

# FARWELL AREA SCHOOLS

David O'Bryant – Superintendent  
(989) 588-9917 Fax (989) 588-6440  
399 East Michigan Street, Farwell, Michigan 48622

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## HIGH SCHOOL EARLY COLLEGE 989-588-9913

Dee Yarger  
*Principal Grades 8-12*

## District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

Thomas Suggitt  
*Athletic Director/  
Assistant Principal*

May 30, 2018

## TIMBERLAND ALTERNATIVE 989-588-7219

Dee Yarger  
*Principal Grades 8-12*

Robert First  
*Dean of Students*

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 Farwell Area Schools and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact the Farwell Area Schools Superintendent Office for help if you need assistance.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL (989) 588-9915

Nancy Cairnduff  
*Principal Grades 4-7*

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/Ubt4fi> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (989) 588-9916

Catheryn Gross  
*Principal Grades K-3*

These reports contain the following information:

## BOARD OF EDUCATION (989) 588-9917

Shari Buccilli  
*President*

Joe Maxey  
*Vice President*

Angelina Hammond  
*Secretary*

Kellee Robinson  
*Treasurer*

William Geyer  
*Trustee*

John Gross  
*Trustee*

Holly Thrush  
*Trustee*

**Student Assessment Data** – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

### **Accountability – Detail Data and Status**

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.

### Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

### NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Farwell Elementary School	No Label	Farwell Elementary School employs a number of strategies, programs, and staff support to help students improve academic achievement. Small group instruction supported by para-professionals is provided to all students in their area of need focused on both reading and math. Students who are struggling or need additional academic support are provided with after school tutoring by instructional staff up to four days a week. Farewell Elementary encourages and assists struggling readers during a six-week summer reading program and sponsors a school-wide free book fair which provides four free books to each student for summer reading. Teachers train students and model the use of Thinking Maps, a research-based strategy to help students process information, develop cognitive skills and integrate knowledge. Staff at Farwell Elementary promote positive student behavior and school climate by using the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) model.
Farwell Middle School	No Label	Farwell Middle School offers opportunities which include summer

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
		<p>school and after school tutoring sessions as added supports for students to help them reach their full academic potential. FMS also offers a variety of enrichment courses for students at all four grade levels. Among those classes are Band, Art, Choir, and Physical Education. The FMS staff members strive to build and sustain lasting relationships with their students.</p>
Farwell High School	No Label	<p>At Farwell High School students are offered a number of programs to help them achieve academic success. Among those opportunities are after school tutoring sessions staffed by certified teachers and credit recovery options including summer classes and online classes. The Choice Room at FHS allows students to avoid out of school suspension for certain disciplinary infractions, helping them to stay current with assignments, quizzes and tests. Many FHS students take advantage of the opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school by scheduling Dual Enrollment courses and by participating in the Early College Program and the option to attend for a fifth year while taking college courses.</p>
Farwell Timberland Alternative Education	No Label	<p>At Timberland students who may have fallen behind and are off target to graduate on time are provided with opportunities to recover credit and to earn a high school diploma. Timberland offers both conventional courses taught by district teachers and online courses. Students can also earn credits through work experiences. Each year a number of students are able to complete the requirements for a high school diploma and graduate. Students at Timberland also participate in a number of athletic and recreation activities.</p>

Farwell Area Schools is a wonderful place for students to learn and grow. The schools provide several programs to help struggling students improve their academic achievement and to encourage students to advance or accelerate their learning. All of the buildings offer extended day and extended year programs to support student learning. Parents who have questions about these programs are encouraged to contact the principals or the superintendent. Parents are encouraged to take an active role in the education of their children, and all students benefit when the school and the parents work together to promote learning and education opportunities for the children in our community.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. House  
Acting Superintendent – Farwell Area Schools