

GROSSE POINTE

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



2026-2027 Virtual Learning Proposal

Maintaining High Quality Instruction-Providing Opportunities

Dr. Andrea Tuttle, Superintendent

Virtual Learning Roadmap to Success

- **Purpose** — *Why this matters*
 - *Maintaining high-quality instruction while expanding access and opportunities.*
- **Partnership** - *Who We're Working With*
 - *Strategic partnership ensures quality, alignment, and support.*
- **Implementation** - *How it will work*
 - *Thoughtful, phased rollout with clear guardrails*
- **Providing Opportunity** - *Who this serves*
 - *Expanding pathways, not replacing tradition*
- **Building Capacity** - *From Pilot to Sustainable Program*
 - *Growth that strengthens the district long-term*



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Proposal Summary - Virtual Partner

Proposal Summary: The “WHY”

This proposal outlines a plan to implement a virtual school in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

- *The Virtual School will focus on providing an **alternative learning opportunity**.*
- *Focus increasing **flexibility, access, and supports** for the the broader Grosse Pointe learning community.*
- *Leverage the utilization of **technological advancements and innovations** in instructional pedagogy.*
- *Seeks to **expand access** to the high-quality education associated with GPPSS.*
- *Reinforces GPPSS as a **District of Opportunities** while increasing potential **revenue generation**.*

Recommended Virtual Partner



Michigan Virtual

- **Familiarity** - GPPSS uses MV currently in 9-12 and for summer school programs.
- **Quality & Accredited** - MV courses have been reviewed and align closest to GPPSS curriculum.
- **Guidance** - free research-based digital resources, mentor support, customer care
- **Personalized Learning** - MV ensures a high level of support and personalization.



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Summary - Need for a Virtual School

“The Why”

Table 1 - 10 Year Trend Data of Students leaving GPPSS - Grades K-12

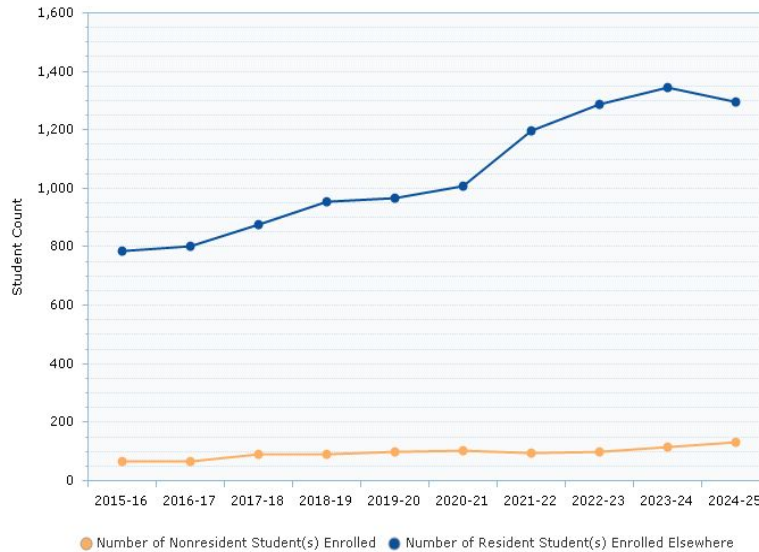


Table 1 shows a 10 year trend of GPPSS residents choosing to enroll their students outside of the GPPSS increasing. In the 2024-2025 school year alone, GPPSS has not captured approximately 500 FTE of students participating in other K-12. That equals **over \$6 million** in lost funding for our schools. In return GPPSS has gained 112 students for 89.07 FTE from other districts for various programs or staff outside the district choosing SoC(\$1 million). **For a total loss of over \$5 million dollars in funding.**

Source:
<https://www.mischooldata.org/schools-of-choice-and-other-non-resident-enrollments/?utm>



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Summary - Need for a Virtual School

“The Why”

GPPSS Resident Enrolled Elsewhere - Virtual School Grades 6-10 during 2024-2025	
Virtual Program Name	Number of Students (Grades 6-10)
Uplift Academy	1
Michigan Connections	4
Michigan Virtual Charter	1
HighPoint Virtual	1
Discovery Creative	3
Michigan Great Lakes Virtual	3
Lighthouse Connections	3
Great Lakes Learning Academy	3
Michigan Online School	3
Prepnet Virtual	1
Total FTE Lost to Virtual in Grades 6-10 during 2024-2025	23

Table 1.1 Identifies Districts/Virtual Programs with resident students that chosen to move to another “Virtual” school. In total **23** students in grades 6-10 are identified as “Virtual”.

*The report we’ve created does not include students that are choosing to attend private school, home school, shared time, or have chosen to attend a LEA program, that may be virtual, such as [DPSCD\(12\)](#), **Harper Woods(18)**, or Elite Athletes attending out of state programs. Those unidentified students are also opportunities, but not part of the 23 students noted in the table..



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Objectives - Program Structure - Delivery

“The What”

Objectives: Expand access to quality education, increase graduation rates and student engagement, increase flexibility in learning, create an alternative learning option for resident students currently not enrolled in GPPSS, potential for credit recovery.

Program Structure(Year 1): 20-30 rising 9th - 12th Grade students, 6 classes structured in an online block format, mentor for support - extra duty pay, chromebook provided, 1 year commitment.

Virtual Delivery Platform: Learning Management System: Asynchronous (self-paced learning) instructed by a certified Michigan Teacher. Michigan Virtual offers over 250 course options including Advanced Placement, World Languages, Electives, and Credit Recovery.



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Cost Analysis - Program Funding Outlook

Table 1.2 - Program Numbers	
Description	Quantity
Number of Students	20
Semesters	2
Total Classes/Year	240
# of Chromebooks	20

Table 1.2 identifies projected numbers for the virtual program including materials.

Table 1.3 - Program Costs vs. State Funding		
Costs	Total Costs	
Cost to District by Provider(*\$350/class for 20 students)	\$84,000	
*Chromebook for 20 Students(\$200 each)	\$4,000	
Technology Insurance(\$70/Device)	\$1,400	
GPEA Mentors (\$75/Class/Sem)	\$18,000	
Admin Stipend	\$5,000	
Total Costs to run program = \$112,400		
	Quantity	Revenue
State Funding(\$11,636)	20	\$232,720
Net Income for District		\$120,320

*MV Costs are normally \$370/course - savings based on additional summer school program.

Table 1.3 identifies all costs associated with the virtual program and the revenue based on FTE funding. The data table also includes the net income with the projected numbers.



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Implementation Plan - Long Term Proposal

Scale Up Plan Based On Need - Building Capacity

Phase 1-'26-'27

20-30 Students

9th - 12th
Grades

Full time Online
w/MV

Admin Support

GPEA Mentors

Phase 2 - '27-28

40-60 Students

6th - 12th
Grades

Full Time
Online w/MV

Explore Credit
Recovery w/MV

GPEA Mentors

Phase 3-'28-'29

Explore Open
Enrollment for
All GPPSS
Residents

Develop GP
Virtual Courses
- Decrease MV
Offerings

Explore Credit
Recovery - GP

Phase 4-'29-'30

Explore School of
Choice for Virtual
Program Only -
new school code

Standing Location

Fully Independent
Programming
-GP Virtual
Courses & Credit
Recovery



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Implementing Virtual Programs

Key Takeaways

- **Local Control & Flexibility**
 - a. Districts have full local control over graduation requirements (e.g., Northville's Core Academy uses 18 credits instead of the standard 27-28). Current GPPSS standards will be maintained.
 - b. Transcripts and diplomas can be customized while still aligning with district branding (e.g., Northville High School diploma with Core Academy designation).
- **Pupil Accounting**
 - a. Several districts (e.g., Northville, Chippewa Valley) have successfully launched virtual programs within their existing high schools without creating a new entity code.
 - b. Virtual programs can operate under the same district umbrella, using names like "Core Academy" or "Grosse Pointe Virtual High School" to distinguish the initiative.
 - c. After 2 years of successful implementation a new school code can be created.
- **Full-Time Virtual Implementation**
 - a. Full-time students enrolled in 5 Michigan Virtual classes qualify for full FTE. GPPSS will maintain 6 course offerings.
 - b. Clear annual commitment (typically during course scheduling in spring) is recommended to manage staffing and costs.



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Implementing Virtual Programs

Key Takeaways

- **Mentor Roles**

- a. GPPSS will utilize our existing framework with GPEA mentors for online learners.
 - i. Some districts utilize a mentor (often someone with additional teaching responsibilities) can oversee 100+ students, focusing on monitoring progress and communication.
 - ii. Some districts use paraprofessionals or share the responsibility among counselors; others designate a primary mentor with administrative or teaching support.

- **Addressing Internal and External Concerns**

- a. This initiative expands pathways and supports student needs—not replacing in-person learning.
- b. The virtual program supports students already underserved or disengaged (e.g., medical needs, anxiety, credit recovery, athletes) and utilizes current GPEA support framework.

- **Communication and Promotion**

- a. Messaging will focus on meeting diverse student needs and expanding learning options.
- b. Consider direct outreach to families who left the district to explain new flexible learning options and support structures.

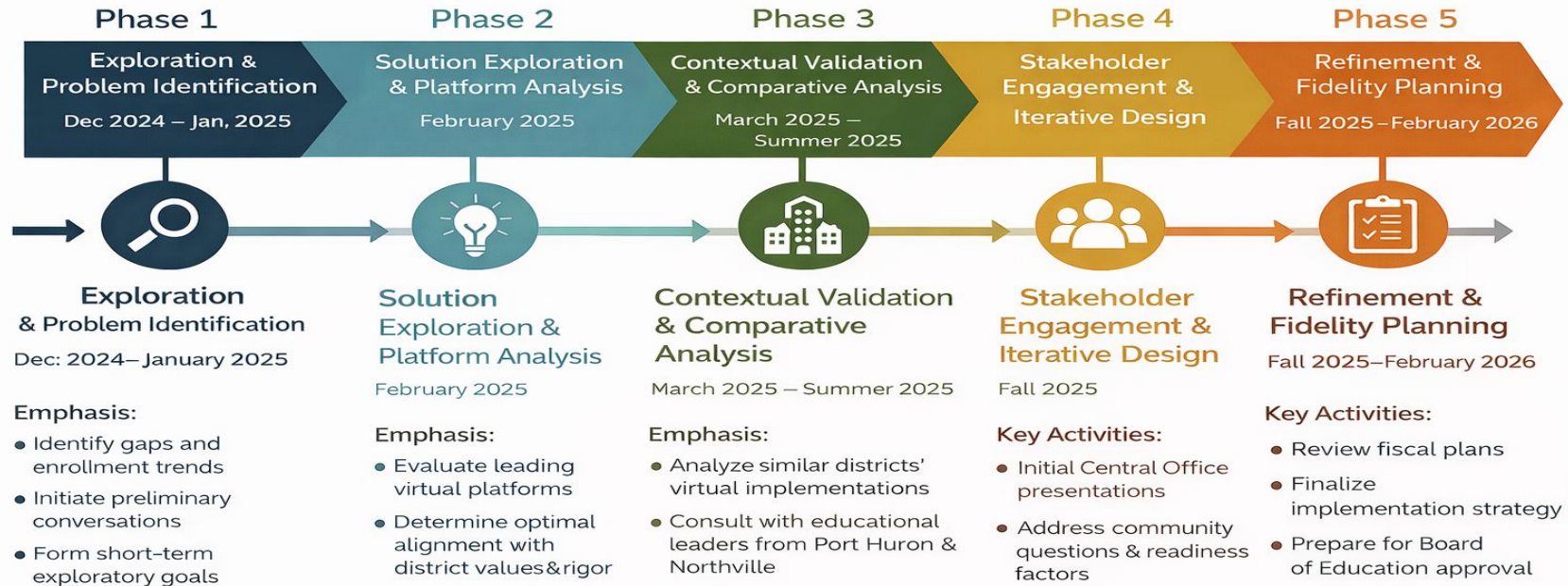


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Research Timeline - GPPSS Virtual

Implementation Science Timeline for Virtual Learning Program

Guided by principles of *exploration, fit, contextual validation & readiness*



Questions, Questions, Questions

Anticipated Questions:

- Online is easier, it's not the North or South Curriculum.....**students can receive a diploma that identifies Grosse Pointe Virtual High School. Students will participate in their assigned school ceremony as an incentive but with a designation in the program of virtual school graduate.**
- The program will take too many students from the traditional schools and impact jobs.....**this has not been the case in Northville that has over 200 students in their online programs now, primarily from school of choice. Our initial efforts are targeted at current GPPSS residents enrolled in Virtual Programs outside our district.**
- How do we capture residents enrolled in virtual programs elsewhere.....**identify students that we have sent CA-60 for and the specific school we sent the CA-60 to. Create a postcard that highlights our virtual options with additional incentives that may, if the board chooses include music, theater, athletic participation if enrolled full time. Administrator will call/do home visits for families that we identify to offer our virtual program.**
- Will this lead to open enrollment for the district?.....**The Board can limit School of Choice availability to a specific school or “special program” as only SoC program-Michigan Compiled Laws § 388.1705 sec. 105(a), §§105 / 105c of the State School Aid Act.**
- Can we graduate students from the program in 2026-2027?.....**YES! If students have met GPPSS credit requirements.**



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References

References:

- How to Start an Online Program(2025). Michigan Virtual. <https://michiganvirtual.org/how-to-start-an-online-school-program/>
- Credit Recovery Essentials(2025). Michigan Virtual. <https://michiganvirtual.org/students/essentials/>
- MI School Data(2025). Michigan Department of Education. <https://www.mischooldata.org>

AI Resources Used:

- Plaud: <https://web.plaud.ai/share/b7341745012168265>
- Gamma DRAFT Slide Deck: <https://gamma.app/docs/Bringing-Students-Back-A-Virtual-School-Solution-for-Grosse-Pointe-4c41xyz9yytsmcd>
- “Some ideas in the proposal were inspired by discussions with OpenAI’s ChatGPT.”



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