

# 2019-2021 Annual Education Report



Grand Rapids Public Schools • 1331 Franklin S.E. • P.O. Box 117 • Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0117 • (616) 819-2000 • <http://www.grps.org>



Grades: PreK—5 • 940 Baldwin S.E. • 616.819.2201 • Fax: 616.819-2203 • Jennifer Williams, Principal • Enrollment: 236

February 15, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-2020 educational progress for CONGRESS 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 [WilliamsJe@grps.org](mailto:WilliamsJe@grps.org) or call our school's main office at 616-819-2201 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)*

Schools typically are 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.

Note that student assessment and accountability data are not included in this AER due to federal waivers. Our school's AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the Michigan School Data site or clicking this link: [Congress AER](#). You may also review a copy in the main office at our school.

# Congress

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.

### **About The School**

Congress Elementary School is a diverse and vibrant neighborhood school with high parent and community involvement and a dedicated and talented teaching staff:

- We maintain a rigorous daily schedule promoting academic excellence for all students with enrichment courses in Spanish and Strings (violin).
- We are a diverse language center offering ESL support to students and families.
- We offer two all day kindergarten classes and pre-school for our youngest cubs.
- We have community partnerships with Books and Mortar, Marie Catrib's, Brewery Vivant, Kids Hope USA, the Williams Group, Cascade Engineering, Grand Valley State University, Western Michigan University, and Trinity Church among others.
- LOOP offers a dynamic afterschool program through Campfire USA.
- We have a highly active Parent Teacher Community Council (PTCC)

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to 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. Schools were closed beginning March 2020 due to the pandemic. Therefore, MAP tests were not administered in Spring 2020.

### **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,

Jennifer Williams  
Principal, Congress Elementary

