



Kenneth Nuss
Principal

Phone: 248 • 693 • 5460

Blanche Sims Elementary Annual Education Report (AER)

February 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2023-24 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://bit.ly/2XcVdzj> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. 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 a fully implemented 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 continues its Schools-of-Choice enrollment program to include out-of-district students for the 2023-24 school year. Spaces were available at selected schools in grades K through 8. 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 Michigan Department of Education has made a shift in the school improvement process to a focus on the district level. The Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) is a pathway for districts to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funds. This process includes looking at the district data and developing a goal for all buildings to work toward. 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 district improvement goals. The 3-5 year District School Improvement Plan may be viewed on the district website at <https://bit.ly/31mCE1f>.

Lake Orion Community Schools as identified the following goals for all buildings:

- LOCS goal is to improve Math proficiency scores on state assessments in Grades 3-8 by 9% by June 15, 2024.
- LOCS goal is to increase our student attendance rates for students who miss less than 15 days of school by 20% by June 13, 2026.

Specialized Schools

Our school district provides educational programs, services, and support to certified special education students throughout the district. During the 2023-24 school year, there were 874 students who needed special education support services.

Our school district also runs a separate facility for students with autism, emotional impairments, and young adults with special needs ages 18-26 years old. Within the building we support students K-8 autism and K-8 with emotional impairments. The building included 75 students in total for the 2023-24 school year. Our new programs allow the district to increase our array of services to keep our students within our community.

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. Proficiency is set at 80%.

Kindergarten

	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge Early Reading Composite	Reading	62	69%	67	76%
FastBridge Number Identification	Math	62	71%	58	78%
Teachers College Developmental Spelling MOY	Writing	53	64%	65	65%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	39	95%	69	94%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	61	77%	69	78%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	61	80%	68	81%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	61	79%	67	73%

Grade 1

Assessment	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge Early Reading Composite	Reading	88	60%	60	68%
FastBridge Decomposing	Mathematics	88	77%	59	75%
Teachers College Spelling MOY	Writing	87	85%	60	20%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	88	94%	60	90%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	87	76%	60	78%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	86	72%	60	65%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	88	85%	59	93%

Grade 2

Assessment	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading	58	71%	83	67%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics	58	69%	83	70%
TC Spelling Inventory	Writing	56	66%	77	73%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	58	76%	86	64%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	57	91%	84	86%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	57	79%	65	75%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	58	85%	84	70%

Grade 3

Assessment	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading	76	71%	60	71%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics	76	66%	59	73%
LOSI Spelling Inventory	Writing	65	75%	58	76%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	76	47%	58	66%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	76	63%	60	62%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	71	62%	60	67%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	75	43%	60	53%

Grade 4

Assessment	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading	73	71%	76	74%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics	73	78%	76	75%
LOSI Spelling Inventory	Writing	72	81%	71	83%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	71	52%	77	52%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	71	44%	76	36%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	73	56%	77	47%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	71	61%	77	62%

Grade 5

Assessment	Content	Spring 2023 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# Tested	%	# Tested	%
FastBridge aReading	Reading	76	68%	79	76%
FastBridge aMath	Mathematics	76	66%	79	75%
LOSI Spelling Inventory	Writing	49	87%	47	85%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 1	Mathematics	74	68%	76	63%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 2	Mathematics	75	68%	75	44%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 3	Mathematics	76	53%	75	47%
Math Common Assessment Quarter 4	Mathematics	75	33%	77	58%

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. During the 2023-2024 school year, parent-teacher conferences were held in-person and via video meetings.

Parental Access Statistics

2023-2024 Average PowerSchool parent sign ins per day, 22.1.

Points of Pride

Blanche Sims Elementary School prides itself on providing an exemplary education to all students. Our dedicated staff members strive to ensure all student needs are met; academically, emotionally and socially.

Points of pride include:

- Monthly P2 (Positivity Project) Assemblies: Where the entire school comes together to celebrate student achievements
- Providing personalized interventions in all classrooms to ensure student achievement
- Michigan Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award
- Producing above average test scores in all academic areas
- Math Club opportunities with individualized instruction through i-Ready
- Our amazing PTO consistently supports all staff members and provides fun, educational events for our students
- A variety of after school enrichment programs offered throughout the school year to provide additional opportunities for learning to all students
- Taking field trips to Lansing, the Michigan Historical Museum, the Flint Children's Museum, Oakland University, Bower's Farm and many more to enhance the learning experience
- Hosting a Talent Show to provide students with an opportunity to showcase a variety of hidden talents
- Kids and Kops program: Students can participate at this fun night with the Lake Orion Police Officers on multiple occasions
- Host site for the Blessings in a Backpack program
- Implementation of the Antibullying Bully Prevention program
- Student Council (Positivity Patrol) raises awareness and money for many local and national charities
- Consistently awarded grants that fund opportunities for our students
- Student mentor program

Sincerely,

Mr. Kenneth Nuss
Principal