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**April 22, 2016**

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy. 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 Andrei Nichols, Head of School, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [www.k12.com/mvca](http://www.k12.com/mvca) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Michigan Virtual Charter Academy was identified as a Priority school based on MEAP scores and achievement gaps in the 2013-14 school year and remains in priority school status until 2018.

Michigan Virtual Charter Academy uses data to identify key areas in need of improvement. When reviewing the proficiency rates on the AER, we were able to identify a few key areas that need improvement. The significant are in math and science for all grade levels. The less significant areas are in reading and science for all tested grade levels. Due to being a Priority school and recognizing the need for improvement, we are addressing all of these areas in our academic plan.

Our plan is focused around the concept of data-driven instruction. This concept is research-based and has been shown to have highly effective results in a short amount of time. As we outline the actions to improve the areas referred to above, we have a few key concepts that are consistent across the grades, subjects and student groups. Data-driven instruction is implemented successfully with four key components: culture, assessment, analysis, and action.

Culture is addressed in actions addressing additional support to students groups and addressing the needs of our staff for quality professional development. This includes extensive

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professional development on the use of data-driven instruction and the inclusion of highly-effective instructional strategies.

Assessment is addressed in almost every strategy. Interim assessments ensure that the teachers have reliable, valid and standards-based data points on each of our students.

Analysis is also addressed in almost every strategy. Our Instructional Coaches have worked with our teachers in order to train them to become expert data analysts in their content areas and have provided them multiple opportunities to data conference and learn from the data in order to better inform their instruction.

Action is the most important component of data-driven instruction and the driving force of our academic plan. The assessments and analysis help us to identify the areas of weakness and our struggling learners. The actions of what we do once we identify needs will be the key to the success of this plan. Planning effective instruction will be crucial to these actions. Success of our actions is addressed in our metrics for implementation and academic success. With each action, we have identified metrics that inform us if the action is being implemented with fidelity and if the action is having an impact on student learning.

**Process for Assigning Pupils to the School** - The Michigan Virtual Charter Academy (MVCA) serves full-time students in grades K-12 who meet the requirements of this Policy and who are residents of the state of Michigan or are foreign exchange students.

The Michigan Virtual Charter Academy does not charge tuition and does not discriminate in its pupil admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a student with a disability, or any other basis that would be illegal if used by a school district.

An open enrollment period will be held annually using the procedure outlined below. The deadline for accepting applications will be clearly stated on the enrollment section of the school website hosted on the K12 server, the K12 corporate website and at all information sessions and publications regarding enrollment for the school.

For the 2014-2015 school year, enrollment in MVCA was capped at 4,579 students in grades K-12. To apply for enrollment in MVCA during the open enrollment period, parents must complete the online application at the MVCA portion of the K12 corporate website, <http://www.k12.com/MVCA/enroll> including the names, birthdates, and grades of all students they wish to enroll in the school for the following school year. Applications will be reviewed for age eligibility. Students must be 5 years of age on or before November 1 to enroll in

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Kindergarten. If an application states that the student will not meet the age requirement for Kindergarten, the parent will be contacted to confirm the date of birth before the student is deemed ineligible for the school. During the enrollment process, age eligibility will be verified by requiring a certified copy or original of the student's birth certificate before a student's enrollment is complete.

Students ages 17-21 enrolling in the Passport program, must be identified as a dropout in the Michigan student data system maintained by CEPI. Students who were enrolled at the Academy in the prior school year shall be admitted and enrolled. All current students' siblings who have compliant applications will be placed. After admitting and enrolling students who were enrolled at the Academy in the prior school year, if there are remaining seats in either the K-8 or the 9-12 ranges, in the event that the number of eligible applications for enrollment exceeds capacity for the K-12 Program, a lottery will be held.

**Status of the 3-5 Year School-Wide Plan** – Our team worked on and developed a school wide single district improvement plan for the upcoming school year.

**Elementary School Program** – Our Elementary School Program serves students in grades K-5. Each student is assigned a homeroom teacher whom also serves as the content teacher for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and any electives.

**Middle School Program** – Our Middle School Program serves students in grades 6-8. Each student is assigned a homeroom teacher, but also have separate content teachers for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and any electives.

**High School Program** – Our High School Program serves students in grades 9-12. Each student is assigned an advisor who acts as a main point of contact and support. The student also has separate teachers for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and any electives. Michigan Virtual Charter Academy high school had 1 student dually enrolled in postsecondary courses. No college equivalent IB courses were offered. Michigan Virtual Charter Academy offers 17 Advanced Placement (AP) courses in English, mathematics, science, history, and world languages. Less than 1% of students were enrolled in these AP courses.

**Curriculum** - All parents are given access to the K12 curriculum upon approval of enrollment. Curriculum alignment teams ensure that all curricula are aligned to state and Common Core Standards. Curriculum documents are available at the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy, 678 Front Avenue NW, Suite 190, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 for your review at any time.

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**Student Achievement Results** - Academic growth of students is of great importance at Michigan Virtual Charter Academy. Michigan Virtual Charter Academy utilizes NWEA MAP testing to measure its students' growth in reading and math. See data below.

MICHIGAN VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY  
 SCHOOL YEAR 2014-15 NWEA MAP RESULTS

MICHIGAN VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY (MVCA) MATH RIT GROWTH BY GRADE (Table 1):

- The school showed the greatest school gains percentiles in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Additional support is needed in all grades in math, but most specifically in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

MICHIGAN VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY (MVCA) READING RIT GROWTH BY GRADE (Table 2):

- The school showed the greatest school gains percentiles in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Additional support is needed in all grades in reading, but most specifically in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Table 1. MVCA MATH RIT GROWTH BY GRADE

Grade	MVCA SY 2014-15 Fall Cohort Mean RIT	MVCA SY 2014-15 Fall Proficiency Percentile	MVCA SY 2014-15 Spring Cohort Mean RIT	MVCA SY 2014-15 Spring Proficiency Percentile	MVCA SY 2014-15 School Gains Percentile	MVCA SY 2013-14 School Gains Percentile
2	186.4	94	200.7	98	83	2
3	194.5	69	202.3	51	5	56
4	201.9	42	212.1	61	52	87
5	212.3	56	218.9	49	13	2
6	213.1	18	219.5	25	25	71
7	216.9	11	220.6	11	8	18
8	224.9	27	225.8	20	1	36

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Table 2. MVCA READING RIT GROWTH BY GRADE

Grade	MVCA SY 2014-15 Fall Cohort Mean RIT	MVCA SY 2014-15 Fall Proficiency Percentile	MVCA SY 2014-15 Spring Cohort Mean RIT	MVCA SY 2014-15 Spring Proficiency Percentile	MVCA SY 2014- 15 School Gains Percentile	MVCA SY 2013- 14 School Gains Percentile
2	187	97	200.9	99	93	4
3	195.5	84	201.5	75	7	16
4	200.2	56	203.3	41	1	85
5	208.4	66	209.8	41	1	51
6	210.5	43	214	38	22	55
7	211.9	25	212.8	13	4	28
8	217.9	44	219.9	35	18	43

**Parent Teacher Conferences** - In our model, parents interact on a consistent basis with teachers as we have a collaborative partnership to ensure student success. In K-8, conferences were held two times per year with participation at 86% for the first and 80% for the second conference. Finally, in high school, teachers and parents collaborate on a continual, regular basis throughout the entire school year.

Michigan Virtual Charter Academy is committed to ensuring all students develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking skills he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. We want to challenge our students and elevate our teaching methods to meet the demands of the 21st century; we test knowledge, but teach students how to apply it in real-world situations. We look forward to serving in such capacity now, and in the future.

Sincerely,

*Andrei Nichols*

Head of School  
 Michigan Virtual Charter Academy