

COVERT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

35323 M-140 HIGHWAY
COVERT, MICHIGAN 49043



Vision – A nurturing community where all are inspired and empowered to pursue their dreams.

Mission – Provide a quality education in an inclusive and supportive environment while promoting excellence through innovative possibilities.

February 12, 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 Covert Elementary. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality information. If you have questions about the AER, please contact Christine Strayer, PK-12 Principal, for assistance.

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

For the 2022-23 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as a Targeted Support and Improvement school.

Covert Elementary's continued challenge is increasing student literacy and math proficiency. One of our goals is to consistently monitor student achievement and progress by holding monthly grade-level meetings with key staff members to identify areas of strength and weaknesses. Because reading remains a priority, we are working diligently with the ISD to restructure our kindergarten through fifth-grade Literacy Framework.

Teachers will be trained to implement new research-based reading programs and interventions aligning with the Science of Reading. Our goal is to increase students' abilities to read, write, and comprehend at or above grade level. Starting at the foundational level, we use the University of Florida Literacy Phonics program and the Walpole Differentiated Reading Instruction program. Both programs deliver effective literacy instruction tailored to each student's academic needs. In response

to our reading data, we are working on a summer reading initiative allowing students to read and write over the summer.

Going forward, our team of teacher leaders, administrative staff, and ISD coaches will continue collaborating and researching new curricula to strengthen literacy instruction for all Covert Public School students.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

Student Assignment to Schools

All Kindergarten through fifth-grade students can enter and attend Covert Elementary School if they reside in the Covert Public Schools district. Covert Public Schools does participate in the Schools of Choice program. Families participating in this program must consistently transport their student(s) to our school.

School Improvement Status

The staff at Covert Elementary School has collaborated to create the improvement plan to focus on the needs of ALL students. Staff also use literacy-focused professional development opportunities several times yearly to learn and implement best practices. Goals are created in different subject areas with a focus on reading achievement. Reading is an important area with the Third Grade Reading Law, in effect since the 2020-2021 school year. The progress of each goal is monitored throughout the year. The goals are analyzed to ensure that our strategies and activities benefit students based on the data. Adjustments are made to the goals when necessary to raise student achievement.

Specialized Schools

The Van Buren Intermediate School District collaborates with Covert Elementary to provide services for students with special needs.

Core Curriculum

Covert Elementary has developed a core curriculum as mandated by the State of Michigan. Teachers have received training in common core instruction and created safety net reading and math standards. Outcomes to be achieved by all students have been defined based on Common Core State Standards.

<http://www.corestandards.org/read-the-standards/>

Other programs offered to enhance our students' learning experiences include:

- Field trips, Assemblies, Musical Performances, Breakfast with Books and Games, visits to the local library, Project Lean)
- After School Program (Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays)
- Summer School Programming(6 weeks)
- Kids Read Now Summer Reading Program

Aggregate Student Achievement Results

Please find the aggregate student achievement results to compare two years of data at the following website: [NWEA data](#)

Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance

Parent-teacher conferences are held twice annually, providing opportunities to communicate student progress each semester. The attendance at fall conferences was 87%. Our spring conferences take place in March.

We continue to be proud of our status as a nationally recognized Capturing Kids' Hearts school! Our students are working toward reading daily even when school is not in session. Covert Elementary students are a vital part of our nurturing community, where we strive to inspire and empower them to pursue their dreams.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christine Strayer

Elementary Principal