

# Berkshire Middle School



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21707 West Fourteen Mile Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025

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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 2016-17 educational progress for Berkshire 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 me at 248.203.4802 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/yCHZ8M>, or you may review a copy in the main office at the school.

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new 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. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Berkshire Middle School has not received a label.

Through our school's Response to Intervention (RTI) committee, the Berkshire staff has continued to work collaboratively at identifying students that could benefit from many of our intervention initiatives (i.e. Math Lab, Directed Studies, Literacy, Saturday School, etc.). To assist with identifying and supporting our students that are in need of these various interventions, we have also hired a fulltime Intervention Specialist that has been instrumental in supporting this work. In addition, we have continued to be very intentional at identifying students that are ready to participate in courses such as Advanced Math to ensure that they are receiving the appropriate amount of rigor and support. Our Intervention Specialist, school administration and members of our RTI Committee has also been focused on progress monitoring students that are participating in these interventions. By focusing on the individualized needs of our diverse learners, we have been steadily working on extending learning opportunities and closing any existing achievement gaps.

State law requires that we also report the additional information:

1. Birmingham Public Schools is a closed district, which means that families must live within the district to be placed at a neighborhood school. Tuition-based programs are available for out-of-district families interested in attending our district.
2. For the past several school years, the Berkshire school improvement plan has focused on improving our overall culture and academic learning environment and we have now shifted our focus to the goal of being very intentional at working on improving our students' literacy skills. Specifically, our staff have worked with students on Vocabulary Acquisition, Close Reading literacy skills (Making Claims and Citing Textual Evidence) and Interpreting Visual Information. Through our focused and collaborative efforts, we have been very pleased in the measured growth that our students have collectively demonstrated in these two crucial literacy areas.
3. BPS offers specialized schools to students within the district.
  - a. Birmingham Covington School is a 3-8 district-wide school of choice open to BPS students with a special emphasis on science and technology. Interested students may register to enroll. If there aren't enough spaces available, a lottery is held in January to select students for the upcoming school year.
  - b. Lincoln Street Alternative High School seeks to develop the unique talents of their students by providing them the opportunity to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitude necessary to live successfully in a changing world. LSAS provides a flexible learning environment in a family atmosphere that encourages student decision-making, critical thinking, understanding of and appreciation for individual and cultural differences, and good citizenship in our democratic society.

- c. BPS partners with the International Academy to offer the International Baccalaureate program to high school students. Currently, the district holds 80 seats for interested students accepted into the program.
  - d. Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southeast is an extension of the high school program and provides nine educational clusters which are developed around broad occupational areas containing many different, but related, career training options for students.
4. BPS adheres to the Career and College Readiness academic standards and Michigan Merit Curriculum from the State of Michigan. Information on these can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/MI-Standards>. In addition, our district continues to work to fully align our K-12 curriculum with state and national standards. As work progresses on these efforts, information will be made available to parents on our district website under the [Teaching and Learning Department page](#).
5. The state requires each district to administer district-selected tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics in first through eighth grades. BPS uses assessments closely tied to its curriculum. The school district assesses students in grades 1-5 each spring with the Fountas & Pinnell Reading assessment. The following Fountas and Pinnell data represent the percentages of students that scored at or above standard in 2017 and 2016. The district also administers the NWEA Math and Reading assessments in Grades 1-8. Below are spring 2017 and spring 2016 mean RIT (Rasch unit) scores, compared to national norm RIT scores.

| NWEA Reading        | Year        | RIT Mean Score |       |       |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------|-------|
|                     |             | 6th            | 7th   | 8th   |
| Berkshire           | Spring 2017 | 219.4          | 225.8 | 227.5 |
| Berkshire           | Spring 2016 | 220.9          | 221.6 | 228.5 |
| NWEA National Norms | Spring 2015 | 215.8          | 218.2 | 220.1 |

| NWEA Math           | Year        | RIT Mean Score |       |       |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------|-------|
|                     |             | 6th            | 7th   | 8th   |
| Berkshire           | Spring 2017 | 226.3          | 235.2 | 240.0 |
| Berkshire           | Spring 2016 | 229.1          | 234.6 | 241.9 |
| NWEA National Norms | Spring 2015 | 225.3          | 228.6 | 230.9 |

6. During the 2016-2017 school year, 93% of our parents attended a conference (92% for female students and 94% for male students). This compares to 91% of parents that attended a conference (92% for female students and 91% for male students) during the 2015-2016 school year.

We thank the Berkshire community for their continued support of our programs and activities. We are pleased to present this outstanding report for your review. Please contact the district at (248) 203-3000 or me for more information about our achievements.

Sincerely,

Jason Clinkscale  
Principal

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**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a learning/working environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect, free from discrimination and harassment. There will be no tolerance for discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information, disability or age. The District prohibits harassment and other forms of discrimination whether occurring at school, on District property, in a District vehicle, or at any District related activity or event. The Superintendent will designate compliance officers and develop and implement regulations for the reporting, investigation and resolution of complaints of discrimination or harassment. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Students - Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of disability should be directed to: Executive Director of Specialized Instruction and Student Services, 31301 Evergreen Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025, 248.203.3000. Direct all other inquiries related to discrimination to: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, 31301 Evergreen Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025, 248.203.3000.