

September 12, 2014

Dear EGRPS Families:

The State of Michigan recently released the *Top-to-Bottom* rankings and *School Accountability Scorecards* (*Green, Lime, Yellow, Orange, and Red*). All of our schools received a **Reward Schools** status in the *Top-to-Bottom* rankings and a **Lime** designation on their *Accountability Scorecards*. The district received a **Yellow** designation on their *Accountability Scorecard*. The chart below shows the EGRPS 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 *Top-to-Bottom* rankings and *School Accountability Scorecard* designations.

	2013-2014 Top-To-Bottom Ranking	2013-2014 MDE Classification	2013-2014 Scorecard Color	2012-2013 Top-To-Bottom Ranking	2012-2013 MDE Classification	2012-2013 Scorecard Color
Breton Downs	99	Reward	Lime	98	Reward	Yellow
Lakeside	99	Reward	Lime	95	Reward	Yellow
Wealthy	99	Reward	Lime	98	Reward	Yellow
Middle School	96	Reward	Lime	95	Reward	Yellow
High School	99	Reward	Lime	99	Reward	Yellow
District	No Top-to-Bottom Ranking given to districts	No MDE Classification given to districts	Yellow	No Top-to-Bottom Ranking given to districts	No MDE Classification given to districts	Yellow

We are pleased that all of our school buildings received a 2013-2014 *Top-to-Bottom* ranking above 95, which qualified them to receive the **Reward Schools** classification. This ranks them within the top 5% of all schools in the state based on performance, growth over time, and on minimizing the performance gap between their highest and lowest performing students.

Accountability Scorecard color (*Green, Lime, Yellow, Orange, and Red*) designations are determined by points accumulated for learning objectives met, or by demonstrating improvement. Green is the highest and indicates that all or most of the objectives were met followed by; lime, yellow, orange, and red. Red is the lowest and indicates insufficient objectives were achieved and no points were earned.

The state does not provide a *Top-to-Bottom Ranking* or *MDE Classification* (*Reward, etc.*) for school districts; however, they do provide the district with an *Accountability Scorecard*. Our district received an overall Yellow designation as a result of having specific student subgroups who did not meet the state targets based on the MEAP or MME assessments. Our practice as a district is to analyze our data through our school improvement process to determine the student achievement gaps that exist, and then make informed instructional and curricular decisions that support student achievement.

The designation difference between all the school buildings Lime Scorecard and the district Yellow Scorecard is a result of how the state defines subgroups. Some of our schools do not have enough students in a specific subgroup area to meet the minimum number of 30 students necessary to qualify as a state-defined subgroup; however, collectively as a district we do have more than 30 students in multiple subgroups. Because the district had subgroups who did not achieve the state target scores, the district received a Yellow Scorecard. Our administrators have begun analyzing the details of these scorecards, and will be working with staff to understand the *Top-to-Bottom* rankings and the *Accountability Scorecards* in order to show improvement in the areas where certain subgroups did not meet the state targets.



As superintendent, I am pleased with the accomplishment of achieving **Reward School** status in all East Grand Rapids Public Schools, and appreciate that this high level of academic achievement is the result of a strong collaboration that has existed over many years between the district, teachers, students, staff, and parents. As educators, we believe that student academic growth should be demonstrated and measured throughout the school year in a variety of ways, and should not solely be based on the MEAP or MME assessments. As a district, we are thoughtful and deliberate in meeting our responsibilities of educating our diverse range of learners and strive to ensure that their academic growth is demonstrated in multiple ways throughout the school year.

The detailed district and building scorecards can be found at the following links:

[Breton Downs Elementary](#)
[Lakeside Elementary](#)
[Wealthy Elementary](#)

[East Grand Rapids Middle School](#)
[East Grand Rapids High School](#)
[East Grand Rapids Public School District](#)

Our teachers and administrators remain committed to providing an outstanding teaching and learning environment for all students, which has high academic standards and focuses on the Whole Child; academic, social, emotional, and physical. Thank you for your continued support of East Grand Rapids Public Schools, and we look forward to another great year of learning for our students.

Sincerely,



Sara Magaña Shubel, Ph.D.
Superintendent