

KALEVA NORMAN DICKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Small School – Big Family

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

December 12, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Kaleva Norman Dickson (KND) Elementary 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 Jake Veith for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/Nn9fWj>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given. In the past, KND Elementary has not been identified with one of these label.

KND Elementary is a small school servicing the communities of Brethren, Wellston, Kaleva, and Irons, along with other small communities. It is a district covering over 350 square miles with a free and reduced lunch rate over 70%. When identifying challenges that the school faces, our main concern is that at all tested reading and writing portions of the M-STEP, the percent of students proficient went down from 2014-15 to 2015-16. To help combat this problem, the district has hired a Reading Specialist to coach teachers and staff the best practices for Tier I instruction. Also, KND Elementary has adopted the new Essential Reading Practices that were identified by the State of Michigan Reading Taskforce. Teachers are receiving on going professional development on the Practices, and bi-weekly meetings with the Reading Specialist will continue throughout the school year.

State law requires that we also report additional information. <TO HAVE THIS LETTER MEET THE STATE REQUIREMENTS, EACH SCHOOL SHOULD PROVIDE A REPORT FOR THE **TWO MOST RECENT YEARS** ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL: KND Elementary follows the Michigan Merit Curriculum and places students into grade levels based on age and grade level performance.
2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: KND Elementary completes all of the requirements of the School Improvement process, and has a vision for progress that extends 3-5 years.
3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL: KND Elementary does not have an specialized schools. The elementary consists of all students in Kindergarten through 6th grade.
4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE’S MODEL: KND Elementary follows the requirements governed by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the Common Core Curriculum. Those interested in viewing the requirements established by MDE and the Common Core can get more information by going to http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html. Also, information can be found at <http://knd.manistee.org/>, or by visiting the main office.
5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS:

2015 NWEA Results, Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Grade Level	KND	National	Grade Level	KND	National
K-Math	161.7	159.1	K-Reading	161.7	158.1
1st-Math	178.1	180.8	1st-Reading	174.1	177.5
2nd-Math	192.2	192.1	2nd-Reading	185.9	188.7
3rd-Math	197.3	203.4	3rd-Reading	191.8	198.6
4th-Math	212.2	213.5	4th-Reading	202.7	205.9
5th-Math	211.7	221.4	5th-Reading	201.7	211.8
6th-Math	212.6	225.3	6th-Reading	203.9	215.8

2014 NWEA Results, Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Grade Level	KND	National	Grade Level	KND	National
K-Math	156.4	159.1	K-Reading	154.9	158.1
1st-Math	180.7	180.8	1st-Reading	173.6	177.5
2nd-Math	186.4	192.1	2nd-Reading	181.1	188.7
3rd-Math	199.8	203.4	3rd-Reading	193.2	198.6
4th-Math	205.6	213.5	4th-Reading	195.7	205.9
5th-Math	215.8	221.4	5th-Reading	204.9	211.8
6th-Math	222.2	225.3	6th-Reading	214.5	215.8

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:

Fall of 2015 conferences- 95% of KND Elementary parents and guardians, which equals to be 267 students were represented at the Fall parent-teacher conference.

Fall of 2016 conferences- 95% of KND Elementary parents and guardians, which equals to be 265 students were represented at parent-teacher conferences.

Thank you to the teachers, staff, parents, and most importantly, the students for making the KND Elementary a great place to learn and explore. When we all work together, our students can be very successful and we are truly a "Small School-Big Family."

Sincerely,

Jake Veith
K-12 Principal
KND Schools