



## DISTRICT ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT (AER) COVER LETTER

January 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for WAY 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 Madeline Black for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <http://bit.ly/2TuvhPbor> 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 MI-Access 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 – Detail Data and Status**

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.

### **Teacher Qualification Data**

- Identifies the number and percentage of inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders Reports teachers who are teaching with emergency or provisional credentials
- Includes teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which they are certified

### **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

### **Civil Rights Data**

- Provides information on school quality, climate and safety

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2018-19 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. 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 status label is given.

\* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Southwest Campus	No Label	
West Campus	No Label	

According to our scaled scores on the SAT, our district has much improvement to make in both math and reading. In hopes of improving, our district is taking renewed efforts in supporting our students through new academic programing. So far, we are encouraged by the advancements that students have made in math and reading—according to our Performance Series growth scores. We plan to build on our success with the addition of a Reading Specialist.

As a district, we realize many of our students struggle due to trauma and other stress-related struggles in their lives. We have planned serval interventions to address their needs. We have implemented a strong PBIS program to support positive student behaviors and trained our teachers in mindfulness practices that are used to ease the stress of students. Also, all of our staff will be trained in restorative practices to help decrease the amount of student suspensions.

I want to encourage parents and guardians to continue engaging students in their education so they may earn their high school diploma. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact the schools directly to inquire about volunteer opportunities. Also, please come and participate in an upcoming school improvement team meeting; the input of parents and guardians are always appreciated and valued.

Sincerely,

  
Madeline Black