



# STURGIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## District Annual Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 1, 2017

### Board of Education

Dr. Kerri Millett  
Mr. Paul Gorsuch  
Mrs. Ann Bird  
Mr. Scott Swihart  
Mrs. Gwen Donmyer  
Mr. Scott Boland  
Mrs. Emily Halling

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 the Sturgis Public School District and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Julie Evans, Assistant Superintendent, for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by clicking this link: [Sturgis Public Schools Annual Education Report](#), or you may review a copy in the District office at Sturgis Public Schools. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

### Administration

Dr. Thomas M. Langdon  
*Superintendent*  
Mrs. Julie Evans  
*Assistant Superintendent*  
Mr. Raymond Sterling  
*Business Manager*  
Mr. Von Metzger  
*Technology Director*  
Mrs. Alejandra Garrett  
*ESL/Grant Coordinator*  
Mr. Brian Tallmadge  
*Data Coordinator*  
Mrs. Karen Stimson  
*Executive Assistant*  
Mr. David Northrop  
*School Safety & Security Supervisor*  
Mrs. Susan Langdon  
*Special Ed Coordinator*

**Student Assessment Data** – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

### Accountability Scorecard – Detail Data and Status

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability scorecard status.

### Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

### NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

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## PLCs

Professional Learning communities are weekly, structured meetings for teachers in which student data is examined allowing PLC members to modify instruction and design supports for students. It is a growth model which through the use of data, pushes teachers to work together to grow their professional practice.

## Leader in Me

For the past two years, K-5 buildings have been utilizing the principles of Stephen Covey's 7 Habits to change the culture of our schools through recognizing and nurturing the idea that every child is a leader. Modeling, teaching and using the language of the 7 Habits empowers students to take ownership of their learning and their school and has become a unique and integral part of our school system.

## MS Lead

This past school year, the Middle School joined a select group of Middle Schools from around the nation as they embarked upon a culture of change utilizing the principles of Stephen Covey's 7 Habits. As they prepared to invite new students into the building, the staff elected to continue the focus that Leader in Me highlighted through its program of modeling, teaching and using the language of the 7 Habits. We look forward to continuing the 7 Habits at the Middle School!

## Choice Theory (William Glasser)

Choice theory is based on a belief that the only behavior we can control is our own, so adults at Sturgis Middle School and Sturgis High School are trained to help students – in a caring way – to accept responsibility for their choices and to guide them to make better choices in the future. In addition to focusing on skills that improve behavior, Sturgis High School has implemented a Seminar period where students can receive the academic support needed to be successful. We are proud of reducing the number of student failures, increasing GPAs and attendance rates, through a relationship centered approach.

## Family Support

A key ingredient to the academic success of any child is family support. To connect with families, we offer many parent activities – Fall Tailgate, Write Night, Ask the Teacher, Thanksgiving Dinner(s), MSTEP Parent Meetings and College Bowl Sunday. We also offer opportunities for parent input through surveys or Advisory Boards and we often seek volunteers to help in classrooms. Such volunteer events include field trips, performing arts and athletics. Timeless and essential ways for parents to support their child's education include meeting with teachers at parent teacher conferences, monitoring grades, asking children about their assignments; and most of all, ensuring that your child practices reading at home and during the summer.

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Review the table below listing our schools. 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 status label is given.

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School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Sturgis High School	no label	PLCs and Technology
Sturgis Middle School	no label	PLCs and Technology
Eastwood School	no label	PLCs and Technology
Congress School	no label	PLCs and Technology
Wall School	no label	PLCs and Technology
Wenzel School	no label	PLCs and Technology
eCademy (Sturgis Adult and Community Education)	no label	PLCs and Technology

Student achievement takes everyone - students, staff, parents and the community. In Sturgis, we have all of these groups working together for the betterment of all students. If you would like to participate in our success, we encourage you to contact the district office or your child’s school administrator.

For Students,

Dr. Thomas M. Langdon  
Superintendent of Schools  
Sturgis Public Schools

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