



# ITHACA NORTH ELEMENTARY

2017-2018 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT COVER LETTER

Renee Sopel, Principal

## Principal's Greeting/Message

March 22, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for the Ithaca North 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 Renee Sopel, principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting [2017-2018 Ithaca North Elementary AER](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has not been given any of these labels.

Ithaca North Elementary School strives to meet the needs of all students. Some key initiatives during the 2017-18 school year to accelerate student achievement and to close any gaps between high and low achieving students is to improve basic math fact fluency in mathematics and to improve student reading comprehension in informational text.

Our school is making progress closing the gap between the high and low achieving students. This shows that our Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) intervention strategies are strong and showing great results in ELA but we recognize the need to improve in the area of mathematics. We also will continue work to support all student subgroups.

Sincerely,

Renee Sopel, Principal

## Description of the School

North Elementary is located on the corner of North Pine River and Arcada Streets in Ithaca. It serves approximately 328 students in grades three, four, five, and six. The staff is comprised of one principal, 14 general education teachers, 3 special education teachers, one physical education teacher, a media technology, STEAM and half time music teacher, and one Title 1 teacher. Supporting our teaching staff are title paraprofessionals, one-on-one shadow paraprofessional, one and a half custodial positions, and one secretary. The RESD provides services for our speech pathologist. We share services with our lower elementary building for social work services. Programs provided at the school include school-wide title services in the areas of reading and mathematics, special education services as resource room as well as mildly cognitively impaired services.

## Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

All district pupils in 3-6 are assigned to North since there is only one building in this district that serves this grade span of pupils. Other students may also be assigned to this building for a program offered that better meets their educational needs.

## Status of 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

All district pupils in 3-6 are assigned to North since there is only one building in this district that serves this grade span of pupils. Other students may also be assigned to this building for a program offered that better meets their educational needs.

GOALS	PROGRESS		
	NOT YET BEGUN	MAKING PROGRESS	COMPLETED
All Students at North Elementary School will become proficient in Writing.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will learn best practices in principles and instructional strategies to begin to incorporate the MAISA Writing Units</li> <li>• All students will be given pre-post assessments.</li> </ul>	X		
All students at North Elementary School will become proficient in Science			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will use a hands-on approach at Forest Hill Education Center.</li> <li>• NGSS units are being developed and early implementation has begun.</li> <li>• Battle Creek Science units are utilized with vocabulary skill stressed and the use of information books is incorporated.</li> </ul>		X	
All students at North Elementary School will become proficient in Mathematics.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will improve basic math facts fluency implementing a strong MTSS (Multi-Tier System of Support).]</li> <li>• Continuous analysis of error patterns will be used as well as Connect Ed as an online tool.</li> </ul>			X
All students at North Elementary School will become proficient in Reading.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants will use best practices in principles and instructional strategies incorporated in the MAISA Reading units.</li> <li>• Informational reading will be the focus to improve reading comprehension.</li> </ul>		X	

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## Core Curriculum Status

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A copy of the Core Curriculum is available at [www.Michigan.gov/mde](http://www.Michigan.gov/mde) or a paper copy is available by contacting the North Elementary School office.

### English Language Arts

The English Language Arts curriculum follows Michigan approved Common Core State Standards. Building educators utilize MAISA Reading and Writing units. The English Language Arts curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2017. We will continue to increase our number of leveled reading books to help improve student choice. We also use the Accelerated Reading Program to help increase reading comprehension. Our literacy committee continues to meet and evaluate our literacy programs from K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and title teachers have piloted a new phonemic awareness program, Literacy Resources Inc. by Dr. Haggerty.

### Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum follows Michigan approved Common Core State Standards. Building educators implemented MyMath by McGraw-Hill in the 2012-13 school year, verified by research conducted by the K-6 mathematics committee and the Florida Research Center for Education. The Mathematics curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2012. We have been involved in the process of looking at essential standards in math for each grade level with support for the RESD math consultant. Grade levels also use Rocket Math for fact fluency as a supplement and assessment.

### Science

The Science curriculum follows the Grade Level Content Expectations approved by Michigan's State Board of Education. In addition to the GLCE/HSCE's the building is analyzing the proposed Michigan Science Standards in preparation for the transition to the Next Generation Science Standards. Building educators utilize Battle Creek Science kits verified by research conducted by the Michigan Department of Education. The Science curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2007. Our local science consultant began writing NCSS units for each grade level and early implementation has begun. Students also experience outdoor hands-on learning at Forest Hill Nature Center. The Next Generation Science Standards were approved at the state level and will serve as our guide for future science instruction and drive our professional development endeavors.

### Social Studies

The Social Studies curriculum follows the Grade Level Content Expectations approved by Michigan's State Board of Education. Building educators utilize McGraw-Hill series verified by research conducted by the Florida Research Center for Education. The Social Studies curriculum was last approved by our local Board of Education in 2007. Students also experience field trips at each grade level.

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## Aggregate Local Assessment Data

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The Ithaca North Elementary staff has aligned their curriculum to meet the current State Standards, Benchmarks and High School Content Expectations. Assessments are based on the criteria set forth by the State of Michigan and the Federal Government. DRA is used to track third grade student reading levels three times per year. DIBELS is used to track progress for literacy three times per year. NWEA is administered to all students in reading, mathematics, and science three times per year as well. These assessments are normed and computer adaptive. The following chart shows M-STEP data for all students for the past two years.

	2016-2017		2017-2018	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
Grade 3	37.2%	48.8%	52.4%	43.9%
Grade 4	48.7%	35.5%	44.8%	35.6%
Grade 5	54.5%	24.7%	59.5%	32.5%
Grade 6	28.8%	15.1%	47.5%	40.0%

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## Parent Teacher Conference Attendance Data

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	2016-2017		2017-18	
	Number of students represented	Percentage of students represented	Number of students represented	Percentage of students represented
All	301	93%	294	87%

In closing, the North Elementary staff and students continue to work together diligently to improve our school by setting and working to achieve our annual goals to academically prepare all students.

Sincerely,

Renee Sopel, Principal