

Harper Creek High School

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Harper Creek High 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. Dennis Anthony for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site http://hs.harpercreek.net/building/annual_education_report/, or you may review a copy in the main office at Harper Creek High School.

For the 2016-17 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.

Our school was identified as a Focus School due to a performance gap between our bottom 30% and our top 30% of students. Additionally, a vast majority of our students in the bottom 30% have been identified as "at-risk" as measured by the State of Michigan. The aggregate student achievement data indicates that Harper Creek High School juniors scored 19.3 ACT Composite for 2014-2015, and juniors during the 2015-16 school year scored an average of 980 on the SAT in the spring of 2016. Using the most current MDE data available at www.mischooldata.org, and additional building level data, Harper Creek High School has thus identified key areas of focus for improvement. Several initiatives have been developed and implemented to close this achievement gap. These initiatives include, but are not limited to:

- Support blocks for additional instruction and academic support for all core classes.
- Graduation Coaches to assist struggling students and provide interventions.
- Professional Development focused on Formative Assessment and Differentiated Instruction.

- Fall PSAT testing to pre-identify struggling students and provide data based academic interventions and instructional adjustments.
- All students and staff have access to College Board and Kahn Academy data using activated College Board accounts.
- All district-provided professional development focuses on achievement data and students.
- An Early College Program in partnership with Kellogg Community College.

State law requires that we also report additional information. As the only high school in the district, all 9th-12th grade students within the district are automatically assigned to Harper Creek High School. Students from other districts may be assigned through School of Choice. Harper Creek High School is a nine through twelve building that services all students with quality instruction. Core curriculum is implemented by all teachers using content specific curriculum maps to guide instructional topics/lessons. These content curriculum maps are continuously reviewed and updated to reflect current best research based instructional methods as well as to ensure that all state and federal standards are being met. Information regarding our core curriculum can be found on our district website or the Department of Education website.

Harper Creek High School held conferences four times each during the 2014-15 and 2015-16 school years. For the 2014-15 school year, October attendance recorded 34% of our parents attended and in March, 22% attended. For the 2015-2016 school year, the October conference improved to 48% parent attendance and 32% in March. We utilize PowerSchool, which a majority of our parent's access throughout the year to keep informed on their student's progress. Parents and students are assigned a username and password for PowerSchool when their student registers in the district. We encourage parents and students to log onto PowerSchool regularly.

Harper Creek High School is in the fourth year of our five-year school improvement plan. Our identified school improvement goals are: *Goal 1: All students at Harper Creek High School will improve their writing skills. Goal 2: All students at Harper Creek High School will improve math skills Goal 3: All students at Harper Creek High School will improve their reading skills. Goal 4: All students at Harper Creek High School will successfully complete all classes.* These goals are designed to improve the education for ALL students while also providing specific supports for our struggling students or have been identified as performing in the bottom 30%. As a staff we focus daily on closing the academic performance gap between our highest and lowest performing students. We aim to continue to have a school that respects the rights and meets the needs of all students.

To provide a quality education to all, a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) classes will continued to be offered for the upcoming school year. We are proud to show continuous growth in the number of students enrolling in AP courses with 126 (14% of students) enrolled in the 2015-2016 school year, and 97 (11% of students) having had enrolled in AP courses for the 2014-2015 school year. Of the 99 students completing the AP test, 44% of students scored a 3 or higher on the AP Exam for the 2013-2015 school years. Harper Creek High School also continues to offer dual enrollment opportunities that allow students to earn college credit while in high school. For the 2015-2016 school year 96 students (11%) of students completed 257 courses and 123 students (14%) completed 359 courses in the 2014-2015 school year.

The entire Harper Creek community should feel proud that by working together and supporting one another, Harper Creek continues to foster and demonstrate student growth. Thank you for your partnership in this challenging endeavor. You are an integral part of your student's and our success and we encourage your continued involvement and rigorous pursuit of excellence in education. Our entire Harper Creek High School staff remains dedicated to continuous school improvement and look forward to a rewarding 2016-17 school year.

Sincerely,

Dennis Anthony
Principal
Harper Creek High School