

NORTH DICKINSON COUNTY SCHOOL

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 9, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the North Dickinson County 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 Mrs. Angel Inglese for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.go-nordics.com under miscellaneous menu, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 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. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

North Dickinson is a very small district with less than 300 students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade. We have a continued goal of improvement and are pleased to announce that for 2013-2014 school year, North Dickinson County School made significant improvements which was evident by our school accountability scorecard. In 2012-13, North Dickinson's score was 73.9% which increased to 81.4% for 2013-14. There was no school accountability scorecard for the 2014-15 school year, and in 2015-16, North Dickinson scored an 83.3%.

After reviewing the combine report, it is noted that our students excel in the elementary and high school grades when compared to the state, however, in middle school our scores decline. The District will focus more attention on middle grades as that is where the combine report suggests we have more of a deficit.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

North Dickinson County School is the only school in our district with children in kindergarten through 12th grade attending the school. We are in the second year of a three year cycle for our School Improvement plan. North Dickinson County School does not have any specialized schools, however the Dickinson-Iron Technical Center is a vocational school that our high school students are able to attend in order to get technical training. If you would like to see a copy of our curriculum, please stop in the office or go online to our website www.go-nordics.com under the teacher's menu, educational links. Our curriculum is matched with the common core state standards. The MEAP and MME/ACT tests were the only student-normed achievement test completed by students, until the state changed the standardized test to the M-Step. The students now complete the M-Step, ACT work-keys and SAT.

The parents of North Dickinson County School District have always been active partners in the education of our children. Parental involvement is essential to the educational process. One of the most important activities happens with parent/teacher conferences. During the 2014-15 school year, the District decided to hold only a fall parent/teacher conference. At that time there were 283 students enrolled in the district and 69% of them were represented at parent/teacher conferences. In the 2015-16 school year, there were 276 students enrolled in the district and 71% of them were represented at parent/teacher conferences.

During the 15-16 school year, four (4) or 9% of eligible North Dickinson Student enrolled in three (3) college classes; 100% of them received college credit. During the 14-15 school year, four (4) or 8% of eligible North Dickinson students enrolled in two (2) college classes; 100% of them receiving college credit. Zero (0) students took Advanced Placement courses both years and therefore no students received a score leading to college credit for AP courses.

Our staff, parents and community work very hard to ensure the students receive the best education possible, and we appreciated their continued support. We are proud of the performance and achievement of our North Dickinson County School students and of the dedication and professionalism of our teaching staff. If you are interested about learning more about our schools, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Angel R.Inglese