

Byron Area Schools

312 West Maple Avenue
Byron, MI 48418

Byron High School School Annual Education Report (AER) Letter

March 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Byron High 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 Tricia Murphy-Alderman for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.byron.k12.mi.us, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given.

Byron High School has not been assigned a label by the State of Michigan.

Byron High School, like many other schools, faces certain challenges that impact student performance. Reduced levels of state funding have impacted the staffing, programming, and the levels of support that Byron High School can utilize to ensure student growth. In spite of these challenges, the staff at Byron High School is eager to provide Byron students with exceptional learning opportunities. For 2016-17 academic year, the high school with collaboration for the Michigan Project Based Institute continues re-imagining teaching and learning by incorporating project-based lessons and units throughout our instructional courses. Our goal is to make our students' learning more engaging, challenging, and connected with the work outside the classroom. Teachers continue to utilize technology to increase students' understanding of 21st century skills. We continue to provide college and career-readiness programs, intervention strategies to address students who are struggling or showing learning gaps, and Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and Early College opportunities.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Byron High School services all students in grades 9-12 who live in the Byron Area School District. The school also accepts Schools of Choice students from other districts following 501c rules.

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

The School Improvement Team has written a school improvement plan focused on raising achievement in writing, math, reading, science, and social studies. The team analyzed student data in each of these content areas and developed a strategic plan for accomplishing these goals. The plan is reviewed by the team multiple times throughout the year to monitor progress of implementation.

3. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

It is the philosophy of the Byron Area Schools and the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District to serve each person with special needs in the least restrictive environment. A continuum of education placement options is offered from age 0-26, which provides for mild to severe handicapping conditions, supportive services, and vocational training programs designed to meet the needs of special needs persons. The placement options are provided through cooperative planning by the Byron Area Schools, Shiawassee Regional Education Service District, and the Michigan Department of Education, since no district could support a full continuum itself. The Shiawassee Regional Education Service District operates programs and services for the low incidence populations. Likewise preprimary impaired programs are center programs service clusters of districts. For the high incidence of EMI, EI, and LD, each individual district offers those options that best meet their needs. However, by agreement, each district can have placement access to categorical programs operated by another district, if appropriate. In this way, a full continuum is available in an efficient and cost effective manner regardless of district size. Byron does have students who attend programs within the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District.

4. CORE CURRICULUM

Byron High School curriculum units are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and The Michigan High School Content Expectations (HSCE) to establish what every student is expected to know by the end of high school. Assessment of the core curriculum, as well as all other curricular areas is an ongoing process.

5. LOCALLY ADMINISTERED ASSESSMENTS

Students participate in the PSAT, SAT, ACT WorkKeys, M-STEP, AIMSweb, along with local assessments to identify gaps in the curriculum and make necessary adjustments ensuring our student success.

6. PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Approximately 30% of our parent/guardians participate in parent-teacher conferences. Student progress is monitored by parents via our on-line PowerSchool portal as well as personal contact by staff members.

7. COLLEGE CREDIT FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT

For 2016-17, 85 students participated in Dual Enrollment courses.

8. AP COURSES

In 2016-17, one (1) AP course is offered. Eighteen students are enrolled in AP Literature and Composition.

Byron High School is made up of dedicated professionals and support staff who recognize the students as very special people who are here to learn and grow. We are also fortunate that our parents are very involved and support the staff and students in a variety of ways. We will continue to stay focused on academics while setting high standards for character and behavior by following the Eagle Code. With the support of the school, family, and community members, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

/s/

Grant Hegenauer
Principal
Byron High School

