



## **District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

February 11, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Berrien Springs Public Schools and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Steve Spenner, Assistant Superintendent, for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common\\_Locations=1-D,936,67,0](https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-D,936,67,0), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

### **Student Assessment Data**

- Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT
- Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and MI-Access science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students.

### **School Accountability Data**

- Includes information on schools' performance on various measures such as student proficiency and growth on state assessments, graduation, and attendance rates. Performance is measured on 0-100 index scales
- Reports schools identified under three federally required categories for further support: Comprehensive Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, and Additional Targeted Support



### **Educator Qualification Data**

- Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders
- Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
- Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

### **NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

### **Civil Rights Data**

- Provides information on school quality, climate, and safety

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2022-23. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

<b>School Name</b>	<b>Status Label</b>	<b>Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement</b>
Mars Elementary	No Label	Reading & Math Instruction & Assessment, Engagement Strategies, PBIS, MTSS
Sylvester Elementary	No Label	Reading & Math Instruction & Assessment, Engagement Strategies, PBIS, MTSS



<b>School Name</b>	<b>Status Label</b>	<b>Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement</b>
Berrien Springs Middle School	No Label	Math & Reading Instruction, Project Based Learning, PBIS, MTSS/Interventions
Berrien Springs High School	No Label	Math & Reading Instruction, Project Based Learning, Freshman Academy, PBIS, MTSS/Interventions
Berrien Springs Virtual Academy	No Label	Math & Reading Instruction, Project Based Learning, PBIS, MTSS/Interventions
Berrien Springs Discovery Academy	No Label	Essential Standard Assessments, Engagement, MTSS, Job Readiness
Link Learning Virtual Program	No Label	Success & Behavior Coaches, Engagement, MTSS
West Michigan Virtual - Battle Creek MS	No Label	Success & Behavior Coaches, Engagement, MTSS
West Michigan Virtual - Battle Creek HS	No Label	Success & Behavior Coaches, Engagement, MTSS

In conclusion, we express our ongoing appreciation to our students, educators, and families for their steadfast dedication to academic excellence and student engagement. As we work towards our objectives of reducing chronic student absenteeism, ensuring student achievement, and fostering student engagement in learning, we are implementing key initiatives across eight components, including our Evaluation Tool, Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports (PBIS), Professional Learning Communities (PLC), and Clarity of Instruction and Assessment. We are committed to cultivating a supportive instructional environment and providing continuous



professional development for our staff, embracing innovative approaches such as instructional engineering (AI).

Parents, we warmly encourage you to join us in this endeavor by actively participating in our communication channels and engaging in school activities. Your involvement at any level is valued and appreciated. Together, we can empower our students to realize their full potential and create a brighter future for our community.

Sincerely,

Steve Spenner  
Assistant Superintendent