**Annual Education Report Cover Letter**
**2016-2017**

April 24, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for the Ann Arbor Learning Community. 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 Abigail Kuhn for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site https://goo.gl/rjHo2s, or you may review a copy in the main office of the school.

For the 2016-17 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.  Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Students at Ann Arbor Learning Community take the Michigan Student Test for Educational Progress (M-STEP) each spring.  The school now has two years' worth of data to begin looking at trends over time.  Some grade levels experienced a higher percentage of students achieving proficiency in 2017 than in 2016.  7th grade students scored higher than the state average in ELA.  Both 7th and 8th grade students scored higher than the state average in Mathematics.  Mathematics continues to be an area of focus, particularly at the elementary level.  It is noted that some grade levels are experiencing

more students in the "partially proficient" category rather than "not proficient." The school recognizes that proficiency scores in reading have declined and plans to address this with the school improvement team for possible additions or modifications to the plan, as well as data collection to determine possible causal factors, student trends over time, and strategies to address findings.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Ann Arbor Learning Community accepts applications (enrollment forms) from any student who resides in the state of Michigan, meets the state age requirements and expects to attend Kindergarten through Eighth grade.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The school improvement team develops goals that help to drive continuous improvement in student academic achievement. Current goals in the plan address mathematics and writing proficiency as well as the development of self-management skills in all students. As part of the self-management skills goal, teachers have been involved in ongoing professional development with Conscious Discipline. Sixth and seventh grades piloted a new math program for the 2017-2018 school year. Effectiveness of this pilot will be evaluated to determine whether additional grade levels should adopt the program.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Ann Arbor Learning Community was founded in 1998 and is chartered by Eastern Michigan University. In the summer of 2017 AALC's charter was renewed for three years. The mission of Ann Arbor Learning Community is to nurture independent learners as they acquire the tools they need to shape an environmentally and socially responsible future.

4. HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

Ann Arbor Learning Community's curriculum is publically available on the school's website www.annarborlearningcommunity.org and is also posted on

the Eastern Michigan University Charter Schools Office website. Ann Arbor Learning Community follows the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and English Language Arts as well as the Michigan Department of Education's standards and grade level content expectations.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Ann Arbor Learning Community 3rd-8th grade students took the NWEA MAP test for the first time in the fall of 2016.  Students took the test again in the fall of 2017.  Prior to 2016 students took the Scantron Performance Series test.  In Fall 2017 students in grades K-8 took the NWEA MAP test.  Below are the Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 NWEA MAP mean RIT test scores in reading and math.  The norm mean RIT, which is considered the 50th percentile, for each grade and subject is also provided.

| READING MEAN RIT SCORES (NWEA MAP) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Reading Fall 2016** | **Reading Fall 2017** |
| Kindergarten | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 137.3 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 141 | |
| Grade 1 | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 153.5 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 160.7 | |
| Grade 2 | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 168.8 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 174.7 | |
| Grade 3 | AALC Mean RIT | 192.3 | 181.2 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 188.3 | |
| Grade 4 | AALC Mean RIT | 208.5 | 187.2 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Norm Mean RIT | 198.2 | |
| Grade 5 | AALC Mean RIT | 201.8 | 203.7 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 205.7 | |
| Grade 6 | AALC Mean RIT | 212 | 204.1 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 211 | |
| Grade 7 | AALC Mean RIT | 222.9 | 226.2 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 214.4 | |
| Grade 8 | AALC Mean RIT | 221 | 229.2 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 217.2 | |

| **MATH MEAN RIT SCORES (NWEA MAP)** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Math Fall 2016** | **Math Fall 2017** |
| Kindergarten | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 139.4 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 140 | |
| Grade 1 | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 155.6 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 162.4 | |
| Grade 2 | AALC Mean RIT | N/A | 169.8 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 176.9 | |
| Grade 3 | AALC Mean RIT | 185.6 | 175.9 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 190.4 | |
| Grade 4 | AALC Mean RIT | 199.1 | 184 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 201.9 | |

| Grade 5 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | AALC Mean RIT | 201.3 | 203.7 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 211.4 | |
| Grade 6 | | | |
| | AALC Mean RIT | 213.2 | 202.7 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 217.6 | |
| Grade 7 | | | |
| | AALC Mean RIT | 222.0 | 222.4 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 222.6 | |
| Grade 8 | | | |
| | AALC Mean RIT | 225.9 | 233.1 |
| | Norm Mean RIT | 226.3 | |

The following tables display the student growth summary for the period of Fall 2016-Fall 2017.  Data is only available for grades that tested in both the Fall 2016 and Fall 2017.  (Since 3rd graders in 2017 did not take the test as 2nd graders in 2016, there is no growth data for 3rd grade.)  Each time a student takes the NWEA MAP test, they are given a projected score.  The tables below show the percent of students who met their projected score for the following term.  The student mean conditional growth percentile compares the growth of students at Ann Arbor Learning Community with the growth of peers in the norm study.

| STUDENT GROWTH SUMMARY FALL 2016-FALL 2017 | | |
|---|---|---|
| **MATHEMATICS** | Percent Met Projection | Student Mean Conditional Growth Percentile |
| Grade 4 | 17 | 10 |
| Grade 5 | 50 | 56 |
| Grade 6 | 25 | 31 |
| Grade 7 | 56 | 48 |
| Grade 8 | 75 | 75 |

| STUDENT GROWTH SUMMARY FALL 2016-FALL 2017 |
|---|

| READING | Percent Met Projection | Student Mean Conditional Growth Percentile |
|---|---|---|
| Grade 4 | 17 | 27 |
| Grade 5 | 0 | 21 |
| Grade 6 | 40 | 46 |
| Grade 7 | 78 | 77 |
| Grade 8 | 38 | 37 |

Prior to the 2016-2017 school year, students took the Scantron Performance Series test.  While the results from this test cannot be directly compared to the results from the NWEA MAP test, the following table shows the percent of students who met their target during the 2015-2016 school year.  This can be compared to the percent of students who met their projection in the tables above.

| Grade Level | Percent Met Target (Reading) | Percent Met Target (Math) |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 58 | 74 |
| 3 | 68 | 58 |
| 4 | 77 | 23 |
| 5 | 73 | 33 |
| 6 | 44 | 33 |
| 7 | 80 | 40 |
| 8 | 42 | 50 |
| Overall | 63 | 44 |

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES.

Parent-teacher conferences are held annually in November.  Additional conference times are available throughout the year. At these conferences, teachers and families meet to discuss student goals, progress, academic, and social-emotional skills. 62 students (~77%) were represented during the November 2017 conferences.  This is about the same as the participation in November 2016.

Ann Arbor Learning Community believes that by celebrating students and cultivating individuality, students can reach their full potential. Multi-age classrooms help students to work collaboratively through experiential, hands-on learning to instill a lifetime of learning. At Ann Arbor Learning Community, students learn to be active participants in their learning and as productive citizens. We remain committed to these aspects of our school and look forward to continued academic, social, and emotional growth.


Sincerely,


Abigail Kuhn
Ann Arbor Learning Community School Leader