



Lincoln Elementary School

Annual Report

February 1, 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 Lincoln 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 Tom De Graaf, Lincoln Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/emVXuC> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Increasing academic achievement among all students and the specific subgroups in our building continues to be our challenge as a building. During the past year we have planned several initiatives to increase the performance of our students in reading, including continuing a comprehensive phonics program in grades K-2 and a rigorous new reading program in grades K-5. Our professional development has centered on these programs throughout the year. We continued to address the needs of our struggling students through a response to intervention program we call WIN (What I need). All students will be provided an intervention period in reading and/or math that will help them to be successful on Common Core State Standards.

PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL - In district and out of district requests for placement are honored based on availability within each grade level. Parents are asked to list their top 3 choices of school placements if they do not live in the ZPS boundary area. This process usually takes place in late spring and parents are notified of placement in May or June for the following year. These forms for requests can be found on district and building web sites and submitted to the Zeeland Public Schools Central Administration Office. Out of district families are required to submit their requests each year, even though we attempt to keep students in the building they were previously assigned to.

STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN - Lincoln Elementary continues to work on our school improvement plan to help students achieve the necessary skills for success in reading, writing, math science and social studies. This plan included specific strategies and activities for Tier I, II and III instruction. This plan is available for review on our building web site.

THE CORE CURRICULUM - This is based upon the State of Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and National Common Core Standards. This information is available at our school office or on our district web site. Zeeland Public Schools makes sure our students are provided challenging lessons that are consistent across grade levels. A team of Zeeland educators regularly evaluates and revises our curriculum to ensure that classroom lessons meet state requirements for kindergarten through twelfth grade. Our district has made the transition to the National Common Core Standards in math and English Language Arts.

UNIQUE ABOUT LINCOLN - Lincoln continues to offer students the option of Spanish Immersion as well as traditional instruction. We have full classrooms in kindergarten, first, second and third grades. Students are taught the Zeeland Public Schools curriculum but in the target language of Spanish. As this program grows, Lincoln will continue to be a “3 section” building, but one of the sections at each grade level will be taught completely in Spanish.

Lincoln continues to partner with the West Michigan Mental Health Foundation in Grand Rapids to deliver “be NICE” lessons. The curriculum and activities focus on the mental health of students in hopes to reduce depression and suicidal thoughts later in life. It also encourages schools to formally notice positive and negative behaviors and recognize them publicly, try to be more inviting to visitors and one another, challenge selves and others, and empower peers to take a stand for what they believe in. The “be nice” acronym stands for N-notice / I - invite / C - challenge / E - empower. There are monthly activities our student steering committee leads classrooms through pertaining to these areas of focus.

Lincoln continues to run our annual Fitness Frenzy Fundraiser each September to generate additional funds for grade levels, classrooms and teachers. This event is a day filled with active, fitness oriented activity, including a walk a thon, where students get sponsorship for participating. Typical fundraisers only involve between 40-60% of the students, where this event involves every Lincoln student and every student walks away from the event with a memento of the day. Monies raised help fund the following:

- field trip transportation for every grade level
- event admission funds (field trips)
- partial scholarships on field trips for those in need
- published periodical for every student each month through the year
- BARE book for every student each year to publish their own writing in May
- sensory tools for special needs students
- books for the Just Right Library

- Spanish books for the library
- character trait program that runs throughout the year
- walk program during February and March
- and allows teachers to submit special requests for classroom materials that the general fund does not cover.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS:

% Reading At/Above Grade Level on Fountas & Pinnell Running Records - End of Year

2015 KDG	2016 KDG	2015 1st	2016 1st	2015 2nd	2016 2nd	2015 3rd	2016 3rd	2015 4th	2016 4th	2015 5th	2016 5th
74%	81%	97%	67%	67%	97%	80%	70%	93%	82%	84%	84%

CONFERENCE INVOLVEMENT - Ninety-seven percent of Lincoln Elementary students’ parents attended our parent-teacher conferences in the fall of 2015-2016. Spring conferences continue to be reserved for those students who a meeting is requested by the teacher or the parent.

VOLUNTEERS AT LINCOLN - Our 548 parent and community volunteers continue to support our students, the learning, and our planned activities by contributing 5,235 hours. This incredible donation of time and work on your part exceeded last year’s total and is a big reason Lincoln has a strong “family” feel.

We take pride in our “Lincoln family” and value the excellent working relationship between all our stakeholders, the students, parents and staff! Be sure to pay attention to our weekly newsletter that will inform you of when we host annual family outings and events. When considering options for your child in the West Michigan area, we encourage you to call or stop in for a tour of the building and the wonderful educational experiences we offer!

Sincerely,

Thomas L. De Graaf
Principal

NOTE: To read our other annual reports, click, [HERE](#)