

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter
Great Lakes Elementary

February 9, 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 Great Lakes Elementary. 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 Great Lakes Elementary for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: [Great Lakes Elementary AER Report](#) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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 label is given.

Our school was not identified for improvement and has not been given one of these labels.

Great Lakes is a preschool through 5th grade building that serves over 450 students. Some of the key challenges facing our school is that roughly 70% of students at Great Lakes come from an economically disadvantaged background. Additionally roughly, 33% of our students are English as Second Language learners. We continue to work to build up the stamina and skills of our students so they can perform on high stakes assessments.

Key initiatives in place to raise achievement for all are targeted Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions in literacy and math for students not at grade level on interim and formative assessments, improving Tier 1 instruction through increased fidelity, implementing instructional routines for the delivery of phonics and phonemic awareness instruction, and using data to inform classroom instruction. We are committed to providing the best-individualized instruction for all students while working to support the social-emotional needs of all students.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Process for Assigning Students

Students are assigned to Great Lakes based upon a geographical location. Boundaries for bussing exist in the district's eight elementary schools. If parents request Great Lakes for schools of choice, they must provide their own transportation. Parents often request Great Lakes Elementary as a school of choice.

2. School Improvement Plan

Our School Improvement Team developed goals for the content areas of reading, writing and math. The Great Lakes Elementary School Improvement Plan report is available for you to review.

3. Our Core Curriculum

The core curriculum based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) provides a framework for our educational programs. It is a set of expectations all students should achieve to progress in their schooling. We are working to deliver a curriculum that provides all students with the knowledge and skills necessary for living effectively today and in the future. Our curriculum provides extended opportunities designed to meet individual needs. Course offerings exceed core curriculum requirements established by the Michigan Department of Education. Strong academic programming is supported by quality technology and facilities. Integrated with our core academic curriculum and enhancing a student's quality educational experiences are:

- Community partnerships
- Field trips, assemblies, and special activities/events
- Integration of technology into instruction and assessment
- Library-media resources
- Special education
- Technology tools/resources

Student achievement remains our top priority. Higher standards and greater expectations have resulted in the implementation of a variety of instructional methods, progressive teaching strategies, and specialized programs designed to respond to the individual needs and learning styles of a diverse student population. We offer a demanding academic schedule for all students with an emphasis on college preparation skills.

Our curriculum makes provisions for the variability of academic skills, interests, and social, emotional, and physical development within our student population. Copies of the core curriculum are available for review through the Office of Teaching and Learning and on the website at <http://www.westottawa.net/elementary-schools-curriculum/>.

4. Aggregate Student Achievement Results on Local Assessment

DIBELS Next Composite Scores (End of Year)

Benchmark Goal 80%

	GR 2022	GR * 2023
K	71%	75%
1st	67%	66%
2nd	69%	76%
3rd	77%	76%
4th	69%	67%
5th	75%	69%

Strategic Goal 15%

	GR 2022	GR *2023
K	16%	14%
1st	14%	8%
2nd	10%	9%
3rd	8%	12%
4th	16%	23%
5th	21%	15%

Intensive Goal 5%

	GR 2022	GR *2023
K	14%	1%
1st	19%	12%
2nd	21%	15%
3rd	15%	12%
4th	16%	10%
5th	4%	15%

5. Parent and Community Involvement

Parent and community involvement in the education of children and participation in the life of a school are reflected in many ways. One avenue is attendance at parent-teacher conferences.

- 95% of our parents/guardians attended fall conferences in 2021-22
- 95% of our parents/guardians attended fall conferences in 2022-23

Additionally, parents are actively involved in school activities through volunteering and Great Lakes. All Great Lakes parents are welcomed and encouraged to give feedback to how we can best serve their child. Annual fundraisers produce the means by which the PTO operates, providing activities, parties, assemblies, field trips, and special instructional materials for our students.

We will continue to work together as a school staff to provide the excellent education the community has come to expect.

Sincerely,



Matt Brummel
Principal
Great Lakes Elementary