



# STURGIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



September 10, 2013

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2012-2013 educational progress for Wenzel 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 Teresa Belote, Principal of Wenzel School, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site: [https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer/CombinedReport.aspx?Common\\_Locations=1-S\\_12052,1577,113&Common\\_SchoolYear=0&Common\\_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal\\_InquiryDisplayType=None](https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer/CombinedReport.aspx?Common_Locations=1-S_12052,1577,113&Common_SchoolYear=0&Common_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal_InquiryDisplayType=None) or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Our school has been identified as a Reward school. While we are humbled to receive this honor, we know we still have work to do to ensure all students continue to learn and grow at high levels. This summer we provided summer library programs with targeted interventions for students. In addition, staff is continuing to learn specific strategies related to critical thinking, problem solving and language acquisition in an effort to meet the needs of all students.

**State law requires that we also report additional information, listed below:**

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School:

When students enter the district, the location of the home or daycare provider is considered for placement. Whenever possible, students are placed in their neighborhood schools. Other factors that impact placement decisions include services offered at the school, such as special education, the need for language support, and average class sizes at the time. School status and requests are also taken into consideration.

School Improvement Plan Status:

Each spring, data is collected and reviewed. The data is analyzed over time and decisions regarding goals and strategies are selected, based on best practice research. Annually, we

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107 W. West Street • Sturgis, MI 49091 • Phone: (269) 659-1500 • Fax: (269) 659-1584 • Website: [www.sturgisps.org](http://www.sturgisps.org)

update our school improvement plan to clarify how we are progressing toward our goal and adjustments are made to reflect needed changes. A copy of the current School Improvement Plan will be available for review from the building office by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

How to Access the Common Curriculum:

The state of Michigan, along with a majority of states, recently adopted the Common Core standards. The Common Core standards establish clean and consistent goals for learning that will prepare our students for success in college and work. They are closely aligned to the Grade Level Content Expectations that we had prior to the adoption of the Common Core. The district is currently in the process of updating Sturgis Public Schools curriculum maps to align with the Common Core standards. The essential skills parent friendly documents will be distributed at open house. The new Common Core standards and their alignment documents can be accessed at:

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

RESULTS FOR LOCAL COMPETENCIES AND NATIONALLY NORMED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTS:

Wenzel School's kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students are assessed three times annually in the areas of Reading and Mathematics using the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) MAP assessment, a nationally normed standardized achievement test. A comparison of Spring 2011 to Spring 2012 average test scores for each grade is illustrated below.

Grade	2011-12 Reading	2011-12 Math	2012-13 Reading	2012-13 Math
Kindergarten	NA	NA	158	158
First Grade	NA	NA	178	179
Second Grade	194	198	187	193

Parent Teacher Conference Participation:

The expectation of this district is for all staff to participate collaboratively with parents to ensure that students are learning. Each year, we require and achieve 100% participation. During the parent-teacher conferences window, teachers communicate with families, either during a face-to-face conference, phone conference, or home visit. If, after repeated attempts, the teacher is unable to make a personal contact with the family, written communication is utilized.

In closing, we would like to recognize the efforts of our students, staff, families, and community. Through our combined efforts, we will continue to work towards success for all students.

Sincerely,

Teresa Belote