

# **Ross-Hill Academy of Math, Science & Technology**

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Dr. N. H. Williams, Principal/Superintendent

## **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

June, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the Ross-Hill 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 Gwendolyn Miller for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by clicking on the following link <https://goo.gl/MPdvjV> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

THE KEY CHALLENGES for Ross-Hill academy are student attendance and not improving the achievement of the bottom 30% of the students.

We are actively working to address these challenges by:

- Increase the number of students scoring in the proficient and advanced categories on state assessment by at least 10%
- Eliminate the number of students who scored in the not proficient category.
- Decrease the number of students who scored in the partially proficient categories by 30%.
- Develop strategies to improve student's attendance to the state's requirement of 90%.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### **1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Enrolling at Ross-Hill Academy State law requires students to enroll in the school where their parents or legal guardians reside unless enrolling under the open enrollment policy. Ross-Hill has an open enrollment policy. A parent or legal guardian must enroll new students. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of

the following: 1. a birth certificate or similar document, 2. Court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if necessary), 3. Proof of residency and 4. Proof of immunization.

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

Ross-Hill's district and school revised its School Improvement Plan mandated by the state with goals and objectives to meet the needs of the students to close the achievement gap and increase student achievement.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

This does not apply to Ross-Hill Academy. The theme of the school is Science, Math and Technology.

4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

The teachers at Ross-Hill Academy created a school curriculum that is aligned with the Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE's) and the Common Core Standards. The curriculum is available at the school in the office. The process for aligning the curriculum started with vertical alignment from K-8 that consisted of specific objectives that build one upon another for mastery of prerequisites and to avoid gaps in learning. The curriculum includes horizontal alignment that consisted of specific pacing guides and scope and sequence guides for each grade and subject. The alignments follow the same structure, which is: 1. Standard Alignment, 2. Pacing Guide and 3. Standard Assessments Instruction: Instruction is provided by highly qualified and certified teachers, paraprofessionals and a resource teacher. The teaching experience of the teachers is from 5 – 30+ years. The teaching degrees of the teachers are bachelors, masters, masters + 30 and PhD. III Differentiated Instruction occurs in the classrooms with para-professionals and foster grandparents providing instruction under the direction of the teachers to students who are experiencing learning programs. The resource teacher provides instruction to the special needs students. The class size is small so that the teachers are able to provide individualized instruction to the students who are struggling. In addition, after school tutoring and summer school is provided for the academically challenged students. Ross-Hill Academy operates as a Professional Learning Community. The teachers meet weekly to discuss curriculum and data. The team uses knowledge of the curriculum and data to make decisions and adjustments in curriculum and teaching and learning.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS:

Ross-Hill's student achievement results can view by clicking on the following link:

<https://goo.gl/MPdvjV>

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Ross-Hill Academy has three Parent/Teacher Conferences a year. At least 60% of the parents attend each conference.

The administrators, teachers, support staff, and other stakeholders continue to put every effort to provide its students with a high quality of education. Therefore, Ross Hill would like to thank its parents for entrusting their child(ren)'s education with us and as we continue to put forth every effort to live up to your expectations we encourage you to continue working with us in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Nellie Williams  
Superintendent

District Board Members:  
Michelle McKelvie  
Frank Raines  
Crystal Dennis