North Branch Area Schools

6655 Jefferson Rd
P.O. Box 3620
North Branch, MI 48461-0620
(810) 688-3570
Fax (810) 688-7010
www.nbbroncos.net

James D. Fish
Superintendent

January 12, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Quest 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 Principal, Mark Hiltunen for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site https://bit.ly/3TqoOUk or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance 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 in 2022-23. 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 in 2021-22. 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 ONE OF THESE LABELS".

The key challenge for Quest High School includes recovering students that are not on track to graduate with their graduating class. The key to our success with at-risk students is a dedicated administration that supplies our program with the available resources to be successful, as well as a dedicated teaching staff that truly loves the North Branch community as well as our Quest learning community. While the state average for graduation rates is typically between 30-35%, Quest aims to meet the state standard of 80%. Quest currently typically falls between 60-80% for on-time graduation rates, and an overall graduation rate above 90%. Decisions regarding the school improvement plan and its implementation revolve around accomplishing this goal, in conjunction with data gathered from the PSAT/SAT/M-Step test results. Researched based and vetted academic strategies will be evaluated before, during, and after implementation.

State law requires that we also report the following additional information:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

   Students are assigned to Quest High School based on being at-risk to graduate at North Branch High School, or by applying as a school-of-choice student from outside of our

district. A student is determined to be at-risk when they have failed 3 or more classes, and can no longer graduate with their cohort without credit recovery.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

   Quest High School is the "implementing" phase of our school improvement plan, as several areas of the school improvement plan have moved to that phase, working toward "full implementation". Our focus in on connecting students to the local community through the FootSteps Program.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

   Quest High School is a specialized school in that it serves students that are at-risk of dropping out of school or failing to graduate with their cohort. Students spend half their day at Quest, and either split the other half of their day at the Lapeer County Educational and Technology Center, at our traditional high school, or working virtually from home.

4. 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

   A copy of the core curriculum may be attained from the State of Michigan website and also on the districts web page. Quest High School follows the recommended core curriculum and requirements are identical to our traditional high school.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

   Students participate in the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, SAT, M-STEP, and the MME along with local assessments to identify gaps in the curriculum and make necessary adjustments ensuring our students success. These results are entered in our district student database. Student test results and historical progress may be reviewed by accessing the North Branch Area Schools website and selecting MI School Data link"
   http://www.nbbroncos.net

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

   Approximately 20% of students were represented in person by parents at our parent teacher conferences. In addition to in-person conferences, teleconferences were held with an additional 60% of parents. Any student not represented attended an academic counseling meeting to ensure that the student was provided with feedback on their graduation plan.

7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:
   a. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

   No students enrolled at Quest participated in dual enrollment classes. Students have this option, but their reality of being credit deficient does not typically allow them room in their schedule for college courses. Because of the nature of alternative education, we do not offer advanced placement classes. Our students have the opportunity to enroll on AP classes at the traditional high school if deemed academically appropriate.

   b. THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)

   Not Applicable

c. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)

Not Applicable

d. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT

Not Applicable

Quest High School would like to thank our community for their support and continued acknowledgement of our districts' need to appropriately serve ALL students' needs. In partnership with our traditional high school, we have worked hard to provide our students with a true alternative experience in providing them a quality education. Through that support and hard work we have been able to establish a top quality alternative education program that has continued to achieve amongst the highest alternative schools in the state of Michigan. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort. If you have any questions regarding the annual report, please contact me at the North Branch High School Office at (810) 688-3001.

Sincerely,



Mark Hiltunen
Quest High School Principal