School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-2016 educational progress for the Berkley High 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 Randall Gawel, Principal at 248-837-8100 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: BHS AER Data or you may review a copy from the main office at your child's school.

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.

We focus on the achievement of all students and our teaching and learning goals reflect this. As a multi-community high school that serves students from a wide variety of backgrounds, our population duly reflects the economic, cultural, ethnic, and academic diversity of these communities. Our challenge, then, is to ensure that we are providing consistently meaningful curriculum in all classrooms while helping all children to achieve their personal best. Our most important data points are those that allow us to see not only the gaps in achievement, but help us to understand the reasons for the disparities, whether they are school related or not.

State law also requires we report on the following:

1. **Process for Assigning Pupils to the School**
   All students in the Berkley School District attend BHS. The district boundaries are:

   North of 10 Mile, East of Greenfield, South of Webster, West of Woodward, and includes most of Berkley, Huntington Woods, parts of north Oak Park and parts of Royal Oak.

2. **Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan**
   The core of our school improvement plan, as submitted to the state, is focused on student achievement in all academic areas and is aligned with our school district goals. All goals in this area are ongoing, as we continuously seek to improve the achievement of different cohorts of students each year, as well as to address overarching goals related to the entire student body.

   Please visit our website to view our School Improvement plan.

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. Our curriculum is aligned with the Michigan Merit Curriculum in all subject areas. Work on transitioning to the Common Core Standards is progressing in ELA and Mathematics, with professional development both having been completed and ongoing.

   As we strive to meet our goals, we are also guided by our mission, the district's Long Range Plan & Vision 2020, and the Common Core. All high school teachers have websites that detail syllabi, course expectations, assessment and grading expectations, and calendar. All curricula in the core content areas are aligned to the state standards and common to each specific class. Staff members focus on providing all learners with a solid foundation of academic skills, knowledge and the understanding of learning that is necessary for success within the school setting and world community. 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 can elect to be a part of a robust Fine Arts curriculum that includes band, orchestra, choir and art.

   Please visit our Curriculum & Assessment website to view the full district report and information regarding curriculum.

4. **BHS test scores for 2015-16**
   Berkley High School's data is available on the State of Michigan's website

5. **Parent/Teacher Conferences Data**
   2014-15: 62% Average Parent Attendance for Conferences
   2015-16: 64% Average Parent Attendance for Conferences

6. **Post-Secondary Enrollment/Advanced Placement Statistics**
   a. The number and percent of postsecondary enrollments (dual enrollment):
      20 students.
   b. The number of college equivalent courses offered (AP/IB):
      BHS offers 24 Advanced Placement/college equivalent courses in a variety of subjects.
   c. The number and percentage of students enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP/IB):
      515 students or 53% of 10-12 grade students.
   d. The number and percentage of students receiving a score leading to college credit:
      370 students or 72 of those tested received a 3, 4, or 5.

Berkley High School has been named a Best High School in Michigan by *Newsweek's The Daily Beast*. We take great pride in this recognition and are dually humbled and inspired by it. This recognition directly reflects upon the dedication to hard work and continuous improvement that are hallmarks of BHS school community. This recognition also speaks directly to the kind of community we are fortunate enough to live and work in. Furthermore, this recognition serves to inspire our students, parents and faculty to improve and maintain our distinction as one of the best. In the last eight years we have seen our students become increasingly competitive in what is an increasingly competitive post-secondary world for them. BHS students have been admitted to Yale, Harvard, UC Berkeley, Georgetown, Dartmouth, Cornell, Baylor, Alabama, Vanderbilt, Toronto, McGill, and many other nationally and internationally renowned colleges and universities. Within our state, we have seen extremely high acceptance rates for our students at the most competitive schools—at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and Kalamazoo College. We have also seen our students do increasingly well on the ACT and SAT (national college entrance exams), the Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and on Advanced Placement (AP) exams, with overall scores increasing from year to year. Our outstanding staff continues to engage our students in meaningful learning, to inspire them to creatively explore new ideas, and to work with them to achieve to their fullest potential.

Sincerely,

Randall Gawel
Principal

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BERKLEY SCHOOLS