

District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 15, 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-22 educational progress for Tri County Area Schools 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 Allen Cumings, Superintendent for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website **www.tricountyschools.com**, 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 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 MI-Access science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students.

School Accountability Data

- Includes information on schools' performance on various measures such as student proficiency and growth on state assessments, graduation, and attendance rates. Performance is measured on 0-100 index scales
- Reports schools identified under three federally required categories for further support: Comprehensive Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, and Additional Targeted Support

Educator 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 2022-23 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 subgroup in 2021-22. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup 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 or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

School Name	Status Label <IDENTIFY TSI, ATS, CSI, AND NO LABEL SCHOOLS>	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement <IDENTIFY THE KEY INITIATIVE>
Tri County High School	No Label Given	N/A
Tri County Middle School	No Label Given	N/A
Sand Lake Elementary	No Label Given	N/A
MacNaughton Elementary	No Label Given	N/A

It is an exciting time at Tri County Area Schools with the completion of our bond that will provide a new state of the art elementary school. In the fall of 2023 Tri County will open a new state of the art elementary school which will move all students on a central campus. The new K-5 elementary school will support educating each student with a guaranteed and viable curriculum across grade levels. It will also offer collaborative classroom spaces and specially defined spaces for art, music, gym and STEM. A new dedicated Media Center/Library will support students having books of their choice for reading in school and at home. The new school also has up to date safety and security features and has an energy efficient HVAC system that includes air conditioning. We are excited for the educational and operational advantages the new elementary will provide for our students and community.

Tri County High School and Middle School will also receive upgrades in the fall of 2023. The high school will open a new Cafeteria/Auditorium (Cafetorium) that is a 685-seat theatrical space for music and drama performances. The Science classrooms will be upgraded into Science labs so that students can have more hands-on learning experiences in class. The Middle School will have upgrades to classrooms with new paint, flooring and furniture. We are excited to also update the Middle School gym with new bleachers and a refinished gym floor. The secondary schools will both be getting upgrades to their HVAC system that will include air conditioning to the classrooms.

Tri County Area Schools will continue many of its successful options for students by providing educational, enrichment, and extracurricular options. In our K-8 programing, Tri County offers a strong core curriculum along with specials for Music, Art, Physical Education, and Computers/Media and Woods for 6-8 grade. In grades 3-8 we offer STEM programming, which includes coding, robotics, and design thinking. Giving students opportunities is key for them to prepare for life after school and we believe in students exploring their educational interests. Tri County Area Schools is also a part of the Community Eligibility Provisions program, which means all K-12th grade students receive breakfast and lunch for free.

Tri County High School offers students opportunities in both our local curriculum offerings (including AP), as well as a strong dual enrollment program where students may attend local colleges (including Ferris State and Grand Valley State University). The high school offers many options for enrichment offerings such as a Media class, Basic Marketing and Sales (school store), Food Art (culinary) and a full woodshop that includes a CNC machine. Our students also have the option to attend Kent Career Technical Center and Newaygo County Career Tech Center for additional opportunities for career skills training.

Tri County Area Schools has a variety of extracurricular activities with 16 varsity sports, many of which have sub-varsity and middle school programs. Our award-winning Tri County Band consistently earns top honors at festivals, and the Marching Band has been to the State Finals at Ford Field 4 of the last 5 years. A strong Odyssey of the Mind program, that has teams from elementary to high school, has won 3 State Titles and sent four teams to the World Competition in the past 4 years. We are so proud of the hard work our students put into academics, arts, and athletics.

It is an exciting time at Tri County Area Schools as we move forward with our building projects, curriculum, and extracurricular opportunities. It is great to lead and collaborate with a great school community that desires to educate, encourage, and empower each child. If you have any questions or want to learn how you can be a part of the great things happening in Tri County, please feel free to contact me at 616-636-5454.

Sincerely,
Allen Cumings
Superintendent