



# West Ottawa Public Schools

*Preparing students to be College, Career and Life Ready!*

August 19, 2013 - Date Posted

Dear Parents and Community Members of Harbor Lights Middle School:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2011-2012 educational progress for the **Harbor Lights 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 Principal Dennis White for assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.westottawa.net/schools/](http://www.westottawa.net/schools/) or you may review a copy at the office of Harbor Lights Middle School.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Our school has been identified as a Focus School. Harbor Lights is committed to the academic success of all students. The faculty and administration of Harbor Lights hold regularly scheduled professional dialogue meetings to discuss the following areas in conjunction with our building school improvement plan:

- analyzing achievement data of all students and each student sub-group
- facilitating professional dialogue on improving instructional strategies
- customizing interventions for students not meeting grade level content expectations

Harbor Lights reports quarterly to the West Ottawa Board of Education on our progress in minimizing the achievement gap between the top 30% and the lowest 30% of the students in our building

State law requires that we also report additional information about our school. The attached report will provide you with the following additional information about our school and our achievements:

- Information about our school, including the process for assigning students to our school, and a description of the specialized programs that we have available for students at our school
- Our 3-5 year school improvement goals in the core content areas, and our progress to date in meeting the goals.
- A description of our core curriculum, how and how it is being implemented, as well as how you can access a copy of the core curriculum for review.
- Aggregate student achievement results for local assessments required by law and nationally normed achievement tests administered within the district
- Parent participation in parent-teacher conferences, and community involvement in our school.

## **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Students are assigned to Harbor Lights Middle School based upon elementary attendance areas. The elementary attendance areas are based upon geographical location established by the Board of Education. Parents may choose to request their child be placed in another school within the District, a "school of choice". All West Ottawa students are eligible to apply for school of choice consideration.

## **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Harbor Light's School Improvement Plan is developed and implemented by instructional staff working collaboratively to develop goals and action steps to improve student achievement. The Harbor Lights School Improvement plan is aligned to the District School Improvement Plan. An integral part of our school improvement effort is providing students with more instructional options and opportunities for success. S.M.A.R.T. goals (strategic/specific, measureable, achievable, results-oriented, time-bound) are developed in each core content area, along with a specific action plan and monitoring plan to meet those goals. The main focus of the goals and plan is on improving student achievement and meeting the varied needs of all children.

Please visit the school website at [www.westottawa.net/schools/](http://www.westottawa.net/schools/) under the Parent Resources and Information section for more detailed information about the Harbor Lights School Improvement Plan.

## **IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL**

A copy of the core curriculum is available on the district website at [www.westottawa.net](http://www.westottawa.net) by selecting Curriculum within the Academic drop down menu. Core curriculum documents can also be located at [www.michigan.gov/GLCE](http://www.michigan.gov/GLCE). At the present time, ELA and Mathematics have implemented the new Common Core standards and are no longer using the Grade Level Content Expectations. Common Core curriculum standards for ELA and Math can be located at [Common Core Standards](#). Core curriculum is implemented daily through the use of research based instructional materials and strategies.

## **THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS**

The EXPLORE Test is given each winter as part of the ACT testing battery. It serves as an individualized assessment to help students gauge academic progress, evaluate college readiness, and explore future career possibilities. The following are scores for Harbor Lights 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the past two years.

<b>Year</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Composite</b>
2012	14.8	15.2	15.4	17.2	15.8
2013	14.6	15.7	14.8	16.8	15.6

**IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS  
AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

	<b>Fall Parent Conference Attendance</b>			
	<b>2012-2013</b>		<b>2011-2012</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>220/302</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>283/356</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>260/335</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>197/297</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>186/305</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>192/319</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Building Enrollment</b>	<b>666/942</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>672/972</b>	<b>69</b>

In closing, the staff at Harbor Lights Middle School is committed to the academic success of each student. Our vision is:

*As a Professional Learning Community, we envision a school where staff will*

- *empower all students to achieve academic success*
- *empower all students to grow socially and emotionally in a safe environment*
- *collaborate with the Harbor Lights community to empower all students to be **college, career, and life ready***

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dennis White, Principal  
Harbor Lights Middle School