Dix Street Elementary Annual Education Report for 2019-20

January 31, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for the <SCHOOL NAME>. 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 Principal, Mark Rollandini, PhD. for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: 2019-20 Dix Street AER, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child’s school.

For the 2018-19 school year, schools were identified using 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 a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. 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.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**
   Elementary students are assigned to one of three school buildings based on geographical boundaries, which are modified from time to time, to fully utilize the district’s teaching and facility resources. We try as much as possible to keep class sizes balanced. It is sometimes necessary to transfer some students from one attendance area to another. We attempt to assign Schools of Choice students to the closest building geographically, but it is first dependent upon availability.

2. **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
   **MATH**
   Dix Street’s School Improvement Goals for Math seek high levels of math learning using RTI to meet students’ individual needs. Delta math screeners inform intervention for students who have yet to
master the readiness standards. Title 1 tutors and special educators will be consistently intervening with the identified students. K-2 and 3-5 common intervention time has been used to better utilize resources to serve all students for intervention and enrichment.

Essential Learning Targets, curriculum maps/pacing guides, common unit assessments and lessons are used by grade-level teams to create consistency and give the PLCs the data necessary to make pedagogical and programming decisions. This data will also be used to target interventions for students who need more time to master the essential math skills.

Staff has completed maps of the essential standards in each Math unit and created common formative assessments to inform teaching and intervention.

**READING**
Dix Street Elementary utilizes Fountas and Pinnell Benchmarking Assessments to diagnose individual student’s needs and identify next steps for instruction, goal setting, and intervention. Reading running record assessments are used to monitor progress, diagnose reading problems and tailor interventions to address reading issues. Reading Professional Development is focused on implementing a workshop model for English Language Arts instruction. These teaching, learning and assessment resources are subject to ongoing evaluation in light of resources, teacher mastery of the reading workshop, and The Units of Study for Teaching Reading. The workshop structure allows for individualized, differentiated instruction focused on each individual student’s needs. Moreover, at the lower elementary, grades K-2, dedicated reading intervention time is used to better serve all students. Grades 3-5 have dedicated time for reading intervention throughout the day with assistance from the Title 1 tutors and special education teacher and paraprofessionals.

Tier I reading instruction includes Lucy Caulkins Units of Study for Teaching Reading, K-5; Units of Study in Phonics, K-2; Guided Reading, 2nd – 5th; Literature Circles, 3rd – 5th grade. PLCs continue to analyze data to make pedagogical and programming decisions as well as to inform individualized interventions for students.

**WRITING**
The K-5 Literacy PLC is beginning the process of identifying Essential Learning Targets for writing, using the Write Steps as the main teaching resource. As we move to a workshop model for Reading, the need to integrate writing into the workshop has become apparent. Several K-5 teachers piloted Lucy Caulkins’ Writer’s Workshop 2018-19 as we begin the process of improving our writing program.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**
The K-5 Social Studies PLC began identifying Essential Learning Targets and creating common assessments. Concurrently, each grade level worked to implement TCI and Social Studies ALIVE! curricula. This was the 2nd year in the three year RTI-plan process for Social Studies.

**SCIENCE**
The K-5 Science PLC began identifying Essential Learning Targets and creating common assessments. The Battle Creek Science Kits are transitioning to the Cereal City Science Kits in light of the Next Generation Science Standards. This was the 2nd year in the three year RTI-plan process for Science.

3. **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**
Programs and services located in the Otsego Public Schools include:
- Early Childhood Special Education - a special education classroom designed to provide preschool aged students with disabilities services to prepare them for Kindergarten.
• Hearing and Visual Consultant Services - specialists in the areas of hearing and visual impairments work with students in our local schools to support them in the general education classroom.
• Social Work, Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy services are available to all students.
• Autism Spectrum Disorder Consultant Services - specialists in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorder work with both students and teachers in our local schools to support their success in the educational environment.
• Walk in services and small group learning opportunities for students with disabilities ages 3 - 5 who qualify.
• Level 3 Programs - these programs are designed to provide educational and functional services to students specifically in the area of Autism who need more intensive communication, sensory, independence, and behavior support both in the classroom and in life.
• Level 2 Programs - these programs are designed to provide educational services to students with disabilities who need more intensive learning support both in the classroom and in life.
• Level 1 Programs - these services are designed to provide students with disabilities academic and social support within the general education classroom and curriculum.

In addition to the programs and services provided locally in the Otsego Public Schools, students with special needs also attend specialized county programs at the Hillside Learning and Behavior Center. Hillside’s West campus houses programs for students with severe cognitive, physical, and neurologic impairments. Hillside’s East campus houses programs for students with severe emotional and behavioral impairments.

4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE’S MODEL
As mandated by the State of Michigan, Otsego Public Schools has developed a core curriculum at all school levels. Outcomes to be achieved by all students have been defined based upon the district’s educational mission, student performance objectives, Common Core State Standards, the Michigan Grade Level Content expectations and the Michigan High School Content Expectations. Common Core State Standards are used in K-12 for English Language Arts and Math. GLCES are followed for all other subjects in K-8 and HSCES for all other subjects 9-12. Common Core State Standards are available online on the Curriculum and Instruction Webpage. For more information, please contact Heather Kortlandt, Director of Instruction at 269-694-7904.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS
2019 MATH
End of year Delta Math Screener Data:
  • KINDERGARTEN: 95% at or above 80% on 1st grade readiness standards
  • 1st GRADE: 80% at or above 80% on 2nd grade readiness standards
  • 2nd GRADE: 79% at or above 80% on 3rd grade readiness standards
  • 3rd GRADE: 86% at or above 80% on 4th grade readiness standards
  • 4th GRADE: 90% at or above 80% on 5th grade readiness standards
  • 5th GRADE: 93% at or above 80% on 6th grade readiness standards
2019 READING

End of year Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark data
- Kindergarten: 62.5% at benchmark
- 1st grade: 70.5% at benchmark
- 2nd grade: 78% at benchmark
- 3rd grade: 77% at benchmark
- 4th grade: 60% at benchmark
- 5th grade: 79.5% at benchmark

End of year Instructional Reading Level (STAR/Early STAR Reading Assessment):
- Kindergarten: 97% of Students tested above grade level in reading
- 1st grade: 74% of Students tested above grade level in reading
- 2nd grade: 65% of Students tested above grade level in reading
- 3rd grade: 62% of Students tested above grade level in reading
- 4th grade: 68% of Students tested above grade level in reading
- 5th grade: 62% of Students tested above grade level in reading

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

2018-19
- 74% of families were represented at the orientation in August 2018
- 69% of families were represented at the Open House in September 2018
- 88% of students had a parent/guardian attend conferences in the Fall of 2018.
- 93% of students had a parent/guardian attend conferences Spring of 2019.

2017-18
- 79% of families were represented at the orientation in August 2017
- 74% of families were represented at the Open House in September 2017
- 90% of students had a parent/guardian attend conferences in the Fall of 2017.
- 88% of students had a parent/guardian attend conferences Spring of 2018.

We are very proud of all we do and offer at Dix Street Elementary. We have a dedicated staff of 23 certified teachers, a School Social Worker and several tutors and paraprofessionals who help our 315 students learn to their full potential. We are always looking at ways to improve student achievement on the individual student level and look forward to another great year ahead. Please look at our Points of Pride below to see all of the ways our students are excelling in school and in life experiences.

Sincerely,

Mark Rollandini, Ph.D.
Dix Street Elementary Principal
Kalamazoo Nature Center programs for K-5th-grade students.
The Dix Street Student Council with supervisors Jen Evans and Susan Kloster-Larkey conducted “Cookie Capers” for Hospice at Christmas.
The B.A.S.E. students, led by Mrs. Walbrook, collected over 35 blankets and sleeping bags for Samuel's Blankets a non-profit organization that collects for the homeless in Kalamazoo and Allegan County.
The student council sponsored several school-wide contests and teacher appreciation events.
The Dix Street PTO awarded $2,200 in teacher mini-grants for classroom programs.
Thirty-eight fifth-graders were awarded the President’s Award for Academic Excellence and two fifth-graders were awarded the President’s Award for Academic Achievement.
Students read over 50,000 minutes and earned more than 2,200 Accelerated Reader points for March is Reading Month while focusing on the “Great Lakes, Great Students, Great P.R.I.D.E.” theme.
Russell Slater, Michigan author, visited during March is Reading Month
Tricia Garton, Dix Street vocal music teacher lead the Otsego Stars (4th & 5th-grade choir) in two performances.
Our Media Center hosted a Scholastic Book Fair earning the school more than $3,500.00 towards the purchase of new books.
Mr. Michael Pavona, School Social Worker, trained twelve 5th grade and twelve 4th grade students who volunteered their free time to work on the playground as Conflict Managers. These students assist with Mileage Club and help younger students solve social problems.
Continued the Watch D.O.G.S. program to increase male involvement in the school. Watch D.O.G.s. participated in more than 70 days from October 1st until the end of the year.
Mrs. Tricia Garton produced and directed the 3rd-grade musical.
Junior Achievement program in Kindergarten and grades 1-5
Continued the P.A.W.S. Physical activity with Spirit after-school activity program.
Continued collecting clothing for the Otsego clothes closet and winter wear programs.
130 students participated in the American Heart Association’s Kid’s Heart Challenge event and raised more than $11,000.
Physical Education Teacher, Mrs. Darcy Bentley continued the Mileage Club where students walk, jog, or run during their lunch recess. The students accumulate mileage and receive prizes at specific miles-earned. The top runner went more than 150 miles, and 2 others walked more than 100 miles in the year-long program.
The students participated in the national A.C.E.S. day where “All Children Exercise Simultaneously” for 20 minutes.
More than 20 3rd-5th grade girls trained and ran a 5K with the Girls on the Run program.
Mrs. Bentley and parent volunteers ran the 6-week Boys on the Move program focusing on sportsmanship, positive attitude, teamwork, gentleman skills, anger management, self-esteem, and physical fitness.
The Dix Street PTO hosted “Donuts with Dudes” and “Goodies with Gals” events as an outreach to parents.
1st and 2nd grades combined to intervene with students who needed extra help in math.
Rtl books available for checkout. The Dix Street professional library continues to expand with professional literature focused on building and district initiatives.
Dix Street Literacy Initiative gave every student books to take home before summer vacation. More than 500 books were given away!
Delayed Start Wednesdays: 33 delayed starts focused on Reading Workshop and reading Running Records Professional Development as well as PLC time for collaboration, data analysis, and curriculum evaluation
Memorable Days Out - A grant provided by the foundation that allows students to have experiences outside the school day. Trips were provided to Whitecaps baseball games. There were 14 kids and 6 staff members involved.
• Brittany Morrow coached one team from Dix Street in the Plainwell/Otsego Battle of the Books program. The team consisted of 6 first-time Battle of the Books 3-5th graders with a first-time coach, got 2nd place in the first battle to go to the grand battle and get 5th place out of 24 teams.