

E.F. Rittmueller Middle School

2022-2023 Annual Education Report for 2021-2022 Progress

Christine Fry, Principal

EFR Annual Education Report

January 6, 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-2022 educational progress for E.F. Rittmueller 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 E.F. Rittmueller Middle School Office for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://bit.ly/37PyqOT>, or you may review a copy in the EFR Main Office.

For the 2021-2022 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 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. E.F. Rittmueller Middle School did not receive a label but was named a Reward School.

State law requires that we also report the following information. On the following pages, you will find information regarding:

- Process for assigning pupils to the school
- The status of our school improvement plan
- A description of our school
- The core curriculum
- Student achievement data
- Parent-Teacher conference statistics

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PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

All district pupils in grades five through eight are assigned to E.F. Rittmueller Middle School since there is only one public school building in the district that serves this grade span of students. E.F. Rittmueller Middle School accepts School of Choice applicants as announced annually. Applications are due during the appropriate timeframes for acceptance.

THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

In 2019-20 Frankenmuth Schools ended its accreditation with NCA, and in 2020-21, and 2021-22, streamlined efforts toward "school improvement" using the newly released Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP). Still in the implementation phase, this process was initiated by the state of Michigan with the expectation for schools and districts to unify their plans and initiate these efforts with a goal that strives to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funding. This process ultimately encourages the continuation of what had been in place with our prior NCA accreditation, including focusing on high levels of student achievement, a positive school climate supporting the educational process, and a shared mission among all stakeholders. We will focus our continued growth on meeting the needs of the whole child by incorporating the use of research-based best practices in socio-emotional and academic learning and development. Our specific academic focus areas include increasing performance and minimizing the achievement gap in reading, writing, and mathematics/critical thinking. All of our school improvement goals and strategies are in the "monitoring" phase of the process, with annual revisions to improve results.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF OUR SCHOOL

At E.F. Rittmueller Middle School, we maintain a culture of high expectations and continuous improvement by creating a place for every student, ensuring academic achievement for all, and preparing students for high school and beyond. The instructional staff consists of fifteen full-time teachers; two teachers shared with the high school, and one full-time counselor. Three hundred fifty-eight young adolescents in grades five, six, seven, and eight make up the student body.

We offer various exploratory courses, including band, physical education, art, communications, technology, and dramatic arts. Several after-school/during-school programs exist, including Fox Club (Frankenmuth Outdoor Explorers), Student Council, Ecology Club, Yearbook, BRASS (Being a Really Awesome Support Student), and athletics (girls teams: volleyball, basketball, track/ boys teams: wrestling, basketball, track). Approximately 85% of our fifth-grade students experience three days and two nights at Hartley Nature Center every fall. For the two years prior to this school year, in response to COVID, the trip has been an extended day spent at Hartley Nature Center with either outdoor activities or cohorting students in addition to other health/safety precautions for indoor activities. Each fall, 85% of our eighth-grade students travel to Washington, DC, to experience four days of learning in our nation's capital. We could not go during the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID. Combining all of these opportunities reinforces our mission of Frankenmuth School District as "A Place for All Students."

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CORE CURRICULUM

The Frankenmuth School District offers a core academic curriculum as defined by the State of Michigan. To learn more about the core academic curriculum taught at E.F. Rittmueller Middle School, you can contact Christine Fry or visit the Michigan Department of Education website at <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>. The educators at E.F. Rittmueller review, evaluate, develop and write curriculum and assessments. This ongoing, cyclical process includes research, analysis of current practice, and selection of appropriate materials, resources, and implementation.

English Language Arts

The English Language Arts curriculum follows Michigan-approved Common Core State Standards. Building educators utilize the Language of Literature series (McDougal Littell) and supplement the curriculum with students reading required novels and the implementation of a reader's workshop type of instruction.

Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum follows Michigan-approved Common Core State Standards. Kindergarten through fifth grade math staff utilize Eureka Math curriculum resources. Sixth through eighth grade math teachers utilize Open Up Resources (OUR). In our MEP (Math English Plus) classes 5th and 6th grade students also utilize the MAP Accelerator Math Program, which provides an individualized math program based on each student's NWEA score. This systemic process provides an opportunity for teachers to scaffold student learning and encourages growth of numeracy skills.

Science

Sixth through eighth grade science teachers utilize the Mi-STAR curriculum. Mi-STAR is a middle school curriculum that supports both the NGSS and the Michigan State Standards while empowering the student to use science and engineering practices to address real-world issues. The Mystery Science curriculum is utilized in the fifth grade. Mystery Science is a hands-on program that is aligned with the State of Michigan Next Generation Science Standards.

Social Studies

In June 2019, Michigan's Grade Level Content Expectations for Social Studies were adopted. Social studies staff is working together to plan for shifts in the curriculum and make sure all concepts are covered. Throughout all social studies courses, the inquiry process is studied. This process helps students develop the kind of reasoned and informed decision-making skills needed for active participation in society. Social Studies staff utilizes the *America: History of our Nation and World Studies* series by Prentice Hall.

Ongoing professional development is a critical part of our instructional staff's increasing knowledge of the curriculum being taught and how to teach it.

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AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

E.F. Rittmueller Middle School students continue to perform well on the required, standardized tests given. On the spring 2021 M-STEP assessments, our students scored well above the state of Michigan and Saginaw Intermediate School District proficient and highly proficient averages on every grade level M-STEP curriculum area that was assessed. Additional information on state assessments can be found at www.mischooldata.org

Fifth through eighth-grade students take the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests to determine each student's instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year. This data, along with classroom observations, help our staff make informed decisions regarding individual student academic needs. During a typical school year, tests are administered in the areas of reading, math, science, and language usage. MAP tests are computer-based and unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for each child's level of learning. For more information regarding MAP Testing through the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) please visit www.nwea.org. MAP tests are administered two to three times each school year, depending on the grade level and curricular area. Trend data is shown below. It is disaggregated per cohort with the most recent mean RIT score listed, which helps us gauge how our students perform compared to the national norm.

GR	Test	Fall 21 EFR	Spring 22 EFR	Spring Norm	EFR +/-
5	Math	208.2	219.4	219	0.4
5	Reading	205.1	212.7	211	1.7
6	Math	214.8	223.9	223	0.9
6	Reading	216.9	220	215	5
7	Math	220.7	227.7	227	0.7
7	Reading	217.5	221.3	218	3.3
8	Math	225.7	233.7	230	3.7
8	Reading	221.7	226.9	222	4.9

More School data information is available at www.mischooldata.org

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PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent participation with E.F. Rittmueller Middle School is exceptional. Attendance at our before school Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet exemplifies this participation, with over 90% of parents attending. Parent participation has been enhanced through Skyward, a web-based program that allows parents to access student progress in real-time. Close cooperation between the home and school is essential to promote the best interest of the child. Parents are encouraged to visit and are always welcome at E.F. Rittmueller Middle School.

The continued support of our families is truly appreciated. We continue to have very good participation from our families for parent-teacher conferences, with a rate of 71% of families attending during the 2021-2022 school year.

With the staff's dedication, the students' perseverance, and parents' unwavering support, we offer a fine academic program rich in opportunities for all students. We are grateful for the staff, parents, and entire community's support for their dedication to raising student achievement and supporting positive student development in the middle grades. The long-standing success of our school district is the result of a community that values education. We pledge to continue this tradition.

Sincerely,



Christine M. Fry
Principal
E.F. Rittmueller Middle School