



Sue C. Carnell  
Superintendent

Lea Balogh/Jamual Bohannon  
Principals, Thorne Elementary School

## **Thorne Elementary School**

### **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

April 13, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Thorne Elementary. 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 Mrs. Lea Balogh or Mr. Jamual Bohannon, Principals for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://westwoodschoools.net/about-westwood/annual-education-reports/>, to view our school data visit the following website <https://goo.gl/LCqrM8> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using new 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

At Thorne, we are constantly working to improve. We appreciate the unending support of parents, staff and our community in this effort. As we continue to integrate the Common Core State Standards into our units of study within mathematics, literacy and social studies, as well as the Next Generation Science Standards into our science units, we are committed to ensuring that all students are provided with the support and

enrichment needed for them to learn and grow. We are pleased to be utilizing Rubicon Atlas as a platform for curriculum development, which will afford us opportunities to further implement the Workshop Model in all content areas. In an effort to increase student academics and close achievement gaps amongst our subgroups, we will continue to monitor student progress through the use of NWEA Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. Additionally, we are in our fourth year of implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)-- a tiered approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs in grades K-6th. As the 17-18 school year progresses, Thorne has 2 math programs within the curriculum which includes the new program of Go Math! for grades K-1 and we will continue the implementation of the newest Everyday Math program 4 for grades 2-6, use of leveled readers in order to promote individualized instruction, teacher/student conferring, student goal setting, inquiry-based learning, uninterrupted instructional blocks, and use of data in order to drive day-to-day and long-term planning. We are also very excited to see individual student growth as the implementation of Fountas and Pinnell assessments along with their Leveled Literacy Interventions, and Mystery Science are being incorporated as supplemental materials throughout each K-6 classrooms. We are committed to working collaboratively to meet the diverse needs of all of our learners.

### **1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Thorne Elementary School is a part of the Westwood Community School District which is a school of choice district. Students from across Wayne County may register to attend Thorne Elementary School.

### **2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Thorne Elementary School continues to strive for improvement. Our staff is focused on providing academic excellence through a proactive learning environment that both challenges and inspires all students. Throughout the course of the 2016-17 school year, the School Improvement Team (SIT) met monthly in order to analyze student achievement data from multiple sources, and to establish improvement goals within all content areas. Moving forward, we will continue to nurture a culture where all constituents (district officials, school leaders, teachers/staff, parents, students, community members) contribute to a cumulative, purposeful and positive effect on student learning, all the while raising student achievement; implement best practices strategies building-wide; deepen our understanding and use of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs); utilize common assessments in order to monitor our continuous progress in our goal areas; additional professional development (PD) will be provided to all staff members in order to deepen their understanding of working with students who are at-risk. A link to the plan is located at <http://westwoodschoools.net/departments/curriculum/>. You may also get at copy within either the Primary or Intermediate Office.

### **3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Thorne Elementary School is a comprehensive elementary school that serves students in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We also serve Pre-Kindergarten students through a Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP). Students receive instruction in all of the core curriculum areas as well as instruction in physical and health education, art, elementary engineering, technology lab, and music. Additionally, students

receive core curriculum instruction via on and off-campus field trips, as well as offerings via community partnerships with Wayne Metro, the Boy Scouts of America, and U of M Dearborn.

**4. HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL**

The core curriculum at Thorne Elementary School has been aligned to the Common Core State Standards adopted by the State of Michigan for Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If you would like to access a copy, please contact Jamual Bohannon, Primary Principal, and/or Lea Balogh, Intermediate Principal.

**5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS**

Thorne Elementary School continues to utilize data from locally developed unit assessments, as well as nationally normed achievement assessment data from the NWEA MAP Assessments. Our students continue to make improvements within all content areas tested (reading (K-6), math (K-6) language (2-6), and science (3-6), as compared to their baseline (fall) and end-of-year (spring) testing results.

**6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

During the 2017-18 school year, an average of 90 percent of our parents/caregivers attended a conference (fall and spring combined). This compares to 92 percent for the 2016-17 school year.

This Annual Education Report gives us insight into what our students need to be successful. The staff members at Thorne Elementary School work hard to enhance the educational programs provided to the students. Parents and community members can become involved in making Thorne Elementary School an even better place by signing up to be a part of our School Improvement Teams, joining our Parent/Teacher Organizations (PTOs), attending parenting and student learning events/workshops, volunteering in the school on a regular basis, and along with our implemented Watch D.O.G.S program to encourage the influential males within the students' lives. Please contact the building principal(s) for more information.

Sincerely,

*Lea Balogh, Jamual Bohannon*

Lea Balogh and Jamual Bohannon  
Thorne Elementary Principals