



**Redford Union Schools**  
17715 Brady, Redford Michigan 48240  
Telephone (313) 242-6000  
Fax (313) 242-6005

Dr. Sarina Shivers, Superintendent

## **MacGowan Elementary School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

**2014-2015**

4-20-16

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for MacGowan 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 Kathleen Robbins at 313-242-3801 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site at <http://www.redfordu.k12.mi.us>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

MacGowan, a prek-1<sup>st</sup> school, has not been given one of these labels as our students do not participate in any state assessments due to their young age.

All kindergarten and first grade students who reside in the Redford Union School District attend MacGowan School. Our students do not take the state test due to their age and therefore we do not have a label assigned to us. We do assess our students with the Developmental Reading Assessment and NWEA. It is the mission of MacGowan School staff to provide a strong literacy and numeracy foundation for the students in order for them to achieve success on the state test in future school years. Challenges for our school are students entering school with limited oral language, literacy, math and self-regulation skills. Additional challenges are the effects of poverty on our

school population such as poor attendance, health issues and unstable residency.

State law requires that we also report on the following information:

1. All students who are kindergarten and first grade age residing in the school district are assigned to MacGowan School. MacGowan also has a Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP). The GSRP students are selected based on the Michigan Department of Education guidelines.
2. MacGowan School is a school wide Title 1 building and involved in a process of continuous improvement. We are dedicated to increasing the percentage of students who meet grade level expectations in literacy, numeracy in addition to developing the vocabulary and social skills necessary for future school success. All federal funds are utilized to provide interventions for at-risk students. We are dedicated to building the foundation for learning success for our students. The school improvement plan is posted on our web site.
3. MacGowan School houses the kindergarten and first grade center program for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The preschool, kindergarten and first grade center program for students with Hearing Impairments and the Preschool Special Education Programs.
4. MacGowan school staff developed scope & sequence with pacing guides in Math and ELA which align with the Common Core. They developed benchmark assessments in Math and ELA. Each year these documents are updated. We are in the process of developing science curriculum to align with NGSS. Parents can review a copy of our curricular documents upon request.
5. All first grade students are given the Developmental Reading Assessment four times per year. While most students experienced a year of growth, the percentage of students not meeting grade level expectations is about 45%. Sixty-two percent of our students achieved grade level expectations in writing. First grade students were given the NWEA in math and reading. While most students showed significant growth during the school year few reached their growth target. Kindergarten students are given the Michigan Literacy Progress Profile four times per year. We have seen great improvement in the literacy skills of our kindergarten students. Ninety one percent of our

kindergarten students were at or above level in their letter identification and letter sound acquisition skills. Seventy-eight percent of the kindergarten students scored at or above level in writing. We monitor our students' progress in math with common assessments and a progress monitoring tool.

6. Ninety-five percent of parents attended parent teacher conferences in the fall. Spring conferences are optional.

MacGowan School staff will continue with their commitment to provide every student with the developmentally appropriate educational experiences needed to achieve success. We recognize the importance of parent involvement to student achievement and strive to build a partnership between parents and staff in order to help every child succeed.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Robbins  
Principal, MacGowan Elementary School