

# Cass City Public Schools

## District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

August 15, 2013

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2012 - 2013 educational progress for the Cass City Schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws; however, our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Jeff Hartel, Superintendent, for help if you need assistance.

The District and School AER is available for review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.casscityschools.org](http://www.casscityschools.org) or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

The report contains the following information:

### **Student Assessment Data– Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), and Michigan's Alternative Assessment Program (MI-Access)**

- Five (5) year data results can be found on our school's website by clicking the **MI School Data**, choosing **Dashboard and Accountability Scorecard** on the left side of the page and choosing Tuscola County ISD/Cass City Public Schools.

### **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – Detail Data and Status**

Provides information from assessments, graduation and attendance rates and AYP status in relation to four criteria:

- The district must test 95% of students in total and in each required subgroup. **(Result: At least 95% of all students were tested in each subgroup)**
- The district must attain achievement goals in English language arts and mathematics or reduce the percentage of students in the non-proficient

category of achievement significantly ("safe harbor") annually. **(Result: CC Elementary maintained achievement goals in ELA and Math while reducing the percentage of students in the non-proficient category. CC Jr/Sr High School maintained achievement goals in ELA and Math but there was too large of a gap between our top 30% of students and our bottom 30% of students which caused our Jr/Sr High School to be labeled a FOCUS school for the 2013 – 2014 school year.)**

- The district must attain achievement goals for each subgroup that has at least 30 students in the group. **(Result: Our School Improvement Plan, both at the district level and school level lists achievement goals. They are monitored frequently and if students are in need of additional assistance help is readily available.)**
- The district must meet or exceed the other academic indicators set by the state: graduation rate for high schools and attendance rate for elementary and middle schools. **(Result: Graduation and attendance rates meet or exceed state standards.)**

#### **Teacher Quality Data**

- **(Result: All teaching staff at Cass City Elementary and Cass City Jr/Sr High School are fully accredited and are Highly Qualified for the classes they are teaching.)**

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

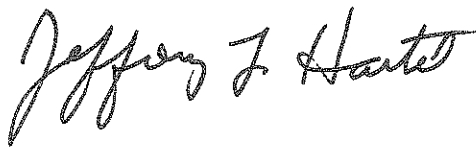
- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8. **(Result: No NAEP data is available since no national tests were taken this school year.)**
- Cannot be compared with MEAP results for grades 4 and 8 because there are no national standards. **(Result: Not applicable.)**

For 2012 – 2013 school year, Cass City Elementary was recognized as a **REWARD School** and Cass City JR/SR High School was identified as a **Focus School**. A thorough list of actions to be taken is available in the Jr/Sr High School AER along with a letter which was sent home prior to school beginning.

We are proud of the elementary school being identified as a REWARD school and believe the High School staff and administration will take all the steps necessary to close the gap between our bottom 30% and our top 30% on the 11<sup>th</sup> grade MME. Cass City Public Schools is proud of our students, staff, administration and community for supporting our efforts and pulling together to make our schools a

safe and engaging places to send their children. We are proud of the progress our district is making but will continue to look at all facets of improving instruction, curriculum and assessments. There is still much work to do and our dedicated staff and administration will make every effort to ensure a first class education for all students attending Cass City Public Schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey J. Hartel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

Jeff Hartel, Superintendent  
Cass City Public Schools