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Richards Middle School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 13, 2025

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 Richards Middle 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 Mr. Huston Julian for assistance at Huston.Julian@fraserk12.org.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the [MiSchool Data website](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Richards Middle School has not been given one of these labels.

Our focus at Richards Middle School is making sure that all students receive the support and intervention needed for their individual success as a learner. Our school implements a school-wide, Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for our students. The MTSS model assists our teachers in meeting the needs of every learner through benchmark, formative, and summative assessments and targeted intervention for all learners not meeting the annual measurable objectives. Our school improvement process and our reflection of action steps are structured to address the needs of our learners at all tiers and monitor progress being made.

Enrollment

Richards Middle School is a secondary level school within Fraser Public Schools district serving students in grades 7 and 8. Richards Middle School has a total enrollment of 662 students as of November 2024 with 263 of those students enrolled as School of Choice.

Assignment of Students

Students are assigned to courses as determined by their placement test results when applicable. Richards Middle School follows the policies and procedures as outlined by the State of Michigan Department of Education and the Fraser Public Schools Board of Education.

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The School Improvement Process

Richards Middle School remains committed to our continuous improvement process. Our school leadership teams continually work to identify strategies to improve student and staff learning experiences. Multiple staff members participate in a building wide Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) committee.

Our MICIP process for continuous improvement efforts involves the use of data to inform the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of goals, strategies, and activities to improve student learning and the building culture. RMS has developed School Improvement goals in the areas of Professional Development, Reading, Math, and Social Emotional Learning for the 2024-2025 school year.

The teaching staff of Richards Middle School is dedicated to supporting students by using a Multi-Tiered Support System (MTSS) to identify and provide interventions to students who may benefit from added support. This model assists our teachers in meeting the needs of every learner through benchmark, formative, and summative assessments leading to targeted intervention for learners not meeting the Annual Measurable Objectives.

Richards Middle School will continue to work on the following school improvement goals:

Goal #1: Provide staff professional learning on the Universal Design for Learning instructional framework.

Goal #2: Implement a Multi-Tiered Support System for math.

Goal #3: Implement a Multi-Tiered Support System for reading.

Goal #4: Implement a Multi-Tiered Support System for social emotional learning.

Curriculum

The state of Michigan defines the comprehensive core curriculum as the essential curriculum content that all students must learn in order to progress through the various educational levels. The teaching staff of Richards Middle School have been engaged in continuously reviewing the core curriculum to ensure alignment with the Common Core State Standards; Next Generation Science Standards; College, Career, and Civic Life framework; and Michigan Content Expectations to design a Competency Based Learning Model to ensure that Richards Middle School curriculum will prepare students appropriately.

Students are assessed through district benchmark assessments and classroom assessments. Curriculum Leaders and teaching staff utilize common assessments to evaluate student learning and growth. This data will allow teachers to analyze and improve areas of improvement for classroom instruction and student learning.

Additionally, the staff of Richards Middle School implements the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) instructional framework to improve and optimize inclusive teaching and assessment practices to reach our students.

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A copy of the comprehensive core curriculum can be obtained by contacting Mr. Kyle Ray, Director of Secondary Instruction.

State Assessments

Students participate in the PSAT and M-Step assessments as required by the State of Michigan.

State Assessment Results: 2023-2024 School Year

Grade	Subject	RMS Proficient	County Proficient	State Proficient	Macomb County Rank
7 M-STEP	Mathematics	39.9%	30.8%	32.1%	5th
7 M-STEP	English	51.4%	38.2%	37.9%	3rd
8 M-STEP	Science	37%	35.5%	38.8%	N/A by County Rank
8 PSAT 8/9	Mathematics	29.4%	31.2%	32.6%	9th
8 PSAT 8/9	English	68.3%	65.1%	64.5%	8th
8 M-STEP	Social Studies	21.3%	26.9%	29.7%	N/A by County Rank

Parent-Teacher Conferences

The Richards Middle School Fall and Spring parent/teacher conferences provide an opportunity for parents to meet with administration and professional staff to gain information about our school’s programs, student’s academic progress, and to form home to school partnerships to support their child’s learning. The format for parent-teacher meetings provided for face to face conferences or virtual conferences to accommodate the needs of the individual families.

The teachers of Richards Middle School are always available for parent meetings by appointment. Parents always have on-demand access to their child’s academic progress via the online Canvas Learning Management System and PowerSchool gradebook.

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Closing

The staff of Richards Middle School is dedicated to engaging students in learning and in building a strong community. We encourage our students to participate by setting academic goals while also pursuing their interests in extra-curricular opportunities, clubs, or athletics so that all students feel a part of our school community. Richards Middle School is a place where our students can join other students from six other elementary schools to grow together. The middle level years are spent learning new social skills and preparing our students for high school and beyond by developing study habits and improving their social emotional/academic skills. Richards Middle School is an exciting place where our students can join clubs/organizations, be a team member, go to dances, and work with a team of teachers daily. It's a feeling of spirit; a school spirit of pride and belonging. It's a staff of teachers, administrators, counselors, and helpful parents who relate to our learners and want to help them grow academically as much as possible. Richards Middle School is a catalyst for a successful transition to Fraser High School.

We look forward to our continued efforts to support the learning and growth of our students and families during the 2024-2025 school year.

Sincerely,

Huston Julian
Richards Middle School Principal

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