PONTIAC ACADEMY

for EXCELLENCE

196 Cesar E Chavez Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 745-9420
pontiacacademy.org

Dr. James Spruill
Superintendent

District Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

Monday March 13, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the Pontiac Academy for Excellence School District and our schools. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Karen Pond for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.pontiacacademy.org, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

Student Assessment Data – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

Accountability Scorecard – Detail Data and Status
The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability scorecard status.

Teacher Qualification Data
- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)
- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

PONTIAC ACADEMY
for EXCELLENCE

196 Cesar E Chavez Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 745-9420
pontiacacademy.org

Dr. James Spruill
Superintendent

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Pontiac Academy for Excellence Elementary School	Priority School	• Ongoing/frequent data meetings with grade-levels/department to ensure the use of data to inform instruction and decision making • Updated and revised Mutli-tiered System of Support (MTSS), including the use of Renaissance Learning package • Restructuring of organization, including collaboration with a turnaround company • Capturing Kids Hearts and Restorative Practices training for building positive relationships • Creation of curriculum maps and pacing guides to reflect Common Core State Standards
Pontiac Academy for Excellence Middle School	Priority School	• Ongoing/frequent data meetings with grade-levels/department to ensure the use of data to inform instruction and decision making • Updated and revised Mutli-tiered System of Support (MTSS), including the use of Renaissance Learning package • Restructuring of organization, including collaboration with a turnaround company • Capturing Kids Hearts and Restorative Practices training for building positive relationships • Creation of curriculum maps and pacing guides to reflect Common Core State Standards

PONTIAC ACADEMY
for EXCELLENCE

196 Cesar E Chavez Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 745-9420
pontiacacademy.org

Dr. James Spruill
Superintendent

Pontiac Academy for Excellence High School	Priority School	• Ongoing/frequent data meetings with grade-levels/department to ensure the use of data to inform instruction and decision making • Updated and revised Mutli-tiered System of Support (MTSS), including the use of Renaissance Learning package • Restructuring of organization, including collaboration with a turnaround company • Capturing Kids Hearts and Restorative Practices training for building positive relationships • Creation of curriculum maps and pacing guides to reflect Common Core State Standards

I want to take this time to congratulate and celebrate the entire Pontiac Academy for Excellence community for not having any of our schools (Elementary, Middle and High School) listed among the bottom 5% of schools in the state. This is a truly significant and wonderful achievement and a testament to all of the hard work, dedication and competence of the staff, administration, parents – and most of all, the students. We are well on our way toward making the Pontiac Academy for Excellence district one of the top districts in the state. The journey towards 1.5 years worth of growth continues. We will continue to use data analysis for each and every student to create a personalized academic plan which will catch our students up and push them ahead academically. Also, we will fully embrace Restorative Practices to create a community founded on positive and supportive relationships. Parents, we need your assistance in our efforts so please attend our monthly parental meetings, volunteer in a classroom or simply attend a board meeting to stay informed and abreast of the wonderful things happening in the district. Thank you again for partnering with us as we continue our journey toward excellence.

Sincerely,
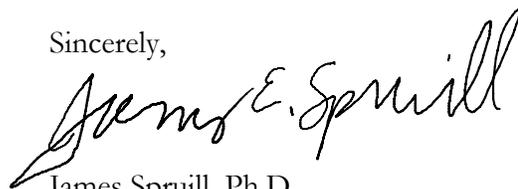
James Spruill, Ph.D.
CAO/Superintendent