



Kenneth Nuss
Principal

Blanche Sims Elementary Annual Education Report (AER)

April 1, 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 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 <http://bit.ly/2HeP3bf> for you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 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 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.

*Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

We have fully implemented the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) 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.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Blanche Sims Elementary and Student Enrollment

Blanche Sims Elementary is one of six elementary neighborhood schools within Lake Orion Community Schools. A neighborhood school provides enrollment 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 2017-18 school year. Spaces were available at selected schools in grades K through 8 during the 2017-18 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. At Blanche Sims Elementary, we offer many before, after, and evening opportunities to engage students and their families throughout the year.

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 2017-18 school year, there were 872 students who were in need of special education support services. From this group, 12 students required specialized services outside of the Lake Orion school district. Those students attended Waterford, Birmingham, 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

<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/curriculum>

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 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	53	90.6	51	100.0
Teachers College	Reading	79	93.7	53	62.3
AIMSweb Nonsense Word Fluency	Reading	78	88.5	53	81.1
AIMSweb Phoneme Segmentation Fluency	Reading	79	87.3	51	90.2
AIMSweb Letter Naming Fluency	Reading	79	83.5	49	81.6
AIMSweb Letter Sound Fluency	Reading	79	82.3	53	94.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	78	89.7	50	88.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	79	88.6	51	90.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	78	93.6	55	87.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	78	96.2	53	86.8

Grade 1

Assessment	Content	Spring 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	86	98.8	32	81.3
Teachers College	Reading	88	69.3	32	75.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	87	77.0	32	81.3
AIMSweb Nonsense Word Fluency	Reading	87	75.9	32	78.1
AIMSweb Missing Number Measurement	Mathematics	85	50.6	32	68.8
AIMSweb Quantity Discrimination	Mathematics	85	87.1	32	68.8
AIMSweb Number Identification Measurement	Mathematics	85	68.2	32	65.6
AIMSweb Oral Counting Measurement	Mathematics	85	75.3	32	56.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	85	91.8	31	90.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	85	87.1	31	93.5
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	85	80.0	32	81.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	87	95.4	32	93.8

Grade 2

Assessment	Content	Spring 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	68	66.2	45	35.6
Non-Fiction Reading	Reading	68	72.1	45	53.3
Teachers College	Reading	68	78.8	47	70.2
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	67	80.6	47	55.3
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	67	95.5	46	89.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	66	84.8	49	71.4
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	67	92.5	47	70.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	67	89.6	46	65.2
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	68	85.3	46	71.7

Grade 3

	Content	Spring 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	68	66.2	39	51.3
Non Fiction	Reading	68	72.1	39	53.8
Teachers College	Reading	66	78.8	39	84.6
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	67	80.6	39	71.8
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	67	95.5	39	82.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	74	66.2	41	78.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	75	68.0	39	59.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	75	74.7	39	71.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	68	85.3	39	66.7

Grade 4

Assessment	Content	Spring 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	83	62.7	55	27.3
Non Fiction	Reading	83	60.2	46	30.4
Teachers College	Reading	83	91.6	55	80.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	82	76.8	55	61.8
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	83	81.9	55	87.3
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	81	77.8	52	63.5
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	81	51.9	53	49.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	82	74.4	54	61.1
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	82	76.8	54	63.0

Grade 5

Assessment	Content	Spring 2018 % Proficient		Spring 2017 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# tested	%
On Demand Opinion/Argument Writing	Writing	82	52.4	50	20.0
Non Fiction	Reading	83	47.0	50	36.0
Teachers College	Reading	83	89.2	50	76.0
AIMSweb Oral Reading Fluency	Reading	84	76.2	50	68.0
AIMSweb MCOMP	Mathematics	54	66.7	50	70.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	82	70.7	50	68.0
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	82	39.0	49	40.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	82	36.6	49	40.8
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	82	42.7	49	51.0
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics	79	48.1	n/a	n/a

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%
2017-2018	Boys – 261 (97.8%)	Girls – 209 (97.7%)	Total % - 97.7%

Spring Conferences

2016-2017	Boys – 141 (88.1%)	Girls – 124 (91.2%)	Total % - 89.5%
2017-2018	Boys – 242 (91.3%)	Girls – 201 (89.3%)	Total % - 90.4%

Points of Pride

The 2017-2018 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. We have incorporated Visible Thinking Routines, Mindset Strategies, and the 7 Habits of Happy Kids in our K – 5 grade classes to stretch students thinking and develop positive habits.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kenneth Nuss
Principal