## Pardee Elementary School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 6, 2017

Dear Pardee Elementary School Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Pardee Elementary 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 William J. Murphy, principal of Pardee Elementary School, by telephone at (313) 203-5600, or by email at murphywi@dhsd7.net, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <a href="http://www.district7.net/pardee/about/Pardee\_AER.html">http://www.district7.net/pardee/about/Pardee\_AER.html</a>, or you may review a copy from the Pardee Elementary School main office.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus 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 Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Pardee Elementary School was not identified as one of these for the 2016/17 school year.

We are committed to providing the best individualized instructions for all students. To this end, we are:

- Adjusting how we provide instruction in English Language Arts through ability-level grouping;
- Providing professional development to staff to assist in targeting those areas of concern as well as to provide additional instructional tools for improving student performance (i.e. building academic vocabulary);
- Offering extended day [before and/or after school] supplemental instructional programs targeted to those students identified as being part of the bottom 30%;
- Actively involving students and families by offering numerous evening activities targeted at English Language Arts and Mathematics throughout the 2016/17 school year, and;
- Investigating other strategies for inclusion in the 2017/18 School Improvement Plan targeted at reducing the gap between the top 30% and bottom 30% at Pardee Elementary School

Information used to rank schools is based on the development of the Top to Bottom list of schools and their performance.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

- 1. In 2013-2014, Dearborn Heights School District #7 conducted a reconfiguration of the elementary program. Pardee now serves as the district's sole building for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Thus, all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students attending Dearborn Heights School District #7 will attend Pardee Elementary School.
- 2. The Pardee Elementary School Improvement Plan was revised during the 2016/17 school year. Our school improvement goals improvement in Mathematics, English Language Arts (ELA) and Writing remained the same, but our strategies for achieving those goals were updated to reflect the processes and procedures that we intend to use in the classrooms to improve our performance in these areas as determined by the *Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-Step*; formally the MEAP), the *Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress* (MAP), and locally-produced classroom assessments.
- 3. Pardee Elementary is an elementary school serving 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in all core subject areas. Further, all students receive special area instruction in Art, Music, Computers and Physical Education.
- 4. 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. Copies of this curriculum can be accessed via the Internet at <a href="http://www.corestandards.org">http://www.corestandards.org</a>. These core standards align closely with the Michigan Department of Education's Grade Level Content Expectations 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 populations of District #7 elementary school students.

5. Presented below in table format are the Pardee Elementary School aggregate student achievement results for both M-Step and NWEA Measures of Academic Progress for the past two school years. The values listed on the table indicate the percentage of students identified as Proficient (or better) in each area.

M-Step MATH	2014/15	M-Step MATH	2015/16
GRADE LEVEL 4	25%	GRADE LEVEL 4	24%
GRADE LEVEL 5	21%	GRADE LEVEL 5	13%
M-Step READING	2014-15	M-Step READING	2015/16
GRADE LEVEL 4	30%	GRADE LEVEL 4	27%
GRADE LEVEL 5	35%	GRADE LEVEL 5	31%
NWEA MATH	2014-15	NWEA MATH	2015/16
GRADE LEVEL 4	74%	GRADE LEVEL 4	69%
GRADE LEVEL 5	60%	GRADE LEVEL 5	56%
NWEA READING	2014-15	NWEA READING	2015/6
GRADE LEVEL 4	68%	GRADE LEVEL 4	83%
GRADE LEVEL 5	67%	GRADE LEVEL 5	79%

<sup>6.</sup> Pardee Elementary School is fortunate to regularly have over 95% of all families represented at fall Parent-Teacher Conferences and over 85% of those families attended spring conferences as well.

We at Pardee Elementary School are exceptionally pleased with our continued progress and with our students' noteworthy performance on the State-defined measures of school success. We continue to work as a staff and as a school community to do what is best for the students of Pardee Elementary School so that they may go on to achieve further success in school as well as in later life.

Sincerely,

William J. Murphy,

Principal, Pardee Elementary School