



## District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 5, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Niles Community Schools and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Brooke Brawley, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [<DISTRICT'S ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT>](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating its own AER to parents directly.

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 MI-Access science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students.

### School Accountability Data

- Includes information on schools' performance on various measures such as student proficiency and growth on state assessments, graduation, and attendance rates. Performance is measured on 0-100 index scales
- Reports schools identified under three federally required categories for further support: Comprehensive Support and Improvement, Targeted Support and Improvement, and Additional Targeted Support

### Educator Qualification Data

- Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders
- Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
- Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

### 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

### Civil Rights Data

- Provides information on school quality, climate, and safety



# NILES

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Office  
One Tyler Street  
Niles, Michigan 49120

269.683.0732  
269.684.9532

nilesschools.org

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2022-23. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Ballard Elementary School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Cedar Lane Alternative School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Eastside Connections School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Howard-Ellis Elementary School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Niles Adult Education	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Niles High School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Northside Child Development Center	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Ring Lardner Middle School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
Southside School	No Label	Professional Learning Communities
W-A-Y Niles	CSI	Increase Graduation Rate

Niles Community Schools takes pride in its distinction as a District with diverse opportunities and dynamic learners who are driven to succeed. Differentiated instruction is commonplace in classrooms as we strive to meet the diverse needs of our students. We educate all students with excellent programs including, but not limited to preschool, special education, alternative education, ~~online~~ **virtual** learning, and adult education.

To extend the learning of our students beyond the school day and school year, we partner with several community service organizations to provide educational experiences that support the opportunities afforded in the classroom. During the school year, we offer several extended day learning opportunities, and over the summer months, we offer **middle school career and STEM camps as well as** the comprehensive and award-winning Summer My Way program for K-5 students. For the 2023-2024 school year, we are excited to continue ~~and extend~~ our Professional Learning Communities work ~~in Professional Learning Communities~~ at all levels **and focus some of** our school improvement efforts toward attendance and belonging . This key initiative builds the capacity of our educators and will accelerate achievement as we inspire and prepare all learners through diverse opportunities to challenge the present and enrich the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daniel Applegate