



LEARNING FOR LIFE!

April 24, 2018

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 the New Groningen 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 Mrs. Laurie Poll, New Groningen Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site: <http://newgroningen.zps.org/>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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 label is given. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Key challenges for our school - Increasing academic achievement among all students and the specific subgroups in our building continues to be our challenge as a building.

During the past year we have continued several initiatives to increase the performance of our students including a comprehensive phonics program in grades K-2 and rigorous reading program in grades 3-5. Our professional development has been focused on these programs. We have addressed the needs of our struggling students through a response to intervention program we call WIN (What I need). All students will be provided an intervention period of reading and/or math that will help them to be successful with the Common Core State Standards.

Process for assigning pupils to the school – Students in Zeeland are assigned based upon their geographical home location. Zeeland also offers school of choice openings which are placed after the residents of Zeeland are assigned to their home school. There are 7 elementary schools in Zeeland and those schools feed into two middle schools, Cityside and Creekside. New Groningen feeds into Creekside Middle School which goes to Zeeland West High School.

Student Achievement Results

2015-2016

On District Rigby Running Record Assessments:
 89% of Kinder are at or above grade level benchmark 4
 79% of 1st graders are at or above grade level benchmark 18
 82% of 2nd graders are at or above grade level benchmark 22
 85% of 3rd graders are at or above grade level benchmark 26
 69% of 4th graders are at or above grade level benchmark 29

2016-17

On District Fountas & Pinnell Running Record Assessments:
 71% of Kinder are at or above grade level benchmark D
 94% of 1st graders are at or above grade level benchmark J
 83% of 2nd graders are at or above grade level benchmark M
 86% of 3rd graders are at or above grade level benchmark P
 81% of 4th graders are at or above grade level benchmark S
 62% of 5th graders are at or above grade level benchmark V

2014 -2015 Discovery Education Scores (Percent Level 3 or 4 at End of Year) – Year 2 of Assessment

| Grade | Math | Reading |
|-----------------|-------|-------------|
| 1 st | 94.3% | *Not tested |
| 2nd | 78.1% | 59.4% |
| 3rd | 67.2% | 54.0% |

2016 -2017 STAR (at End of Year) – Year 2 of Assessment

| Grade | Math | Reading |
|-----------------|------|---------|
| Kinder | NA | 72% |
| 1 st | 95% | 86% |
| 2nd | 93% | 88% |

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|--|--------------|--------------|---|------------|------------|
| 4th | 79.4% | 67.8% | 3rd | 85% | 86% |
| 5th | 84.5% | 62.0% | 4th | 94% | 82% |
| Note: Discovery changed proficiency levels – In 2013-14 Level 1 or 2 was proficient and in 2014- 15 Level 3 or 4 were proficient | | | 5th | 85% | 77% |
| | | | *Early Literacy assessment is given until a score of 775 is achieved. | | |

The status of the 3-5 year school improvement plan (SIP)– New Groningen Elementary is continually revising the school improvement plan to help our students achieve the necessary skills for success in the content areas. The staff will continue to work with students in goal areas of reading comprehension, writing, math, and science.

Specialty Schools – Students enrolled in an elementary program at Zeeland Public Schools are given the opportunity to participate in a variety of opportunities besides the traditional general education. ZPS offers special education programming to meet various needs, Gifted and Talented (4th/5thgrade), Spanish Immersion (K-5th), and ZQuest (a year round, project based school, K-8th).

The Core Curriculum for our school is based upon the National Common Core State Standards. This information is available at our school office or on our district website. Zeeland Public Schools makes sure our students are provided challenging lessons that are consistent across grade levels. A team of Zeeland educators regularly evaluate and revise our curriculum to ensure that classroom lessons meet state requirements for Young 5s/kindergarten through twelfth grade. Our district has made the transition to the National Common Core Standards in math and English Language Arts.

During the 2016-17 school year, New Groningen had 97% of parents representing their student at parent-teacher conferences. New Groningen had over 886 volunteers this school year. The volunteers donated a total of 6,782 documented hours for our students and staff!

New Groningen Elementary staff has worked very hard during the 2016-17 school year to ensure that every student receives the quality education that they deserve. We

continue to strive toward excellence in our school and community. 'The mission of New Groningen Elementary School, in partnership with staff, family and community, is to promote learning as a lifelong goal by providing opportunities for all students to succeed.' New Groningen Staff will continue to give their best to each student who walks into the school each day during the 2017-18 school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie L. Poll".

Laurie Poll

Principal

New Groningen Elementary