



Symons Elementary Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 18, 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 Symons 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 Symons Elementary School principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.milanareaschools.org/symons, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Symons has made great academic growth and in the 2014-2015 school-year, Symons was designated a Reward School by the state of Michigan for the gains we made. However, we still have significant gaps between our economically disadvantaged students and our students who are not economically disadvantaged in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. To address these gaps and to improve achievement for all students, we have identified four key strategies in our school improvement plan: 1. Implement district curriculum with fidelity using best instructional practices; 2. Provide tiered supports to meet the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of all students; 3. Teachers will participate in ongoing professional development to ensure improved student outcomes, and; 4. Collect and monitor data on student achievement to be used to improve student outcomes. Each strategy is supported with myriad activities throughout the year.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. All students in grades 3-5 who reside within the boundaries of Milan Area Schools are assigned to attend Symons Elementary School.
2. The 3-5 year School Improvement Plan has been completed and submitted to the State of Michigan.
3. There are no specialized schools within the Milan Area school district. Milan uses a full inclusion model of special education services.
4. All instructional content at Symons Elementary School is based on Michigan's Standards. A copy of the core curriculum may be located <http://milaninstruction.weebly.com/>.

5. The following scores demonstrate the percentage of students who were identified as Proficient on the M-STEP tests during the 2014-2015 school year:
 - Third Grade Mathematics: 59%
 - Fourth Grade Mathematics: 53%
 - Fifth Grade Mathematics: 55%
 - Third Grade Reading: 49%
 - Fourth Grade Reading: 43%
 - Fifth Grade Reading: 56%
 - Fourth Grade Science: 15%
 - Fifth Grade Social Studies: 27%
6. Symons served 444 students in the 2014-2015 school year. 97% were represented during fall conferences. Symons served 440 students during the 2015-2016 school year. 96.3% were represented at fall conferences.

We are proud of the many great initiatives designed to support student learning and benefit all children in their educational growth.

Sincerely,

William Wright
Principal