



Symons Elementary
Kimberly Gillow, Principal
gillowk@milanareaschools.org
432 S. Platt Road
Milan, Michigan 48160
(734)439-5300

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the 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 Kimberly Gillow for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/25KnSl>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. 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.

Symons has made great academic growth in the 2015 - 2016 school year. 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. Teacher 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 a myriad of activities throughout the year.

State law requires that we also report the following 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 at <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 2015 - 2016 school year.
 - 3rd Grade Mathematics: 44%
 - 4th Grade Mathematics: 71%
 - 5th Grade Mathematics: 64%
 - 3rd Grade Reading: 40%
 - 4th Grade Reading: 55%
 - 5th Grade Reading: 56%
 - 4th Grade Science: 29%
 - 5th Grade Social Studies: 23%
6. Symons served 440 students in the 2015 - 2016 school year. 96.3% of our students were represented during fall conferences. Symons served 424 students during the 2016 - 2017 school year. 95% of our students were represented during fall conferences.

We are proud of the many great initiatives designed to support student learning at Symons. The support we provide benefits all children in their educational growth.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Gillow
Principal