



School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

WEST WARD ELEMENTARY
(Allegan Public School District)

August, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for the WEST WARD ELEMENTARY. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Nancy McKown, Director of Instructional Services, at (269) 673-5431 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting our school district web site www.alleganpublicschools.org (click on "information" then click on "annual report") or you may review a copy from the office at your child's school. The entire report, including information about all public schools in Michigan, is also available on the State of Michigan's website at www.mischooldata.org.

For 2010-2011, WEST WARD ELEMENTARY made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English language arts and mathematics. While we are pleased to have reached this important goal, we are continuously working to improve. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

The Process for assigning pupils to the school – Elementary students are usually assigned to the elementary school in their area of residence. An in-district "School of Choice" program is offered to parents who wish to select a specific elementary school for their child. Placement into the desired school is based on space availability, and is handled by lottery if requests exceed available slots.

The Status of the 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan – This can be viewed on our school district's website at www.alleganpublicschools.org (click on "Academics").

A Brief Description of each Specialized School at Allegan Public Schools – can be viewed on our district website. Click on "Information"; then click on "Annual Report".

Core Curriculum – A description of the implementation of the basic core curriculum (including English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) can be viewed on our website under “Academics”; then click on “Core Curriculum”.

National Testing (NEAP) Results – Can be viewed by the specific elementary classes who participated in this type of testing, by viewing the State of Michigan Annual Education Report – Combined Report for Allegan Public Schools at www.mischooldata.org.

Parent Participation at WEST WARD ELEMENTARY – Parents at all of our elementary schools have many opportunities for participation in school activities. Academically-based activities are planned annually, such as “Family Reading Night” and “Family Science Night” to include students and their families. Participation at Parent-Teacher Conferences and Open House are reported below:

	<u>Fall Conf.</u>	<u>Spring Conf.</u>	<u>Open House</u>
West Ward Elementary (2010-11)	95%	91%	78%
West Ward Elementary (2009-10)	95%	91%	73%

West Ward Elementary remains committed to providing a quality education to all students. Besides all core curricular subjects, students have the opportunity to receive instruction in art, music, physical education, foreign language (including Spanish and French), and computer technology. Teachers are trained in various methods of Differentiated Instruction to help them implement a wide variety of teaching and learning techniques. Students at West Ward can expect a safe, orderly, and nurturing environment. West Ward’s active PTO provides students, staff, and families with many opportunities to interact and grow.

Please check out our website:

<http://www.alleganpublicschools.org/westward/westwardhome.html>

Sincerely,

Harry Dalm, Principal