

Sonoma Elementary 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 2017-18 educational progress for Sonoma 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 Shalen King-Short for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [Sonoma Elementary MI School Data Report \(SEE Q.7 AND Q.8 OF THE 2018-19 AER FAQ DOCUMENT FOR DIRECTIONS>](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 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 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.

* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school was identified as "HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN ONE OF THESE LABELS".

According to the most recent state assessment data, Sonoma's key challenge is in the area of mathematics. This school year Harper Creek Community Schools adopted a new math curriculum called Bridges. This program was implemented in the late fall of this year. This new program will allow for continued growth, collaboration, and understandings in the area of math. The NWEA assessment was also a tool that was used for continuing learning. This assessment has been shown to have a strong alignment with the state assessment. As students and staff become more familiar with this assessment tool they will also become more confident with the state assessment.

Students are assigned to Sonoma Elementary through two methods: 1) students live in the Sonoma area within the district, and 2) parents request Sonoma as their school of choice both from within and from outside of the district. Class size numbers are considered before any student is granted school of choice status.

Our School Improvement Plan is reviewed each year and updated to meet the needs of the students in our school. Consideration is always given to providing teachers with additional professional development and families with opportunities for further engagement. Using data to inform our teaching, along with aligned district and building goals, our school improvement plan will be implemented and supported throughout the year. Technology usage has also been incorporated into the plan. We have goals in the areas of reading, writing, math, and positive behavior support.

Sonoma follows the Common Cores State Standards found on the Michigan Department of Education website. We work at teaching as much as possible through an inter-curricular approach in order to help students draw from their experiences and make deeper connections.

Sonoma students take district assessments three times per year in English Language Arts and Math. The table below shows results of these assessments.

	ELA		MATH	
	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
2017-2018	57%	79%	43%	80%
2016-2017	56%	79%	38%	79%

We are fortunate to have many supportive parents at Sonoma who attend Parent Teacher Conferences. The table below reflects conference attendance either through parents coming into the school or joining the teacher over the phone.

	FALL	SPRING
2017-2018	98%	99%
2016-2017	100%	97%

Sonoma is fortunate to be part of a community that works to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our students to grow and learn. With the combined efforts of the parents, teachers, administrators, and students this Sonoma community will continue to thrive. We will continue to focus on the joy of learning and growing together. Thank you to the parents and community for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Shalen King-Short
Principal Sonoma Elementary