



Kalkaska Public Schools

*Kalkaska Middle School
Laura Gehman, Principal*

February 10, 2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2024-25 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 accountability, student assessment, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Laura Gehman for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: <https://www.kpschools.com/>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2025-26 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student group in 2024-25. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had at least one student group performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, failed to exit CSI status in 2024-25, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

Kalkaska Middle School was identified as an additional targeted support school.

Increasing Math and ELA learning continues to be a focus at Kalkaska Middle School. We have used the same Math and ELA curriculum resources for several years, providing training on these resources for our new teachers and yearly refresher training for veteran teachers. This ensures consistency and alignment with learning standards. Additionally, we have increased our understanding and use of formative assessments. This allows us to better assess the students' understanding of the content and their progress toward mastering necessary skills to support continued learning. We offer a daily homework lab and advisory period where all students can get extra support. We have a Study Skills elective class that is assigned to students based on their daily classroom data. This year, we've added a Reading Interventionist who will begin working with our 6th grade students whose benchmark testing data indicates the need for additional support in reading.



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State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Kalkaska Middle School provides education for approximately 280 students in grades 6 through 8 for Kalkaska Public Schools. Our district, in northwestern, lower Michigan covers 440 square miles in Kalkaska County and includes approximately 1400 students.

1. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

District student achievement, goals and strategies are reviewed each year by the District School Improvement Committee. The building School Improvement Committee reviews the building Self-Assessment Report, School Data Profile, and School Improvement Plan along with student achievement data, goals, and strategies. School improvement goals and plans are updated yearly.

2. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

The Kalkaska Middle School houses grades 6-8. We do not have any specialized schools in our facility.

3. CURRICULUM

Kalkaska Middle School follows the *Common Core State Standards* for ELA and Math. We also follow the *Next Generation Science Standards* and the *Michigan K-12 Standards for Social Studies*. Curriculum maps for courses are located on the district website.

4. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

MSTEP test results are included in the Annual Report. A summary of the results are located on the district website. MSTEP test results are provided to schools and parents as soon as they are available.



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The Middle School also administers the nationally normed NWEA assessment. Student Growth results (% met adequate growth or greater) for the past two years are:

	% Met or Exceeded Expected Growth					
	2024			2024-2025 Fall to Spring		
Subject	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Math	40%	53%	51%	27%	39%	71%
Reading	33%	20%	34%	24%	33%	39%
Language	38%	24%	34%	32%	54%	30%
Science	NA	49%	47%	33%	33%	40%

6. PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED AT PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
Fall 2025	58%	64%	25%

The staff at Kalkaska Middle School is proud of the educational opportunities we provide to our students and families. We will continue to adjust our instructional practices to best serve our students in our quest to increase student achievement. We appreciate the continued support of the staff, families, and community in this continued effort.

Sincerely,

Laura Gehman