

# Northwest Kidder Middle School

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**Daniel L. Brooks, Principal**

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March 1, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the Northwest R.W. Kidder Middle 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 Daniel Brooks, Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site (<https://www.mischooldata.org>) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given.

Our school was identified as a school that has not been given one of these labels by the State of Michigan.

The staff has identified our challenges as continuing to maintain our level of academic achievement during this period of transition to the M-Step. In addition, our goal is to see improvements in the academic achievement of our students with economic disadvantages and disabilities subgroups as well as increase the number

of students scoring in the proficient and advanced levels of M-Step. Finally, we will continue to work on the culture of our building in hopes of creating a positive learning environment for all of our students.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### **Process for Assigning Pupils to the School**

School attendance boundaries are set by the Board of Education. All students living in the attendance area of a school attend that school unless the Schools of Choice option is selected.

### **School Improvement Status**

Northwest R.W. Kidder Middle School is currently working on our teaching strategies to improve the reading and writing practices of all of our students. We also are continuing to implement the Nurtured Heart Approach as we work to build a positive school culture for all of our students and stakeholders. You can assess the R.W. Kidder Middle School's Annual Report including the school's profile, mission statement, and school improvement status at <http://nwschools.org>.

### **Core Curriculum**

A copy of the core curriculum may be obtained from the curriculum office at the Northwest Administration Building. The core curriculum is fully implemented. Our ELA and Math curriculum have been aligned with the Common Core Standards. Other curriculum areas are aligned with Grade Level Content Standards. There are no variances from the state's model. All of our core academic classes are taught by highly qualified teachers.

### **Aggregate Student**

Students in grades 6-8 are assessed annually in English Language Arts and Mathematics on the M-Step. This test is also given in Social Studies to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade as well as Social Studies and Writing to our 7<sup>th</sup> Graders. The ACT Explore is also given to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Data from these assessments is reviewed by our staff during data dialogue meetings and department meetings throughout the school year.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Welcoming parents to our school in order to develop partnerships is very important. We are pleased to have the support of our parents in working together to help our children be successful. Parent/Guardians are able to access their student's progress at any time through an online program titled PowerSchool. Approximately fifty-five percent (55%) of our students were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences in the fall and winter.

I congratulate the Northwest R.W. Kidder Middle School, our parents and our community for providing a safe, nurturing and encouraging environment for our children. Through our partnerships with our parents and community, we are able

to provide the best learning environment for our students. It is through their dedication and hard work that our students are becoming responsible citizens and life-long learners.

Sincerely,

Daniel Brooks  
Principal