Sunset Lake Elementary Annual Education Report (AER)

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 Sunset Lake 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 Amie McCaw, Principal, at 269-321-1500 for assistance.

The School AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the district’s website at www.vicksburgschools.org. Under the Programs and Policies tab, go to Annual Reports and click on “Sunset Lake Elementary”. You can also link directly to our AER by following this link: https://goo.gl/9ew76g. Additionally, a copy of the report is available for your review in the main office of our 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. Sunset Lake Elementary has not been identified as a Priority or Focus school.

Sunset Lake Elementary is located in the Village of Vicksburg and is a BK-5 building with 505 students. Our building also includes a Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) to prepare students for Kindergarten. The GSRP consists of 16 students. Sunset Lake Elementary has 43% of their students qualify for free and reduced food service.

Sunset Lake works through the challenges of guaranteeing ALL students achieve a year or more of academic growth in all subject areas annually. Building systems to ensure that we increase our end of year achievement is a work in progress.
Some of the key initiatives that have been implemented include:

- Building Leadership Team created to oversee the school improvement process
- Multi-Tiered System of Support Team Meetings-to address the needs of all students
- Frequent and consistent student progress monitoring
- K-5 implementation of research based curriculum programs
- Implementation of instructional pacing guides for reading, writing and math
- Implementation of summer school for grades 1-5
- WIN (What I Need) Schedule that identifies uninterrupted core teaching times and identifies time for interventions (remediation and enrichment)
- Implementation of The Leader in Me, a school-wide focus on student leadership based on Stephen R. Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*

State law requires that we report the following information about Sunset Lake Elementary:

- The process the district uses for assigning pupils to elementary schools is generally based on their primary residence with consideration of the location of their daycare.
- We have worked through our 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years to develop a strong targeted school improvement plan with goals for reading, math, writing, science, social studies and student leadership.
- Sunset Lake Elementary continues to implement Common Core State Standards and is developing formative assessments to determine student progress in all subject areas. Common Core State Standards are used in K-12 for English Language Arts and Math. The Battle Creek Math and Science Kits, our instructional resource for science in grades K-5, are in the process of being aligned to the Michigan Science Standards, and the MC3 is used for Social Studies for grades K-5.
- Parent Teacher Conferences are held at the end of the first marking period and Student Led Conferences are held at the end of the second marking period. Additional conferences and Student Assistance Team Meetings (SAT) are held when a student is not making adequate progress academically, socially or emotionally. Approximately 96% of Sunset families attend conferences on a consistent basis.
The students, parents and staff at Sunset Lake Elementary are proud of the great work we do each day. We are committed to empowering our students and to instill leadership habits for all of our children to gain the needed 21st century skills. Students at Sunset Lake Elementary create goals and track their own learning data through their Leadership Binders. Students at Sunset Lake Elementary are also given leadership roles in the classroom and throughout the building to help create responsible, independent learners. Our school system is determined to have ALL students’ graduate college and career ready.

Thank you for your interest in Sunset Lake Elementary.

Sincerely,

**Amie McCaw**
Amie McCaw
Sunset Lake Elementary Principal
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