

# Yale Public Schools



198 School Drive - Yale, Michigan 48097

Phone: 810-387-3231 - Fax 810-387-4418

**Kenneth Nicholl**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

**Board of Education**

President – Mrs. Amanda Zabor

Vice-President – Mr. Terry Hoist

Secretary – Mr. Kevin Sokacz

Treasurer – Mr. Ron Charney

Trustee – Mrs. Dena French

Trustee – Mr. Pete Bullard

Trustee – Mrs. Veronica Monaco

## Avoca Elementary School 2013-14 Annual Report

August 15, 2014

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2013-2014 educational progress for the Avoca 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 Therese Damman for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.yale.k12.mi.us](http://www.yale.k12.mi.us) or you may review a copy in our main office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Our school has been identified as a Focus school.

### **Avoca Plan for School Improvement:**

Avoca Elementary School's greatest achievement challenges are our 5<sup>th</sup> grade mathematic scores and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade writing scores. A new math series is being implemented for the 2014-2015 school year in order to help our overall math scores. New writing units, grade level meetings and a timed writing block at each grade level are being implemented to assist in improving Avoca's writing scores.

### **More Avoca Elementary School Information:**

In addition to the facts and figures you will find in the Annual Report, we want to share the following information with you:

### **Pupil assignment process — 2013–14\*:**

Students are located as follows: Kindergarten through Grade 5 is located at Yale, Avoca or Farrell-Emmett elementary schools. A 3 and 4-year-old preschool is also located at each elementary school. The District operates one junior high school building and one high school building with an alternative education program housed in a wing of the building.

The Yale Public School District and the St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) have a policy and process in place for non-district residents' school of choice requests. Copies of this policy and procedures are available at the principal's office or through the central office.

\* This information was the same in the 2012–13 school year.

### **School Improvement Plan status — 2013-14**

We have completed the 2014 School Improvement Plan. The plan is a working document that the staff continually updates as needed. Changes were put in place by the staff to ensure a state-projected increase in all subject areas of the state assessment and various district assessments.

Our goals include increasing student scaled scores as well as increasing teacher capacity to instruct and assess student achievement in the areas of Reading, Math, Writing, Science and Social Studies.

### **Core curriculum — 2013-14**

Core Curriculum and Curriculum Maps, as well as Pacing Guides, may be accessed at each of our school buildings. Additionally, all K-12 information may be found in the office of the Director of Title, Instruction and Personnel, housed at Central Office. Our curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards and represents one of the broadest and most comprehensive changes as it relates to educational reform.

- ELA curriculum aligned to state standards for all classes
- Math curriculum aligned to CCSS
- Developing assessment strategies for each curricular objective
- Aligning each objectives to one of the Michigan Department of Career Development's six Career Pathways
- Providing staff with professional development on best practices in all curricular Areas

The end product of this curriculum review process is a working document that will assist teachers in lesson planning and provide assurances that the district has a curriculum that is aligned, taught and tested. Questions about the Yale curriculum may be addressed to Principal Therese Damman at (810) 324-2660 or Joseph Haynes Director of Title, Instruction and Personnel, at (810) 387-3231.

### **Parent-teacher conference rate:**

2013–14 — 96%

2012–13 — 99%

The staff and students work hard everyday, in partnership with our parents, to prepare for student success. We will continue to use State test results as well as other resources of information to monitor learning, adjust instruction and make improvements to student achievement.

Avoca Elementary is a positive learning environment, staffed with dedicated, caring people who make every effort to attain academic and social successes for all students.

Sincerely,

Therese Damman  
Principal, Avoca Elementary School