January 31, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-2019 educational progress for BUCHANAN 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 me at ortize@grps.org or call our school’s main office at 616-819-2252 for assistance.

All Michigan schools are required to report out on several different components including:

- Results of State Assessments for all tested subjects (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies)
- Teacher Qualification Data
- NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

Our school’s AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the Michigan School Data site or clicking this link: Buchanan AER. You may also review a copy in the main office at our school.

For the 2018-19 school year, schools were identified using definitions and support categories as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is performing in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school has one or more student subgroups performing at or below the 25th percentile. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school has one or more student subgroups performing at or below the 25th percentile with one or more student subgroups performing like a bottom 5th percentile school. Schools with higher levels of performance are not identified with any of these support category labels.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.
Click here to view the School Index Overview for our school. This site provides additional information about key performance indicators.

We continue to implement the district’s Academic Plan that focuses on creating a learning culture to advance students’ thinking and providing a rigorous and standards-based curriculum to help students achieve College- and Career-Readiness by the time they graduate.

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**About The School**

Buchanan Elementary School has a dedicated staff that is committed to helping students succeed in school. It has implemented the Balanced Literacy Model for language arts instruction, as well as the Everyday Math program for kindergarten through fifth grade students. Staff collaborates weekly to review student work and to discuss and adjust instructional practices. Buchanan continues its Family Support Team, which helps to meet the needs of struggling students. In addition, Buchanan houses the Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Program, which provides services to families throughout Kent County with children birth through age five. In order to provide students an opportunity to begin their education at an early age, it also offers four, half day sessions of preschool. The full-day kindergarten program allows staff to routinely assess students and provide a strong academic program.

**Mission Statement**

We will ensure that all students are educated, self-directed and productive members of society.

**Process for Assigning Pupils to Our School**

Our school is a neighborhood school with a geographic attendance area. Students who reside in our attendance area are eligible to enroll in our school. Click here to view the GRPS Attendance Area Finder. It shows the neighborhood elementary school, middle school, and high school for your address. Additional options, including K-8 schools, theme schools, and Centers of Innovation are available. Please contact Student Services at 616-819-2150 to learn more about your school choices.

**Local Assessment Results**

NWEA’s Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is the district’s local assessment. The graph below reflects the proportion of students scoring at or above the 50th percentile.
Core Curriculum

GRPS continues to...

- Align curricula to Michigan Grade Level Content Standards and College and Career Readiness Standards.
- Provide professional development that supports the Academic Plan.
- Assess student learning so teachers have accurate information about each student.
- Define individualized student targets, school-wide targets and district achievement targets.

The GRPS Parent University website links parents to resources such as Milestones (provided by GreatSchools), a collection of online videos aimed to help parents understand their child’s grade-level expectations. These videos show students demonstrating what success looks like in reading, writing, and math for every grade level.

We are committed to ensuring our students reach their full academic potential. Feel free to contact me if you have questions or need additional information. Thank you for your interest in our school!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Ortiz
Principal, Buchanan Elementary School