



300 River Place, Suite 3600 | Detroit, MI 48207 | (313) 263-9800  
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## **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

### **Pershing High School**

Mrs. Shirley E. Brown, Principal

April 21, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2014-2015 educational progress for **Pershing High 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 **Shirley Brown** for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://icansoar.org> 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 "PRIORITY" SCHOOL."

Key challenges identified for Pershing include the content areas of Math, Science, Social Studies, and Writing. Ensuring at least 95% of students enrolled has also been an area needing improvement. In order to improve student achievement, Pershing High School has and is continuing to implement a variety of initiatives.



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School initiatives include:

- During and after school tutoring
- Paraprofessional support in classrooms
- Additional counseling and mental health services
- Teacher interventionists
- Individualized professional development for educators and leaders based on research based interventions to support achievement
- Institute for Student Achievement teacher coaching
- Parent and community workshops and events to build community support
- Credit recovery options
- Use of student data from state and district tests to identify potential strategies that can help students meet Career and College ready standards.
- Increased instructional time in English Language Arts
- Increased teacher collaboration time to provide both weekly and monthly opportunities to develop and implement strategies to support individual students.
- Implementation of a multi-tiered system of support that includes scaffold instruction for students with disabilities and English Language Learners
- Formation of a School Leadership Team to develop and implement new strategies for instruction and improved teaching.
- Performance series was provided to monitor and assess students' level of competency.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. All students meeting the requirements for ninth grade are eligible to enroll at Pershing High School. Every effort is made to provide each student with an educational program that will accelerate academic achievement.
2. The Pershing has completed year three of implementation of the School Improvement Plan under the EAA. The School Improvement Team (SIT) has met and will continue to meet on at least on a monthly basis to implement and monitor the School Improvement Plan. The SIT consists of various school stakeholder groups including parents, students, vendors, community members, and staff members. Though



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subject area goals have not been met, Pershing’s SIT continues to review and monitor the data and make necessary adjustments to the plan each year.

3. Pershing is implementing a school reform model called ISA (Institute for Student Achievement), which is an inquiry-based model.
4. All core courses are aligned with the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Common Core State Standards. Students must earn credit in the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements to be eligible to graduate. Individuals interested in accessing a copy of the core curriculum may do so by contacting the main office.
5. According to the NWEA Nationally normed assessment, Pershing High School has an average growth of -0.6 points in Language, 2.1 points in Math, and 4.6 points in Reading. The ninth grade grew in Math (1.2 points) and in Reading (2.4 points), but dropped in Language (-1.5 points). The tenth grade grew in all areas, the most in Reading (6.9 points), Math (3.1 points) and Language (0.1 points). Compared to high schools in the district, Pershing grew third highest in Reading, second lowest in language, and in the middle for Math.

Pershing **exceeded the expected** growth in tenth grade Reading and Math. Pershing did not meet the expected growth in ninth grade Reading, Math, and Language, and tenth grade Language. Tenth grade Reading is the largest growth area with 4.2 points above expected growth. Ninth grade Language fell short of expected growth by 3.8 points.

Pershing	Reading		Math		Language	
	Projected	Observed	Projected	Observed	Projected	Observed
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2.6	2.4	2.3	1.2	2.3	-1.5
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2.7	6.9	2.0	3.1	2.2	0.4



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If you have questions about your student's Title I school, please call your student's school at 313-866-7700 or go to <http://icansoar.org/pershing/> on the Web for more information. We are looking forward to a year of educational success and continuous improvement for all of our students. Please continue to work with us to make sure that we achieve success for each student.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shirley E. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

Mrs. Shirley E. Brown, Principal  
Principal