

Yale Public Schools

HOME OF THE



198 School Drive - Yale, Michigan 48097
Phone: 810-387-3231 - Fax 810-387-4418

Kenneth Nicholl
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education
President – Mrs. Amanda Zabor
Vice-President – Mr. Peter M. Bullard
Treasurer – Mr. Ron Charney
Secretary – Mrs. Dena French
Trustee – Mr. Kevin Sokacz
Trustee – Mrs. Veronica Monaco
Trustee – Mr. Greg Hoppe

Avoca Elementary School 2016-17 Annual Report

February 27, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Avoca 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 Therese Damman for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.ypsd.us/documents/AER/AES-AER20162017.pdf>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; 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.

Our school was identified as a **Reward School**.

Avoca Plan for School Improvement:

According to the Top to Bottom Ranking, Avoca Elementary is proud to be ranked in the 90th percentile for both academic achievement and gap. According to the 2015-2016 School Ranking Detail on mischooldata.org, Avoca is "Above Average" (green) in all academic areas, except ELA. Avoca's ELA data is ranked in the "Near Average" (yellow) range. We will continue to improve ELA teaching practices through close data analysis. In addition,

Avoca will continue to place a growth emphasis in meeting the proficiency targets for our students who are performing in the "Bottom 30%" of our school population.

Pupil assignment process:

Students are located as follows: Kindergarten through Grade 5 is located at Yale, Avoca or Farrell-Emmett elementary schools. A three and four year old preschool is also located at each elementary school. Avoca Elementary houses Yale Public School's Early Childhood Special Education and Cognitively Impaired programs. The District operates one junior high school building and one high school building with an alternative education program available on the district's main campus.

The Yale Public School District and the St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) have a policy and process in place for non-district residents' school of choice requests. Copies of this policy and procedures are available at the principal's office or through the central office.

School Improvement Plan status:

We have completed the 2016 School Improvement Plan. The plan is a working document that the staff continuously updates, as needed. Changes were put in place by the staff to ensure a state-projected increase in all subject areas of the state assessment and various district assessments. Our goals include increasing student proficiency, as well as, increasing teacher capacity to instruct and assess student achievement in the areas of ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies.

Vision Statement:

Avoca Elementary School is committed to preparing all students for continued educational and lifelong success.

Mission Statement:

Avoca Elementary staff will provide a positive school atmosphere, quality education and an equal opportunity to learn. All students will be encouraged to meet their maximum level of intellectual, physical and social growth. We recognize the importance of school, family and community working together to create a safe, supportive and innovative learning environment.

Core curriculum:

Core Curricula and Curriculum Maps, as well as Pacing Guides, may be accessed at each of our school buildings. Additionally, all K-12 information may be found in the office of the Yale Assistant Superintendent. Our curricula is aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

- ELA curriculum aligned to state standards for all grade levels
- Math curriculum aligned to state standards for all grade levels
- Developing assessment strategies for each curricular objective

- Providing staff with professional development on best practices in all academic areas

The end product of this curriculum review process is a working document that will assist teachers in lesson planning and provide assurances that the district has curricula which is aligned, taught and regularly assessed. Questions about the Yale curricula may be addressed to Principal Therese Damman at (810) 324-2660, or Assistant Superintendent Joseph Haynes at (810) 387-3231.

Parent-teacher conference attendance rate:

2016-17: 97%

2015-16: 97%

The staff and students work diligently every day, in partnership with our parents, to prepare for student success. We will continue to use state and district assessment results, as well as other data, to monitor learning and adjust instruction in order to continuously improve student achievement.

Avoca Elementary is a positive learning environment staffed with dedicated, caring people who make every effort to attain academic and social successes for all students.

Sincerely,

Therese Damman, Principal
Avoca Elementary School