



Sam Adams Elementary

114 S. Depot Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Deb Stermer, Principal **Lauren Sheeley, Assistant Principal**
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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 4, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for the Sam Adams Elementary. 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 the Principal, Deb Stermer, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <<https://bit.ly/3rMX1fB>>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 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 a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. 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 label is given.

Sam Adams Elementary School has not been given one of these labels.

Key Challenges based on our Combined Student Achievement Data

Increasing ELA Proficient Achievement Data

Increasing Math Proficient Achievement Data

Increasing Science Proficient Achievement Data

Increasing Social Studies Proficient Achievement Data

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

All students in grades Kindergarten-5th who reside in the school district boundaries, or who attend through the school of choice program, have the opportunity to attend Sam Adams Elementary School. Cassopolis Public Schools offers a range of specialized programs that meet the needs of its students.

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

Sam Adams Elementary has been implementing the MDE School Improvement process for several years. Our strategic plan includes addressing weaknesses and successes in our core curriculum and instructional best practices. We are at different phases of each core curriculum and instructional practices beginning with the Monitoring Stage to the final stage of Evaluation. Professional Learning Communities (PLC) are held weekly, in addition to New Tech Coaching support throughout the year, to address the needs of curriculum, best practices, and processes and procedures.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Adult/Alternative Education is designed to meet the needs of the non-traditional student whose goal is to earn a high school diploma.

Special Education services are provided from preschool through the 12th grade as required by the Michigan Mandatory Special Education Act. PA 451 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Programs and services are also developed to meet the needs of students covered by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Individual Educational Planning Committee (IEPC) process determines eligibility and coordinates the special education program for each student.

Special Education services include hearing evaluations, tympanometry, and hearing aid fitting and assessment, are provided for Cassopolis students. A referral for a hearing evaluation for a child is usually made by school staff; however, it can also be made by a parent or guardian.

Lewis Cass Intermediate School District (LCISD) operates specialized programs at both Brookside Learning Center and North Pointe Center locations to educate most birth to 26 year old students whose disabilities are severely mentally impaired, which qualifies them for an appropriate classroom.

4. The area that has the most impact on student achievement is aligned curriculum and programming. Currently our Math and English Language Arts are aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Our Science program is aligned to the Next Generation Standards and our Social Studies are aligned to the K-12 Social Studies Michigan Standards. The core curriculum can be found at Sam Adams Elementary Office and classrooms. The Implementation of the CCSS is found through our School Improvement Plan (SIP) located on the Cassopolis Public School website.

5. AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

MSTEP	ELA 18-19	MATH 18-19	SCIENCE 18-19	SOCIAL STUDIES 18-19
3rd Grade	26%	32%	N/A	N/A
4th Grade	25%	12%	N/A	N/A
5th Grade	28%	22%	N/A	13%

6. The percent of students represented by parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences:
2018-19 School Year – 71%
2019-20 School Year – 83%

Sam Adams Elementary School offers a state of the art building and education. Every classroom is equipped with the latest technology and equipment to enhance learning to its fullest. The highly qualified staff uses data driven “Best Practices” to teach students Kindergarten-5th grades. Math and English Language Arts curricula are aligned to the Common Core State Standards, Science with the Next Generation Standards and Social Studies with the K-12 Michigan Social Studies Standards, which meets the requirements of the Michigan Department of Education. Project Based Learning (PBL) is our instructional focus in all grade levels. Our students are learning the importance and use of the 4C’s of: Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Communication in their daily practices, through real life experiences.

Sam Adams Elementary School is a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) building and provides structure and high expectations for all! Our PBIS team accomplished the highest goal of 92% implementation of Tier 3 during the 2019-20 school year. Positive Behavior initiatives and showing Ranger Pride through trust, respect and responsibility are a part of our daily culture to promote good citizens.

Our Sam Adams School family is involved in our community by participating in community events such as; COA Pen Pals, Martin Luther King Essay Contest, Cass County Fair Booth, Muffins with Misses/Donuts with Dudes, Guys with Ties, Food Drives and various activities throughout the community.

For more information, visit our website at <http://cassopolis.k12.mi.us> or call our office at 269-445-0516. Our Sam Adams family of students and staff work together to create a culture of trust, respect and responsibility that supports our academic and behavior goals. Ranger PRIDE!

Sincerely,

Deb Stermer

Deb Stermer
Principal