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308 Meguzee Point Rd
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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

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 Mill Creek 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. Kimberly Kramer 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 2022-23. 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 2022-23. 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 2022-23. 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.

Principal Overview:

Mill Creek Elementary School is one of 2 elementary schools in Elk Rapids Schools. Currently, there are approximately 247 children from Kindergarten through fifth grade. We also offer a tuition-based preschool program and a Great Start Readiness Preschool program (GSRP). The school employs 11 K-5 classroom teachers; 3 certified support teachers for art, music, and physical education 2 certified special education/intervention teachers; and 6 certified support staff members. Through a partnership with the health department, we are able to offer a full-time social worker to support students and classrooms. Free and reduced lunch rates average approximately 28% over the last 2 years.

Mill Creek Elementary relies heavily on a strong parent-teacher organization, positive community partnerships, and extensive volunteer support. Our teachers strive to challenge every child at his/her level through the use of student-centered learning and high levels of engagement. Mill Creek Elementary values social and emotional learning as an important asset in becoming productive citizens and lifelong learners. Our students engage in a variety of extracurricular learning opportunities including Robotics, Garden Club, and Athletics. Our students are also engaged in leadership opportunities such as the Student Council and our Elk Pride Committee.

State law requires that we also report additional information.



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Assigning Pupils to Our Building: Elk Rapids Schools assigns students to the appropriate school based on their grade level, needs, and residential address. In addition, Mill Creek participates in the Traverse Bay Area region “Schools of Choice” program and accepts out-of-district transfers in grades where space is available. For more information about student transfers, please contact the superintendent’s office at 231-264-8692.

Status of the School Improvement Plan: Elk Rapids Schools takes seriously the school improvement planning process as identified by the Michigan Department of Education. Mill Creek’s School Improvement Plan aligns fully with Elk Rapids Schools’ 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. Elk Rapids Schools maintains several relevant committees that meet regularly to provide opportunities for staff and community collaboration, For 2022-2023, 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. Mill Creek’s Curriculum Guide may be made available to indicate state standards as well as additional skills that will be taught. This map communicates both the horizontal and vertical alignment of our curriculum. This and more curricular information can be obtained from the office.

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

	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
2022-23	96%	96%
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 M-STEP in the curricular areas of math and language arts. Proficiency levels are reported as the following:



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2022-2023 M-STEP Proficiency

Grade	Reading		Math	
	State %	MCE%	State %	MCE %
Third	41%	67%	43%	59%
Fourth	44%	55%	39%	41%
Fifth	44%	69%	32%	60%

2021-2022 M-STEP Proficiency

Grade	Reading		Math	
	State %	MCE%	State %	MCE %
Third	42%	64%	42%	64%
Fourth	43%	62%	37%	62%
Fifth	43%	>80%	30%	>80%

Mill Creek Elementary School strives to provide children with a supportive learning environment and dynamic educational experiences that enable them to achieve academic success, build character, and develop social-emotional skills. Our highly qualified, passionately dedicated staff members, in partnership with our parents and community members, seek to provide rigorous learning opportunities for all students to reach success. Combining academics with a strong sense of community, we work to help children become global citizens, problem solvers, and lifelong learners.

Sincerely,

K. Kramer

Kimberly Kramer