



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories

February 13, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for West Middle 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 Mrs. Abby Kanitz (Principal) for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: [West Middle School's Annual 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 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 2022-2023. 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 2022-2023. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Our school was given no label.

Byron Center West Middle School is the only middle school in Byron Center Public Schools. It serves approximately 740 students in grades 7-8 who mostly reside within the growing Byron Center community. Students at Byron Center West Middle School not only learn academic skills to reach their fullest potential, but are also instilled with the importance of being respectful, responsible, and safe citizens.

Byron Center West Middle School continues to hold academics in high regard. All students at West Middle School are expected to show growth in all subject areas. Collectively, Byron Center West Middle School continues to implement highly effective instructional methods in order to increase proficiency levels. The Professional Learning Community process (PLCs) is West Middle School's approach to addressing the challenge of improving proficiency for all students. Focusing on and answering the four questions that drive PLCs are pivotal to our success. The four questions that we use to drive our decisions are below.

- What do we expect our students to learn?
- How will we know they are learning?
- How will we respond when they don't learn?
- How will we respond if they already know it?

By setting attainable goals and expectations, using common assessments aligned to our state standards, having a sound Response to Intervention (RtI) program and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) in place, and Progress Monitoring, Byron Center West Middle School continues to rise to the top of the county and state in academics. Key challenges are identified and addressed through this process.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School:

Byron Center West Middle School students are Byron Center students in grades 7-8. Students are assigned to the school by residing in the attendance areas defined by the district.

School Improvement Plan:

Our School Improvement team meets regularly to discuss all components and facets of our building school improvement plan. Surveys to all stakeholders are sent out to gather both qualitative and quantitative data to ensure all voices are heard in order to build a plan for success. West Middle School's current school improvement plan is up-to-date and constantly being reviewed in order to ensure student and building success.

Growth was made in the school improvement goal areas (all students will be proficient in ELA, Math, Social Studies, and Science and data will show social-emotional growth). Proficiency levels in state testing continue to be among the highest in the area. Students and parents provided feedback that their child(ren) feel safe and are able to successfully learn at WMS.

Curriculum and Alignment:

Byron Center West Middle School has aligned curriculum in all content areas with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Benchmarks can be found on the Michigan Department of Education website: [Michigan Academic Standards](#). Our assessments and report cards are also aligned with the curriculum. Classroom instruction is congruent with the curriculum expectations and is monitored constantly by building principals and academic support personnel. Byron Center West Middle School students are Byron Center 7th and 8th graders.

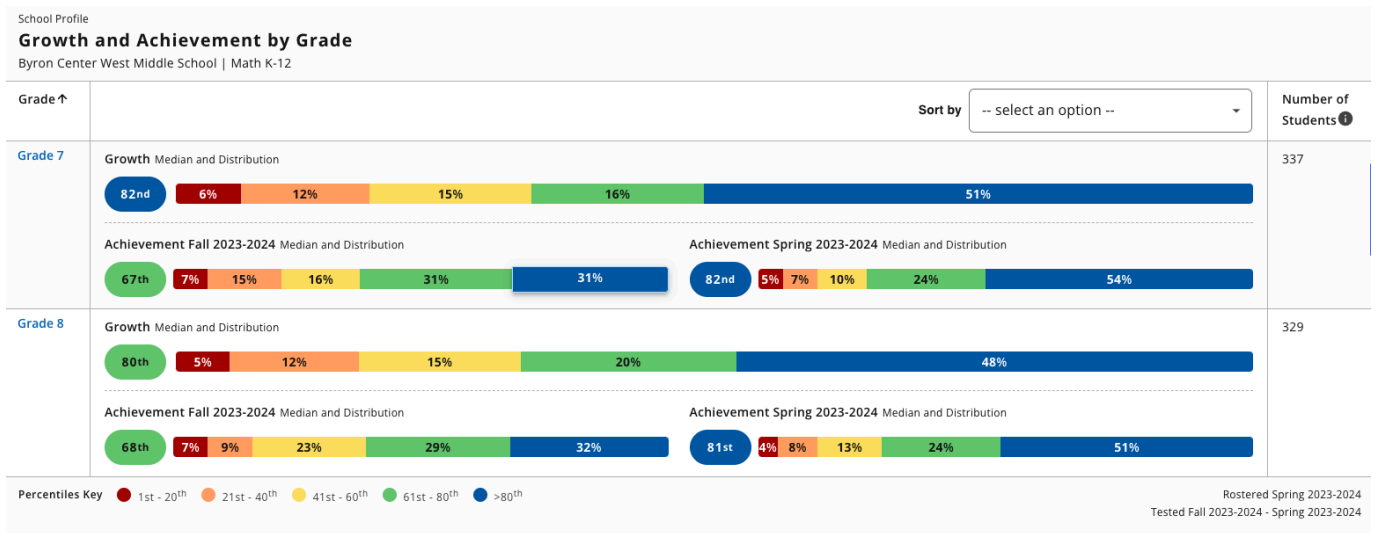
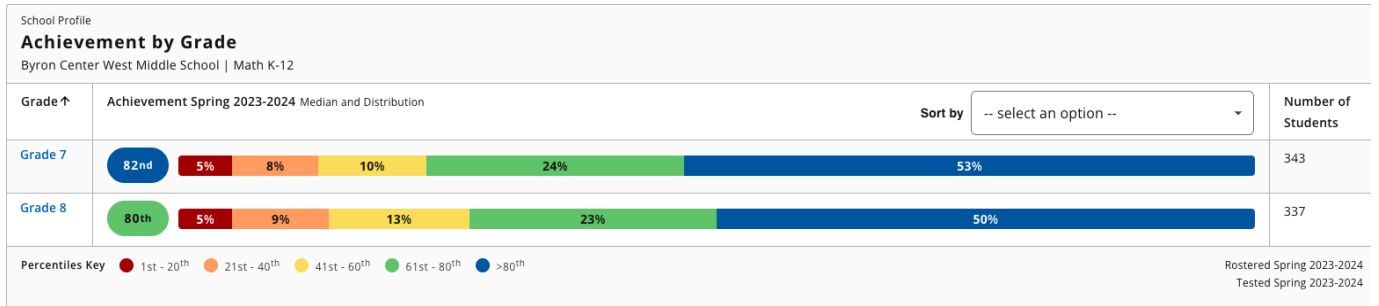
Each content area at the middle school level meets regularly to study curriculum issues and to ensure that all students have common, equitable curricular experiences. A gap analysis is conducted annually with the M-STEP, MAP, and PSAT testing information, and the curriculum is examined for areas of strength and weakness. After this audit, necessary adjustments are made.

Common assessments with common scoring rubrics, a common curriculum, common core materials, and a common report card help us work toward our goal of equity. In addition, principals and other leaders in the school have common instructional expectations that are used to guide teacher evaluation. Professional development and constant communication between general education and special education staff also facilitate this process. We are committed to all of our students having multiple opportunities to learn and be successful in the core curriculum.

Aggregate Student Achievement Results

Student results are displayed below. Utilizing this data and making decisions based off of the data allow for West Middle School students to thrive. Below are achievement and projection tables/charts for all 7th and 8th grade students in the subject areas of reading and math.

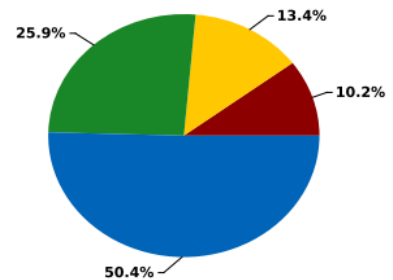
Math



Projected to: **Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress** taken in **spring**.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/michigan-linking-study/>

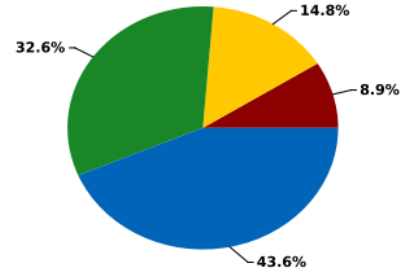
Grade	Student Count	Not Proficient		Partially Proficient		Proficient		Advanced	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
7	343	35	10.2%	46	13.4%	89	25.9%	173	50.4%
Total	343	35	10.2%	46	13.4%	89	25.9%	173	50.4%



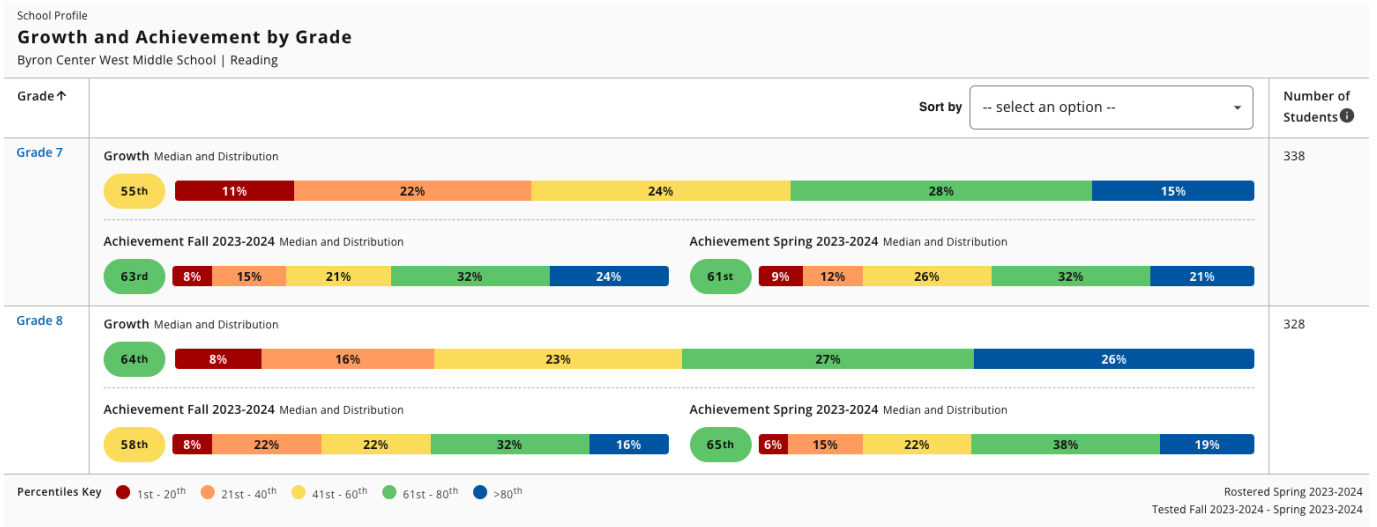
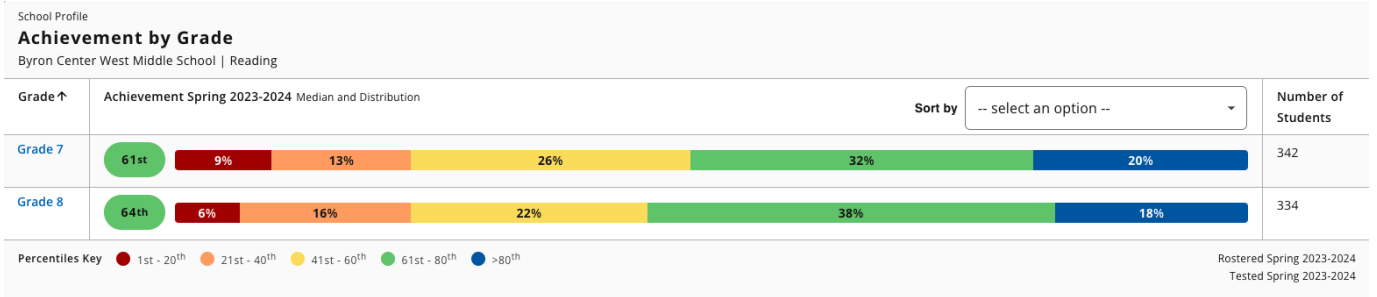
Projected to: PSAT taken in spring.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/michigan-linking-study/>

Grade	Student Count	Not Proficient		Partially Proficient		Proficient		Advanced	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
8	337	30	8.9%	50	14.8%	110	32.6%	147	43.6%
Total	337	30	8.9%	50	14.8%	110	32.6%	147	43.6%



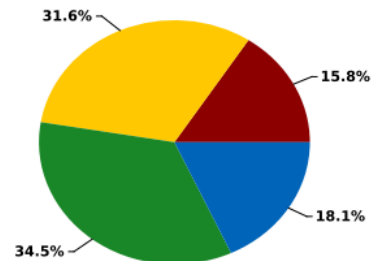
ELA



Projected to: Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress taken in spring.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/michigan-linking-study/>

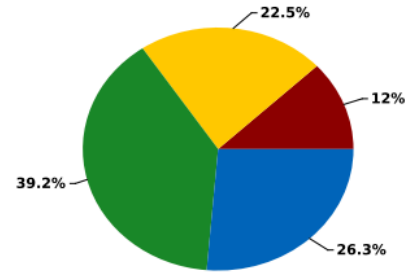
Grade	Student Count	Not Proficient		Partially Proficient		Proficient		Advanced	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
7	342	54	15.8%	108	31.6%	118	34.5%	62	18.1%
Total	342	54	15.8%	108	31.6%	118	34.5%	62	18.1%



Projected to: PSAT taken in spring.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/michigan-linking-study/>

Grade	Student Count	Not Proficient		Partially Proficient		Proficient		Advanced	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
8	334	40	12.0%	75	22.5%	131	39.2%	88	26.3%
Total	334	40	12.0%	75	22.5%	131	39.2%	88	26.3%



To access a PDF download of the building AER Combined Report, please click [here](#).

Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance

Byron Center West Middle School holds Parent/Teacher Conferences in October and March. Out of 728 students, face-to-face meetings with parents, phone calls, electronic communication, letters regarding academics and/or behaviors were sent home to 100% of parents/guardians. Parents and guardians have full access to their son/daughter's grades through an online portal for full transparency of academics.

Closing

Byron Center Public Schools Mission Statement states "Helping Students Build Success Stories." At Byron Center West Middle School, we understand that this is an integral part of an adolescent's life and that we can play an important role in this preparation and pursuit of success. By continuing to provide a balanced academic and social/emotional curriculum, making learning relevant and rigorous, and using research-based instructional strategies in the classroom, West Middle School will look to continue to prepare each and every student for success in all of their endeavors.

Sincerely,

Abby Kanitz
West Middle School Principal