



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 Berrien Springs Middle School. 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 Steve Spenner for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://goo.gl/1hyzh3>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given.

As you review our data, you'll notice the many reasons why we are so proud of our Berrien Springs Middle School staff and students. When compared to overall student data from Michigan, our students perform remarkably above state proficiency averages. There are obviously always areas for improvement. Our building has focused greatly on reading in recent years with great growth and success. We will continue to support our reading programs with staff and services, but also look to direct some greater attention toward our math curriculum and development of our intervention programs for all areas, knowing that direct and focused intervention is the key to closing achievement gaps.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

**Assignment of Students:** The process of enrolling resident students at Berrien Springs Middle School begins with the completion of a district enrollment packet

(found at BSMS office) and a meeting with the building principal. Upon enrollment, students will complete a short series of academic assessments which will identify student proficiency levels, following which the student will be assigned to a grade level and be given an appropriate class schedule. Non-resident students wishing to attend Berrien Springs Public Schools are required to complete enrollment information provided by central office personnel. Acceptance for non-resident students is based upon guidelines set forth by the State of Michigan Department of Education.

1. School Improvement Plan: A BSMS School Improvement Team meets monthly to review the implementation of current SI goals. Team members are the representative voice of the building staff and communicate to their colleagues any conversations or action plans determined by that team.

Goal 1: All students at Berrien Springs Middle School will achieve growth toward proficiency level in mathematics.

Goal 2: All students at Berrien Springs Middle School will achieve growth toward proficiency level in science.

Goal 3: All students at Berrien Springs Middle School will become proficient in English Language Arts(ELA).

Goal 4: All students at Berrien Springs Middle School will exhibit appropriate social and academic behaviors.

3. Special Education Services for Berrien Springs Public Schools

### **Special Education Services for Berrien Springs Public Schools**

#### **A. Resource Room Services for Local Special Education Students:**

Resident students (along with students accepted through the schools of choice process) may qualify, and also have a need for special education programs and/or services. The district is continuing to develop their Multi-Tier Systems of Supports (MTSS) model, providing general education options for struggling students and monitoring their progress over time. For those students who are unable to demonstrate progress with significant interventions, students being referred for special education programming/services may begin this process through a request for an evaluation or Child Study Team (CST) meeting. Should a student qualify for special education programs and/or services, a team of individuals will develop an Individualized Education Plan) to help assist the child progress within the general education setting.

Current special education programs include Elementary and Secondary Resource Rooms. Students follow a general education curriculum with the Common Core State Standards. In most Berrien Springs Public Schools, classroom instruction is provided by a general education teacher along with interactive co-teaching from a special education teacher. Students determined to need more direct instruction for needs outlined in their IEP may receive programming/services that pulls a student out of the general education classroom. Should a student at our Discovery Academy or Virtual programs have a need for Secondary Resource Room programming or services, such programs and services will be provided if a student meets the requirements for special education. Instruction at the Discovery Academy and Virtual programs will be done primarily through an online platform. Part of the IEP process includes the determination of appropriate aids, supplementary services, accommodations, and modifications for success in general education. Ancillary services are available for students who qualify. These services may include speech-language therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy.

### **B. Center-Based Special Education Programs**

Berrien Springs hosts several center-based programs for Berrien County RESA. These programs are housed in Berrien Springs and operated by Berrien Springs Public Schools. The funding comes through federal, state and Berrien RESA sources. Many of the students in these programs are not residents of Berrien Springs, but are able to take advantage of these center programs through the IEP (Individual Educational Plan) process. Transportation to and from Berrien Springs is provided through the local district. These programs include:

- **Hearing Impaired Classrooms, Teacher Consultant Services, Audiological Services:**

Students with hearing impairments have been part of Berrien Springs Public Schools for almost 50 years. Cass County contracts services through Berrien Springs, so students come from both Cass and Berrien counties. Babies are frequently identified at birth and start receiving intervention services at a very early age with teachers seeing families in their homes. Classroom services are available for pre-school through high school. These students may also participate part time in general education classes. Approximately 45 Berrien and Cass County students are served in this program, ten (10) students being residents of the Berrien Springs Public Schools.

Many students with a hearing impairment function very well in their home district classrooms while receiving assistance from teacher consultants. Approximately 70 children receive teacher consultant services, including two (2) students from Berrien Springs.

Two audiologists provide audiological services and equipment management for students with identified hearing losses. They also provide diagnostic information for children with diagnosed, fluctuating, suspected or possible hearing losses. They work with physicians, the Health Department, families, *Build up Michigan* and *Early Hearing Detection and Intervention* to diagnose children as soon as possible and get amplification and intervention started. The audiologists work with over 500 students each year.

- **Speech-Language Impaired Preschool:**

Students in the SLI preschool room receive instruction from a highly qualified teacher having an endorsement in Early Childhood Education and is also a licensed speech and language pathologist. A maximum of 18 students ages 3-6 must meet specific requirements to be considered for this county-based program. To qualify, students must demonstrate severe or moderate-to-severe delays in at least two areas of speech and language. During the 2016-17 school year four (4) Berrien Springs resident students were enrolled in this classroom. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

- **Middle School Mildly Cognitively Impaired Classrooms:**

The district operates two county-wide classrooms at the Berrien Springs Middle School for students functioning with mild cognitive impairments. Teachers are certified in the area of Cognitively Impaired. The program is run on a thematic basis, incorporating reading, writing, vocabulary with social studies and science topics, following the Extended Grade Level Content Expectations from Michigan Department of Education. Up to 36 students (from throughout the county) can be provided special education programming in these MICI rooms. In 2016-17, eight (8) students considered to be Berrien Springs resident students were IEP placed in these rooms. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

- **High School Mildly Cognitively Impaired Classroom:**

A county-wide classroom for students functioning with a mild cognitive impairment is housed within the high school and taught by a teacher of the cognitively impaired. The students work through a series of objectives that are linked to the Extended Grade Level Content Expectations and daily living skills for transition to post-secondary goals. Students also receive instruction through the use of the Life Centered Curriculum. This program includes some pre-vocational and vocational experiences. Since the focus is not on the Michigan Merit Curriculum required for a high school diploma in Michigan, the students receive a certificate of completion. They participate in the high school graduation ceremony. Five (5) students from Berrien Springs were in the High School MICI classroom in 2016-17. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

**C. Specialized Programs for Students Available Outside of Berrien Springs:**

Some students need programs that are not offered within the district. The IEP process is used to make this determination and to place these students in programs that offer the services necessary to meet their goals and objectives. Transportation is provided for these students. These programs include:

**BLOSSOMLAND LEARNING CENTER, BERRIEN REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN**

The purpose of Blossomland Learning Center is to provide services to students who have been diagnosed as moderately to severely mentally impaired up through age

26 who reside within the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency. The school assists students in preparing for entry into their respective communities. sixteen (16) Berrien Springs Public School District resident students attended this program during the 2016-17 school year. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

**LIGHTHOUSE EDUCATION CENTER, BERRIEN REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY, ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN & JUVENILE CENTER, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN.**

The Lighthouse Education Center program is operated as a therapeutic and educational program for students diagnosed as having an Emotional Impairment or Autism Spectrum Disorder up to age 26 and residing within the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency. These students may exhibit severe emotional difficulties or be students with significant challenges presented by autism spectrum disorder and require a specialized educational setting. The juvenile center has programming for students with disabilities that are court placed for an amount of time determined by a judge. During the 2016-17 school year, seven (7) Berrien Springs Public School District resident(s) attended these programs, with the goal being eventual re-integration into the resident district's educational system if deemed to be the least restrictive environment. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

**HEARING IMPAIRED PROGRAM. BERRIEN SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN**

The Berrien County Hearing Impaired Program provides educational services for hearing impaired students from Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties. During the 2016-17 school-year, ten (10) students from Berrien Springs Public School District attended the program, which includes children from pre- school age through 26 years. This program is operated by the Berrien Springs Public Schools and is funded by the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency. In addition to classroom and teacher consultant services, the program also serves as a diagnostic center and employs an audiologist for the purpose of assessing severity and type of hearing loss. Some students, when determined educationally appropriate by an Individualized Educational Planning Committee, are educated in their resident district with the support of a teacher consultant provided by the Hearing Impaired Program.

**SOUTHSIDE PROGRAM. NILES COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. NILES, MI**

Niles operates center- based programs for low incidence special education students needing a full time placement.

The program for the Emotionally Impaired includes students with severe emotional or behavioral problems. These students receive a very strict, highly structured program designed to change inappropriate behavior patterns and allow learning to take place. Expectations for performance are high with the goal being the student's successful readmission to their former school. Classroom programs serve students

ages 6 through 25. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

Students in the Pre-Vocational program or Cognitively Impaired programs have below average ability levels, making success in their local high schools extremely difficult. Often their low ability is compounded by a weak self-concept and inadequate social skills. Once at Southside a few may pursue a diploma, but most will follow a curriculum designed to promote independent living. Classrooms are available to serve ages 16 through 25. During the 2016-17 school year, six (6) students from the Berrien Springs Public School District attended this program. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

### **Other Programs**

Preschool Special Education Classrooms: In addition, four students from Berrien Springs attended Early Childhood Developmental Delay Classroom in Niles at Northside School. This half day preschool program serves students from ages 3-6. Build Up Michigan and Project Find: Berrien RESA operates programs to provide information and services to families. Build Up Michigan focuses on children from birth to two years of age. During the 2016-17 school year, 6 (six) students from Berrien Springs attended programs at Northside in Niles, Michigan. Students are placed in the program through an Individual Educational Planning Committee composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff.

2. Curriculum: Berrien Springs Middle School curriculum is aligned with the Michigan standards. Common Core State Standards have been implemented, built on National Standards and adopted by the Michigan Department of Education, and are available on the MDE website, [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov). Curriculum Guides for elementary students are available in the school offices and are distributed to parents each fall. Middle and High School curriculum is available to parents and students in syllabi and curriculum guides published on the school website and teacher web pages.

Any parents wishing to review course curriculums may contact your child's teacher directly. Many course materials and curriculums are easily accessible on district or teacher web pages, but all questions can be directed toward classroom teachers initially. Further questions may be answered by Steve Spenner (building Principal) or Amy Williams (BSPS Curriculum Director).

3. Student achievement results for local competency test or nationally normed achievement test.



# Grade Report

Grade 6

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

## Science - General Science

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	135
Mean RIT	212.2
Standard Deviation	10.6
District Grade Level Mean RIT	212.2
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	73
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	208.6
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	88

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Science - General Science	15	11%	19	14%	27	20%	34	25%	40	30%	211-212-213	10.6



# Grade Report

Grade 6

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

## Reading

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	135
Mean RIT	217.1
Standard Deviation	13.6
District Grade Level Mean RIT	216.8
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	73
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	215.8
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	77

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	18	13%	27	20%	29	21%	33	24%	28	21%	216-217-218	13.6



# Grade Report

Grade 6

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

## Mathematics

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	135
Mean RIT	219.2
Standard Deviation	15.2
District Grade Level Mean RIT	219
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	75
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	225.3
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	46

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	38	28%	31	23%	33	24%	24	18%	9	7%	218-219-221	15.2



## Grade Report

Grade 7

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Mathematics

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	132
Mean RIT	224.7
Standard Deviation	13.7
District Grade Level Mean RIT	223.5
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	70
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	228.6
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	51

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	26	20%	38	29%	32	24%	26	20%	10	8%	223-225-226	13.7



## Grade Report

Grade 7

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Reading

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	132
Mean RIT	218.1
Standard Deviation	13.4
District Grade Level Mean RIT	216.7
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	75
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	218.2
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	67

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	24	18%	23	17%	40	30%	23	17%	22	17%	217-218-219	13.4



## Grade Report

Grade 7

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Science - General Science

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	131
Mean RIT	215.4
Standard Deviation	10.4
District Grade Level Mean RIT	215.5
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	70
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	210.9
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	94

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Science - General Science	8	6%	19	15%	28	21%	39	30%	37	28%	214-215-216	10.4



## Grade Report

Grade 8

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
 District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
 School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
 Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
 Grouping: None  
 Small Group Display: No

### Mathematics

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	134
Mean RIT	229.6
Standard Deviation	16.6
District Grade Level Mean RIT	228.4
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	66
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	230.9
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	60

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	21	16%	34	25%	37	28%	21	16%	21	16%	228-230-231	16.6



## Grade Report

Grade 8

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
 District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
 School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
 Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
 Grouping: None  
 Small Group Display: No

### Reading

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	134
Mean RIT	224.3
Standard Deviation	15.1
District Grade Level Mean RIT	223.1
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	79
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	220.1
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	90

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	14	10%	16	12%	31	23%	37	28%	36	27%	223-224-226	15.1



## Grade Report

Grade 8

Term: Spring 2016-2017  
 District: Berrien Springs Public SD  
 School: Berrien Springs Middle School

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
 Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2017)  
 Grouping: None  
 Small Group Display: No

### Science - General Science

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	133
Mean RIT	218.7
Standard Deviation	10.3
District Grade Level Mean RIT	219.1
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	73
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	213.5
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	95

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Science - General Science	11	8%	13	10%	23	17%	52	39%	34	26%	218-219-220	10.3

4. Parent-Teacher Conference Participation: During the 2016-17 Fall semester, 69% of BSMS parents attended PT Conferences. During the Spring semester, 57% of parents attended PT Conferences.

The many successes we continue to celebrate at Berrien Springs Middle School would not be possible without the positive support from our parents and community. There are many factors that make Berrien Springs a special place to be, but the most important of them is the family atmosphere that we enjoy. We know that the collaborative support of school, home, and community are essential to the academic success of our kids. We are glad that you are a part of Shamrock family!

Sincerely,

Steve Spenner  
Principal, Berrien Springs Middle School