



## Homer Middle School

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Ryan Mulnix, Principal

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### ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT (AER) COVER LETTER

February 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the educational progress for Homer 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 Homer Middle School Principal Mr. Ryan Mulnix or Homer Community Schools Superintendent Michael Leskowich for assistance.

The AER data is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/2Ot9x5x> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the current 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 the previous year. 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 the previous school year. 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 the previous school year. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

**Homer Middle School has not been given one of these labels.**

While analyzing the data, the School Improvement Team found that additional support was needed to help close the learning gap of our economically disadvantaged students compared to our non-economically disadvantaged students, as well as our students who have been identified as at risk. Key initiatives that have remained in place are Academic Paraprofessionals, IXL as an online intervention program, one ELA and one Math Instructional Coach from the CISD to support working with teachers, para's and students to improve reading and math instruction and

intervention, revisions of curriculum maps/essential standards, monthly MTSS (multi-system of support) meetings, and the a behavior interventionist to support social emotional needs and our School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (SWPBIS). We have quarterly events with students and staff that promote PBIS and monthly rewards for students in attendance. In addition, a WIN (what I need) time was added for all students to receive daily interventions and extensions.

State law requires that we also report additional information. The information provided below applies to the last two school years.

### **State law requires that we also report additional information:**

#### Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Students assigned to Homer Middle School either live within the boundaries of the school district or attend under school of choice. This process has remained consistent for current and past school years.

#### Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

In the last five years, the HMS School Improvement Team has focused on its continued work to align and update the middle school curriculum using a Google Doc template to document curriculum. Curriculum maps and unit/lesson plans are continuously updated so that they are in line with the Common Core State Standards. In addition, teams have been revising their essential standards to ensure curriculum maps are continuously revised and updated to support mastery of these essentials. A major focus of the School Improvement Team for the recent school year has been on implementing the MTSS process. The team meets at least twice a month during the school year to ensure these goals are met. This is an ongoing process that takes place every year.

#### Brief Description of Each Specialized School

Homer Middle School covers grades 5-8, with students receiving content from highly qualified teachers in the core content areas of ELA, math, science, and social studies. All students receive instruction in physical education, health, and computers, with additional offerings in instrumental music, visual arts, and agriscience education. All students also participate in a rotating selection of enrichment courses that allow for core curriculum extension activities, high interest elective content, and focused intervention support. Specialized help is also provided to all students with IEPs, 504 Plans, and those additional students identified as at risk. Students also receive Social and Emotional Learning through the TRAILS program.

#### How to Access Core Curriculum, Description of Implementation, and Explanation of Variances from the State's Model

Our core curriculum can be found on the district website at [www.homerschools.net](http://www.homerschools.net) or by contacting the Director of Instructional Services, Shannon Shepherd, at (517) 568-4464. All core curriculum is aligned with Michigan K-12 Standards. Curriculum maps are in the process of being updated by the various departments.

### Aggregate Student Achievement Results for National Normed Achievement Tests

Homer Middle School teachers use a variety of ways within their classrooms to collect data on student achievement. Pre- and post-tests to show growth, consistent writing rubrics in ELA, and classroom grades are all local ways in which teachers monitor student achievement. Homer Middle School has also administered the nationally normed assessment of NWEA three times a year in reading, math, and science to measure student achievement results since the 2018-19 school and will continue to do so for the current and upcoming school years. The following chart shows the percent of students that met or exceeded the national NWEA norms for winter over the last two school years.

#### **% At or Above National Norms**

	<b><u>Reading</u></b>		<b><u>Math</u></b>		<b><u>Science</u></b>	
<b>Grade Assessed</b>	<b>Spring 2022 - 23</b>	<b>Spring 2023 - 24</b>	<b>Spring 2022 - 23</b>	<b>Spring 2023 - 24</b>	<b>Spring 2022 - 23</b>	<b>Spring 2023 - 24</b>
5th Grade	32%	41%	17%	20%	25%	71%
6th Grade	25%	48%	24%	30%	36%	45%
7th Grade	30%	45%	16%	31%	40%	56%
8th Grade	11%	40%	6%	16%	40%	33%

### Number and Percent of Students Represented by Parents at Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are an excellent opportunity for parents to have dialogue with their child's teachers. In the 2022-2023 school year, we held in person conferences and had an overall participation rate of 62%. In 2023-24, we had an overall participation rate of 58%. In the fall of 2024, 52% of parents attended PT conferences.

In conclusion, Homer Middle School continues to strive to be the "Destination for Excellence" within our area. The last two years have provided many opportunities for learning and growth, by both our students and our staff. The pandemic has challenged us all as educators to think outside the box about not just our content, but how we present and assess this content. We have experienced challenges, but we have also experienced success. Outstanding educational and extra-curricular opportunities continue to await our students at Homer Middle School. We have great kids and a great staff...this equals a great school!

Sincerely,

Mr. Ryan Mulnix  
Middle School Principal