



W·A·Y MICHIGAN™

Widening Advancements for Youth

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

1/2/2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for the 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 Middleditch for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/39A6eje>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2018-19 school year, schools were identified 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. 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. 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.

NWEA MAP Growth Test	Spring 2018	Fall 2018	Spring 2019	Fall 2019
Mathematics Proficiency	34.1%	34.6%	41.7%	37.5%
Reading Proficiency	56.1%	69.2%	62.5%	50%

During the 2018 - 2019 school year, WAY Michigan participated in the Charter authorizer required assessments. NWEA MAP Growth Test is the taken by our middle school students. This data is used to track their growth in Mathematics and Reading skills. Our goal for all students is to perform at least at a proficient level. We have a lot of work do to close the achievement gaps of our students. We witnessed general improvement in the Mathematic scores.

We have implemented a new math program called ALEKS math to increase math skills. We are hiring a math teacher for after school hours math support. We will be focusing on Collins Writing strategies to improve our language arts scores across the district. Additionally, we are working on creating a reading club at WAY Michigan that will help introduce classic and thought-provoking novels to our students.

SAT	2018-2019 Average Proficient Math	2017-2018 Average Proficient Math	2018-2019 Average Proficient ELA	2017-2018 Average Proficient ELA
State of Michigan	36.3%	36.9%	55.3%	57.8%
WAY Michigan	≤20%	≤10%	33.3%	20.5%

During the 2018 - 2019 school year, WAY Michigan participated in the state required assessments. SAT is the culmination of the pre-testing called PSAT taking in 8-10th grade. The SAT is a nationally normed test. Our goal for all students is to perform at least at a proficient level. We have a lot of work do to close the achievement gaps of our students. We made improvement in ELA moving from 20.5% to 33.3%. Math though continues to be a struggle. We have implemented a new math program called ALEKS math to increase math skills. We are hiring a math teacher for after school hours math support. We will be focusing on Collins Writing strategies to improve our language arts scores across the district.

Our process for assigning pupils to our school includes enrolling students via our online school website <https://www.wayprogram.net/enroll>, recommendations from neighboring schools, flyers posted in the community and use of social media. WAY is open to all students in the state of Michigan and provides a safe and supportive non-traditional educational setting for students to feel confident as they work their way to academic excellence. Once the student is enrolled, they participate in an orientation process where a staff member guides them through our program and how to successfully complete work using our learning platform.

A copy of the School Improvement Plan is available by contacting the school or on our website at <https://www.waymichigan.net/about/board>. The WAY Michigan school improvement team consists of non-teaching staff, teaching staff, administration, and parents. We meet regularly to review the school improvement plan and its corresponding goals and activities. The team reviews achievement, demographic, perception, and process data to develop school improvement goals. The plan is revised on an annual basis in accordance with requirements provided by the Michigan Department of Education. Our current five-year goal is to create “Truly Personalized Learning”. To do so we plan to target credit attainment, student and parent engagement, allocation of staff, skill building with students and parents, and summer expectations for a year-round school.

Our curriculum can be accessed on our school website at www.wayprogram.net The curriculum is based on the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Project-Based Learning is the vehicle

through which students deeply explore concepts and skills embedded in the standards towards accumulating course credit. Projects are designed by Highly-Qualified teachers that encompass all of the state and national standards. In addition to these projects, students have the ability to co-create standards focused projects in collaboration with teachers. Constructivist learning is the foundation for all work that students do, and how teachers co-create learning experiences. We are AdvancED accredited: <http://www.advanc-ed.org>.

Currently, 100% or 181 parents at WAY Michigan participate in parent-teacher communications over the course of the school year. They are provided access to our parent portal to view student progress with completing standards, credits attained and attendance history. Parents are able to send comments to teachers and set up meetings with their teacher and/ or school leader at WAY Academy. Additionally, on-going conferences and home visits are conducted to re-engage students. Currently, we actively communicate with parents via progress reports mailed out, conference calls and parent-teacher conferences. Ultimately, we believe that involving parents in their student's education will improve the probability of a higher academic outcome. Our school works best when parents demonstrate an active interest in their child's education forming a partnership of academic success along with the teacher. During our last parent event, we saw an increase of parent participation from 0% to 9%. Parents were actively learning how to navigate in our digital platform and understand how to attain immediate data on the progress of their child. We will continue to increase parent involvement in the upcoming months.

W-A-Y Michigan had offered zero Advance Placement courses and no International Baccalaureate courses. No students participated in the AP or International Baccalaureate courses for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. We had two students or .8% dual enrolled for the 2017- 2018 school year. We had three students or 1.7% dual enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year.

W-A-Y Michigan is committed to providing an outstanding educational program for all our students. We strive to ensure quality instructional support is given to our students as they work towards high school success and prepare for achievements throughout college, career and life. We look forward to continually improve our services and provide a premier education to ignite and brighten our Michigan youth.

Thank you all for being supportive of your students and our goals at WAY Michigan. We look forward to continuing our work with you and your students. We are continuously improving, even if taking small steps at times. As a community we must continue to look forward and provide opportunities for everyone to be engaged and experience success at WAY Michigan.

Sincerely,

James Middleditch
Assistant Director
WAY Michigan