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Founded on Tradition – Focused on Excellence

Symons Elementary School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 14, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Symons Elementary School. 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 Kristi Schwartz for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-S,6446_1377,118, 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 2021-22. 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 2021-22. 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 staff participate in intentional and ongoing professional development on effective instructional practices and data-driven instruction. We continue to make gains in student growth; however, we still have significant gaps between our economically disadvantaged students and our students who are not economically disadvantaged. 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. 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 professional learning 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 at <https://www.milanareaschools.org/domain/61>.
5. The following scores demonstrate the percentage of students who were identified as Proficient on the M-Step tests during the 2022-2023 school year.

3 rd Grade Mathematics: 49.7%	3 rd Grade Language Arts: 43.9%
4 th Grade Mathematics: 44.3%	4 th Grade Language Arts: 42.5%
5 th Grade Mathematics: 52.4%	5 th Grade Language Arts: 54.8%
5 th Grade Social Studies: 31.7%	5 th Grade Science: 56.3%

The following scores demonstrate the percentage of students who were identified as Proficient on the M-Step tests during the 2021-2022 school year.

3 rd Grade Mathematics: 48.5%	3 rd Grade Language Arts: 52.9%
4 th Grade Mathematics: 44.3%	4 th Grade Language Arts: 44.3%
5 th Grade Mathematics: 46.3%	5 th Grade Language Arts: 53

6. Symons served 388 students during the 2022-2023 school year. 95% of our students were represented during fall conferences. Symons served 390 students during the 2021-2022 school year. 94% of our students were represented during fall conferences.

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

Sincerely,
Kristi Schwartz
Kristi Schwartz
Principal – Symons Elementary School