



Kenneth Nuss
Principal

Blanche Sims Elementary Annual Education Report (AER)

May 15, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Blanche Sims 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 Mr. Kenneth Nuss for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/SMxV78> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new 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. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

We have fully implemented the Response to Intervention (RTI) process and continue to address student needs with a three-tiered approach. We conduct data team meetings three times a year to ensure that our core instruction is meeting the needs of the grade level, and then look at individual students to ensure they are making gains. Grade level teams meet weekly to review any changes in data and make necessary changes as needed. If students are not making adequate gains, a plan is put into place and monitored. We also address students who are above grade level with individualized instruction. Almost all of our students who are new to us in grades 1-5 are behind our academic expectations when they arrive. For these students, we begin interventions immediately. Our biggest challenge is the summer loss that is occurring in student's reading levels. We have summer programs in place to address this concern and will continue to monitor.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Blanche Sims Elementary and Student Enrollment

Blanche Sims Elementary is one of four elementary neighborhood schools within Lake Orion Community Schools. A neighborhood school provides enrollment only to those students living within the school's boundary. Students attend school with those children who are their neighbors and playmates. This learning community provides a sense of trust and support in which children are nurtured and thrive. Parents are viewed as "partners" in the educational process.

Lake Orion Community Schools has expanded its Schools-of-Choice enrollment program to include out-of-district students for the 2016-17 school year. Spaces were available at selected schools in grades K through 8 during the 2016-17 school year. Lake Orion also accepted Schools-of-Choice students in our Learning Options High School, an alternative learning environment for students in grades 10-12.

School Improvement

The staff regularly conducts quarterly data team meetings to review the data and put interventions in place. Grade levels meet weekly to review data and make any necessary changes. We have committee meetings monthly to review our school improvement goals. The Blanche Sims School Improvement Plan may be viewed on the Blanche Sims website.

We have identified the following goals:

- Goal 1: All students at Blanche Sims Elementary will increase student growth in writing.
- Goal 2: All students at Blanche Sims Elementary will increase student growth in reading.
- Goal 3: All students at Blanche Sims Elementary will increase student growth in math.

The Blanche Sims School Improvement Plan may be viewed on the Blanche Sims website.

Specialized Schools

Located in the heart of Lake Orion, Blanche Sims Elementary embraces partnerships with local businesses to provide enriched educational and community service opportunities. High academic achievement is promoted by recognizing the uniqueness of all individuals and through the integration of technology and career-focused education. The staff of Blanche Sims strives to instill a sense of compassion for others in our learning environment and the world around us. We are committed to a high level of family involvement in the educational process. A snapshot of school activities includes Career Day, Family Fun Nights, and an annual Fun Run and Spring Fair

Blanche Sims includes two classrooms with students with Autism that are included in the general education setting when appropriate. In addition, our school district provides educational programs, services and support to certified special education students throughout the District. During the 2016-17 school year, there were 884 students who were in need of special education support services. From this group, 14 students required specialized services outside of the Lake Orion school district. Those students attended Waterford and Bloomfield Hills School Districts.

Curriculum

Lake Orion Community Schools continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with Michigan Standards for all courses and subject matter, and state-mandated graduation requirements. The curriculum at Blanche Sims is synonymous with the district's curriculum. Additional information on the curriculum can be found at

<http://lakeorion.k12.mi.us/Content2/100>

Local Assessments

At Blanche Sims we use a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods (in addition to M-STEP) to assess the whole child.

Kindergarten

	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	41	100.0	51	100.0
Teachers College	Reading	41	56.1	53	62.3
AIMSweb Nonsense Word Fluency	Reading	41	87.8	53	81.1
AIMSweb Phoneme Segmentation Fluency	Reading	41	92.7	51	90.2
AIMSweb Letter Naming Fluency	Reading	41	87.8	49	81.6
AIMSweb Letter Sound Fluency	Reading	41	95.1	53	94.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	40	95.0	50	88.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	41	82.9	51	90.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	40	92.5	55	87.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	41	87.8	53	86.8

Grade 1

Assessment	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	47	72.3	32	81.3
Teachers College	Reading	46	60.9	32	75.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	47	66.0	32	81.3
AIMSweb Nonsense Word Fluency	Reading	47	97.9	32	78.1
AIMSweb Missing Number Measurement	Mathematics	46	41.3	32	68.8
AIMSweb Quantity Discrimination	Mathematics	44	59.1	32	68.8
AIMSweb Number Identification Measurement	Mathematics	44	54.5	32	65.6
AIMSweb Oral Counting Measurement	Mathematics	44	40.9	32	56.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	42	97.6	31	90.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	43	95.3	31	93.5
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	45	82.2	32	81.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	45	95.6	32	93.8
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	46	82.6	n/a	n/a

Grade 2

Assessment	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	40	55.0	45	35.6
Non-Fiction Reading	Reading	40	47.5	45	53.3
Teachers College	Reading	40	82.5	47	70.2
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	40	77.5	47	55.3
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	40	97.5	46	89.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	39	79.5	49	71.4
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	39	79.5	47	70.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	39	82.1	46	65.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	40	72.5	46	71.7

Grade 3

	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	54	42.6	39	51.3
Non Fiction	Reading	53	45.3	39	53.8
Teachers College	Reading	54	61.1	39	84.6
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	53	56.6	39	71.8
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	53	73.6	39	82.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	52	57.7	41	78.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	51	51.0	39	59.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	54	74.1	39	71.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	54	53.7	39	66.7

Grade 4

Assessment	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	53	32.1	55	27.3
Non Fiction	Reading	53	32.1	46	30.4
Teachers College	Reading	53	69.8	55	80.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency 4	Reading	53	58.5	55	61.8
AIMSweb MCOMP 4	Mathematics	53	75.5	55	87.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	53	64.2	52	63.5
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	53	41.5	53	49.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	53	60.4	54	61.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	53	54.7	54	63.0

Grade 5

Assessment	Content	Spring 2016 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	63	41.3	50	20.0
Non Fiction	Reading	63	39.7	50	36.0
Teachers College	Reading	64	45.3	50	76.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency 5	Reading	64	69.2	50	68.0
AIMSweb MCOMP 5	Mathematics	63	93.7	50	70.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	60	66.7	50	68.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	61	39.3	49	40.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	63	49.2	49	40.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	63	54.0	49	51.0

Parent Participation

Parents/guardians have given a great deal of their time to support students and staff by volunteering in classrooms, on field trips, in the media center, for the PTC, and by raising funds to support school projects. Individual school-wide parent-teacher conferences are held each year and we are very pleased with the attendance of parents and guardians.

Fall Conferences

2016-2017	Boys – 163 (96.4%)	Girls – 123 (94.6%)	Total % - 95.7%
2015-2016	Boys – 179 (95.2%)	Girls – 128 (94.1%)	Total % - 94.8%

Spring Conferences

2016-2017	Boys – 141 (88.1%)	Girls – 124 (91.2%)	Total % - 89.5%
2015-2016	Boys – 169 (93.4%)	Girls – 131 (94.9%)	Total % - 94.0%

Points of Pride

The 2016-2017 school year brought many exciting events and opportunities to the Blanche Sims Community and we are very proud of all of them. For a complete listing of the Blanche Sims Elementary Points of Pride please visit our website.

Blanche Sims is a small neighborhood school that takes pride in our warm and inviting environment. We work hard to meet the individual needs of every student every day. During the past few years we have been incorporating Visible Thinking Routines and Mindset Strategies in our DK – 5 grade classes to stretch students thinking. We have many programs in place during and outside of the school day to meet those individual needs.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kenneth Nuss
Principal