

BIRCHVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

663 POPLAR STREET
ISHPEMING, MI 49849

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PRINCIPAL



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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 2018-19 educational progress for the Birchview Elementary 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 Matthew Byce for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/306Ib78>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

These reports contain the following information:

Student Assessment Data

Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, 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 teacher qualifications at district and school levels Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes.

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.

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.

At Birchview Elementary, we have continued the implementation of Foundations of Math, which is a research-based framework for math instruction. Utilizing the Foundations of Math framework allows our teachers to develop student number sense, improve student discourse, and help students gain a deeper understanding of fundamental math concepts.

Our school has also adopted a new curriculum, Bookworms, to develop each student in the areas of reading and writing. Through the evidence-based pedagogy built into Bookworms, our teachers will be able to provide differentiated instruction to build competent readers and writers.

Each teacher and student engages in a school-wide "Power Hour" which leverages small-group targeted supports to hone-in on specific student needs. These needs are consistently assessed to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of each support.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Ishpeming Public School District students, Junior Kindergarten through Fourth Grade, are all assigned to Birchview Elementary School. Kindergarten students are placed in one of two kindergarten classes, or the junior kindergarten class with the knowledge of student outcomes in the kindergarten screening process, and parental request. Parents outside of the district can attain a Schools of Choice application from the Superintendent's Office, or your child's school office. There are no specialized schools within the Ishpeming School District.

Birchview Elementary School currently has a school improvement plan in place that is reviewed and updated annually by a committee of teachers, support staff, students, parents, community members, and administration. We are on year three of tracking our current goals, which include improving student proficiency in math, reading, and science.

Parents may access a copy of the Common Core curriculum, and Michigan Merit Curriculum in the Birchview Elementary Office, or the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. The curriculum is reviewed on a five-year cycle.

The Birchview Elementary teachers held Parent-Teacher conferences during the school year. The Fall 2019 conferences had a 93% attendance rate, which means that 221 parents showed up for 238 scheduled conferences.

For the 2018-2019 academic year, the students at Birchview Elementary School scored higher on the M-STEP than the state average, and also scored higher than other schools with similar student characteristics.

I would like to thank each of the teachers, support staff personnel, parents, volunteers, and students of Birchview Elementary for their dedication to continuous student improvement. We take great pride in striving for academic, social, and emotional growth as we work to address the needs of the whole child. Thank you, and Go Hematites!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew M. Byce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Matthew M. Byce
Elementary Principal/Transportation Director