

Nate Plum, Interim Principal      nplum@millcreekpsa.com  
Jenny Pike, Administrative Assistant      jpike@millcreekpsa.com  
Holly Schlicker, Administrative Assistant      hschlicker@millcreekpsa.com



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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-24 educational progress for Mill Creek Academy. 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 Mr. Nate Plum for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website AER Report, 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 2023-24. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2023-24. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school has been given none of these labels.

**Principal Overview:**

Mill Creek Academy is a public school academy that is authorized by Elk Rapids Schools. Currently, there are approximately 235 children from Kindergarten through fifth grade. We also offer a tuition-based preschool program and a Great Start Readiness Preschool program (GSRP). The school employs 11 K-5 classroom teachers; 3 certified support teachers for art, music, and physical education, 2 certified special education/intervention teachers; and 5 certified support staff members. Through a partnership with the health department, we are able to offer a full-time social worker to support students and classrooms. Free and reduced lunch rates averaged approximately 38% over the last 2 years.

Mill Creek Academy relies heavily on a strong parent-teacher organization, positive community partnerships, and extensive volunteer support. Our teachers strive to challenge every child at his/her level through using student-centered learning and high levels of engagement. Mill Creek Academy values social and emotional learning as an important asset in becoming productive citizens and lifelong learners. Our students engage in a variety of extracurricular learning opportunities including Robotics, clubs, and athletics. Our students are also engaged in leadership opportunities such as the Student Council.

The state law requires that we also report additional information.

**Assigning Pupils to Our Building:** For more information about student transfers, please contact the superintendent's office at 231-264-8692.



**Status of the School Improvement Plan:** Mill Creek Academy takes seriously the school improvement planning process as identified by the Michigan Department of Education. Mill Creek’s School Improvement Plan aligns fully with Elk Rapids Schools’ [2024-2029 Strategic Plan](#). Elk Rapids Schools and Mill Creek Academy maintains several relevant committees that meet regularly to provide opportunities for staff and community collaboration. Here are our goals:

Goal 1: MCA will increase academic and SE growth within all student populations. *-Implement an aligned K-12 SEL program throughout the district.*

*-Continue to research, evaluate, implement, and strategically update curricular resources and best instructional practices.*

Goal 2: MCA will maintain a safe, inclusive, and responsive learning environment throughout the district.

*-Maintain a high level of safety and security for all stakeholders through proactive safety planning and targeted professional development.*

Goal 3: MCA will increase family and community involvement through effective communication and engagement opportunities.

*-Create opportunities for every parent to be engaged and involved.*

*-Increase engagement with community groups and organizations.*

Goal 4: MCA will ensure facilities are well maintained, safe, and support the needs of the community.

*-Create, prioritize and share a sequential facility needs plan for the district.*

Goal 5: MCA will retain and develop a high-quality staff.

*-Retain staff by advancing a culture of support, pride, and belonging for all ERS employees.*

*-Develop staff by creating a K-12 staff mentoring and coaching program.*

**Access of Core Curriculum and Description of Implementation:** The Michigan Common Core State Standards continue to be the driving force behind our curricular organization. Mill Creek’s [Curriculum Guide](#) map communicates both the horizontal and vertical alignment of our curriculum.

**Percentage of Students Represented By Parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences:**

|         | <u>Fall</u> | <u>Spring</u> |
|---------|-------------|---------------|
| 2024-25 | 99.4%       |               |
| 2023-24 | 96.4%       | 97.2%         |
| 2022-23 | 96%         | 96%           |

**Student Achievement Results:**

As required by the state of Michigan, over the last two years students in grades 3-5 take M-STEP in the curricular areas of math and language arts. Proficiency levels are reported as the following:



**2023-2024 M-STEP Proficiency**

| Grade         | Reading |      | Math    |       |
|---------------|---------|------|---------|-------|
|               | State % | MCE% | State % | MCE % |
| <b>Third</b>  | 39.6%   | 53%  | 43.4%   | 62%   |
| <b>Fourth</b> | 43.3%   | 69%  | 39.1%   | 46%   |
| <b>Fifth</b>  | 44%     | 55%  | 32.6%   | 45%   |

**2022-2023 M-STEP Proficiency**

| Grade         | Reading |      | Math    |       |
|---------------|---------|------|---------|-------|
|               | State % | MCE% | State % | MCE % |
| <b>Third</b>  | 41%     | 67%  | 43%     | 59%   |
| <b>Fourth</b> | 44%     | 55%  | 39%     | 41%   |
| <b>Fifth</b>  | 44%     | 69%  | 32%     | 60%   |

Mill Creek Academy strives to provide children with a supportive learning environment and dynamic educational experiences that enable them to achieve academic success, build character, and develop social-emotional skills. Our highly qualified, passionate, and dedicated staff members, in partnership with our parents and community members, seek to provide rigorous learning opportunities for all students to reach success. Combining academics with a strong sense of community, we work to help children become global citizens, problem solvers, and lifelong learners.

Sincerely,

*Nate Plum*

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