

**2017-2018 School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

May 15, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for the Watervliet Middle 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 David Armstrong for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/1hi2Uf> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Watervliet Middle School was not identified as a struggling school by the State of Michigan. The key challenges for WMS is getting students engaged in testing. Most students do well in class, however, the test scores do not translate the same way. The following is how we are addressing this issue:

1. Smaller Class sizes: from 30+ to 25 student average
2. Advisory: IXL math, Kahn Academy, Moby Max, Read Naturally, Advanced classes with projects
3. Project Based Learning: Problem solving, Research, Presentations, 21st century learning skills

4. Clubs: Robotics and Game club
5. Writing focus for next year. BRESA consultant for writing across the curriculum. Staff working with consultant and each other

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Watervliet only has one middle school, any student of middle school age or grade attends WMS.
2. The school improvement plan is an ongoing tool. Staff work on it continuously throughout the school year. It is posted on our website. Some of the highlights include:

**Goal 1: Create and maintain a district-wide system of data-based decision making.**

Assessment Development and Use - Formative, summative, and interim benchmark assessment will be developed. Data will be discussed in professional conversations during each quarter of the school year. Grade level, classroom, course, or individual student plans will be adjusted accordingly. collaborate to utilize demographic, achievement, growth, and survey data as measured by quarterly dashboard reports. School Improvement Teams Data Use and Monitoring - Administrators and Data Coaches will complete a book study, "Got Data, Now What?" to help inform data use and monitoring. Collaborate to develop, implement, and utilize a balanced assessment system to support the learning of all students as measured by student growth data from formative, summative, and interim benchmark assessments. Collaborate to provide strong instructional leadership based on the utilization of the demographic, achievement, growth, and survey data as measured by teacher observation reports, student growth data, and quarterly SIP dashboard report.

**Goal 2: All students will meet the College/Career Readiness standards in MATH as evidenced by NWEA achievement.**

A 3% increase of Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade students will demonstrate a proficiency on the scale scores in Mathematics as measured by the MSTEP results. A 3% increase of Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade Bottom 30% students will demonstrate a proficiency on the scale scores of the M-STEP. To achieve this, teachers will utilize a Multi-Tier system of Support based on multiple data measures to ensure ALL students are improving their math achievement in Mathematics as measured by by NWEA or other growth measurement tool.

**Goal 3: Literacy - All students at Watervliet Middle School will meet the College/Career Readiness standards in Literacy as evidenced by NWEA or other growth measurement tool.**

A 6% increase of all WMS students will demonstrate a proficiency in reading CCSS in English Language Arts as measured by state/national assessments.

A 6% increase of all WMs students will demonstrate a proficiency in Writing CCSS in English Language Arts as measured by state/national assessments. A 6% increase of all WMS students will demonstrate a proficiency in Content expectations in Science as measured by state/national assessments. A 6% increase of all WMS students will demonstrate a proficiency in content expectations in Social Studies as measured by state/national assessments. A 6% increase of Economically Disadvantaged students will demonstrate a proficiency in Literacy across all subject areas and in English Language Arts as measured by local/state/national assessments within a Multi-Tier Support System.

**Goal 4: All students at Watervliet Middle School will become technologically literate.** 100% of all WMS Black or African-American, Asian, White, Economically Disadvantaged, Gifted and Talented, Hispanic or Latino, Students with Disabilities, English Learners, Two or More Races, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students will demonstrate a proficiency utilizing technology to enhance and support their daily learning in English Language Arts as measured by District-Level Technology assessment.

### **3. Special Education**

Watervliet Middle School served 30 students in special education and 14 students in speech during the 2016-17 school year. To meet individual needs, some students need educational programs the district cannot provide. In cooperation with Berrien Regional Educational Service Agency (BRESA) and certain neighboring districts, these students attend appropriate Special Education programs in other locations. The programs available to Watervliet students were:

- i. Early Childhood Developmentally Delayed Program; located at Coloma Elementary and facilitated by Coloma Community Schools
- ii. Hearing Impaired Program; located at Berrien Springs Public Schools and facilitated by Berrien RESA
- iii. Cognitively Impaired Program; located at Berrien Springs Middle School and facilitated by Berrien Springs Public Schools
- iv. Moderately to Severely Mentally Impaired Program; located at Blossomland Learning Center, Berrien Springs and facilitated by Berrien RESA
- v. Early Childhood Developmentally Delayed and Autistic Impaired Program; located at Stewart Elementary and facilitated by Lakeshore Public Schools
- vi. Severely Emotionally Impaired and Autistic Impaired Program; located at Lighthouse Learning Center, St. Joseph, and facilitated by Berrien RESA
- vii. Severely Emotionally Impaired Program; located at Niles Southside and facilitated by Niles Community Schools

1. All core curriculum follows state standards and benchmarks. Anyone can obtain a copy of curriculum maps and essential learnings by contacting the WMS office.
2. Watervliet Middle School assesses students using the NWEA test. It is administered three times a year. Currently

**Percentage of Students At or Above Grade Level Mean RIT**

<b>Current Grade MATH</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Spring 2016</b>	55%	48%	31%
<b>Fall 2016</b>	58%	38%	42%
<b>Winter 2017</b>	50%	31%	41%
<b>Spring 2017</b>	61%	36%	39%
<b>Current Grade READING</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Spring 2016</b>	54%	44%	38%
<b>Fall 2016</b>	49%	37%	37%
<b>Winter 2017</b>	53%	30%	38%
<b>Spring 2017</b>	59%	40%	47%

4. 65% of Watervliet parents attended parent teacher conferences or met with school staff at sometime though out the school year.

Watervliet Middle School staff will continue to collaborate on research and data to help all students reach their full potential. Through specialized classes for high achieving and low achieving students we continue with constant change to enhance student learning.

WMS will continue to focus on our students and their various learning styles. Our continuing goal is to be proactive, using proven and tested teacher methods to meet and exceed NWEA and MSTEP scores. Congratulations and thanks to our devoted teachers, support staff, parents, students and our Board of Education for working consistently and tirelessly throughout the year. I look forward to continued growth and achievement for the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

David Armstrong, Principal  
 Watervliet Middle School