

Thornton Creek Elementary

2016-17 Annual Education Report



March 6, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

Following the recent release of data from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), we are pleased to present you with the [Annual Education Report \(AER\)](#) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress at Thornton Creek 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 our office at 248-465-2350 anytime for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically on the MI School Data website, by clicking [here](#), or you may review a copy in our school office.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named by the Michigan Department of Education; 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 label is given.

Thornton Creek Elementary School has been identified as a **Reward** school for the 2016-17 school year.

Thornton Creek is focused on continual improvement in all content areas. Our data continues to show improvement. We strive to create a collaborative culture through professional learning communities engaging in collaborative data analysis at a classroom, grade level and school level. Individualized instruction supports mastery learning in the classroom and during "Win-Win Time." Our professional staff studies best practices in teaching and learning and aligns these practices with the District School Improvement Plan, 5 Dimensions (5D+) of Teaching and Learning and *The Leader in Me* to meet student needs identified through multiple root-cause analyses. Our school improvement plan is focused on increasing proficiency in reading, writing, mathematics and science. The strategies identified to increase proficiency include: formative assessment, targeted instruction, the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System, direct instruction, and student goal setting and data tracking through leadership notebooks. We also continue to be a *The Leader in Me* school where we embed Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and promote the ability of each child to use their unique strengths to be a leader.

While Thornton Creek students' average performance on Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) exceeds the national average in the Fall and Spring in all grades in every subject, disaggregation of the data reveals students who fall below the mean and require intervention.

This includes our special education and English language learner subgroups. We are also cognizant of the need to challenge our high achieving students. This is why we continue to view data in multiple measures to determine our students' rate of growth and proficiency.

Thornton Creek has a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to provide a systematic approach to analyzing the data and providing supports. By viewing summative and formative assessment data, our staff is able to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Students are able to take ownership in their growth as learners by setting goals, creating an action plan for meeting their goals, and reflecting on their achievements.

State law requires that we also report additional information. Thornton Creek Elementary School is a neighborhood school. Students are primarily assigned based on residency; however, Northville Public Schools has an open enrollment process available for Northville school district residents who would like for their child to attend a Northville elementary or middle school that is outside their attendance area. Information about this process is available at [In-District Open Enrollment](#) on our website.

Thornton Creek Elementary School, as part of Northville Public Schools, is accredited by AdvancED and is committed to a continuous improvement process. Our school improvement efforts for the last three years have centered on reading, writing, math, and science and includes continued implementation of *The Leader in Me* framework, based on Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Our school improvement plan is available for review on our district website at [District School Improvement Plans](#).

Our curriculum is aligned with the Michigan State Standards for literacy and math and Grade Level Content Standards for science and social studies. Our teacher leaders, in conjunction with the Office of Instruction, have developed comprehensive curriculum maps, detailed instructional units and assessments, K-12, which are aligned to the standards. Curriculum may be reviewed by contacting the Office of Instruction. MDE provides a detailed overview of the [Michigan State Standards](#) on its website.

Each Fall, Winter and Spring, students in grades K-5 take the nationally normed NWEA Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) in reading and math. NWEA assessments are adaptive, meaning that the online assessment adapts to the individual student's level of learning. The following tables shows the aggregate Fall and Spring scores by grade level, compared with the national average, for reading, math, and Science (grades 3-5).

NWEA Building Data – READING

Grade	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Reading FALL 2014	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Reading SPRING 2015	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Reading FALL 2015	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Reading SPRING 2016	National Average RIT Score FALL*	National Average RIT Score SPRING*
K	149.8	168.4	143	161.8	141.0	158.1
1	169.7	184.7	171.8	186.9	160.7	177.5
2	181.8	196.5	180.4	195.7	174.3	188.7
3	197.2	203.3	194.6	205.3	188.3	205.9
4	207.8	215.3	206	214.8	198.2	211.8
5	216.8	221.8	214.7	219.7	205.7	215.8

*NWEA 2015 Reading Status Norms (Mean RIT Values)

NWEA Building Data – MATHEMATICS

Grade	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Math FALL 2014	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Math SPRING 2015	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Math FALL 2015	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Math SPRING 2016	National Average RIT Score FALL*	National Average RIT Score SPRING*
K	151.4	168.7	141.8	164.1	140.0	159.1
1	171.9	190.3	172.1	195	162.4	180.8
2	182.8	197.5	182.8	198.8	176.9	192.1
3	198.1	206.5	194.4	209.9	190.0	203.4
4	210.2	224.0	208.2	219.5	201.9	213.5
5	222.8	232.9	219.2	228.6	211.4	221.4

**NWEA 2015 Mathematics Status Norms (Mean RIT Values)*

NWEA Building Data – SCIENCE

Grade	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Science FALL 2014	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Science SPRING 2015	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Science FALL 2014	Thornton Creek Average RIT Score Science SPRING 2015	National Average RIT Score FALL*	National Average RIT Score SPRING*
3	194.3	199.1	193.6	203.7	187.5	195.4
4	202.3	208.6	202.6	211.6	194.6	201.0
5	210.7	214.4	208.5	215	200.2	205.7

**NWEA 2015 General Science Status Norms (Mean RIT Values)*

Our teachers consistently strive to support all learners while continuing their own learning. The Thornton Creek staff remains committed to advancing the building's mission of providing an atmosphere that promotes self-esteem, mutual respect and optimum student learning. Parent-teacher conferences take place twice annually, with nearly 98% of parents attending in 2014-15 and 99% in 2015-2016 school years.

I am happy to provide further information or assistance regarding Thornton Creek Elementary School. You may contact me by telephone at 248-465-2350 or via email at bennettje@northvilleschools.org.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bennett

Jennifer Bennett

Principal

Thornton Creek Elementary School