



DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Blackwell Institute

9330 Shoemaker

Detroit, Michigan 48213-3152

Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter (2012-2013)

August 19, 2013

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2012-2013 educational progress for the Blackwell Institute. 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 Patricia Hines, Principal at (313) 866-4391 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the District's website <http://detroitk12.org/aer> or the school's website at <http://detroitk12.org/schools/school/316/>. You may also view a printed copy in the main office at your child's school or at the Parent Resource Center located at the Detroit International Academy, Room 141, 9026 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

The State has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the State. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

The key challenges for our school are as follows:

We did not attain Differentiated target achievement goals for all subgroups of students in reading.

- Only 2.41% of the Bottom 30% subgroup met the Differentiated target for reading.

We did not attain Differentiated target achievement goals for all subgroups of students in writing.

- Only 0.0% of the Bottom 30% subgroup met the Differentiated target for writing.

We did not attain Differentiated target achievement goals for all subgroups of students in mathematics.

- Only 0.0% of the Bottom 30% subgroup met the Differentiated target for mathematics.

We did not attain Differentiated target achievement goals for all subgroups of students in science.

- Only 5.43 of the All Students; 0.0% of the Bottom 30%; 5.49% African American; 4.11% Economically Disadvantaged subgroups met the Differentiated target for science.

We did not attain Differentiated target achievement goals for all subgroups of students in social studies.

- Only 0.0% of the Bottom 30% subgroup met the Differentiated target for social studies.

We are actively working to address our Michigan School Scorecard issues, accelerate student achievement and close persistent gaps in achievement by having continuous staff trainings on how to integrate writing across the curriculum, test taking skills and technology into the curriculum. We will review and analyze testing data and continue to provide student interventions during school and in the after-school programs. The school will maintain workshops for parents that will include additional support and resources to increase student achievement. We will continue to have monthly progress reports to communicate with students and parents. Moreover, teachers will continue to analyze a variety of testing data to align their instruction with the students' needs and overall student improvement, in order to develop an Individual Learning Plan for each student. Lastly, Blackwell Institute teachers will continue to use ongoing formative and summative assessments to create effective strategies as a way to monitor student progress towards mastery of skills, GLCEs, and the Common Core Standards.

In science, the Blackwell team has decided that the best way to address this area of need is to have grade level teams hold weekly science workshops with the previous grades. For example, the 4th and 5th grade classes will meet in the gym once a week to watch Science videos and

discuss Science concepts with guided practice in taking notes. Throughout the week, teachers will conduct mini science lessons to reinforce the Science concept that was introduced at the beginning of the week. Each student will have a Science binder, which will contain sections for handouts, experiments, terminology, practice exercises, and tests and quizzes. The Science team will meet monthly to discuss the progress of the weekly meetings, and improvements of the students. This process will work the same way for the 7th and 8th grade Science classes.

Parent Involvement

Our parents can be involved through:

- ☐☐ Monthly Blackwell School Community Organization (BSCO) meetings
- ☐☐ School Improvement Team
- ☐☐ Volunteer aides for before, during and after school
- ☐☐ Reading, Math, Science and Technology Family Nights
- ☐☐ Award presentations
- ☐☐ Winter and Spring School Programs
- ☐☐ Athletic events
- ☐☐ Fieldtrips chaperones
- ☐☐ Reading Volunteers
- ☐☐ Thanksgiving Basket Give-a-ways (for our needy families)
- ☐☐ Homework Help/Refresher Tips
- ☐☐ Accelerated Reader and Accelerated Math – Parent Reports
- ☐☐ Parent-Teacher Conferences
- ☐☐ Online Grade-book Access
- ☐☐ Parent Resource Room
- ☐☐ Lunchroom Volunteers
- ☐☐ Parent/Student Learning Village
- ☐☐ Parent Connect

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

During the 2011-2012 school year, Detroit Public Schools implemented the “Open Enrollment Initiative.” This initiative allows students to elect to attend any Detroit Public School without being required to live within the boundary for that school. The “Open Enrollment Initiative” does not apply to the Examination High Schools or Application Schools. Parents may enroll their child(ren) in the school of their interest as long as the school has not reached capacity for their particular grade. Enrollment preference is given to students who live within the boundary of a school.

It should also be noted that transportation will not be provided for students who select a school outside of the boundary of their home school. “Open Enrollment Initiative” resources can be found on our website at: http://detroitk12.org/resources/prospective_students/

School Improvement Status

Year	School Improvement Status
2012-2013	No Status
2011-2012	Priority~ AYP Not Met

School Description:

Please visit our website at <http://detroitk12.org/schools/school/316/> for detailed information about our school.

Detroit Public Schools' Core Curriculum:

Consistent with the Detroit Public Schools 2013-2017 Strategic Plan, there are aggressive plans to accelerate the rate of student achievement and to ensure that students graduate with the academic and social skills necessary for success in college and the workplace.

Specific curriculum actions are based on the District's strategic plan to:

- I. Broaden Services to Address Student Needs
- II. Support Parents and Families
- III. Offer Broad/High Quality Programs
- IV. Improve Customer Service
- V. Create Safe Learning Environments
- VI. Transform Central and School based services to serve customers better
- VII. Improve Technology
- VIII. Minimize the Impacts of Change
- IX. Foster School-Based Leadership
- X. Celebrate and Promote Success
- XI. Ensure Fiscal Stability
- XII. Improve Attendance and Discipline

The “Neighborhood-Centered, Quality Schools,” Strategic Plan, is available online at http://detroitk12.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Strategic_Plan_DRAFT-FINAL.pdf

Access to the Core Curriculum

The instructional strategies and grade level expectations are aligned to the State standards and the NAEP. This represents the core curriculum, which is supported by the texts, materials, computer software and other school level resources used daily in the classrooms. All of the professional development activities are aligned to the core curriculum.

The implementation is a process delineated in the District Plan. This plan serves as the framework for each school’s academic achievement plan.

The frequent monitoring of the implementation of these plans are conducted by the school diagnostic visits, review of the benchmark assessments, use of the teacher evaluation tool and adherence to the pacing calendar.

The variances from the State Plan can be found in the grade level expectations, which are also aligned to the higher standards of NAEP.

Parents/Guardians are offered classes to increase parenting skills, early childhood literacy, adult literacy and GED. During the school year, the Regional Parent Resource Center is a vehicle for parents and other community members to participate in regular and on-going informational and participatory sessions focused on curriculum and instruction. Learning Village (an online instructional management system), Web updates and semi-annual progress reports are a means to disseminate achievement information to educators. Parents will have the opportunity to monitor students’ progress, including attendance. through **Parent Connect** in the Fall.

Detroit Public Schools Core Curriculum is currently under revision. Pacing Charts and Curriculum guides will be posted to the Division of Teaching and Learning under the Leadership page of our website in the near future.

Parent Engagement

- ❖ Use the technology portal for parents to view daily lessons and to communicate with teachers.
- ❖ Implement and follow through with the parent contracts.

- ❖ Use the Parent Resource Center to engage parents in innovative workshops and sessions that are practical and will result in parent support to students at home.

Student Achievement Results

Aggregate Student Achievement Results and Detroit Public Schools Quarterly NWEA~MAP Reading and Mathematics reports for Blackwell Institute can be found on the Detroit Public Schools' web page at the Research, Evaluation and Assessment site at <http://detroitk12.org/data/rea/>. The following reports are available:

- District Profile Report
- Combined School Profile Reports
- Individual School Profile Reports
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports
- Michigan Accountability Scorecard Report
- Annual Education Report

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Interactions):

School Year	Total Parent Interactions	Percent
2012-2013	300	15.2%
2011-2012	195	8.8%

The Detroit Public Schools' Office of Research, Evaluation, Assessment and Accountability has developed a data collection system, which has enabled the District to comply with the Annual Education Report criteria of identifying the number and percent of students represented by parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences.

- 1.0 Data from the PTC Forms represent “parent interactions” with teachers, per school, per card marking.
- 2.0 Parent Interaction Definition: During Parent-Teacher Conferences (and in some instances school open houses) Schools/Teachers are advised to have

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Interactions) (Continued):

each parent participant provide a parent signature-a parent may not sign for a student if they did not talk about that student.

- 3.0 Several DPS schools had a very high percentage of reported parent interactions. This may be due to a number of reasons. In at least seven (7) instances, the calculated percentages are in excess of 100%. In each instance, each of these seven (7) schools is an elementary school or a Foundation for Early Learners School with a large parent turnout at each of the required conferences. If during each conference, one (1) parent with two (2) students enrolled in the school visited three (3) teachers for each of their two (2) students, this would count as six (6) parent interactions, thus increasing the base number and resulting percentage.

We would like to wish our students, parents and community a successful school year.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hines, Principal