

Harper Creek Middle School

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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 2016-17 educational progress for Harper Creek 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 Kim Thayer for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://harpercreekms.ss7.sharpschool.com/> 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. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

A challenge for Harper Creek Middle School that is evident in the Annual Education Report (AER) is a below average proficiency performance in ELA at the 7th grade level. This below average proficiency was evident in overall students, students with disabilities, Hispanic students, and students of more than one race. The other grade levels attending Harper Creek Middle School (5th, 6th and 8th) did not reflect this trend. Staff will continue to use focused instruction in the classroom and in intervention blocks to accelerate student achievement and close this gap in achievement.

Students are assigned to schools in one of two ways. The first is by the student's geographic attendance area. We also participate in a Section 105 School of Choice program and assign students to the school they choose, based on availability.

Harper Creek Middle School's School Improvement Plan is a continuous work in progress. The plan addresses goal areas related to reading and writing, as well as math, science and social studies. Each goal area and its strategies align to the district's goals and state guidelines. The plan is revisited and revised on a yearly basis.

Harper Creek Middle School staff is continuing to implement an aligned curriculum. In addition, curriculum maps, in core areas, are used by teachers to determine content and lessons. For copies of core curriculum, please contact Kim Thayer or refer to the Curriculum resources on the district webpage.

Student achievement on local tests shows student growth through each grade level and each school year. Reading proficiency scores for the 2016-2017 school year averaged 79%. Writing scores for the 2016-2017 school year averaged 81%. Teachers, administrators, and support staff are continuing the training process to look at this data to find trends and to implement intervention strategies for students that do not show average to above average growth.

Harper Creek Middle School has had positive parent-teacher conference attendance during the fall with attendance at 84%. In the spring, the average attendance declined with 75% of families attending conferences. As a part of our school improvement process, Harper Creek Middle School Staff continues to develop strategies to address this issue, which have include phone conferences, email communications, and flexible conference times with parents.

The staff at Harper Creek Middle School consistently works to improve our practices and to implement strategies that will help our students grow emotionally, socially, and academically. We are committed to continuous improvement and do our best to provide opportunities to work in collaboration with our community, parents, and students.

Sincerely,

Kim Thayer
Principal
Harper Creek Middle School