



# Public Schools of Petoskey

*A Special Place for Everyone*

## Ottawa Elementary School's Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 11, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the **Annual Education Report (AER)**. This report provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress of Ottawa Elementary School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. Our school report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have a question, please contact me, Carol Thola, for assistance.

The **Annual Education Report** is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following websites. Please note that the combined reports can be accessed from any one of the sites.

Student Assessments- <http://bit.ly/2lr89LK#StudentAssessment>

Accountability- <http://bit.ly/2lr89LK#Accountability>

Teacher quality- <http://bit.ly/2lr89LK#TeacherQuality>

NAEP- <http://bit.ly/2lr89LK#NAEP>

School Improvement Funds- <http://bit.ly/2lr89LK#SchoolImprovementFunds>

You may also review a hard copy of the school report at Ottawa Elementary School's main office.

For the 2017-18 year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. 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. *Ottawa Elementary School has received none of these labels in 2017-18.*

### **Key Initiatives**

While we are pleased to have reached important academic and character goals, we are constantly working to improve. One of our challenges has been for students to understand the meaning behind mathematical reasoning. Therefore, we have received professional development and resources to put into practice the mathematic visualization and verbalization. We believe that this is making a difference in the way our students are conceptualizing math processes and integrating language to support math computation, reasoning, problem solving, and fluency.

We also understand that reading touches all areas of learning, so we have expanded our efforts and development plans for both students and staff by utilizing geln’s Essential Instructional Practices in Literacy. Therefore, as a staff, our overarching, academic initiative is to close our achievement gaps between subgroups and work collectively as a K-5 team to improve literacy for all students.

### **We are also required by state law to report the additional information below for the two most recent years:**

1. Pupils are assigned to schools based upon the age and grade of the student, living proximity to the school (whenever possible), class size, siblings within the Public Schools of Petoskey, parent preference (when possible), and availability of staff to meet the needs of the student. Building principals together decide the best placement based upon this set of criteria.
2. We are moving forward on our multi-year School Improvement Plan (SIP), and we continue to make learning gains. Our focus to increase each student’s core proficiencies is supported through a continual review/revision/alignment of curriculum, balanced assessment plans and analysis, evidence-based teaching practices, stakeholder and PLC collaboration, a variety of supports/extensions (e.g., multi-leveled systems of support), and caring for each member of our school family.
3. There are no “specialized schools” within our district. However, we do offer “specialized programs” that include special education, Title I/31a, enrichment, Title VII, and alternative educational choices through Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate District.
4. Our district’s core curriculum follows Michigan’s Content Standards and Practices in ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, the Arts, PE, Health, World Languages (PHS), and Technology, along with Michigan’s CTE Standards in career technology courses (6-12). These can be found at [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_64839\\_65510---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html). Our curriculum is built, aligned, and paced using these standards by grade level and/or department. Other district information is on our website under

Curriculum. Click on General Guide and Curriculum Framework with Spiral Annual Progressions at:

<http://moodle.petoskeyschools.org/course/view.php?id=204>.

5. The aggregate student achievement results for our school on state tests can be found in our Annual Education Report or in our Annual Report/Calendar available at all schools in hard copy or electronically on the district website at [www.petoskeyschools.org](http://www.petoskeyschools.org) under the tabs "Info" & "State Reports." All state and national assessments (e.g., NWEA) show our students well above average proficiency levels, except for some small subgroups. We do not post common assessment data, ELPA findings, or national NWEA scores. Our staff utilizes this information to assess, monitor, and report individual student information to parents/guardians and to monitor cohorts' growth information. The results of these personalized tests are sent to parents/guardians at various times during the school year and are discussed at parent-teacher meetings/conferences and during PLC/building team meetings.
6. The number and percent of students represented by parents/guardians are also displayed in our Annual Report Calendar, which is available in hard copy at all schools and on our district website at [www.petoskeyschools.org](http://www.petoskeyschools.org). Ottawa Elementary School's Parent-Teacher Conference attendance was 98% (fall).

We thank our students, staff, parents, and community members for their collaboration, effort, and display of responsibility that impact the daily lives of our students. We believe everyone achieves more by working together cooperatively.

The Public Schools of Petoskey truly is a "*Special Place for Everyone.*"

Sincerely,  
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