



September 1, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for the W-A-Y West Academy 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 the W-A-Y Academy West Campus Director for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting, or you <https://goo.gl/AwFKmH> 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.

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 label is given.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Student Assessment Data – W-A-Y works diligently to ensure that all our students are college and career ready. Achievement data indicates that mathematics as well as science provides the greatest challenge with 100% of our students scoring in the not proficient level on the 2016 Michigan Merit Examination. As a result, W-A-Y staff members are receiving intensive professional development to ensure that teachers understand the rigorous requirements of the Michigan Common Core State curriculum for the various subjects including math and English language arts. In addition, students are receiving targeted differentiated instruction in mathematics to accelerate achievement and close the achievement gap.

M - Step Scores (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress): Our 8th graders scored below grade level in mathematics with 100% of our researchers scoring not proficient. In English Language Arts 16% of our researchers scored partially proficient. Our seventh as well as eighth graders are displaying some deficits in science with 100% a of our researchers scoring not proficient. Our eleventh graders were 100% not proficient in science and social studies. As communicated in the aforementioned statement, we are making strides to improve our students' levels of proficiency. For example, during the 2014-2016 school year

we selected a cohort of students to measure their growth and development who were administered the Scholastic Achievement and Pre-scholastic Aptitude Test. Our findings indicated that 49 percent of our students met or exceeded the goal and 22 percent of them are within one or two percentage points of meeting or exceeding the goal. In reading, our cohort ninth and tenth grade students out performed our non-cohort students. Yet, they achieved the median score or slightly below the college readiness targets. In comparison, in mathematics our ninth and tenth graders scored below the college readiness targets.

According to MI Dashboard: Our four year graduation rate is 8.33 percent. Our drop out rate is 38.89 percent and we are graduating 18.2 percent of our students. We are implementing comprehensive strategies to enhance our students in every category. These interventions are being measured on a quarterly basis.

Teacher Qualification Data

- All of our teachers received an effective rating.
- All of our teachers are highly qualified in their subject matter areas.
- All of our instructors are making an concerted effort to meet our students where they are with a meaningful curriculum.
- All of our instructors received their certifications from four-year accredited universities.

W-A-Y West Academy is committed to preparing our graduates to be well-rounded, educated, and qualified individuals who have demonstrated competence across the core curriculum. Our graduates will have demonstrated the skills necessary to secure immediate employment, matriculation into an institution of higher learning, or the military. They will be cognizant of the importance of being lifelong learners, and will learn in a clean, safe, and welcoming environment.

Our curriculum can be accessed on our school website at www.wayprogram.net. The curriculum is based on the Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, and Michigan Curriculum Framework standards. Project-Based Learning is the vehicle through which students deeply explore concepts and skills embedded in the standards towards accumulating course credit. Projects are designed by Highly-Qualified teachers that encompass all of the state and national standards. In addition to these projects, students have the ability to co-create standards focused projects in collaboration with teachers. Constructivist learning is the foundation for all work that students do, and how teachers co-create learning experiences. We are AdvanceED accredited: <http://www.advanc-ed.org>

It is a major priority that the entire school community is involved in the effort of keeping the school environment safe. Cultural diversity is promoted and celebrated at W-A-Y West Academy. We welcome all students, including those with disabilities. We understand that we must educate the whole child, addressing their psychological and social needs.

Our primary objective in all that we do is promoting student achievement. To that end, we make certain that the school mission to elevate student achievement through positive values permeates our meetings, assemblies, and trainings.

In closing, W-A-Y West Academy is a place where EVERYBODY is somebody.

Sincerely,

Madeline Black, Director
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