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 NORTH PARK MONTESSORI ACADEMY. 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 CapilloM@grps.org or call our school’s main office at 616-819-2848 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: [North Park Montessori AER](#). You may also review a copy in the main office at our school.
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**
GRPS has a 40-year history of public Montessori education, one of the longest-running public programs in the US. North Park is one of three GRPS sites that offers a Montessori experience for students. North Park Montessori is a theme school within Grand Rapids Public Schools. The environment contains materials that invite children to engage in learning of their own choosing within guidelines provided by specially trained teachers. The Montessori method uses hands-on lessons and experiences to help students learn by doing.

**Mission Statement**
Our mission is to prepare each child for the next step in their educational journey—from pre-school to middle school. As an educational community, we share the view that to succeed, we are all responsible for creating an environment that is optimal for learning. Our staff creates the classroom environments that stimulate and encourage learning. Children are expected to be respectful, responsible and arrive at school ready to learn. Parents have a vital and varied role in helping to create the optimal education experience within our school. At North Park, we share the responsibility for creating successful students.

**Process for Assigning Pupils to Our School**
Our school is a theme school requiring application. 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,

Maureen Capillo
Principal, North Park Montessori School