W·A·Y MICHIGAN
Widening Advancements for Youth

February 3, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members,

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for WAY Michigan. 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 James E. Pack, Director of Programs, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: WAY Michigan AER Report, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 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 2023-24. 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, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as a **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) School** due to our graduation rate being lower than the state threshold. In response, the Board and Staff have allocated funds to support academic interventions, increase opportunities for graduates in the 4th, 5th, and 6th year cohorts, and have made significant strides to increase overall performance.

Challenges and Initiatives

WAY Michigan faces key challenges in improving student achievement, particularly in increasing proficiency rates across core subjects and raising the graduation rate, which was 41.67% for 2023-24. To address these challenges, the school has implemented several initiatives, including Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to provide targeted academic interventions, and College and Career Readiness programs to better prepare students for post-secondary opportunities. Additionally, dedicated funding is being utilized to expand academic interventions, create more graduation pathways, and enhance long-term student support services.

Additional Required Reporting Information

State law requires that we also report additional information:

- **Process for Assigning Pupils to the School**: Students enroll in WAY Michigan through an application process that ensures open access to all eligible students seeking a virtual education alternative.
- **School Improvement Plan**: WAY Michigan continues implementing its 3-5 year improvement plan, focusing on increasing student engagement, academic growth, and graduation rates.
- **Specialized Schools**: WAY Michigan provides a flexible, online learning environment tailored to meet the needs of diverse student populations, including at-risk youth and non-traditional learners.
- **Access to Core Curriculum**: The core curriculum, aligned with Michigan state standards, is accessible on our website and through our learning management system.
- **Student Achievement Data**:
    - ELA 6th Grade: 37.5% proficiency (no change from prior year).
    - Mathematics 6th Grade: 31.0% proficiency (increased from 29.6%).
    - SAT Total Score: Increased from 889.1 in 2022-23 to 932.5 in 2023-24.
- **Parent-Teacher Conference Attendance**:
    - WAY Michigan staff initiates conferences with 100% of our student population. All 139 students for the 2022-23 school year and all 125 students for the 2023-24 school year were represented during parent-teacher conferences via telephone conference call, student/parent induction phone calls, progress report phone calls, phone calls with our team leader, and home visits. Because we are a virtual academy, our staff is available 24/7 for parent concerns and phone conference calls. Additional ongoing conferences and home visits are an integral part of the “WAY Michigan approach.” We believe that involving parents in their student’s education will support improved student learning. Our school clearly works best when parents take an active interest in their children’s education and form partnerships with our school to encourage their students to do well.
- **High School Reporting**:
    - **Dual Enrollment**:
        - 2022-23: 2 students, 1.4%
        - 2023-24: 2 students, 1.6%
    - **AP/IB Courses Offered**:
        - 2022-23: 0 courses
        - 2023-24: 0 courses
    - **Students Enrolled in College Equivalent Courses (AP/IB)**:
        - 2022-23: 0 students
        - 2023-24: 0 students
    - **Students Receiving a Score Leading to College Credit**:
        - 2022-23: 0 students

- 2023-24: 0 students

WAY Michigan is committed to providing an outstanding educational program to all students. Staff members strive to ensure that our students are prepared for college, career, and life. We will continue to work as partners to ensure the success of each WAY Michigan student. We thank you all, and we pledge to continue to work together to provide a premier education for the community's children in the future.

Thank you for your continued support in our educational journey.



James E. Pack, M. Ed
Director of Programs, *WAY Michigan*