

# HOUGHTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal's Office

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Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 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 student assessment, accountability, 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 [https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common\\_Locations=1-S,8237,1237,75](https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-S,8237,1237,75) , or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 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 2022-23. 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 label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

The staff at Houghton Middle School are in their 11<sup>th</sup> year of implementing/ using a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to help address the achievement, achievement gaps and to improve overall school culture. We have successfully rolled out Tier I, II and III behavior and reading expectations and are using data to drive our decisions. We have added courses to help students who struggle with reading, math computation, and organization. This is our third year having a social worker in addition to a counselor. We are working to address mental health issues with our students to better support them in and out of the classroom. Finally, were able to add two additional faculty members to address areas where we are short staffed. In the future, we hope to be able to further address this issue.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

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 School Improvement Plan. The staff at HMS is currently in its ninth year of implementing and operating with a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). The system is built on Goals, Respect, Integrity and Teamwork (GRIT).

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](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. In the fall of 2022, parents were able to attend parent teacher conferences. HMS had approximately 340 students enrolled. On the office side, 58% of report cards were picked up by a parent. On average, teachers reported having a conference with 32% of their students. In the fall of 2023, parents were able to attend parent teacher conferences. HMS had approximately 345 students enrolled. On the office side, 62% of report cards were picked up by a parent. On average, teachers reported having a conference with 38% of their students.

In closing, I feel the need to remark on the incredible amount of changes taking place in the public school systems. One thing I never want to see change is how much our teacher and staff cares about the education of our youth. The tools and methods may change, but a smile and encouragement go a long way no matter what the tools may be.

Sincerely,

Julie Filpus