



**Office of the
Superintendent of Schools**

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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 2012-2013 educational progress for the Grosse Pointe Public School System and our individual schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by Federal and some requirements of State laws; however, our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Maureen Bur, Director of PreK-Elementary Curriculum, or Aaron Johnson, Director of Secondary Curriculum, if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.gpschools.org (under Our District, click Annual Report) or you may review a copy of the district and school report in the principal's office at your child's school.

The report contains the following information:

Student Assessment Data – Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access or MEAP-Access)

- Presents achievement data for all five tested subjects (mathematics, reading, science, social studies and writing) compared to targets for all students as well as subgroups of students
- Provides achievement data for all five tested subjects (mathematics, reading, science, social studies and writing) for students with significant disabilities (MI-Access or MEAP-Access) compared to targets for all students with disabilities as well as subgroups of students
- Helps readers understand achievement progress within schools and compare these to district and State achievement

Top to Bottom Ranking – Detail Data and Status

Information used to rank schools is based on the development of the Top to Bottom list of schools and their performance. Each school's Top to Bottom ranking will be based on student achievement, student growth over time, school improvement over time and achievement gaps across all five tested subjects (mathematics, reading, science, social studies and writing).

Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes (all our GPPSS teachers are highly qualified)

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides State results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8
- Cannot be compared with MEAP results for grades 4 and 8 because there are no national standards

School Report Card Color – (replacing Adequate Yearly Progress)

Analyzing the 2012-13 MEAP and MME scores as a whole, the Grosse Pointe Public School System (GPPSS) had a strong year. Overall results are high and show we are headed in the right direction, but the new system for evaluation highlighted a couple areas of focus for the coming year.

The GPPSS has two schools identified as red through Michigan's newly revised school scorecard, which replaced AYP (adequate yearly progress). Both North and South High Schools were identified because of subgroup enrollments, meaning not enough students within a particular subgroup (such as African American, special education, bottom 30%, economically disadvantaged) took the test. Ethnic groups are self-identified by the students themselves. Students with an IEP (individualized Educational Plan) are included in the special education category. Any students receiving free and reduced price lunch are included in the economically disadvantaged category.

A subgroup is created when there are 30 or more students in a school with that designation. This low number, compared to the overall population, means individual student scores can drastically impact the subgroup score. Since 95% participation is required, with small subgroups 1-2 students not participating can mean this target is not met and the school receives a red score.

When it comes to the bottom 30% group, all students' scores in the school are ranked high to low. The average of the bottom 30% of those scores must meet the AYP goal for the school. This goal differs by school.

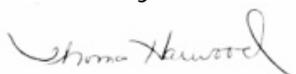
GPPSS also has one orange school, Pierce Middle School. All the other schools were designated yellow. This designation does not necessarily correlate with the Focus and Reward School designation. That is also based on MEAP/MME scores, but deals particularly with the gap between the scores of the school's top 30% and bottom 30%. The Focus Schools listed on the scorecards are Ferry, Defer, North, Parcels, Pierce, and Poupard. The Reward Schools listed are Kerby, Maire, Richard, Monteith and Brownell.

It is important to note that MEAP/MME scores are only one measure of student achievement. Overall, the scores for all of our schools, including North, South and Pierce, are high and above State average.

All of our schools continuously update their school improvement plans, and monitor progress by student, grade, school and subgroups. Professional development and specific school improvement goals will target these identified concerns.

Working together with our families and community, the Grosse Pointe Public School System strives to meet the needs of every student, every day.

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas Harwood
Superintendent