

***POLK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL***

***4651 Polk Street***

***Dearborn Heights, MI 48125***

***Phone (313) 203-0500***

***Fax (313) 563-7189***

***Dr. Claudia Portscheller***  
***Acting Principal***

***Mrs. Vera Beauvais***  
***Administrative Assistant***

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Dear Polk Elementary School Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-2017 educational progress for Polk Elementary 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 Dr. Claudia Portscheller at 313-203-0500 for assistance.

Polk Elementary School has had difficulty improving student performance and student growth in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. As we are committed to providing the best individualized instruction for all students. We are:

- Adjusting instruction in English Language Arts through ability-level grouping;
- Providing professional development to staff to assist in targeting areas of concern and in the use of instructional tools designed to improve student performance (i.e. building academic vocabulary and increased use of technology);
- Actively involving students and families by offering numerous activities that promote literacy throughout the 2017-18 school year, and;
- Investigating additional strategies that assist student learning which are included in the 2017-18 School Improvement Plan. These strategies are developed to reduce the gaps in student academic performance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [http://dhsd7.sharpschool.com/district\\_information/annual\\_education\\_report](http://dhsd7.sharpschool.com/district_information/annual_education_report) or you may review a copy from the main office at Polk Elementary School.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. In 2013, Dearborn Heights School District #7 conducted a reconfiguration of the elementary program. Polk Elementary School now serves as the district's sole building for 2nd and 3rd grades, so all 2nd and 3rd grade students attending Dearborn Heights School District #7 attend Polk Elementary School.

2. The Polk Elementary School Improvement Plan was revised during the 2017-18 school year. Our school improvement goals – improvement in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies – were updated, as were our strategies for achieving those goals as determined by the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), the Northwest Evaluation Association Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), and locally-produced classroom assessments. Next School year, Polk Elementary School will revert back to a K-5 building. The Polk Elementary School Improvement Plan has been redrafted to reflect the needs of a K-5 building.

3. Polk Elementary is an elementary school currently serving 2nd and 3rd grades in all core subject areas. Further, all students receive special area instruction in Art, Computers, Media, Music and Physical Education.

4. The Michigan Department of Education provides all Michigan schools with a core curriculum for all core academic areas, including Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. Copies of this curriculum can be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.corestandards.org>. These core standards align closely with the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics, and provide the foundation for learning at the elementary level. This core curriculum has been customized to the needs of students in Dearborn Heights School District #7 by teachers of all grade levels working in concert with district administration. The material presented is identical to what is expected by both the state and federal governments, but is tailored to the specific student populations of District #7 elementary school students.

5. Presented below in table format are the Polk Elementary School aggregate student achievement results for both MEAP/M-STEP and NWEA *Measures of Academic Progress* for the past two school years. The values listed on the table indicate the percentage of students identified as Proficient (or better) in each area.

| <b>Grade 3 M-STEP Math<br/>2015-16</b> | <b>Grade 3 M-STEP ELA<br/>2015-16</b> | <b>Grade 3 M-STEP Math<br/>2016-17</b> | <b>Grade 3 M-STEP ELA<br/>2016-17</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 27.1%                                  | 21.0%                                 | 25.7%                                  | 20.0%                                 |
| <b>Grade 3 NWEA Math<br/>2015-16</b>   | <b>Grade 3 NWEA ELA<br/>2015-16</b>   | <b>Grade 3 NWEA Math<br/>2016-17</b>   | <b>Grade 3 NWEA ELA<br/>2016-17</b>   |
| 30.6%                                  | 38.3%                                 | 25.0%                                  | 41.0%                                 |

6. Polk Elementary School is fortunate to have nearly 80% of all families represented at fall and spring parent teacher conferences.

We at Polk Elementary School are exceptionally pleased with our continued progress. We continue to work as a staff and as a school community to do what is best for the students of Polk Elementary School so that they may go on to achieve further success in school as well as in later life.

Sincerely,



Dr. Claudia Portscheller  
Acting Principal