



# Kalkaska Middle School

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*Principal, Staci Short*  
*International Baccalaureate World School*

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-2018 educational progress for Kalkaska 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 Staci Short for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.kpschools.com](http://www.kpschools.com), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. 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. Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

- TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.
- ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our School has been identified as a Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) School.

Key Challenges at Kalkaska Middle School include the subject area of Mathematics for the majority of the school population, and Reading for the Economically Disadvantaged and Students with Disabilities. To address the issue in Mathematics, and accelerate student achievement in the subject, several key initiatives have been undertaken. All staff members teaching Mathematics are highly qualified to teach the subject. Additionally, all staff members have attended multiple sessions of professional development to ensure the following: Mathematics curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards, both horizontally and vertically, within the district, Mathematics teachers have been trained in the Balanced Math Program, and

Mathematics teachers have been trained in the CPM Mathematics curriculum. Furthermore, all middle school students that are identified as performing below the proficiency level on the NWEA are placed in a Math Intervention Class. This class is designed to use data, direct instruction, and learning modules to address gaps in Math knowledge. To address the issues facing the Economically Disadvantaged and Students with Disabilities in reading, students performing below the proficiency level on the NWEA in Reading are placed in a Reading Intervention Class. This class uses a combination of phonics, whole language, and reading comprehension strategies to increase reading fluency and comprehension.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. All 6th – 8th grade students attending Kalkaska Public Schools will attend Kalkaska Middle School.
2. Kalkaska Middle School is beginning year one of our five year Strategic Plan (school improvement plan).
3. There are no specialized middle schools at KPS, all students attend the Kalkaska Middle School.
4. The District's Core Curriculum can be found on the Kalkaska Public Schools Website. As the state is transitioning from the Michigan Merit Curriculum to the Common Core State Standards Curriculum (CCSSC), and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), we continue to work at being in alignment with the CCSSC in all subject areas.
5. On NWEA tests, the following percentages of students achieved the expected growth: Math: 6th grade, 47% in 2017 and 51% in 2018, 7th grade 57% in 2017 and 52% in 2018, 8th grade, 58% in 2017 and 71% in 2018. NWEA Reading: 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 45% in 2017 and 67% in 2018, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, 53% in 2017 and 63% in 2018, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 66% in 2017 and 69% in 2018. Finally, on the 8th pSAT, 51% of students were at or above college readiness benchmarks in the Evidence Based Reading and Writing, and 29% of them were at or above college readiness benchmarks in Math in 2018.
6. 69% of our students (232/336) were represented at Parent Teacher Conferences in 2017/2018.

Kalkaska Middle School continues to see improvement in student achievement. In spite of the many demographic challenges our district faces, we continue to move students in the direction of college readiness, and proficiency, according to the state standards. As our dedicated, caring staff continues to grow and develop new ways of reaching students in the toughest of circumstances, we will continue to improve.

Sincerely,



Staci Short, Principal

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