January 5, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for White Pines Intermediate 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 Instructional Services Executive Director, Mary Jane Evink at (616) 850-5075 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website – http://bit.ly/2Hdsofs, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child’s school.

For the 2018-19 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.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

White Pines Intermediate School continuously strives to provide challenges for all of our students, pushing their individual achievement levels to the highest point. Our school has placed a high level of importance on the usage of data from the M-STEP test, common assessments, reading and math screeners, and diagnostics to inform our decision-making. It is through these efforts that we continue to be represented in the Top 30 percent of all schools in the state of Michigan in the Top To Bottom rankings. It is our desire to continue to develop our curriculum and pedagogy to increase our proficiency in all content areas on the M-STEP assessments. Critical to the success of this program is our ability to work collaboratively with staff, parents and the community.

Our staff meets weekly in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to analyze data, and match the individual needs of each student to the best resources that we have available. Our staff utilizes formative and summative data to look at data at the student level, department level, and as a building.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Pupil Assignment
White Pines Intermediate School’s students are assigned to our building by geographic boundaries as well as schools of choice requests.
3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

- **All students will be successful in the area of mathematics as measured by the M-STEP.** All students will increase math skills as measured by M-STEP as well as local assessments. Staff will align curriculum to Common Core State Standards, increase the use of research-based strategies and increase collaboration. Our Math Department will work in grade level Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), to analyze the needs of the Core Curriculum, assessments and intervention needs.

- **All students will be proficient in the area of reading as measured by the M-STEP.** Focus will be placed in the area of reading informational text and understanding vocabulary. Staff will teach informational text strategies across all curriculums, utilize the Reader’s Workshop approach and use all resources and strategies from the MTSS project. Staff will implement the Lucy Calkins reading units, and will work on blending the requirements of the writing and reading units into one coherent curriculum. Our ELA Department will work in grade level Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), to analyze the needs of the Core Curriculum, assessments and intervention needs.

- **All students will be proficient in the area of writing as assessed by the M-STEP test.** Specific focus will be placed on being proficient in narrative, informational and opinion/argument writing. Our staff will continue to develop the techniques required of a successful Writer’s Workshop program. All staff will receive training in the Lucy Calkins Writing Units for 6th grade, and will work to implement the new material in their classrooms for the 2019-2020 school year.

We have also added goals in the areas of Science, Utilizing Data and Climate. In the area of Science, we will continue our partnership with VanAndel Educational Institute and we have sent all of our staff to the NGSX training at the OAISD. This partnership will help us make the transition from the old State Standards to the Next Generation Standards in Science. Our climate team will continue to evaluate the culture at WPI to make sure that it is all inclusive. We will implement programs for: mentoring, anti-bullying, Power of Peer Support, and MTSS efforts. The data team will focus on making sure that we are using hard data to effectively monitor the progress of all of our students. We are in the process of re-evaluating the roles of each of the following committees to make sure that this is getting done: behavior team, MTSS leadership team, PLC (Data Team) meetings, school improvement and team leader. The entire staff will engage in a book study, Creating Cultures of Thinking by Ron Richart. This will help us focus our attention on growth mindsets, visible thinking, and thinking routines.

We have also started the process of bringing in intensive training for all staff in the area of socio-emotional issues. We will have all staff trained in two different programs for the start of the 2020 school year (Trauma Informed Classrooms and Resiliency Training). Initial training for our trainers will take place during the winter of 2020 and over the summer of 2020.

**Core Curriculum**

Grand Haven Area Public Schools has joined the state of Michigan in adopting Michigan's State Standards which include the Common Core State Standards. Students are afforded a rigorous, guaranteed and viable curriculum. A copy of the core curriculum, its implementation, and how it may vary from state curriculum can be accessed by contacting the Office of Instructional Services at (616) 850-5075.

**Student Achievement**

The students at White Pines Intermediate continue to outpace the State and County Averages in all subjects on the M-STEP test. In addition we continue to utilize screeners in the areas of Reading and Mathematics (3 times a year) to track the progress of our students throughout the school year. Students in the 5th grade are also given a diagnostic screener for reading to make sure that we have an accurate Independent Reading Level and Instructional Level at the start of the school year.

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**Parent - Teacher Conferences**

Our school program is effective because of the consistent support from our parents. In 2017-18, we had 840 students (95 percent) in the fall and 857 students (98 percent) in the spring were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences. In the fall of 2019, 390 5th grade students (96 percent) and 428 6th grade students (95 percent) were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences.

In closing, the White Pines Intermediate staff is very proud of our efforts to increase the rigor of our curriculum, make learning visible, learn and teach about growth mindsets, use data to drive instruction, and meet the individualized needs of our students. The positive results of these efforts is a direct result of collaboration between staff, parents and students.

Sincerely,

*Mike Shelton*

Mike Shelton, Principal
White Pines Intermediate School