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## Waldon Middle School Annual Education Report (AER)

January 28, 2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2024-25 educational progress for Waldon Middle 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 Sara Wendland for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/49ITIDD> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2025-26 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 had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2024-25. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had 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 was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2024-25. 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.

We have a fully implemented Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) process and continue to address student needs with a three-tiered approach. We conduct data team meetings three times a year to ensure that our core instruction is meeting the needs of the grade level, and then look at individual students to ensure they are making gains. Grade level teams meet weekly to review any changes in data and make necessary changes as needed. If students are not making adequate gains, a plan is put into place and monitored. We also address students who are above grade level with individualized instruction.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### *Waldon Middle School and Student Enrollment*

Waldon Middle School is one of six elementary neighborhood schools within Lake Orion Community Schools. A neighborhood school provides enrollment to those students living within the school's boundary. Students attend school with those children who are their neighbors and playmates. This learning community provides a sense of trust and support in which children are nurtured and thrive. Parents are viewed as "partners" in the educational process.

Lake Orion Community Schools continues its Schools-of-Choice enrollment program to include out-of-district students for the 2024-25 school year. Spaces were available at selected schools in grades K through 8. Lake Orion also accepted Schools-of-Choice students in our Learning Options High School, an alternative learning environment for students in grades 10-12.

### *School Improvement*

The Michigan Department of Education has made a shift in the school improvement process to a focus on the district level. The Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) is a pathway for districts to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funds. This process includes looking at the district data and developing a goal for all buildings to work toward. The staff regularly conducts quarterly data team meetings to review the data and put interventions in place. Grade levels meet weekly to review data and make any necessary changes. We have committee meetings monthly to review our district improvement goals. The 3-5 year District School Improvement Plan may be viewed on the district website at <https://bit.ly/31mCE1f>.

Lake Orion Community Schools has identified the following goals for all buildings:

- LOCS goal is to decrease the district gap by 10% for reading and math between economically disadvantaged students and non-economically disadvantaged students as measured by state assessments and/or district benchmark assessments by June 7, 2030.

### *Specialized Schools*

Our school district provides educational programs, services, and support to certified special education students throughout the district. During the 2024-25 school year, there were 846 students who needed special education support services.

### *Curriculum*

Lake Orion Community Schools continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with Michigan Standards for all courses and subject matter, and state-mandated graduation requirements. The curriculum at Waldon is synonymous with the district's curriculum. Additional information on the curriculum can be found at <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/departments/teaching-and-learning/curriculum>

At Waldon Middle School we use a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods (in addition to M-STEP) to assess the whole child. Students are assessed both formally and informally in all classes using a variety of instruments including projects, performances, and technology-based presentations. Renaissance Star, FastBridge, and common assessments in mathematics, language arts, science and social studies are administered to all students. We also administer a computer adaptive norm referenced screener in math and reading to all students. These assessments allow us to learn each student's current skills and identify those who need additional support.

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#### **Grades 6-8**

Assessment	Content	Spring 2025 % Proficient		Spring 2024 % Proficient	
		# tested	% proficient	# tested	% proficient
Star Math / aMath Grade 6	Mathematics	155	82%	164	83%
Star Reading / aReading Grade 6	Reading	155	78%	164	75%
Star Math / aMath Grade 7	Mathematics	169	90%	185	81%
Star Reading / aReading Grade 7	Reading	167	75%	186	77%
Star Math / aMath Grade 8	Mathematics	187	80%	176	85%
Star Reading / aReading Grade 8	Reading	186	76%	178	80%

### *Parent Participation*

Parents participate in a wide range of activities at Waldon. Our parents are active as Parent/Teacher Organization executive officers and members, athletic coaches, after school program supervisors and numerous volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Parents are invited to and participate in WMS activities during the school day such as awards assemblies, course presentations, and volunteer opportunities during lunches. Outside of the school day, parents are strongly encouraged to attend

musical concerts, dramatic performances, and athletic events. During the 2024-25 school year, parent-teacher conferences were held in-person and via video meetings.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

#### Fall Conferences

2023-2024 Total – 263/541 (48.6%)

2024-2025 Total – 284/517 (54.9%)

#### Spring Conferences

2023-2024 Total – 233/541 (43.1%)

2024-2025 Total – 219/520 (42.1%)

#### *Points of Pride*

The 2024-25 school year brought many exciting events and opportunities to the Waldon Middle School Community, and we are very proud of all of them.

**The Positivity Project** The Positivity Project is a social emotional program that teaches positive psychology's 24-character strengths and empowers students to build positive relationships. Students at Waldon learn about a specific character strength each week and experience a lesson each day.

#### MI HEARTSafe School

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Education, American Heart Association, Michigan High School Athletic Association, and Michigan Alliance for Prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death of the Young has honored Waldon Middle School with the MI HEARTSafe School award. Waldon staff was trained by district nurses, Sarah Cummings and Sue Arnott, to prevent sudden cardiac death by creating a safer learning environment for Oakview and the community.

#### Yearbook

The yearbook will be created by nearly 30 eighth grade students. Students start with a theme and then, with use of their own photography, design the entire book by using a platform, operated by Jostens, known as Yearbook Avenue.

#### Robotics

The Hydra Dragons Robotics Team achieved outstanding success at the FTC State Championship Southeast, earning top honors including the First Place Inspire Award, State Champion – Winning Alliance, and Woodie Flowers Division Champion. The team earned First Advancement Placement to the FTC World Championships, securing a ticket to Worlds and placing them among only 256 teams worldwide out of more than 3,000 teams across 95 regions. The Hydra Dragons also set seven world record match scores and are currently ranked #2 in Michigan, #4 in the United States, and #10 in the world. In addition, team members had the opportunity to meet Michigan State Senator Ruth Johnson, highlighting the team's impact both on and off the competition field. The Waldon Robotics team also had a phenomenal season, competing at the FTC State Championship. Waldon Robotics have consistently qualified for the State Championship, for many years.

For a complete listing of the Waldon Points of Pride please visit our website.

<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/waldon-middle-school/about-us/points-of-pride>

Sincerely,

Sara Wendland  
Principal