



North Branch Area Schools

6655 Jefferson Rd
P.O. Box 3620
North Branch, MI 48461-0620
810.688.3570
www.broncos.net
James D. Fish
Superintendent

2019-20 District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the District Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for the North Branch Area Schools district and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Amber White, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, at 810.688.9362 or awhite@nbbroncos.net for help if you need assistance.

The District AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <http://bit.ly/2LZg1oF>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

Student Assessment Data

Includes the following four assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), College Board PSAT, MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. This report section presents assessment information for English Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and MI-Access Science for grades 4, 7, and 11.

- Data can be compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students.
- The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

Accountability – Detail Data and Status

The [accountability](#) portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.

Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders
- Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
- Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

Civil Rights Data

- Provides information on school quality, climate and safety

Review the table below listing our schools. 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 status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
North Branch Elementary	None	Professional learning connected to the Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy and Number Talks
Ruth Fox Middle School	None	Professional learning connected to the Essential Practices for Disciplinary Literacy Instruction
North Branch High School	None	Professional learning on Healthy Grading Practices
Quest	None	Connecting students to the local community through the FootSteps Program

The Annual Education Report provides a lens into the academic performance of the district. We have an exceptional staff that is dedicated to raising student achievement through ongoing, continuous professional learning and the implementation of high-leverage instructional strategies. Beyond-the-day district-wide committees that have afforded North Branch teachers a rare opportunity to come together to (a) reflect collaboratively on their teaching practices and (b) brainstorm ways to enhance their

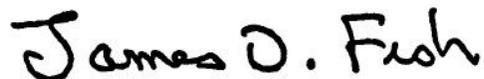
effectiveness through increased consultation, coordination, and sharing of best practices with their colleagues across BK-12.

As we continue to deepen our understanding and conversations around curriculum, instruction, assessment and overall school quality, we continue to strive for academic excellence through close monitoring of student progress and achievement gaps, innovative programming, and growing community partnerships. North Branch Area Schools offers a Gifted and Accelerated Program, a vibrant theater program, Begin-a-garten, dual enrollment, North Branch Early College (students stay on an extra year and may earn as many as 61 credits at no cost), U of M-Flint DEEP Program (students earn college credits in Medical Sciences and pre-Engineering), a state recognized alternative education program, district Mentor/Mentee program, an eleven year learning partnership with Michigan State University, a high school Vocational Independence Program, technology rich classrooms, award winning Marching and Symphony Bands, a safe and secure campus, and a wide range of additional curricular offerings.

Parents are important stakeholders in our educational environment. North Branch Area Schools provides parents many opportunities to participate and volunteer within the district: Parent Teacher Organization, All-Star Reading Night, Math Night, Title I Parent Workshops, conferences, surveys, school events and more. We are extremely thankful for the many ways families of the North Branch Community supports our schools.

The district is extremely proud of the academic achievement of our students and the efforts of our staff. As we look ahead, we are dedicated to supporting innovative ways to grow teaching practices and raising student achievement in North Branch Area Schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James D. Fish". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

James D. Fish
Superintendent