



April 22, 2016

Dear Conant Elementary School Families and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for the Conant 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 Nicholas Russo, Conant Elementary School Principal, at nrusso@bloomfield.org for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/J2i6mX>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

We have a school improvement plan in place to address tiered intervention and we revisit it annually to ensure it comprehensively addresses the achievement gap information we receive. We provide one FTE General Education Resource Teacher to meet the instructional needs among identified struggling and high achieving learners. Our General Education Resource Teacher provides before school, targeted reading instruction for selected general education students, increasing their instructional experience. We allocated additional hours to our GERT paraprofessional in order to provide additional support. We also have increased our Reading Recovery program to facilitate research based, high yield results reading instruction to approximately 20% of our first grade students. This instruction accompanies and complements our daily general education reading instruction. Teachers continue to receive professional development on best practices that are proven to eliminate the achievement gap and tied to our school improvement goals.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

- Bloomfield Hills Schools assigns students to specific schools according to geographic boundaries and student residence. The district also has an open enrollment/transfer process for in-district students who wish to attend schools other than their assigned school on a space-available basis.
- Our School Improvement plan includes the following goals: All students will increase their skill in using and understanding fractions; All students will apply scientific processes in all content areas; All students will show improvement in reading comprehension of informational text; All students will construct a cohesive piece of writing; And all school community members will display cultural competence. Within these goals we address curriculum, instruction and assessment. We make provisions for selecting best practice models; providing professional development; aligning instruction,

assessment and resources; and incorporating technology. We monitor our students' progress at regular intervals to evaluate the success of the implemented strategies, and follow-up with necessary adjustments.

- All BHS schools follow the Common Core State Standards as adopted by the Michigan Department of Education, available for viewing at <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>. District instructional administrators coordinate the efforts of K-12 subject area curriculum committees to review, evaluate, develop and write curriculum and assessments. This on-going process includes research, analysis of current practice, selection of appropriate resources, and implementation. These same curriculum committees also meet to assure that there is alignment both across the grade levels and vertically among the grade levels. This is called horizontal and vertical articulation. Horizontal alignment assures that all students have access to the same curriculum regardless of which Bloomfield Hills' school they attend or teacher they are assigned. Vertical articulation addresses the transition between one grade or subject level to the next.
- In addition to the Michigan Content Expectations and Bloomfield Hills Schools expectations, Conant Elementary School is a fully-authorized International Baccalaureate/Primary Years Programme school. The Primary Years Programme centers its curricular approach on inquiry and concept understanding, taught through transdisciplinary units of inquiry. This multifaceted philosophy guides our program development and student learning.
- Following the Primary Years curriculum philosophy, students actively participate in their own learning by questioning central ideas presented in the units of inquiry. In different ways, all students at Conant are engaged in open-ended, relevant, student-centered activities in which they explore the essential elements of the comprehensive units of inquiry. The traditional subject areas, such as math, science, language arts and social studies provide students with subject specific skills, concepts and understandings, in accordance with our Bloomfield Hills Schools curriculum.
- Through PYP, children are encouraged to become globally aware, culturally sensitive and open-minded citizens, who celebrate the fact that they attend a school with a diversity of cultures and beliefs. They are also encouraged to become well-balanced individuals with a wide range of physical, musical, artistic, academic and cultural interests.
- In 2012-13, the District adopted the NWEA Math (K-7) and Reading (K-8) assessment. Below are Spring 2014 and 2015 mean RIT (Rasch uIT) scores compared against 2015 national norm RIT scores:

Math	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Conant Spring 2015	173.6	191.1	195	210.8	226.6
Conant Spring 2014	170.8	191.8	198.8	211.3	224.2

2015 National Norms	159.1	180.8	192.1	203.4	213.5
Reading	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Conant Spring 2015	167.3	186.8	194.1	203.2	217.4
Conant Spring 2014	167.3	184.6	198	206.1	215.4
2015 National Norms	158.1	177.5	188.7	198.6	205.9
Language Usage	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Conant Spring 2015	N/A	N/A	193.7	204.3	216.6
Conant Spring 2014	N/A	N/A	194.7	205	216.6
2015 National Norms	N/A	N/A	189.7	200	206.7

- 99% of families attended 2014 conferences.
- In 2015-2016, student led conferences were facilitated in at least one of three sets of conferences held throughout the school year. 98.3% of parents attended 2015 conferences.
- Chess education is an integral part of the second and third grade curriculum.

As a parent and life-long learner, I understand the critical role parents/guardians and educators play in nurturing the whole child. We share the responsibility of fostering independent, open-minded learners who are connected to the world around them. The mission of Conant Elementary is to foster inquiry and innovation while preparing students to be active citizens and participants in a global community.

Creating a positive atmosphere by encouraging and matching our students' enthusiasm and curiosity is important to me, and is a central factor the success of every child who enters the doors of Conant Elementary. I believe that the elementary school years are the most pivotal in a child's educational career; I am honored to be able to lead this school community and enhance the experience for each and every child. I thank every school community member who helps our students achieve.

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Russo, Ed.S.
Principal, Conant Elementary