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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for **Anderson Middle 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 Principal [Michael Ross](#), 248-837-8200, for assistance.

The [Anderson Middle School AER](#) is available for you to review electronically or you may review a copy in the main office.

For the 2018-19 school year, schools were identified using 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 a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. 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.

Our school was not given one of these labels.

While AMS does have some achievement gaps among our subgroups, it is not to the extent that we were identified with any of the above labels. We continuously work to close the achievement gaps that exist by providing consistent, high level instruction, while also supporting the needs of students who demonstrate poor performance.

AMS has several school improvement goals aimed at improving student achievement, closing achievement gaps, and teaching students positive character through several program initiatives. Specifically, we have goals in the areas of reading, writing, math, science and social studies. AMS utilizes Reader's and Writer's Workshop for all students to increase overall fluency and comprehension. Through the adoption of the Connected Math Program, AMS also has math goals that focus on students thinking deeper about problem solving strategies and using basic/foundational skills to impact everyday problem-solving. In the area of social





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studies and science our goals are focused on implementing strategies that will assist students in their understanding of nonfiction information and how to communicate effectively in writing. Finally, our special education department uses strategies to increase vocabulary to support students with inclusion into more general education classes and to close the achievement gap between regular education and special education.

State law also requires we report on the following:

1. Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Students make a natural progression from three of our feeder elementary schools: Pattengill, Angell, and Rogers, who all live within the following boundaries in the City of Berkley:

North of 11 Mile Road, East of Greenfield Road, South of Webster Ave, West of Woodward
(excluding a few residences near 11 Mile and Woodward).

We also have an internal transfer policy so that any student may transfer into our building. Lastly, there are some students from Burton Elementary who attend AMS to participate in our special education programming.

2. Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

Anderson's School Improvement Plan is updated annually and all of our goals are focused on core curriculum. Our plan can be found on [our website](#).

3. Core Curriculum

Our "Berkley High School Profile" serves as our guide for curriculum planning and for developing student learning assessments as we prepare students to take their place in the adult world. As we strive to meet our goals, we are also guided by our mission, the District's Long Range Plan and Vision 2020, and the Common Core State Standards. Supporting our excellent teaching staff, technology also plays an important role in instruction and learning. Technology is widely available to staff and students throughout the district and is utilized across the curriculum. In addition, all students K-12 enjoy a robust Fine Arts curriculum including band, orchestra, choir and art.

Please visit our [Curriculum & Assessment website](#) to view the full district report and information regarding curriculum.

4. Test Scores

Anderson's test scores for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are available on the [State of Michigan's website](#).



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5. Parent/Teacher Conferences Data

2017-18: 91% of Anderson parents attended fall and spring conferences. Parents also have immediate access to an online grade book.

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Anderson Middle School is proud to be a part of the Berkley Community. We believe our partnerships with local businesses and community groups, as well as our parent groups are invaluable to the overall learning for our students. We also take pride in knowing we promote a bully free school through our programming with Defeat the Label. We strive to provide students with the best middle school experience possible and prepare students for the rigors of high school. Finally, our commitment to raising student achievement, extending a comprehensive fine and performing art's programs, tracking progress and using data to make effective decisions, providing extracurricular opportunities and celebrating success continue to make Anderson Middle School a great place to learn.

Please [visit our school website](#) to see additional Points of Pride.

Sincerely,

Michael Ross
Anderson Middle School
Principal