



# ROYAL OAK SCHOOLS

A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE

**Board of Education**  
800 DeVillen Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48073-2499  
(248) 435-8400  
FAX (248) 435-6170

## Upton Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 2024

Dear Upton Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Upton 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 the principal, John Grzywack, at 248-549-4968 for assistance.

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

For the 2022-23 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 2022-23. 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 or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2022-23. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was not given one of these labels.

The key challenge that our community faces is closing achievement gaps by strengthening our core instruction to meet the needs of all students. Our data is greatly impacted due to student absences. Instruction is interrupted when students do not attend school as they miss important concepts and fall behind students who regularly attend. We also need to focus on teaching stamina and persistence to our students. When taking standardized assessments, some students do not take adequate time to perform well and either rush through the test or make guesses when answering questions. We need to make sure our students have the tools to

persevere when questions are challenging. We will continue to track our achievement data to ensure that we are providing the necessary support for all students to be successful and growing the culture for learning.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:** Our students come to us by virtue of living within the boundaries of Royal Oak Schools. Also, our district opens our enrollment to school-of-choice students in grade levels DK-3, who may remain in our school system for the remainder of their academic career.
2. **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:** Our School's Improvement Team is involved in a comprehensive school improvement process that will address student learning. Our Improvement plan is aligned with federal and state mandates. During the 2022-23 school year staff focused on goals in the areas of english language arts, math, social studies, and science. These goals are based on trend analysis and a review of current assessments.
3. **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.** Royal Oak's core curriculum can be accessed [here](#). Royal Oak develops/adopts curriculum through a regular review process led by the curriculum leadership teams led by content area specialists.
4. **THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS:** Aggregate student achievement results can be found at [Mischooldata.org](https://www.mischooldata.org)
5. **IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:** 92% of our students were represented by parents at school-sponsored parent teacher conferences.

Upton Elementary is committed to maintaining its reputation for strong academic programs and supporting ALL students on their journey towards excellence. We appreciate all you do and look forward to working with you to help us to meet our mission of preparing students to lead in a rapidly changing world, empowering them to persevere through challenges, and thinking critically with empathy, compassion and integrity.

Sincerely,

John Grzywack  
Principal



# ROYAL OAK SCHOOLS

A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE

**Board of Education**

800 DeVillen Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48073-2499  
(248) 435-8400  
FAX (248) 435-6170  
Upton Elementary