

Washington Middle School

Public Schools of Calumet, Laurium and Keweenaw

57070 Mine Street • Calumet, Michigan 49913

Phone: (906) 337-0311, Ext. 3112 • Fax: (906) 337-5406

MICHAEL A. STEBER
Principal
msteber@clkschools.org

SHELLY SMITH
School Social Worker
ssmith@clkschools.org

January 2018

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 Washington 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 Mr. Michael Steber for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.clkschools.org or you may review a copy in our main office at your child's school.

Michigan uses the School Index System to identify schools for support, starting in 2018 with data from the 2016-17 school year (the most recent data available). The School Index System measures school performance in six areas— student growth, student proficiency, school quality/student success, graduation rate, English Learner progress, and assessment participation. Every school receives an overall index value ranging from 0-100 based on the degree to which the school meets its target in each area. Index values also are calculated for each subgroup that has at least 30 students within a school. Schools will be identified as TSI if they have one or two subgroups with index values at or below the highest Index value used to identify the bottom 5% of schools. That is, schools will be identified as TSI if they have one or two student subgroups performing like Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools.

A second type of school improvement identification for underperforming subgroups is Additional Targeted Support (ATS). While Michigan uses the same indicator for subgroup performance for both ATS and TSI, ATS schools have three or more subgroups that are underperforming. ATS schools are identified every three years, beginning with data from the 2016-2017 school year. Learn more about the Michigan School Index System.

Our school has been identified as a target support and improvement school. The district **School Improvement** Plan is developed by school and community members and is reviewed and communicated to the public annually. This plan

serves as an overview and a compilation of our specific building plans. Based on our district strategic plan and on-going analysis of individual school and district data, the district plan expresses the philosophy and fundamental goals of our entire organization. The district School Improvement Plan is submitted to the Michigan Department of Education each year by June 30th. Copies of this district plan are available at the CLK District Office. Building goals and improvement efforts are fully aligned with the district plan and are submitted to the Michigan Department of Education each year by September 1st. Copies of the Washington Middle School Improvement Plan are available through the WMS office.

Curriculum is at the heart of every school district and CLK is no exception. Students in our district receive a rich and diverse academic program. We promote a balanced education that meets our students' intellectual, social and personal needs and we strive to prepare our students to be thoughtful, active citizens who can function productively in a multi-cultural, rapidly changing, interdependent world. Creating and modifying curriculum is a challenge due to the ever-changing expectations for student learning. We continue to strive for "complete" curriculum alignment: external alignment with our Michigan state standards and benchmarks and internal alignment by subject and grade level and by matching instructional activities and assessments accurately to learner objectives. Our goal is to assist in creating an environment where all students experience and receive powerful teaching and learning every single day.

Parent Involvement is a priority here at CLK. Research shows that academic achievement improves significantly when parents are involved in school and at home. Families are invited to be involved in the following ways:

- Attend parent/teacher/child conferences
- Assist your child with schoolwork and learning activities at home
- Participate in school and district Title 1 parent events
- Join your school's Title 1 program planning team
- Volunteer in your child's school or during school events
- Engage your child in conversations about what he/she is learning
- Communicate with your child's teacher and school staff when you have questions

In the 2016-17 school year 60% of WMS families were represented at our parent-teacher conferences. We strive to make that number 100% in the coming year! The process that is used for assigning students at WMS is strictly by grade level. All middle school children are in grades 6, 7 and 8.

The Comprehensive Needs Assessments were completed in the 2016-2017 school year by the entire staff and our goals and objectives are outlined for the 2016-2017 school year are set. This process is reviewed every year by our building and then by our district. Committees are developed to include all stake holders.

Our District operates an alternative high school developed for grades 9 – 12 who are at risk of not graduating.

The CLK Curriculum guides are available at each building. The staff has worked with each discipline to make sure we are aligned with the Michigan core curriculum standards. We are able to ensure that we are teaching the standards approved through classroom observations.

Currently, we do not use any national achievement tests. All assessments are classroom based and we currently use the Scholastic Reading Inventory to assess reading comprehension.

The Washington Middle School is a "true" middle school that utilized middle school best practices to meet the needs of ALL our students. Through inclusion, Team

planning, an advisory program and a wide variety of enrichment classes we believe that we off the best education possible at a critical age of development. Over the past few years we have received an "A" on the Education Yes report card which rates our school and how well we are achieving academically. WMS continuously strives to improve our offerings every year. Our staff is committed to our students and we look forward to an exciting school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Steber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael A. Steber
Principal