**Stephenson Area Public Schools**

**W526 Division Street**

**Stephenson, Michigan 49887**

**Phone: 906-753-2222**

**District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

March 11, 2019

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 Stephenson Area Public Schools and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Ronald Kraft for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2Hhn1fa>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child’s school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

**Student Assessment Data –** Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and MI-Access science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

**Accountability – Detail Data and Status**

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.

**Teacher Qualification Data**

* Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
* Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

**NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

* Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

**Civil Rights Data**

* Provides information on school quality, climate and safety

Review the table below listing our schools. 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 status 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.

| School Name | Status Label | Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Stephenson Elementary School | NO LABEL SCHOOL | Professional Development, Tiered Instruction, Title, Vocabulary Initiative |
| Stephenson Middle/High School | NO LABEL SCHOOL | Professional Development, Tutorials and Enrichments, Vocabulary Initiative  |

I would like to take this opportunity to thanks our students, staff and parents for the significant progress that has recently been made at Stephenson Area Public Schools as evidenced by the School Index Overview over the past two years. We have had back to back years with outstanding School Index Overview scores. In 2017 our elementary earned a score of 91.66 and in 2018 a score or 96.94. In 2017 our middle school/high school earned a score of 97.93 and in 2018 a score of 96.02. These indicators are by far the best in the area and are a positive sign of the work our staff has done through professional development to increase their skill. The skills are documentable through planning, delivery of lessons, and formative and summative assessment data. The opportunities that our students are afforded daily, the work they are doing and the support from parents is extremely encouraging. We are heading down the right road. The continued work of staff and students is vital for our success. Continued communication and support from parents is also a massive piece to student success. Parents please continue to communicate with your student’s teachers and administrators. We will continue to adjust services as needed to address your child’s learning.

Sincerely,

Ronald Kraft