April 12, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-2018 educational progress for the Newcomers Community 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 me at nelsonk@grps.org or call our school’s main office at (616) 819-3205 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: Newcomers AER. You may also review a copy in the main office at our school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels 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 two underperforming student subgroups. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school has three or more underperforming student subgroups. Schools with higher levels of performance are not identified with any of these 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.

**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**
To be eligible for the Newcomer Program, a student must meet the following criteria: 1) lowest level on WIDA, and 2) be between 15 and 19 years of age, and 3) have limited formal education, and 4) be in the United States for less than two years. The URL listed below links to information about enrolling in the Newcomer Program. Please contact Student Services at (616) 819-2150 to learn more about your school choices. [http://grps.org/enrolltoday](http://grps.org/enrolltoday)

**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,

Karl Nelson
Principal, Newcomers