

# Jeffers Elementary School

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August 15, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

Re: School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-11 educational progress for Jeffers Elementary School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact me for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.springlakeschools.org/publications/annual-education-report> or you may review a copy from the Jeffers School office.

Jeffers has achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics since the standards have been in place. While we are pleased to have reached the letter grade "A," we are continuously working to improve. All students are assessed throughout the year in math and reading so that we may continue to meet each child's individual needs. This year Jeffers Elementary was recognized as one of 18 elementary schools in the state of Michigan for "Beating the Odds" by outperforming other schools in the state with similar demographics. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.

Spring Lake has two Y5-4 elementary schools. Students are assigned by boundaries which were established many years ago. There is a certain amount of fluidness and flexibility in the assignment of schools based on parent preference and availability of space. Approximately 18% of Jeffers students are non-residents.

Spring Lake Public Schools adheres to the state core curriculum with its Grade Level Content Expectations. The common core curriculum standards in all content areas are available from the building principal.

The members of the Jeffers School Improvement Team met throughout the school year in developing the 3-5 year school plan. In spite of our continued success on state assessments (MEAP), our goals focus on individual student success at all levels. This coming school year we will continue to develop new strategies, activities and interventions in meeting our annual goals.

Some Spring Lake Public Schools students who are identified as having one or more handicaps are able to receive educational services at specialized schools and centers. The programs are operated by the

Ottawa Area Intermediate School District and/or Spring Lake Public Schools. The decision to place a student in any special education program is made by an Individualized Educational Plan Committee (IEPC) which includes at least one of the student's parents, a teacher, diagnostic personnel, and a school administrator. The goal of all specialized programs is to facilitate a student's educational growth to the maximum extent possible. Many of these programs are available from infancy through early adulthood. These programs include: Autism, Severely Emotionally Impaired, Cognitively Impaired, Severely Multiply Impaired, Infant, and Total Communication Program.

98% of our students were represented by at least one parent/guardian at both the fall and spring Parent Teacher Conferences. We believe strongly that parents and community members are an important piece of student success, and we rely on and are thankful for our many adult volunteers.

Spring Lake students' performance continues to exceed state standards in every assessed area, yet we raise the bar as goals are met. Frequent evaluation of practice along with focus on rigor and relevance yields the desired results. We appreciate our community's expectation for excellence and its partnership in producing the students' high levels of achievement.

Sincerely,

JEFFERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Koops". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Koops  
Principal