



# Warren Consolidated Schools

*Creating Dynamic Futures through Student Achievement, High Expectations, and Strong Relationships*

## ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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August 15, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

Prior to 2015, each year all public schools in Michigan were required to test students using the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), or the Michigan Merit Exam (MME). The results of these tests, as well as participation on the tests, were used to determine whether our school was meeting Michigan School Proficiency Targets and where it ranked in a "Top to Bottom" (TTB) list of schools and their performance. As a result of this process, schools may have been identified as a Reward School, a Focus School, or a Priority School. Priority Schools are those ranked in the lowest 5% of the TTB list; Focus Schools have an achievement gap between its top 30% and lowest 30% of students; and Reward Schools are achieving schools which have significant achievement growth. Focus and Priority schools are required to inform parents of their identification. This letter includes information that is difficult to report to a school community, however, we want to honestly address the State of Michigan's designations of our school, while remaining focused on raising student achievement.

Willow Woods Elementary School had been identified as a "Priority School" in 2014-2015 based on its achievement results. Please be assured we continue to work diligently on creating success for all of our children. The Michigan Department of Education and our district are committed to providing us with resources to help us in our work. Our school and district improvement plans are built on solid research-based instructional strategies that will produce results. We remain excited about the district's Dynamic Strategic Plan that focuses on offering state-of-the-art programs and courses; supporting rigorous and relevant instructional practices; and providing dynamic and flexible learning environments. Additionally, our school and the district will be implementing the listed specific initiatives we believe will accelerate achievement and close gaps:

- Developing and implementing a multi-tiered system of support to assist all students.
- Partnering with the Macomb Intermediate School District to review our data, structure additional initiatives designed to achieve accelerated improvement, and make changes in how instruction is delivered in the classroom.
- Implementing the State Superintendent's Dropout Challenge to assist students who are at-risk of dropping out of school.
- Implementing research based professional learning aligned to our needs assessment.
- Providing monthly time for teacher collaboration (PLCs).

Your steadfast commitment to your children's education and your support of Warren Consolidated Schools is very much appreciated. We look forward to working with you to make this a great school year! If you have any questions, please contact your principal at 586-825-2850.

Sincerely,

John Bernia, Chief Academic Officer

Vera Ivezaj, Principal