



Jeffery S. Haase, Superintendent

400 Sherwood St., Otsego, MI 49078

www.otsegops.org

Otsego High School Annual Education Report for 2020-21

February 12, 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 the Otsego High 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 Holly McCaw, Director of Communications, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following link: [2020-21 Otsego High School AER](#), 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. Otsego High School was not given one of these labels.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

[Process for assigning pupils to the school](#)

Otsego High School houses all of our 9th-12th grade students.

[The status of the 3-5 year school improvement plan](#)

The staff of Otsego High has committed to a School Improvement Plan based upon a Response to Intervention model in which we strive to help all students meet the most important learning targets. Teachers in core content areas have identified the most essential, skill-based targets and have developed assessments to measure student proficiency on these goals. We have started school-wide interventions to help students who struggle to meet these essential targets. Teachers in non-core departments, meanwhile, have developed activities to integrate literacy skills into their respective disciplines. To support the work of the improvement plan, we have

focused time and attention to the development of professional learning teams in which the teachers collaborate on a weekly basis to work toward continuous improvement. Our plan also includes weekly opportunities for struggling students to connect with teachers, get some academic support, and earn chances to re-do assessments to plug holes in their learning.

Our School Improvement process is founded upon our mission and shared beliefs:

Our mission - The mission of Otsego High School, in partnership with students, parents, and the community, is to create an engaging learning environment that supports the full potential of each student.

We believe:

- Students should experience a variety of academic and co-curricular programs.
- Students should learn to think critically and to solve problems.
- The school should help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary for current and future success.
- Teachers should use instructional strategies that provide students with focus, feedback, and sufficient opportunities for success.
- Teachers should collaborate on a regular basis through PLC's, using data to address learning, identifying areas and strategies for improvement as well as reasons to celebrate success.

Our pledge:

- Use of instructional strategies that provide students with focus, feedback, and sufficient opportunities to master skills.
- Improve individual and collective performance by coming together regularly for learning, decision-making, problem-solving, and celebration as a professional learning community.

Our school faces some challenges as we strive to execute our mission. One key challenge is to address the social and emotional needs of our students whose lives are at times heavy with difficulties. This is especially true in light of the pandemic that is gripping our world and our school. In response to this, our school re-committed to our philosophy of "capturing kids hearts" as our most important initiative. We work to build relationships with kids and to help them build relationships with each other so that every kid feels like they belong at OHS. Another challenge is the academic achievement gap between students who excel and those who struggle. In response to this, we have committed to PLC collaboration, alignment of assessments, provisions for extra time and help, opportunities for re-assessments, and a growth mindset. We don't want to tell kids that they have failed to learn what they need to learn. Instead, we tell them "not yet," and we want to work with them to provide more help and more opportunities to achieve.

A brief description of each specialized school

Programs and services located in the Otsego Public Schools include:

Early Childhood Special Education - a special education classroom designed to provide preschool aged students with disabilities services to prepare them for Kindergarten.

Hearing and Visual Consultant Services - specialists in the areas of hearing and visual impairments work with students in our local schools to support them in the general education classroom.

Social Work, Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy services are available to all students.

Autism Spectrum Disorder Consultant Services - specialists in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorder work with both students and teachers in our local schools to support their success in the educational environment.

Walk in services and small group learning opportunities for students with disabilities ages 3 - 5 who qualify.

Level 3 Programs - these programs are designed to provide educational and functional services to students specifically in the area of Autism who need more intensive communication, sensory, independence, and behavior support both in the classroom and in life.

Level 2 Programs - these programs are designed to provide educational services to students with disabilities who need more intensive learning support both in the classroom and in life.

Level 1 Programs - these services are designed to provide students with disabilities academic and social support within the general education classroom and curriculum.

In addition to the programs and services provided locally in the Otsego Public Schools, students with special needs also attend specialized county programs at the Hillside Learning and Behavior Center. Hillside's West campus houses programs for students with severe cognitive, physical, and neurologic impairments. Hillside's East campus houses programs for students with severe emotional and behavioral impairments.

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)**

As mandated by the State of Michigan, Otsego Public Schools has developed a core curriculum at all school levels. Outcomes to be achieved by all students have been defined based upon the district's educational mission, student performance objectives, Common Core State Standards, the Michigan Grade Level Content expectations and the Michigan High School Content Expectations. Common Core State Standards are used in K-12 for English Language Arts and Math. GLCES are followed for all other subjects in K-8 and HSCES for all other subjects 9-12. Common Core State Standards are available online on the Curriculum and Instruction Webpage. For more information, please contact Heather Kortlandt, Director of Instruction at 269-694-7904.

The aggregate student achievement results for any local competency tests or nationally normed achievement tests

N/A – COVID-19 school closures resulted in the waiver of these achievement tests.

Identify the number and percent of students represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences

2019-20 School Year

- Fall: 122 students represented (18%)
- Winter: 64 students represented (9%)
- Spring: 0- no conferences held.

2018-19:

- Fall: 110 kids represented (16%)

- Winter: 53 kids (8%)
Spring: 34 kids (5%)

**Additional High School information:
2019-20**

Post-secondary enrollment – 41 (6%)

AP courses - 7

AP enrollment – 182 (27%)

AP college credit score – 68 (10%)

2018-19

Post-secondary enrollment - 39 (6%)

AP courses - 8

AP enrollment - 217 (32%)

AP college credit score - 62 (9%)

We are very proud of all we do and offer at Otsego High School. We have a dedicated staff of 30 highly-qualified, certified teachers, and 12 support staff personnel who help our 678 students learn to their full potential. We are always looking at ways to improve student achievement on the individual student level and look forward to another great year ahead.

Sincerely,

Herve Dardis
Otsego High School Principal