



Eagle's Nest Academy
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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 30, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Eagle's Nest Academy. 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 Brigitte Jackson, principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.eaglesnestflint.org or you may review a copy in the main office at Eagle's Nest Academy.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. 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.

Eagle's Nest Academy continues to face two major problems. First, the Flint water crisis continues to take a toll on the economic advancement of the city and the attrition of the local schools. In the spring of 2016, of the families that left Eagle's Nest Academy 30% of its overall 2015-16 attrition was due to relocation from the city and/or state. A strategic marketing plan was designed to help eliminate this problem. The 2016-17 school year looks more promising but there remains a concern about the city's water dilemma. Second, Eagle's Nest Academy continues to receive students (scholars) that are two or more years behind academically. The school improvement team and staff have worked meticulously to create a more student-centered rigorous curriculum to help decrease the gap in all subgroups and raise the achievement scores. The school is currently in the process of securing a partnership with Expeditionary Learning (EL)

Education, www.eleducation.org in order to establish a sounder approach to instructional delivery and developing a strong climate and culture in the building.

Eagle's Nest Academy offers many things of great value to parents and guardians dedicated to the development of their children. First of all, Eagle's Nest offers quality education at all grade levels. Thus, it can provide for the full range of a student's needs. Secondly, our highly-qualified staff members, under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), are people whose lives are committed to the students they teach. Thirdly, the curriculum emphasizes high-character values, while following the guidelines of the Michigan Curriculum Framework. Eagle's Nest Academy has put into place several implementations to address the academic concerns in core subject areas of reading, mathematics, writing, and science. Multi-tiered Support System (MTSS) and Response to Intervention (RTI) are transpiring. A school-wide positive Behavior Support System has been implemented to increase classroom productivity. This includes the hiring of a Behavior Intervention Specialist (BIS) who works with students in classrooms and in ancillary settings. The behavior intervention specialist works with students and families to prevent and eradicate out of school suspensions.

State law requires that we also report on the additional information for the **TWO MOST RECENT YEARS** on the following:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Eagle's Nest Academy is a free public school academy (PSA). We adhere to all requirements outlined by our charter authorizer (Grand Valley State University) and state/federal laws regarding enrollments. Eagle's Nest Academy does not charge tuition nor discriminate in admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, religion, creed, race, sex, color or national origin.

Current students are given the opportunity to reenroll in March, with preference given to them and their siblings. At the end of March, Eagle's Nest Academy holds an advertised open enrollment. During this period, any Michigan resident in grades K—6 may apply. In the event that any grade is oversubscribed, a public lottery is held to determine enrollment and a waiting list. Eagle's Nest Academy identifies, evaluates and services all children in the school who may have disabilities. For more information regarding assistance for students with disabilities or if you suspect your child may have a disability, please contact the school office.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been developed and implemented. Eagle's Nest Academy completed its initial year in 2015-16. Title I Funding was utilized to purchase professional training for staff and hire supplemental staffing. In 2015, five teacher assistants and a behavior intervention specialist were hired to work with students who underperform on state and local assessments. In 2016-17, the teacher assistants were reduced to four and we added a part-time Reading Specialist to push into classes and work with at-risk students.

Our School Improvement Goals are as follows:

Goal 1: All students at Eagle's Nest Academy will become proficient writers.

Measurable Objective 1. 80% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency in writing narrative text in Writing by 06/30/2017 as measured by NWEA MAP, WriteWell writing assessments and rubrics, and the M-STEP.

Goal 2: All students at Eagle's Nest Academy will become proficient readers.

Measurable Objective 1: 80% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency in reading grade level texts in Reading by 06/30/2017 as measured by NWEA/MAP, Multiple Measures in Reading benchmark reading assessments, and the M-STEP.

Goal 3: All students at Eagle's Nest Academy will attend school regularly.

Measurable Objective 1: 90% of All Students will collaborate to ensure that attendance is maintained at 90% or more for each child attending Eagle's Nest Academy by 06/30/17 as measured by the daily attendance rates in our attendance system, Synergy.

Goal 4: All students at Eagle's Nest Academy will become proficient in mathematics.

Measurable Objective 1: 80% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency in achieving mathematics grade level competency by 06/30/2017 as measured by NWEA/MAP, Bridges mathematic assessments, and the M-STEP.

Goal 5: All students at Eagle's Nest Academy will respond to tiered intervention supports.

Measurable Objective 1: Demonstrate positive behavior. Students will respond to intervention support, office referrals strategies, and school-wide intervention programs by 06/30/2017 as measured by discipline data. 90% of ALL students will show growth from the tiered intervention supports.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL

Eagle's Nest Academy is a public charter school (PSA) located on the north-side of Flint, Michigan on seven acres of land. It was granted its charter by Grand Valley State University in 2014. The school opened its doors in the fall of 2015 with kindergarten through fourth grades. It is an active learning, student-centered, culturally relevant school. The mission is to keep students, whom we call scholars in school. The pedagogy is research based and include the following statistics as leading motivation to guide each decision:

- Over a third of African-American and Hispanic males are "right-brain" learners, but 90% percent of the lesson plans are oriented toward left-brain learners.
- A right-brain learner understands concepts through pictures and oral descriptions along with hands-on experiences. While left-brain learners learn best with examining printed materials.
- Since the learning style of boys and girls are different, our families will eventually have the option to enroll their children in single gender classrooms in the future.
- Another unique feature of our school is year-round learning. Expanded time in school will produce greater academic outcomes.
- We strive for Excellence in Academics & Athletics. Start Your "Sports Star" Early!

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORE CURRICULUM

Eagle’s Nest Academy has an early childhood learning foundation that emphasizes an “active learning” approach. Active learning means students have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events and ideas: 1). Interaction with materials, people, and/or ideas. 2). Student choice and shared control, 3). Students communicate their thinking, 4). Adult support for optimal student learning, 5). Early exposure to intense reading, math, science, and social development skills.

At Eagle’s Nest Academy, we develop and align its curriculum to ensure that all the Common Core objectives are met. Once the teacher has determined the learning goal(s) and the student’s stage of learning, (new, guided practice, collaborative practice, individual practice, application, or transfer of knowledge/ skills) each of the Active Learning components are used to guide the instructional design. This approach helps distinguish us from the traditional educational philosophy and pedagogy.

5. AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT)

The school had its first year of operation in 2015-16. Eagle’s Nest Academy seeks to meet the authorizer’s contractual goals on the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress.

NWEA/MAP mean (grade level avg) results for each grade level for the last two years:

2015-16	Kdg			1st			2nd			3rd			4th					
	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S			
Reading	127	138	151	144	151	157	159	166	170	171	NA	179	184	NA	193			
Math	120	136	158	142	149	165	162	167	169	174	NA	179	186	NA	193			
2016-17	Kdg			1st			2nd			3rd			4th			5th		
	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S	F	W	S
Reading	135	145		146	153		157	160		169	176		181	183		189	201	
Math	129	138		147	160		160	167		172	179		184	189		192	202	

Our goal is for a minimum of 80% of the scholars to achieve their personal year-end goal and teachers to move scholars by 140% rate of growth or more. Accelerating the rate of growth will move scholars closer to grade level proficiency faster. By next year we want to be increasing grade level proficiency by a 25% increase rate or better.

Student Status Norms (Grade Level RIT scores) based on 2015 NORM values

	Reading			Math		
	Fall	Winter	Spring	Fall	Winter	Spring
K	141	151	158	140	151	159
1	160	171	177	162	173	180
2	174	184	188	176	186	192
3	188	195	198	190	198	203
4	198	203	205	201	208	213
5	205	209	211	211	217	221

Looking at the mean chart and the norm levels, there is opportunity for advancement. The scholars are working diligently to gain academically.

6. STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent involvement is very important to our staff. There were sixty percent of the ENA parents that attended the spring 2015-16 conferences. Increasing face to face interactions with parents was one of the initiatives for 2016-17 and three conference sessions were created to have more involvement with parents. During Fall 2016 and Winter 2016 conferences parent participation increased; there were 68% (152/224 parents), and 65% (137/213 parents), respectively. Our goal was 80% attendance rate or higher. Although we did not make it. We have increased by 25% since last school year. We believe that student leaning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between home and school, greater involvement of parents in the education of their children generally result in higher academic success.

The average daily student attendance rate thus far for the 2016-17 school year is 89.7%. Last school year it was 82.9% we have increased pupil attendance by 7% in one year.

We are very excited that this year we had a great opening with our first year as a year-round school. The parents loved the balanced calendar and the free Intersession Weeks. Our first week of voluntary school was in October and the theme was Space Jam. Scholars learned about space science and visited the planetarium. In February, the theme was Engineering Geniuses; scholars designed and engineered several projects while learning about famous African American engineers.

We thank the awesome staff, parents, and scholars of Eagle’s Nest Academy for an incredible start to a wonderful second year. We appreciate all our stakeholders and the contributions they provide to our school.

Sincerely,



Brigitte Brown Jackson
Principal