HOUGHTON-PORTAGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
HOUGHTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
1603 Gundlach Rd. | Houghton, Michigan 49931
(906) 482-0450 | FAX (906) 483-2566
www.hpts.us
JULIE FILPUS – Principal

Tuesday, January 27, 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 Houghton 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 Julie Filpus for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: www.hpts.us , 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.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

The staff at Houghton Middle School is committed to applying Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to help address the achievement, achievement gaps, behavior and to improve overall school culture. We have implemented Advisory/ Homerooms, at all three grade levels to support middle level learners with academic organization, executive functioning, social-emotional skills and more. We have begun to plan for the building of a middle school recreation space to bolster our positive school climate.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

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1. **Pupil Assignment:** At Houghton Middle School, pupils are assigned to various classes electronically by "PowerSchool". This system randomly places students in available classes. If special needs arise, individuals may be placed manually depending on the circumstances.

2. **3-5 Year School Improvement Plan –** The Mission of Houghton Middle School is to assist students in reaching their full potential through the teaching of Goals, Respect, Integrity, and Teamwork. A school improvement team meets multiple times during the year to assess the vision and direction of the district. The team also annually completes the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Plan (MICIP).

3. **Specialized Schools -** There are no specialized schools.

4. **Core Curriculum –**When the State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) as the new standards for K-12 in Mathematics and English Language Arts, our District began a transition to implementing these standards into the curriculum. These standards can be found at http://www.corestandards.org. Social Studies standards can be found at http://www.misocialstudies.org/ .The Science https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Literacy/Content-Standards/Science_Standards.pdf?rev=30bad7c0cbc048ceabb5548669b2d76a

5. **Student Achievement Results –** Student achievement results can be found at https://www.mischooldata.org/grades-3-8-state-testing-includes-psat-data-performance/

6. **Parent - Teacher Conferences -** In the fall of 2025, parents were able to attend parent teacher conferences. HMS had approximately 356 students enrolled. On the office side, 55% of report cards were picked up by a parent. On average, teachers reported having a conference with 38% of their student's parents. In the fall of 2024, HMS had approximately 358 students enrolled. 55% of report cards were picked up by a parent. On average, teachers reported having a conference with 35% of their student's teachers.

In closing, our middle school remains firmly committed to fostering a learning environment that supports academic success while nurturing strong relationships between students, teachers, and peers.

Sincerely,

Julie Filpus