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Fenton Area Public Schools

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May 10, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress of Fenton Area Public Schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. Our school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability and teacher quality. If you should have any questions about the AER, please contact Heidie Ciesielski, The Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically, https://goo.gl/brmsTH, or by visiting our school web site or you may review a copy in our Main Office.

For the 2017-18 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given. There wasn't a school in FAPS that was given one of these labels for 2017-18.

Fenton Area Public School's students continue to perform at or above most if not all of the state averages for students on measures of academic achievement on all important standardized tests, including: the PSAT, SAT, the ACT WorkKeys, the M-STEP and NWEA. Data in the combined report for the 2016-17 school year indicates that our students who are economically disadvantaged and who receive special services struggle to achieve academically at the same levels as their classmates. Students in these two subgroups will continue to receive intervention in their goal areas to improve achievement. The district is in the process of writing a strategic plan that has the areas of support and development, stability and community at is core focus areas. Strategies and action items will be used to meet our plan goals for the next three years.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

• Placement into Schools

Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) participates in the State of Michigan Schools of Choice Program. Please review the SOC Application information found on the district web site at www.fentonschools.org

• School Improvement Plan

During the 2016-17 school year, FAPS was in the third year of its current district improvement plan. Our focus has been in the areas of math, ELA, science and social studies as well as culture.

Specialized Schools

FAPS runs an alternative academy called GearUp2Lead, where students are taking online courses to progress their academic achievement in a non-traditional way. This allows an alternative option for students to get their high school diploma in a self-paced manner.

• Core Curriculum

Units of instruction for FAPS core courses are aligned with the Michigan High School Content Expectations (HSCE's) and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). In certain non-core content areas in which state content expectations are not defined, units of instruction are aligned with national curriculum guidelines. FAPS is authorized to offer the IB Diploma Program (DP) to interested students in grades 11 and 12. Please visit the FAPS web page for more information regarding our curricular opportunities in Fenton.

• Standardized Testing

As mentioned earlier, FAPS students are achieving either at or above state averages for the standardized testing that we administer in the state of Michigan. Aggregate MSTEP Proficiency Scores are as follows: MSTEP ELA 3rd Grade – 47.1%, 4th Grade – 49.6%, 5th Grade -65.4%, 6th Grade - 58.0%, 7th Grade – 57.4%, 8th Grade – 65.8%, MSTEP MATH 3rd Grade – 48.4%, 4th Grade – 47.0%, 5th Grade – 43.9%, 6th Grade – 40.3%, 7th Grade – 41.5%, 8th Grade – 28.4% MSTEP SCIENCE 4th Grade – 17.8%, 7th Grade 29.8%, 11th Grade 45.5%, MSTEP SOCIAL STUDIES 5th Grade – 28.2%, 8th Grade – 38.4%, 11th Grade – 64.3%.

• Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance

FAPS has regular attendance at Parent Teacher Conferences. Participation at the secondary level ranges between 45-55% depending on building, and at the elementary level between 90-100% participation. We are pleased to report that over the last several years, parents and students regularly and often review students' academic progress and attendance on-line through the use of our student information software, Synergy.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all FAPS and Fenton community members for your continued support of our academic and extra-curricular programs. I am confident that with your help, we will continue to be successful in the 2018-19 school year, and we will again demonstrate progress toward achieving our academic goals.

Sincerely,

Adam Hartley
Superintendent
Fenton Area Public Schools