



## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 14, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for Flex High School of Michigan. 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 Michael Springs for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site, <https://bit.ly/39wKKEG>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. 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.

Flex High School of Michigan services those students who were not successful in a traditional school. That being said, many of our students come in over-age and credit deficient. In addition, the school just began its educational operations in the 2018-2019 school year. As a result, we do not have two years' worth of data in order to show progress on the state assessments. Despite the lack of testing data, we are implementing some intervention strategies to help build our students' academic skills. We are developing a tiered-curriculum in which the curriculum is written at a level more in line with our students' reading skills. In addition, we are hiring a literacy teacher and implementing Read 180 to help our students develop as readers and learners. The development and implementation of these strategies will help our students move toward proficiency on the state assessments.

### PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Flex High School of Michigan is a school-of-choice. We are a public school academy offering enrollment to any high school student between the ages of 14-22 (to age 26 if a student has an IEP). We enroll all year, so when a student makes the decision to enroll, we can provide services almost immediately. If the school reaches student capacity, then applications will be put on a wait list and students will be admitted in the order in which the applications come in. Also, if needed, the school will hold an admissions lottery each summer for incoming fall students. The school has not had to hold a lottery yet.

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## **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

We are in year 3 of our 3-5 year school improvement plan. Last year we gathered our baseline data in which to construct our goals. We will hopefully meet those goals and show improvement in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. We engage in the continuous improvement framework in order to reflect and refine our practices to reach our achievement goals.

## **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

Flex High School of Michigan is an alternative charter high school authorized by Central Michigan University. The school serves those students who are between the ages of 14 and 22. The educational program provides a student-centered environment in which all students are held to high academic and behavioral standards. Students work in collaborative relationships with teachers, administrators and peers. The Academy delivers the program through a personalized learning approach to education - one-on-one instruction. Students are enrolled in no more than two courses at a time and are empowered to embrace the flexible weekly schedule. The Academy strives to develop students who are responsible for time spent at school and outside school, at work or home, to become competent, self-motivated, life-long learners. To accomplish this, the Academy emphasizes increased parental involvement, more one-on-one teacher and student interaction, attention to differences in learning styles, student-driven participation in developing the learning process, technology access, and varied learning environments.

## **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**

The core curriculum for Flex High School of Michigan can be found in the form of curriculum maps at the school. Each core content area class has a curriculum map that outlines the major themes, subjects, and skills developed throughout the class. All of the classes are fully aligned to the Michigan Merit Curriculum. We have a curriculum team that reviews and updates the curriculum as changes are made within the Michigan Department of Education. This ensures that the classes are up-to-date, as well as rigorous and engaging.

## **THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS**

Students at Flex High School of Michigan take the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests in mathematics and reading. Ideally, students take each test 3 times per year: fall, winter, and spring. The goal is to see where the students start, and then measure their progress. These are adaptive tests that are nationally normed. Based on these tests, students at Flex High School of Michigan average a 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level and a 4<sup>th</sup> grade math level. Flex High School of Michigan has a relatively small student

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body, so sharing individual results would violate student privacy. The generalized results do reinforce the need for additional intervention programs to address the student needs in the areas of math and reading. As we continue to enroll more students, we will be able to show progress at a higher level.

### **IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

We did not have formal parent-teacher conferences last year, so the data is not available. Additionally, many of our students are over the age of 18 and living independently, so they act on their own behalf. However, we do have an open-door policy. Parents can meet with their child's teacher any time they walk through the door. One of the tenets of the school is parent communication, so teachers are calling parents on a consistent basis. If parents have any concerns, they can voice them then. We understand a strong parental partnership fosters student achievement. We want to continue that partnership and keep the doors of communication open.

### **DUAL ENROLLMENT/COLLEGE CREDIT**

We did not have any students participate in any dual enrollment programs, enroll in AP courses, or earn any college credits while enrolled in Flex High School of Michigan for the 2018-2019 school year.

### **CONCLUSION**

The 2019-2020 school year was the second year of operation for Flex High School of Michigan. We had a strong enrollment throughout the year that made it possible to increase our staff and provide personalized learning opportunities for our students. Additionally, we moved to a new building that gives us the space to fully-implement our programs. Even as the pandemic closed our doors for in-person learning, we were able to evolve and adapt in order to move our students forward. As we move into a new year, we will continue to utilize data to drive instruction and offer more interventions that will equip our students to be successful both in and out of school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Springs", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Michael Springs  
Principal