



# SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL

2017-18 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT COVER LETTER

Benjamin R. Brock, Principal

## Principal's Greeting/Message

March 22, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for the Shepherd 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 Benjamin Brock, principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting [2017-2018 Shepherd Middle School Combined Report](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 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 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 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 any of these labels.

We continue to review our testing data and seek ways to improve practices here at Shepherd Middle School. Our students deserve the very best education we can provide and we are relentless in our efforts to do so. We appreciate the continued support of our parents, staff and community. There's no better time than now to be a Blue Jay!!

Sincerely,

Benjamin R. Brock, Principal  
Shepherd Middle School

SHEPHERD MIDDLE SCHOOL

2017-2018

Annual Education Report

## Description of the School

- Shepherd Middle School has approximately 447 students in grades 6, 7, and 8.
- The students are primarily housed in one building that is connected to the high school.
- The middle school shares a common media center, auditorium and cafeteria with the high school, but has its own gymnasium and playground area.
- Students have six classes a day and one advisory period.
- The average class size is 27 students.
- Four classes are core curriculum of ELA, mathematics, social studies and science. One class is band, choir, or a rotation of three trimester long enrichment classes. The other hour is a trimester each of activities including health, computers and an enrichment class. Enrichment options include things like: Physical Education, Fitness, Art, Industrial Arts (shop), Drama, and/or Life Skills. The 8th grade activity class is Spanish.
- Many sports and other extra-curricular activities are available for Shepherd Middle School Students: Student Council, Peer to Peer Mentoring, Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) mentoring program, Basketball, Volleyball, Track, Cross Country, Wrestling, Cheerleading, Football, Band and Choir activities, and various after school activity offerings.
- There is a solid multi-tiered system of support in place at Shepherd Middle School. Many extra programs and initiatives are in place for student support at each of the three levels which include the following: Advisory class, a Writing Across the Curriculum initiative, other literacy efforts such as Reading and Writing Workshops, building-wide vocabulary activities, Accelerated Math, reading improvement classes, math support classes, study skills classes, Homework Rooms, Homework Lab, Intervention during Advisory, and counseling groups.
- During our Advisory period, we offer targeted interventions to students in Math and ELA. We also offer extension classes during that same time to students who do not need assistance with closing skill gaps.
- We also now provide an opportunity for students to be a part of Blue Jay Renaissance, a reward program for students who qualify based on Attendance, Academics, and Attitude.

## Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Most of the district's pupils in Grades 6, 7 and 8 are assigned to Shepherd Middle School since this is the main building that serves this grade span of pupils. However, a small number of students do attend our alternative middle school, Odyssey Alternative Middle/High School, if it individually is deemed to be the best program to meet their academic and social needs.

## Status of 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

A copy of the School Improvement Plan is available on our school's website and copies are also available in the Shepherd Middle School office. The School Improvement Team, composed of several focus groups, meets twice a month during the school year. The purpose of the team is to develop, review and evaluate goals, objectives and strategies for the School Improvement Plan. The School Improvement Team facilitates the continuous collection and analysis of academic assessment data to guide instruction and evaluate progress toward student achievement goals.

GOALS	PROGRESS		
	NOT YET BEGUN	MAKING PROGRESS	COMPLETED
GOAL 1 All students will be proficient in ELA.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate to improve MS and HS ELA proficiency scores by 3% by 06/30/2018 as measured by NWEA, PSAT, SAT, and teacher developed assessments.</li> </ul>		X	
GOAL 2 All students will be proficient in Mathematics.			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate to improve MS and HS math proficiency scores by 3% by 06/30/2018 as measured by NWEA, M-STEP, PSAT, SAT, and teacher developed assessments.</li> </ul>		X	
GOAL 3 All students will be proficient in Science.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate to improve MS and HS Social Studies proficiency scores by 4% by 06/30/2018 as measured by M-STEP and teacher designed</li> </ul>		X	
GOAL 4 All students will be proficient in Social Studies.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate to improve HS and MS science proficiency scores by 3% by 06/30/2018 as measured by NWEA, M-STEP, PSAT, SAT, and teacher developed assessments.</li> </ul>		X	

## Core Curriculum Status

A copy of the Core Curriculum is available on the district web site and in the principal's office. Additional curriculum information is available in the Curriculum Guide that is available in the counseling office and on the school's website.

Shepherd Middle School utilizes a curriculum cycle to systematically create and revise curriculum documents that are aligned to State standards. These documents provide a scope and sequence for K-12 in each content area. The curriculum documents are reviewed annually with appropriate revisions made to ensure the curriculum as written and taught matches the state expectations.

### English Language Arts

The English Language Arts curriculum follows the Common Core State Standards approved by Michigan's State Board of Education. This school year, we utilized Engage New York for our ELA curriculum. Middle level language arts educators utilize a variety of young adolescent novels, literary magazines, autobiographies, supplemental folk tales, picture books, and the Reading and Writing Workshop verified by such experts as Kelly Gallagher, Nancy Atwell, Frank Serafini, Lucy Calkins, Chris Tovani, Stephanie Harvey, and Fountas and Pinnell. The English Language Arts curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2015. Language Arts educators have taken college classes that focus on literacy strategies. In addition, they continue to attend conferences and workshops offered by the local RESD as well as state and national organizations. Our teachers are active members and one is an officer in Michigan's Council for Teachers of English.

### Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum does not include any variances from the Common Core State Standards. The Math department utilizes the Connected Mathematics 3 program published by Pearson. Our department utilizes the supplements of: Math XL and Delta Math. Numerous studies exist regarding the efficacy of the Connected Mathematics program including: Adams, R. L. (2005). Standards-based accountability: Improving achievement for all students through standards based mathematics instruction. Bray, M. S. (2005). Achievement of eighth grade students in mathematics after completing three years of the Connected Mathematics Project. Durkin, N. M. (2005). Using Connected Math program: Its impact on the Delaware State Testing scores of 8th-grade students at Milford Middle School. Krebs, A. S. (1999). Students' algebraic understanding: A study of middle grades students' ability to symbolically generalize functions. Meiler, J. (2006). Does a problem-centered curriculum foster positive or negative changes in students' attitude and learning in mathematics? A case study of three sixth grade students. 5 Each year math department teachers meet to reevaluate their instruction with regard to student performance on common assessments including the M-Step and NWEA. The Mathematics curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2013.

### Science

The Science curriculum follows the Grade Level Content Expectations approved by Michigan's State Board of Education. Middle school science educators utilize a variety of techniques including hands-on activities, labs using the scientific method, graphs, charts, diagrams and a textbook. The Science curriculum was last approved by the local Board of Education in 2011. Science educators have and will continue to attend workshops and conferences offered by the RESD and around the state. We also continue taking college classes that focus on strategies to improve our teaching. We plan to pilot an online curriculum for the

2017-18 school year. The state will be testing Michigan standards within the next few years so we are incorporating teaching methodologies to prepare our students for these standards.

### **Social Studies**

The Social Studies curriculum follows the Grade Level Content Expectations approved by Michigan's State Board of Education. Building educators use an online textbook from Glencoe/McGraw Hill for sixth and seventh grades and the U.S. history textbook: The American Journey: Early Years for eighth grade. These materials align with the state standards for social studies. Supplemental materials used include various titles from the Kids Discover magazine series and videos from a variety of sources, such as The Biography Channel, The History Channel and United Streaming. The Social Studies curriculum at Shepherd Middle School was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2014. Members of the SMS Social Studies department attend local and state conferences and work collaboratively to improve their teaching strategies and meet the needs of all students.

## **Aggregate Local Assessment Data**

Local assessment data which includes individual classroom assessments is available from our student services package, PowerSchool. Our data warehouse, Illuminate, houses our NWEA data. We also have Delta Math data and QRI reading assessment data available for students in support classes.

## **Parent Teacher Conference Attendance Data**

	2016-2017		2017-2018	
	Number of students represented	Percentage of students represented	Number of students represented	Percentage of students represented
All	195	22%	257	34%