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## **Harrison Center Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

April 22, 2016

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 the Harrison Center. 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 Gloria Henry, Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/rNS1PD> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Our educational programs at Harrison Center are unique to our district. We house the adult and alternative programs and are also responsible for high school credit recovery programs which run each semester while schools are in session and in a summer school program. We enable students who are behind in credits the opportunity to catch up and graduate with their home school or transfer into our alternative program to graduate with a high school diploma or GED. Our high school program fulfills all of the district and state requirements, and, although some students may not graduate on time, they do indeed finish, graduate, and receive their high school diploma or GED certificate.

State law requires that we also report the following additional information.

### **Pupil Assignment Process for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 School Years**

Students in the Port Huron Area School District are assigned and enrolled as follows:

Students are assigned to schools based on outlined attendance areas. Kindergarten through 5th grades are assigned to one of our 10 elementary schools - Cleveland, Crull, Edison, Garfield, Indian Woods, Keewahdin, Kimball, Michigamme, Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are similarly divided among Central Middle School, Fort Gratiot Middle School and Holland Woods Middle school. Port Huron High School and Port Huron Northern High School serve students in grades 9 through 12.

We will *advocate* for our students and families in partnership with our community to assure their success inside and outside of school; continuously *innovate* our practices and programs to improve student achievement; and *educate* in ways that are relevant, relationship driven, and rigorous.



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Port Huron Area School District has a Michigan Great Start School Readiness Program grant funded pre-school instruction for early childhood students in several elementary buildings. The district also supports an Early Childhood Special Education program for qualified 3-5 year olds. Students in pre-Kindergarten programs are assigned based on enrollment in each program based classroom.

The Port Huron Area School District has a policy and process in place for both in- district and county/contiguous Schools of Choice requests. Copies of the policy and procedures are available on the district website (<http://www.phasd.us/district/enrollment>), at each school, and at the administration building.

### **Specialized Schools and Alternative Education**

- Harrison Center offers an alternative high school program, credit recovery, adult education, and an Education Continuity Program for expelled students.
- St. Clair TEC offers countywide career and technical training to high school students.
- Woodland Developmental Center serves students with severe learning disabilities to age 26.

### **Status of Our School Improvement Plan (3-5 Year Plan)**

Harrison Center's 2014-15 School Improvement Goals remained the same as what they were in 2013-14 and are as follows:

- All students at Harrison Center will be proficient in English and Language Arts.
- All students will be proficient in Math
- All students will be proficient in Social Studies
- All students will be proficient in Science

All objectives and strategies remained the same for our SIP Goals except for one major change. In the 2014-15 school year Harrison Center became eligible for 31a monies and we were able to hire paraprofessionals to assist all struggling students between the ages of 16-19. Students who were often unsuccessful and struggling in our classes were given an opportunity to receive additional help from these individuals. This new strategy yielded results of more students finishing classes, receiving credit and higher math and reading TABE results on post-testing.

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### **Core Curriculum 2014-15 and 2015-16 Academic Years**

The core academic curriculum is the foundation of the Port Huron Area School District's instructional program. It defines the outcomes to be achieved by all students and is based on the District's educational mission and goals. The District's purpose is to enable students to meet or exceed state requirements for achievement, with an ongoing emphasis that encourages academic excellence for all students.

Our curriculum is based on the [Michigan Academic Standards](#) approved by the State Board of Education. As part of the core instruction, curriculum is aligned and written to support the implementation of the state expectations. It has been developed and written by Port Huron Area School District teachers, administrators and consultants who specialize in curriculum development. Curriculum for the core courses is reviewed annually. Revisions and adjustments are made as needed in order to ensure appropriate alignment and pacing. You may contact your child's school or the Instructional Services Department to review a copy of the core curriculum for a particular grade.

A balanced assessment system is also a core part of the curriculum. Assessments are given in the core curriculum to monitor student progress toward grade level expectations. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing from NWEA provides a measure of student growth in reading, grammar, and math as well as tools with which to support classrooms and individual students.

### **Aggregate Student Achievement Results for Local Assessment: NWEA MAP-NorthWest Evaluation Association Measures of Progress**

Port Huron Area Schools uses the NorthWest Evaluation (NWEA) Measures of Progress (MAP) to assess student growth in Reading, Language, and Math. MAP is an online, adaptive assessment which provides nationally normed data about student performance and growth. Results for this assessment may be viewed using the links provided below.

[District Fall 2015 - Winter 2016](#)

[District Fall 2014 - Spring 2015](#)

[District Fall 2013 - Spring 2014](#)

Due to the nature of the programming, students at Harrison Center are not included in the district MAP assessments.

### **Parent-teacher conference rate**

No officially planned Parent-Teacher conferences are done at Harrison

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Center, but an Open House is scheduled each Count Day and, as the need arises in student participation or parent request, individualized meetings are held to discuss issues.

### **Statement from Principal:**

Every new school year at Harrison Center is one that is always filled with hope and excitement for incoming students. Our facility and staff strive to reach each struggling student who is behind in credits and turn them into success stories. We are a small enough facility that all staff become familiar with all students quickly and establish a friendly working relationship with them.

All students at Harrison Center are continually post-tested in Reading and Math using the Test for Adult Basic Education (TABE) after 60 hours of instruction or when finished with a class. In addition to this, all teachers have pre- and post-tests they administer for all of their classes. All of these assessments have consistently shown at least an 80+% improvement in students' results. In addition to this, we have found that continual positive reinforcement is so necessary for the students we serve. Reinforcements practiced at Harrison Center include PA announcements congratulating students when they finish at class, Student of the Month awards, classroom rewards for goals accomplished, community service projects, field trips, the Handprint Wall as students graduate, and student graduation ceremony speakers to name but a few of all Harrison Center does to retain and educate its student population.

Please feel free to stop in any time and speak to me or any of my Office Staff. We are open on a year-round basis and ready to make students take their first step toward gainful educational and employment!

Sincerely,

Gloria Henry  
Principal, Harrison Center