

Oakley W. Best Middle School

Achievement-Responsibility-Success in Life



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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 2015-2016 educational progress for O.W. Best 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 Mr. Aaron Mollett at 313-203-3200 or molletaa@dhsd7.net for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site http://district7.net/district_information/annual_education_report or you may review a copy from the main office.

Building Profile

O.W. Best Middle School serves approximately 580 students in grades 6-8. There are twenty-eight teaching staff members. Additional support staff include: counselors, at-risk specialist, school psychologist, social worker, teacher consultant, visually impaired consultant, bilingual consultant, and speech and language therapist.

The school day consists of six class periods hours of instruction and a multi-purpose period in a two semester school year. Students partake in a wide range of electives from jazz band to gym to Our Place in Space. Students have to opportunity to take Advanced classes in English Language Arts, Math and Art.

Extra-curricular activities include numerous student organizations and athletics. Daily attendance averages 97.57 percent.

State School Labels and Accountability Scorecard

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

The overall status on the 2015-16 accountability scorecard is lime (86.2%).

School Improvement

O.W. Best Middle School is on a continuous improvement plan for the Michigan Department of Education. We are currently working on five goals: All students will be proficient in math; all students will be proficient in English Language Arts; all students will be proficient in science; all students will be proficient in social studies; and O.W. Best Middle School will be a safe, orderly and predictable school where all students can excel.

Parent Involvement

Forty-eight percent of O.W. Best parents attended the Fall parent/teacher conferences. The Winter conferences were attended by 44 percent. In addition, our schools has a very active Parent Club, which coordinates activities such as fundraisers and school dances.

Student Achievement

Presented below are the O.W. Best aggregate student achievement results for the Michigan Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) for the past two years. The values listed on the table represent the percentage of students identified as proficient (or better) in each area.

6th grade ELA 2014-15	6th grade ELA 2015-16	6th grade Math 2014-15	6th grade Math 2015-16
43.8%	27.2%	26.3%	13.5%

7th grade ELA 2014-15	7th grade ELA 2015-16	7th grade Math 2014-15	7th grade Math 2015-16	7th grade Science 2014-15	7th grade Science 2015-16
43.7%	45.3%	18.7%	24.2%	12.6%	15.3%

8th grade ELA 2014-15	8th grade ELA 2015-16	8th grade Math 2014-15	8th grade Math 2015-16	8th grade Social Studies 2014-15	8th grade Social Studies 2015-16
44.4%	33.8%	27.2%	22.0%	23.8%	18.8%

Process for Assigning Students to O.W. Best Middle School

All students that are residents are automatically accepted as students at the school. In addition, we are a schools-of-choice district that accepts students from outside our district. For the 2015-16 school year it was an unlimited basis for grades 6-8.

Points of Pride

- Peer Mediators are trained in and conduct conflict resolution mediations between students.
- Peer mentoring program partners academically at-risk 6th grade students with 8th grade peer mentors.
- Extracurricular activities include clubs such as robotics, band, technology, and National Junior Honor Society.

- All 8th grade students take one semester of Spanish.
- Student support programs include Homework Helpers, Saturday School, Check In Check Out, Multi Purpose Period, E2020, and Zero's Aren't Permitted (ZAP).
- We incorporate Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) school-wide.

Core Curriculum

The Michigan Department of Education provides all Michigan schools with a core curriculum for all core academic areas, including Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. <http://www.corestandards.org>. These core standards align closely with the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics, and provide the foundation for learning at the elementary level. This core curriculum has been customized to the needs of students in Dearborn Heights School District #7 by teachers of all grade levels working in concert with district administration. The material presented is identical to what is expected by both the state and federal governments, but is tailored to the specific student population of O.W. Best Middle School students.

We at O.W. Best Middle School are happy with the progress of our students. We are continually striving to improve our professional performance and ultimately that of our students' performance so that go on to achieve further success in school as well as in later life.

Sincerely,

Aaron Mollett
Principal