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District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 29, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for the Linden Community 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 Julie Brown for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/wmsdpx> or 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 – Elementary or middle school assessment results on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), high school assessment results on the M-STEP component of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and assessment results for students with disabilities on Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access).

- Presents achievement data for all four tested subjects (English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) compared to targets for all students as well as subgroups of students
- Helps parents understand achievement progress within schools and compare these to district and state achievement

Accountability Scorecard – Detail Data and Status

Due to the transition from MEAP tests to the M-STEP test, the accountability portion of the AER is limited to assessment participation and graduation/attendance rates. Full accountability reporting will resume with the 2015-16 AER.

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

At every level within our district, we continue to work towards excellence both socially and academically. While we are proud of our accomplishments, we also know we need to prepare our students for the demands they will face after their K-12 education. Our staff is moving forward with new curriculum initiatives and course offerings to bring our students to their very best potential. I would like to thank all students, staff, parents, and community members that had a hand in our commitment to education. The Linden community continues to be a place where families want to raise their children.

Sincerely,

Russell Ciesielski

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Interim Superintendent