



Learning for Life

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Asher Alternative Education

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 12, 2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2024-2025 educational progress for Asher Alternative Education. 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.

The AER is available for public review online at:

<https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1/>

A printed copy is also available for review in the main office at your child's school. Should you have questions or require assistance interpreting the report, please contact Rob Barrett, Director of Alternative Programs.

School Identification Status

For the 2025–2026 school year, schools were identified based on prior years' performance using the definitions and labels required under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):

- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI): One or more underperforming student subgroups
- Additional Targeted Support (ATS): A subgroup performing at the level of the lowest 5% of schools statewide
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI): Overall performance in the lowest 5% of schools statewide, a graduation rate of 67% or below, or failure to exit ATS status

Our school has been identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI).

School Improvement Efforts

Key challenges identified in the AER include persistent achievement gaps among student subgroups, particularly in reading and mathematics proficiency. In response,

Asher Alternative Education has implemented several targeted improvement strategies, including:

- The adoption of evidence-based instructional practices
- Ongoing professional development focused on trauma-informed practices and positive behavior reframing
- Strategic adjustments to the school day schedule to maximize instructional time
- Strengthened family and community partnerships to support student success

These initiatives are designed to accelerate learning, improve engagement, and ensure equitable opportunities for all students.

PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Southgate Asher is an alternative high school program offered through Southgate Community Schools, available to students aged 14-21. The population represents a diverse student body who, typically, have not found success at their previous high school and are working towards earning their high school diploma. Students must apply for enrollment to Asher and a review of their file is completed. Most students who apply are accepted into the program.

THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Southgate Community Schools continues to implement its school improvement process in alignment with Public Acts 25, 335, and 339, federal accountability requirements, and Title I expectations. School Development Teams use district data and systems review tools to guide continuous improvement efforts, all grounded in the district's mission and vision.

Additional information is available at:

<http://www.southgateschools.com>

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 Southgate Community Schools' Core Curriculum, including information on implementation and any variances from the state model, is available on the district website at:

<https://sites.google.com/sgate.k12.mi.us/asherhs/current-panthers>

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

Southgate Community Schools administers the NWEA MAP Growth assessment twice per year (fall and spring). This nationally normed assessment measures academic growth over time and has been in use districtwide since the 2018–2019 school year.

NWEA Results 2023-2024
Average RIT Score

	Reading		Mathematics	
	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
9th Grade	214.75	220.6	218.94	226
10th Grade	215.12	216.65	216.35	223.16
11th Grade	213.50	212.61	216.2	218.68

NWEA Results 2024-2025
Average RIT Score

	Reading		Mathematics	
	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
9th Grade	213.32	N/A	212	212.89
10th Grade	210.88	212.98	223	220.77
11th Grade	215.13	221.09	220.07	225.9

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

Each school building offers dedicated opportunities for Parent-Teacher Conferences during the fall and spring. Participation data is summarized below:

Year	# Students Represented	% Students Represented
Spring 2023	20	17%
Fall 2023	21	15%
Fall 2024	13	11%
Fall 2025	15	18%

Southgate Community Schools remains committed to continuous improvement through ongoing analysis of student achievement data and

instructional practices. While challenges remain, we recognize and commend the collective efforts of our students, families, staff, and community partners in supporting student growth and success.

Sincerely,

Rob Barret

Rob Barrett, Director of Asher Alternative
and Adult Education
Southgate Community Schools