, and residential address.

**Status of the School Improvement Plan:** Elk Rapids Schools takes seriously the school improvement planning process as identified by the Michigan Department of Education. A district Curriculum Committee meets regularly and collaborates with staff, parents, and the Board of Education Curriculum Committee. For 2023-24 school year, the improvement goals included:

- Goal 1: Elk Rapids Schools will provide comprehensive and sequential educational opportunities that meet student needs.
- Goal 2: Elk Rapids Schools will provide a relationship-focused, safe, empowering and engaging environment with high standards and expectations for students.
- Goal 3: Elk Rapids Schools will be transparent, consistent and trustworthy.
- Goal 4: Elk Rapids Schools will develop and implement a comprehensive communication and marketing plan to increase community (stakeholder) engagement.
- Goal 5: Elk Rapids Schools will identify and evaluate current and new resources to expand and improve operational capacity.

**Access of Core Curriculum and Description of Implementation:** The Michigan Common Core State Standards continue to be the driving force behind our curricular organization. Lakeland Elementary Curriculum Guide may be made available to indicate State Standards, as well as, additional skills that will be achieved. This guide communicates both the horizontal and vertical alignment of our curriculum, along with also meeting the rigorous components of our instruction. This and more curricular information can be obtained from your child's building principal.



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**Percentage of Students Represented By Parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences:**

	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
2022-23	87%	90%
2021-22	95%	93%

**Student Achievement Results:**

As required by the state of Michigan, over the last two years students in grades 3-5 take MSTEP in the curricular areas of math and language arts. Proficiency levels are reported as the following:

2022-23 M-STEP Proficiency

Grade	Reading State %-LES %	Math State %-LES %
Third	41% 56%	43% 59%
Fourth	44% 69%	39% 39%
Fifth	44% 63%	30% 38%

2021-22 M-STEP Proficiency

Grade	Reading State %-LES %	Math State %-LES %
Third	42% 55%	42% 57%
Fourth	43% 71%	37% 44%
Fifth	43% 55%	32% 46%

Elk Rapids Schools continues to lead the way in educational excellence as one of the top schools in Michigan and the Regional School of Choice for our area.

What allows such success to be achieved? Great teachers, outstanding students, caring, committed families, a supportive community and a Board of Education that puts children first in all they do. We are devoted to our students and their growth intellectually and emotionally.



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We will continue to move forward and always look to improve the opportunities for our students. The future certainly looks bright at Elk Rapids Schools!

Sincerely,

Angela B. Nichols