



## **CITYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

February 8, 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 the Cityside 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 Sarah Huizenga for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site: <https://goo.gl/rzr79G> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2015-16 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.

While Cityside students are above the state and district scores in many areas on the state assessment, we always have room for improvement. We strive to challenge students in the areas of writing, reading, math, social studies and science. We will target all of these areas by focusing on improving reading, problem solving and writing across all curricular areas. Students receive literacy strategies, time for reading in DEAR on a daily basis, ELA Lab for struggling readers, using examples and drawing from multiple texts while writing, forming opinions and using facts to support these opinions, Delta Math interventions and multiple other avenues to improve learning at Cityside Middle School.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. There are two middle schools in Zealand Public Schools. Cityside has three feeder elementary schools – Adams, Lincoln and Woodbridge. Cityside Middle School students go on to Zealand East High School for ninth grade and beyond. Students are assigned to their elementary school by geographic boundaries. We also accept schools-of-choice students both within district and outside of the district as well.

2. During 2015-16, we were in the first year of our 3-5 year School Improvement Cycle. We focused on reading, using technology and curriculum mapping. We also have a career

awareness focus based on survey results we received from parents, staff and students. Our primary goal was to increase the percentage of students reading at grade level at each grade, and we did that as measured by the Discovery Assessment that we used as our universal screener. We improved from an average scale score of 1619 in the first Reading test to an average scale score of 1639 in the second. To support positive behavior choices, we are using the PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) Model. This will not only encourage positive behavior, but will also teach our students what behavior is expected in a given situation. Since the implementation of PBIS in 2010, we have seen our discipline issues decrease. We had over 600 behavior referrals in year one, and this past year, we had less than 200. By working together as a staff, under the leadership of the School Improvement Team, we feel we have an excellent plan that will help our students in 2016-17 and beyond.

3. Cityside Middle School has approximately 673 students in grades six through eight. Students in sixth grade are separated into two four-teacher teams. Students in seventh and eighth grade are on one large team. We support Special Education students with both traditional resource classes, as well as two, more intensive, categorical classrooms. Students are able to participate in a wide range of elective classes, including Band, Choir, Orchestra, Dance, Art, Career Choices, Spanish and Advanced PE/Health. All students are exposed to Physical Education, Art, Spanish and Life Management through our Exploratory Rotation. Our eighth graders are able to take classes that earn high school credit in Math, Spanish, and PE. We offer a wide range of sports and clubs that allow students to connect to the greater Cityside community outside of the school day.

4. Zeeland Public Schools makes sure our students are provided challenging lessons that are consistent across grade levels and that include the common core curriculum. A team of Zeeland educators regularly evaluates and revises our curriculum to ensure classroom lessons meet state requirements for kindergarten through twelfth grade. All Zeeland teachers are involved in monthly Monday meetings to make sure curriculum is horizontally and vertically aligned, to work on common assessments, and to collaborate with other teachers in their subject area and/or grade level. If you have questions about Zeeland Public Schools' curriculum, please contact us at 616-748-3018 or email Curriculum Director at [bmendham@zps.org](mailto:bmendham@zps.org).

5. Here are Cityside's MStep results from 2015-16. As you can see, Cityside performs well above the state average in all subject areas and grade levels.

2016 M-STEP RESULTS- % Proficient

| TEST                                 | STATE RESULTS | CITYSIDE RESULTS |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA            | 45            | 60               |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Math           | 33            | 58               |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA            | 47            | 59               |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Math           | 35            | 51               |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Science        | 24            | 29               |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA            | 49            | 68               |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Math           | 33            | 48               |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies | 29            | 43               |

MStep Trend Data for 2015/2016 results

| TEST                          | Cityside 2015 Results | Cityside 2016 Results |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA     | 61                    | 60                    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Math    | 52                    | 58                    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA     | 67                    | 59                    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Math    | 51                    | 51                    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Science | 14                    | 29                    |

|                                      |    |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA            | 70 | 68 |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Math           | 49 | 48 |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies | 23 | 43 |

In analyzing trend data, we need to take in consideration that 2016 was the first year students took the MStep online.

6. The community of Zeeland has always supported our schools, and 2015-16 was no different. We had over 90% of our parents either attend the scheduled Parent Teacher Conference times, or schedule a separate conference at another time if they were unable to attend. We worked hard to reach out to the 10% we did not formally talk to and make sure they understood how their son or daughter was doing at school and what they could do to support them. Parent and community support is a cornerstone to school success, and this is an area in which Cityside, and all of Zeeland Public Schools, has been continuously blessed.

At Cityside Middle School, we are proud of the entire school culture we offer for our students and families. Our students have a wide variety of opportunities to get involved in and to have new experiences. The community of Zeeland is tremendously supportive of our school and our students. We have caring teachers and support staff who give countless hours to meet the needs of each and every student. Our students experience success in everything from state assessments to the playing field of our sports teams; from their report cards to the stage during our annual musical; from the life lessons learned, to the opportunities to give back to the community. We are proud of everything that happened during the 2015-16 school year, yet we are looking for ways to push ourselves to new heights for 2016-17.

Sincerely,

Sarah Huizenga, Principal  
Cityside Middle School

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