



Sparta Area Schools

Administration | 465 S. Union Street, Sparta, MI 49345 | 616-887-8253

www.spartaschools.org

District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

1/23/25:

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Sparta Area School District and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Steve Johnson for help if you need assistance.

The Sparta District AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-D,1561,90,0 you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

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 MI-Access science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students.

School Accountability Data

- Includes information on schools' performance on various measures such as student proficiency and growth on state assessments, graduation, and attendance rates. Performance is measured on 0-100 index scales
- Reports schools identified under three federally required categories for further support: Comprehensive Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, and Additional Targeted Support

Educator Qualification Data

- Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders
- Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
- Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

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

Civil Rights Data

- Provides information on school quality, climate, and safety



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Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2024-25 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 2023-24. 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, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

| School Name | Status Label | Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement |
|----------------------|--------------|--|
| Ridgeview Elementary | No Label | K-5 Literacy Review |
| Appleview Elementary | No Label | K-5 Literacy Review |
| Sparta Middle School | No Label | Professional Learning Communities |
| Sparta High School | No Label | Professional Learning Communities |

The academic success of the students in Sparta Area Schools is due to the hard work and collaboration of the staff and families of Sparta. In collaboration with the Sparta community, we will continue to move forward with the focus areas of our strategic plan. Our schools are committed to working as true professional learning communities. We will continue to evaluate what is most important for students to learn. We will respond with intervention when students need assistance and extension when students need challenge. Sparta Schools is an important part of our community and the Sparta Community is an important part of our schools. I encourage you to contact our building principals or our central office to learn more about Sparta Area Schools and how you can be a part of our team.

Sincerely,

Joel Stoner
Superintendent
Sparta Area Schools