

# KALEVA NORMAN DICKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Brethren, MI 49619  
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*Small School – Big Family*

Jakob Veith, Superintendent  
Cheryl Smith, K – 12 Principal  
Jen Schmidt, Dean of Students  
Jason Kemler, Athletic Director

February 1, 2022

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-22 educational progress for Brethren 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 K-12 Principal, Cheryl Smith for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [Michigan School Data Hub](#) (SEE Q.7 AND Q.8 OF THE 2021-22 AER FAQ DOCUMENT FOR DIRECTIONS), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2021-22 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 2018-19. 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 2017-18. 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 2016-17. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

\*\*\*Our school has not been given any of these labels.

Brethren High School is a small school servicing the communities of Brethren, Wellston, Kaleva, and Irons, along with other small communities. It is a district covering over 350 square miles with a free and reduced lunch rate near 70%. When identifying challenges that the school faces, high absenteeism continues to be an issue that the school and district faces. The State sets a goal of a 90% attendance rate, and Brethren High School had a rate of 85.3%. Due to this low average, the school has hired a School Success coordinator that works with the Truancy Liaison from the Manistee County Sheriff's Department to notify families when their child is absent 5, 10, and 15

days or more in a semester. When a student reaches 10 or more unexcused absences in a semester, legal action may occur. Also, students with high absenteeism are matched with a staff member, and they meet to discuss the challenges the student faces when trying to get to school. With these meetings, student and staff members build a relationship and students become more aware of the importance of good attendance. In addition, teaching staff is working closely with students who may be experiencing a covid gap in learning to identify areas of focus within each content area.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL Brethren HS follows the Michigan Merit Curriculum and places students into grade levels based on age and grade level performance.

1. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN Brethren HS completes all of the requirements of the School Improvement process, and has a vision for progress that extends 3-5 years.
2. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL Brethren HS does not have any specialized schools. The high school consists of all students in 9th and 12th grade. Many students take advantage of Career Technical Classes at the Career Center, in Cadillac, and many take advantage of Dual Enrollment opportunities with West Shore Community College.
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 Brethren High School follows the requirements governed by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), and the Common Core State Curriculum. Those interested in viewing the requirements established by MDE and the Common Core can get more information by going to [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_64839\\_65510---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html). Also, information can be found at <http://knd.manistee.org/>.
4. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS
  - a. NWEA 2021 Results

MATH			READING		
GRADE LEVEL	KND	NATIONAL	GRADE LEVEL	KND	NATIONAL
9	224.1	230.0	9	221.5	221.4
10	220.2	232.4	10	220.5	223.5

b. SAT Results 2020-2021

EVIDENCE-BASED READING & WRITING			
FALL 2020		SPRING 2021	
DISTRICT	STATE	DISTRICT	STATE
465	517	433	502

MATH			
FALL 2020		SPRING 2021	
DISTRICT	STATE	DISTRICT	STATE
451	502	408	492

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

In the 2020-2021 school year, 19.4% (34) of students were represented by their parents at parent teacher conferences.

6. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

a. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

**2019-2020 (17@ 11%)      2020-2021 (13@ 7.3%)**

b. THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)

**19-20 (0)      2020-2021 (0)**

c. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)

**19-20 (0)      2020-2021 (0)**

d. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT

In 2019-2020, 16 students (94%) of dually enrolled students earned college credit.

In 2020-2021, 11 students (85%) of dually enrolled students earned college credit.

Thank you to the teachers, staff, parents, and most importantly, the students for making Brethren High School a great place to learn and explore. When we all work together, our students can be very successful and we are truly a "Small School-Big Family."  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl Smith". The signature is written in a dark ink on a light-colored background.

Cheryl Smith  
KND Elementary Principal