



BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
Educating Every Corner Of Our Community
2016-2017

November 21, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for Betsie Valley Elementary 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 Amiee Erfourth, Principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting www.benzieschools.net or you may review a copy in the main office at the school.

Betsie Valley Elementary students in third through fifth grade are assessed annually on the state assessment (currently the M-STEP). In 2015-2016, our 3rd grade class scored above the state average in both math and English Language Arts. Our 4th grade class scored below the state average in English Language Arts and Math. Our 5th grade class scored below state average in both English Language Arts and Math. The M-STEP assessment is a computerized assessment; the ELA portion is a combination of both Reading and Writing. Data collected from early screeners, like Aimsweb, have helped to identify reading difficulties in early grades. The intentional early intervention has supported the increased performance on reading assessments like M-STEP. Along with reading interventions, a common reading block and district-approved reading series has helped support reading growth. Since writing growth is below average, writing has become a focus area on our improvement plan. Teachers were provided extensive professional development focused on writing instruction and are utilizing common rubrics to assess writing improvement. Since last year was the first year utilizing a new Math series, material was not covered as quickly as it is anticipated to be completed in future years. This may have had an impact on test scores, however, we are seeing positive growth with our younger grades due in part to early math interventions.

Data days are held three times a year, and adjustments to intervention groups are made utilizing available data. All K-5 students have access to reading and math interventions if data supports the need.

Betsie Valley works hard to improve the whole child. Along with providing rigorous academics, Betsie Valley also strives to promote positive behavior. Due to the important link between behavior and learning, Betsie Valley has added a behavior goal to the school improvement plan. At this time, over 90% of our students have met the behavior expectation. Along with creating school-wide behavior expectations, staff and students also participate in bi-weekly community meetings where student successes are celebrated.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Students who live within the designated school boundaries are able to attend Betsie Valley Elementary School. Additionally, parents may complete forms for In-District Schools of Choice if they reside within the Benzie Central Schools boundaries. For families who are not residents of Benzie Central Schools, they may apply for Out of District Schools of Choice. Please contact Amiee Erfourth, Principal for assistance.
2. Betsie Valley continues to implement its School Improvement Plan focusing on improving student performance in the areas of Reading, Writing, Math, and Behavior. Professional development opportunities and strategy instruction are targeted to improve these areas.
3. Curriculum is developed and implemented based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
4. During the past three years, student in grades 2-5 have continued to take the NWEA at Betsie Valley Elementary School. Scores from the last three years show that four out of four grades increased their mean RIT on Fall math assessments. Two of four grades had an increase in their mean RIT on Fall math assessments over the past three school years.
5. During the 2014-2015 school year, 129/136 (95%) students had parent representation at Parent Teacher Conferences. The percent of parents in attendance for the 2015-2016 year was the same with 137/144 (95%) of students represented by a parent or guardian.

In closing, it is with great pride that we present this report to you. We continue to strive to provide a positive and productive learning environment for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Amiee Erfourth
Betsie Valley Elementary Principal