



# *Flushing Middle School*

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## **FLUSHING MIDDLE SCHOOL 2020-21 Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

February 15, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for the Flushing 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, Mrs. Jill Mitchell, the building principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/3951tjc> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 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.

Flushing Middle School was not identified with a label.

Although the M-STEP test was not administered to our students in the spring of 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there are still challenges that FMS is addressing based on previous state and local assessment data. The key challenge for Flushing Middle School is addressing the gap in student achievement in the areas of Math, Science and Social Studies. To address these gaps, FMS has created goals, strategies and activities through the AdvancEd School Improvement process. In each core academic area, strategies and activities have been designed to not only improve academic achievement for all students but also for the students identified above. For example, in reading and math, specific classes have been created with a very low student to teacher ratio to assist those students who are struggling in these academic areas. It is our hope that the strategies and activities will be successful and the end result will be all students at Flushing Middle School becoming proficient in all core academic areas.

State law requires that we also report additional information for the two most recent years. Our processes are listed below.

1. Students who live within the designated school boundaries are able to attend Flushing Middle School. Additionally, for families who are not residents of Flushing Community Schools, they may apply for *Out of District Schools of Choice*. Please contact Mrs. Jill Mitchell, Principal, for assistance.
2. A School Improvement Plan was developed during the 2009-2010 school year. Each year the plan is evaluated and revised as deemed necessary by the FMS School Improvement Committee. The FMS School Improvement Committee is comprised of teachers from each grade level and the principal. The purpose of the committee is to establish a purpose statement and goals for FMS and to oversee the programs and activities leading toward the attainment of those goals. To further meet the needs of all students, FMS has created goals and strategies in each core academic area. Flushing Community Schools participated in an External Review in March of the 2015-16 school year and was recommended for full accreditation by AdvancEd.
3. Flushing Middle School does not have specialized schools within our building or curriculum.
4. Flushing Middle School continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with Michigan Common Core Standards for all courses and subject matter. For a copy of the core curriculum, please contact Mrs. Jill Mitchell, Flushing Middle School Principal.
5. Flushing Middle School students participate in M-Step testing and PSAT testing as part of the state assessment requirement. FMS students generally fall at or above the state standard in previous years when the test was administered.
6. During the 2019-2020 school year, the fall parent-teacher conferences were conducted virtually through a Zoom conference call. We had 33% of our students represented at fall conferences in November of 2020. The spring parent teacher conferences were held in person in March 2019 with 42% of our students represented. We currently have 674 students enrolled at FMS: For the 2018-2019 school year 61% of our students were represented by their parents at the Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences and 41% of students were represented by their parents at the Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences. Flushing Middle School's student enrollment at the time of the conferences was 702 students.

Flushing Middle School enjoyed an excellent 2019-2020 school despite the obvious challenges of ending our school year in a virtual format. The FMS staff embraced the challenge of providing enriching and rigorous curriculum to our students via Google Classroom.

*“Preparing learners today for opportunities tomorrow.”*

The FMS staff is enthusiastic to see students focused on their learning and taking pride in their school. Through hard work from our students and dedication from our staff, FMS continues to be a great place to learn and grow. FMS acknowledges academic excellence through the National Junior Honor Society where students must maintain a 3.6 grade point average and demonstrate exceptional leadership skills. Honor Roll is published as part of the quarterly district newsletter. Monthly Star Students are chosen by all teachers based on academic performance, leadership skills, and academic growth. The library sponsors a Book Club to encourage students to read and discuss popular literature.

In addition to the academic programs, students are given opportunities to participate in activities that promote a sense of community. Challenge Days provide students, who demonstrate positive behavior, an opportunity to compete against staff in challenges throughout the school year. Outside of the classroom, FMS was involved in many service and charitable projects. The projects include donations for programs such as Life Challenge of Flint, Children's Miracle Network, Carriage Town Ministries, Special Olympics, the Flushing Christian Community Outreach Center, and The Genesee County Humane Society. Our charitable giving/volunteering was cut short with the quick end to our in-person school last year, but we hope to make these activities annual events. FMS also hosts two Special Olympic events during the school year, normally. We were fortunate enough to hold the event in December of 2019, but regrettably had to cancel the event in June of 2020. FMS school dances and open gym nights are well attended. Students enjoy very successful athletic seasons and outstanding participation in the music and drama programs. The talent at FMS is outstanding! In other extra-curricular activities, bowling and swimming continued to grow in participation. The FMS Quiz Bowl team consistently wins their division and has a growing participation among the seventh grade class. Finally, the FMS Broadcast provides a weekly update on all of the great things happening at FMS. We are very proud of our student's involvement inside and outside of the classroom at FMS and in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Mitchell".

Jill Mitchell, Principal

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