



# Kalkaska Public Schools

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*Laura Gehman, Principal  
Rapid City Elementary*

January 15, 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 Rapid City 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 Laura Gehman for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [Kalkaska Public Schools](#) 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 2023-24. 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 2021-22. 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 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Rapid City Elementary has not been given one of these labels.

Key academic challenges at Rapid City Elementary continue to be increasing student achievement and closing the achievement gap in ELA and math. To address these challenges, we are continuing our use of engagement strategies and formative assessments across all content areas. These strategies ensure that every student is participating and the assessment techniques allow teachers to quickly check if all students have understood the content and mastered the necessary skills to continue. This year we are focusing our teacher professional development on formative assessments and math fact fluency. For students who need additional support in math, we use Delta Math, an online screening and remediation program as part of our MTSS process. Remediation lessons, in small group format, are offered to students based on this data. To address the area of ELA, students' independent reading levels and comprehension skills are measured by NWEA and aimswebPlus benchmark testing that is given in the fall, winter and spring. Students who need additional support receive focused, explicit instruction to remediate any skill gaps they may have.



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State law requires that we also report the following information.

1. Rapid City Elementary School (RCE) is a small, K - 5th grade building with approximately 80 students in 2023/24. RCE is part of the Kalkaska Public Schools district. Students living within the RCE building boundary, as determined by Kalkaska Public Schools, are assigned to this school.

2. STATUS OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: Each year our District School Improvement Committee reviews student achievement, goals, and strategies. The Building School Improvement Committee reviews the Self-Assessment, School Data Profile, and works through the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process, along with student achievement data, goals and strategies. District documents are located on the district website, [www.kpschools.com](http://www.kpschools.com). Rapid City Elementary updates the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process annually.

3. RCE is a K - 5th grade building. We do not have a specialized elementary building.

4. KPS curriculum documents can be found on the Kalkaska Public Schools website [Kalkaska Public Schools](http://www.kpschools.com). RCE follows the Common Core State Standards for ELA and Math, the Michigan K-12 Standards for science and the Michigan K-12 Standards for social studies.

5. MSTEP results from 2023 are included in the Annual Report. A summary of results can be located on the district website or at [MI School Data](#)

6. 81 students, which was 84% of our students, were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences in Fall, 2023. Parents/guardians who did not physically attend conferences were offered a virtual or phone conference.

The staff at Rapid City Elementary is proud of the educational opportunities we provide for our students. We will continue our school improvement efforts to increase student achievement in Kalkaska Public Schools. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.

Sincerely,

Laura Gehman  
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