



# SPRING LAKE

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## HOLMES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

426 East River Street  
Spring Lake, MI 49456-1906

[www.springlakeschools.org](http://www.springlakeschools.org)

April 11, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for Holmes 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 Sandra Smits, Holmes Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.springlakeschools.org/holmes>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

The keys challenges for Holmes as we looked at data were math concepts and nonfiction reading skills. Our school improvement plan addresses these issues with strategies that can be implemented at each grade level. We have interventions in both reading and math. Our school also continues to progress monitor and use other important data to drive discussions about curriculum. These strategies and use of data also allow us to continue to focus on student achievement and close the gaps we are noticing.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Assigning Pupils to the School–Spring Lake has two K-4 elementary schools. Students are assigned by boundaries which were established many years ago. There is a certain amount of fluidity and flexibility in the assignment of schools based on parent preference and availability of space. Approximately 15% of Holmes students are non-residents of the district.

2. The Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan–Each year the staff at Holmes spends time working on and improving the implementation of curriculum and strategies used to help Holmes Elementary School 426 East River Street Spring Lake, MI 49456-1906 [www.springlakeschools.org](http://www.springlakeschools.org) students succeed. We have core subject goals in our school improvement plan that helps us focus our efforts. We are constantly reviewing those goals as a building and adjusting our teaching and practices to obtain those set goals. The school improvement plan can be viewed on the District web site or they are available from your school principal.

3. Specialized Schools–Some Spring Lake Public Schools students who are identified as having one or more handicaps are able to receive educational services at specialized schools and centers. The programs are operated by the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District and/or Spring Lake Public Schools. The decision to place a student in any special education program is made by an Individualized Educational Plan Committee (IEPC) which includes at least one of the student’s parents, a teacher, diagnostic personnel, and a school administrator. The goal of all specialized programs is to facilitate a student’s educational growth to the maximum extent possible. Many of these programs are available from infancy through early adulthood. These programs include: Autism, Severely Emotionally Impaired, Cognitively Impaired, Severely Multiply Impaired, Infant, and Total Communication Program.

4. Core Curriculum–Spring Lake Public Schools adhere to the state curriculum and have aligned curriculum with the Common Core State Standards. The core curriculum standards in all content areas are available from the Curriculum Director or building principal.

5. Aggregate Student Achievement Results–Holmes Elementary third and fourth grades participate in the MEAP, now MSTEP each year.

The following are the most recent results:

<b>Percentage of Students Proficient in 3rd Grade</b>				
ELA	2014-15 MSTEP	83.9%	2013-14 MEAP	90.1%
Math	2014-15 MSTEP	79.6%	2013-14 MEAP	63.0%
<b>Percentage of Students Proficient in 4th Grade</b>				
ELA	2014-15 MSTEP	83.3%	2013-14 MEAP	95.1%
Math	2014-15 MSTEP	91.7%	2013-14 MEAP	57.1%
Writing	2014-15 MSTEP	n/a	2013-14 MEAP	83.0%
Science	2014-15 MSTEP	35.7%	2013-14 MEAP	n/a

6. Parent/Teacher Conferences–99.1% of our students were represented by at least one parent/guardian at both the fall and spring Parent Teacher conferences. Holmes continues to enjoy a strong positive relationship with parents and the larger community. Volunteer hours exceed 1,800 annually.

Spring Lake students' performance continues to exceed state standards in every assessed area, yet we raise the bar as goals are met. Frequent evaluation of practice along with focus on rigor and relevance yields the desired results. We appreciate our community's expectation for excellence and its partnership in producing the students' high levels of achievement.

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*Sandra Smits*

Principal