



**BIRCHVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
663 POPLAR STREET  
ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN 49849

Bernard L. Anderson  
Principal

Phone: (906) 485-6341  
Fax: (906) 485-5925



May 23, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members;

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2016-2017 educational progress for the Birchview Elementary School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by the federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability and teacher quality. If you have any questions about AER, please contact Bernie Anderson for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: [www.ishpemingschools.org](http://www.ishpemingschools.org), or by clicking on the following link <https://goo.gl/m7u19B> or you may review a copy in our principal's office at your child's school.

These reports contain the following information:

**Student Assessment Data** – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

**Accountability – Detail Data and Status**

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.

**Teacher Qualification Data**

Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels

Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

**NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)**

Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

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.

For the 2016-2017 school year, Birchview Elementary teachers and staff have worked extremely hard to examine out student's strengths and weaknesses. We have adopted our school improvement goals and continue to work to find ways to improve.

During the 2012-2013 school year, the Birchview Elementary School adopted the Daily Five Reading Program to tailor our reading curriculum to individualized student needs. In the 2018-2019 school year, we will continue to implement the Daily Five with fidelity. Several staff members received training in literacy and instruction ready to meet the needs of our student body. We have also hired a Reading Coach.

Birchview has finished a three year implementation of My Math, a math series that aligns to recently defined math curriculum. This year with five full days of training, we implemented the Foundations of Math, new strategies for teaching math.

Hematite POWER behavior expectation standards are in the fifth year of implementation with several gains occurring in the program. We have also added the Golden Rule.

Our staff has completed the training in the Danielson's Framework for Teaching. Work with defining our student learning objectives and the proper methodology associated with those learning objectives is well underway and we have seen gains in our Michigan State testing system. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.

The students in grades Young 5's of the Ishpeming School District are all assigned to Birchview Elementary School. Kindergarten students are placed in either of the three kindergarten classes with the knowledge of student outcomes in the kindergarten screening process and parental requests. Parents outside of the district can attain a Schools of Choice application from the Superintendent's Office or your child's school office. There are no specialized schools within the Ishpeming School District.

Parents may access a copy of the common core curriculum and Michigan Merit Curriculum in the Birchview Elementary Office and the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. The curriculum is reviewed on a five-year cycle and teachers are responsible to maintain a checklist.

M-Step tests results, NWEA test results, leveled reading test results; grade level benchmark test results and DIBELS testing are maintained in the Title I and Principals Office. making sure they are teaching the grade level expectations.

The Birchview Elementary teachers held parent teacher conferences during the school year. The fall conference had a 92% attendance rate or 247 parents showed up for 270 scheduled conferences. Two phone conferences also took place during the fall conference schedule. 74% of the scheduled directed conferences scheduled for the winter parent/teacher conferences were attended.

The school community at Birchview remains committed to the children of Ishpeming and will continue to strive for academic excellence as we look to the future. Come and visit our school and see our Hematite POWER!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Anderson", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Bernard L. Anderson  
Principal/Transportation Director