

# KALEVA NORMAN DICKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Small School – Big Family*

Marlen Cordes, Superintendent  
Jakob Veith, K – 12 Principal  
Jonathan Randall, Dean of Students  
Jason Kemler, Athletic Director

## 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 Brethren High 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.

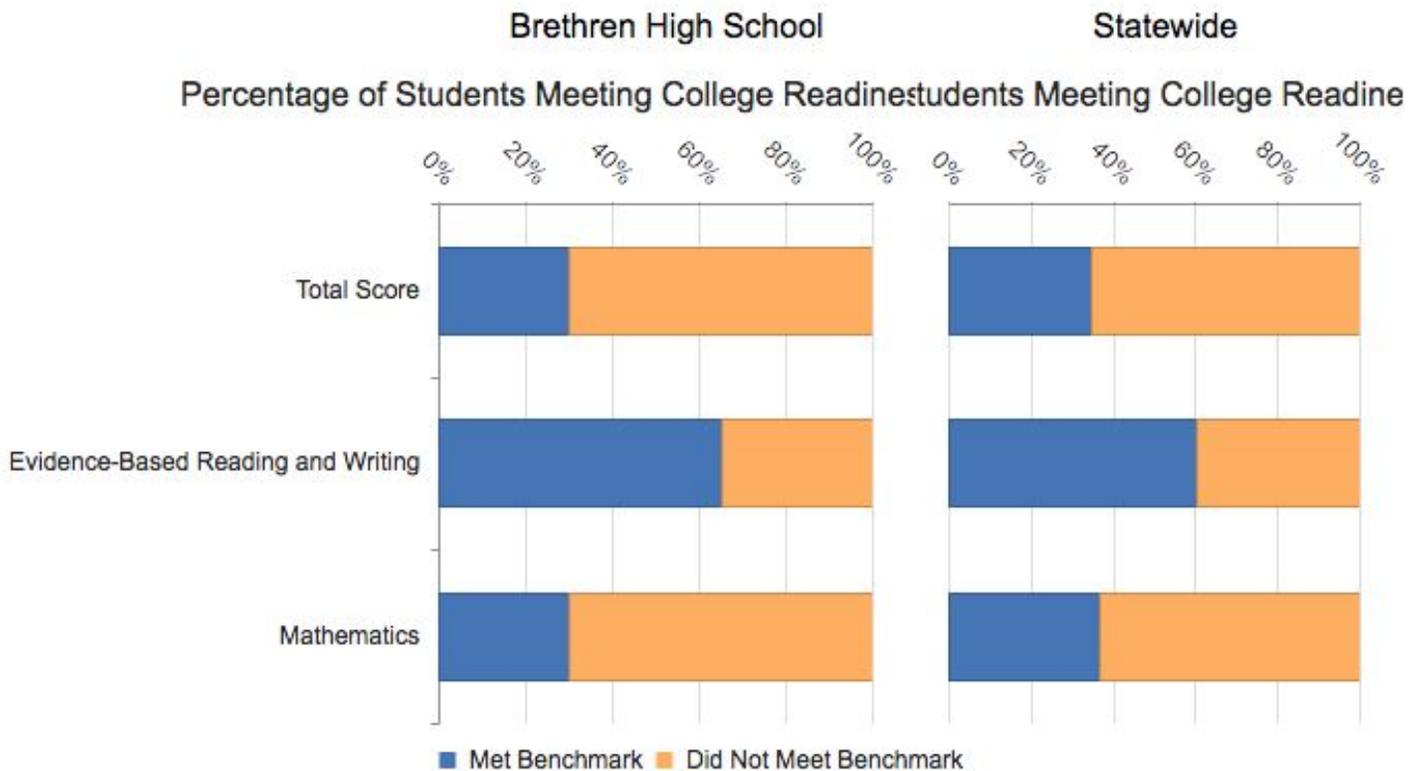
The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/huPJmC#NAEP>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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, our school has not been identified with one of these label.

Brethren High School 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 near 70%. When looking at challenges that the High School faces, high absenteeism continues to be an issue that the school and district faces. The State sets a goal of a 90% attendance rate, and Brethren High School had a rate of 85.3%. Due to this low average, the school works with the District's Truancy Liaison to notify families when their child is absent 5, 10, and 15 days or more in a semester. When a student reaches 10 or more unexcused absences in a semester, legal action may occur. Also, students with high absenteeism are matched with a staff member, and they meet to discuss the challenges the student faces when trying to get to school. With these meetings, student and staff members build a relationship and students become more aware of the importance of good attendance.

State law requires that we also report on the following...

1. **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:** Brethren HS 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:** Brethren HS 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:** Brethren HS does not have any specialized schools. The high school consists of all students in 9th and 12th grade. Many students take advantage of Career Technical Classes at the Career Center, in Cadillac, and many take advantage of Dual Enrollment opportunities with West Shore Community College.
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:** Brethren High School follows the requirements governed by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), and the Common Core State 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](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: 2015-16 SAT Scores**



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

In the Fall of 2015, Brethren High School had 155 students in 9th-12th grade. 33% of families, which equals 51 students, had at least one parent or guardian attend the Fall parent-teacher conferences.

In the Fall of 2016, Brethren High School has 154 students in 9th-12th grade. 30% of families, which equals to 46 students, had at least one parent or guardian attend the Fall parent-teacher conferences.

7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT) - **2013-2014 (15@19%) 2014-2015 (9@12%)**

**2015-2016 (9@12.8%)**

2. THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)-

**2013-2014 (0) 2014-2015 (2) 2015-2016 (0)**

3. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES **2013-2014 (0) 2014-2015 (18@43%)**

**2015-2016 (0)**

4. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT- **2013-2014 (15@19%) 2014-2015 (27@38%)**

**2015-2016 (8@11.4%)**

Thank you to the teachers, staff, parents, and most importantly, the students for making Brethren Middle School 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