



School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter Indian Lake Elementary School

January 27, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Indian Lake 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 Dr. Sarah Bacalia, Principal, at 269-321-1400 for assistance.

[The AER](#) is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [Vicksburg Community Schools](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2022-23. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, or failed to exit ATS status in 2022-23. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In this case, no label is given, as is the case with Indian Lake Elementary.

Indian Lake utilizes the district assessments STAR Math and STAR Reading to assess the learning progress of our students. The tests are nationally normed and help guide the instruction and student supports each year. STAR Reading and STAR Math are administered three times a year. The data is reviewed after each assessment and educational supports are adjusted to meet the needs of all students. Our STAR Math and STAR Reading goals are:

- By June, 2025 the % of students at benchmark in STAR Reading BK-5th will increase to an average of at least 74%.
- By June, 2025 the % of students at benchmark or M-STEP Ready in STAR Math BK-5th will increase to an average of at least 77%.

To reach the rigor of the state assessment, M-STEP, our district proficiency level was raised in the area of math beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Overall, we see high proficiency rates

and growth. However, based on student achievement data in math and reading, we are particularly focused on 3rd and 4th grade levels as they performed slightly under the 74% Reading proficiency goal and 77% Math proficiency goal last year. We have adopted new core resources for ELA this year as well as a new math intervention resource. We continue to be strategic in ensuring students who need additional support receive evidence-based intervention programming with fidelity.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Process for assigning pupils to the school:

Elementary students are assigned to one of three school buildings based on geographical boundaries, to fully utilize the district’s teaching and facility resources. It is sometimes necessary to transfer some students from one attendance area to another. We attempt to assign Schools of Choice students to the closest building geographically, but it is first dependent upon availability.

Status of the School Improvement Plan:

Indian Lake Elementary utilized the state’s documentation format known as The School Improvement Framework to input significant data as it relates to the school’s improvement goals. Indian Lake Elementary’s school improvement goals are:

1. All students will be proficient in math.
2. All students will be proficient in reading.
3. All students will be proficient in writing.
4. All students will increase their social studies proficiency.
5. All students will increase their science proficiency.
6. All teachers at Vicksburg Schools will be proficient with instructional technology.
7. All students will demonstrate positive behavior.

Specialized Schools:

- Bulldog Beginnings - Bulldog Beginnings preschool focuses on school readiness skills in a fun, play-based format. Bulldog Beginnings is entirely FREE to families who meet the qualifications. This includes transportation, meals, snacks, parent education programs, and field trips.
- Hearing, Vision, and Occupational Therapy Consultation Services – These specialists support our students within the classroom setting.
- Social Work, Speech, and Occupational Therapy – These services are offered to all students.

Core Curriculum:

The area that has the most impact on student achievement is the Common Core State Standards, aligned with our curriculum and programming. Common Core State Standards are used in K-12 for English Language Arts and Math. The Cereal City Science Kits, our instructional resource for science in grades K-5, are aligned to the Michigan Science Standards, and the MC3 is used for Social Studies for grades K-5.

The Core Curriculum at Indian Lake Elementary can be viewed by contacting Dr. Sarah Bacalia, Principal of Indian Lake Elementary at 269-321-1400.

Aggregate Student Achievement Results for Local Competency Tests or Nationally Normed Achievement Tests:

2022-23 Indian Lake Elementary					2023-24 Indian Lake Elementary				
	At or Above	On Watch	Intervention	Urgent Intervention		At or Above	On Watch	Intervention	Urgent Intervention
STAR Early Literacy – Spring 2023					STAR Early Literacy – Spring 2024				
K	89%	11%	0%	0%	K	52%	12%	12%	24%
STAR Reading – Spring 2023					STAR Reading – Spring 2024				
1st	71%	4%	20%	4%	1st	84.6%	12.8%	2.6%	0%
2nd	66%	26%	6%	2%	2nd	73.4%	13.3%	6.7%	6.7%
3rd	81%	16%	0%	3%	3rd	48.9%	30.6%	10.2%	10.2%
4th	64%	19%	13%	4%	4th	70%	27.5%	0%	2.5%
5th	48%	36%	14%	2%	5th	60.8%	25.5%	3.9%	9.8%
STAR Math – Spring 2023					STAR Math – Spring 2024				
1st	85%	10%	4%	0%	1st	94.8%	5.1%	0%	0%
2nd	79%	15%	4%	2%	2nd	66.7%	22.9%	4.2%	6.3%
3rd	95%	5%	0%	0%	3rd	61.2%	30.6%	8.2%	0%
4th	75%	17%	4%	4%	4th	90.2%	4.9%	2.4%	2.4%
5th	77%	16%	5%	2%	5th	62.8%	23.5%	5.9%	7.8%

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Indian Lake Elementary has an enrollment of 280 students for the current school year. Our instructional staff primarily set up face-to-face conferences. Our attendance for conferences averaged 98% for the fall with teachers rescheduling with phone or Google Meets for those who were unable to attend their original scheduled time.

We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff, and our community in our efforts to create a positive, safe learning environment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sarah Bacalia

Dr. Sarah Bacalia
 Indian Lake Elementary School, Principal
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