

April 14, 2016

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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 the University Prep Science & Math 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 Kimberly Phillips Solomon for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/4GwMAa> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Elementary assessment results on the Measures of Academic Performance (MAP) are presented. Achievement data for all three tested subjects (mathematics, reading, and language usage (2-5th grade) are included.

One challenge as represented in the data was 2nd-4th grade reading and math achievement. To address these concerns we implemented Engage New York Math Curriculum. All teachers across the network received training on common core alignment. We implemented a teacher observation and feedback cycle with an instructional coach. We provided teacher training on guided reading groups, focusing on comprehension and reading strategies. Lastly, we hired a full-time reading specialist to address students struggling in reading.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

As a charter school, we follow a structured process for enrolling students into our schools. Our policy for enrollment has remained consistent since 2013 that new students are assigned to our school by the U Prep Schools Enrollment Coordinator. The process allows for siblings of currently enrolled students and children of district employees to receive priority in the enrollment process, but only if those students apply during our open enrollment period. Otherwise all students are admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

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2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

In the spring of 2014, UPSM ES completed a needs assessment and wrote a new 3-5 year School Improvement Plan. Students were assessed using Benchmark running records, end of the module math assessments, and NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). As a staff we worked to review the data, looked at best practices across the network, planned collaboratively, implemented the support of instructional coaches and developed our multi-tiered system of support to provide additional support for struggling students both in school and after school.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

University Prep Science & Math Elementary school is located in Lafayette Park area. We are a Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM) focused school. We are implementing the EL Education school model including strong school culture and academic rigor. We have partnerships with Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, Gleaners, St. John's Hospital, numerous community groups. Our students engage in visual arts, music, both theory and applied, technology and physical education. We offer after school enrichment programs such as yoga, dance, technology, chess, Zumba, math and Lego robotics. Sports including soccer, basketball, cheer are seasonal activities our student enjoy as well as after school tutoring, choir concerts, musicals and instrumental band. Our dynamic teachers and staff work to build positive relationships with their students and within their classrooms. Through our weekly community circle, we gather as a whole school to celebrate student achievement, school wide character traits, birthdays and victories. Through our parent group, we engage families in monthly parent led meetings to discuss achievement, goals, initiatives, fundraising and opportunities for our students.

4. CORE CURRICULUM

The Core Curriculum of UPSM Elementary School is fully aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Michigan Department of Education's Curriculum Framework. In each classroom, daily learning targets are posted to help students measure their own learning of a topic. Printed copies of the core curriculum are available in the main office.

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5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

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UPSM Elementary students in Kindergarten thru fifth grade take the NWEA, Measures of Academic Performance (MAP) assessment three times per school year. The MAP test is a notionally norm referenced test that measures student achievement in reading and math. Student scores are presented as RIT scale units. The RIT Scale is a curriculum scale that uses the individual item difficulty values to estimate student achievement.

When a student takes the Fall MAP reading or math assessment, their score will include a RIT score “growth target” for the Spring. This growth target is set based on typical growth for all students nationally in the same grade with the same Fall RIT score. The two tables below (one for math and one for reading) show the percentage of Mark Murray students at each grade level who met their growth target score over the last two years.

	Math Spring 2014	Math Spring 2015
Kindergarten	55	89
First	54	91
Second	24	71
Third	47	93
Fourth	30	57
Fifth	58	59

	Reading Spring 2014	Reading Spring 2015
Kindergarten	51	73
First	51	62
Second	32	65
Third	49	73
Fourth	45	68
Fifth	56	76

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Our students’ growth is also compared to how students across the nation performed from the Fall testing to the Spring testing. The conditional growth percentile tells us how much our students grew academically compared to their projected growth. Any number greater than 50 means the grade level performed at a rate greater than the national rate of growth. A percentile of 50 means they were on par with the national average and a percentile less than 50 means the grade level did not perform at the same rate as the national growth. This information is only available for the last two years and the results are seen below for both math and reading.

	Conditional Growth Percentile Math Spring 2014	Conditional Growth Percentile Math Spring 2015
Kindergarten	41	98
First	49	99
Second	3	89
Third	14	99
Fourth	1	25
Fifth	40	69

	Conditional Growth Percentile Reading Spring 2014	Conditional Growth Percentile Reading Spring 2015
Kindergarten	39	86
First	50	84
Second	6	96
Third	37	99
Fourth	17	88
Fifth	49	99

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6. PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

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Parent participation is an integral part of what we do at UPSM Elementary. In addition to volunteering at least 15 hours, all parents are expected to participate in three parent teacher conferences for their child, and attend monthly parent meetings.

Parent participation at parent teacher conferences are as follows:

	Number of parents participating	Percent of parents participating
2013	77	19%
2014	200	42%
2015	298	57%

Congratulations to University Prep Science & Math Elementary on a very successful opening for the 2013-14 school year and substantial growth gains on the MAP test in 2014-15. Our staff is dedicated to strong student growth and academic achievement. We will continue to strive for stronger leadership and data-driven instruction.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Phillips Solomon, Principal
UPSM Elementary School

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