

Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 12, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for the Michigan Great Lakes Virtual 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 Kendall Schroeder, Head of School, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/321O98V>. or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 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 three or more underperforming student subgroups. 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.

* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school was identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school for having a graduation rate at or below 67%.

One of the key challenges facing Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy identified in the Comprehensive Support and Improvement needs assessment is increase support for students to engage and persist in the virtual school. The Student Support Team at MGLVA was created to support this need. Upon your enrollment at MGLVA families will be contacted by a student Advisor. Beginning in SY 19-20 all students at MGLVA (K-12) will have a dedicated Advisor as their point of contact for



the school year. Our Community Engagement Specialist (CES) will also reach out upon enrollment and entrance to MGLVA to facilitate our Orientation dedicated to our Parents/Learning Coaches. This orientation is required to ensure a successful school year. In addition, Advisors will facilitate daily short orientation sessions for students during their first week and beyond. These are designed to help support parents/learning

coaches and the student as they acclimate to the online environment and ensure a strong start at MGLVA. This student support team member will ensure students know the requirements of the program, how to navigate the various platforms, how to access a student's daily plan, how to log attendance, and how to participate in the online classrooms (Blackboard Collaborate) with the teachers and peers.

This added support system will help ensure students stay on track and are supported through graduation.

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School - The Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy (MGLVA) 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 Great Lakes Virtual 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.

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For the 2017-18 school year, enrollment in MGLVA was capped at 3,070 students in grades K-12. To apply for enrollment in MGLVA during the open enrollment period, parents must complete the online application at the MGLVA portion of the website, <http://www.k12.com/MGLVA/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 October 1 to enroll in 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 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, Health, Physical Education, Art, and other electives.

High School Program – Our High School Program serves students in grades 9-12. Each student is assigned a homeroom teacher who acts as a main point of contact and support. The student also has highly qualified teachers for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and other electives.

Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy high school offers dual enrollment for students. Less than 1% of students participated in dual enrollment courses. No college equivalent IB courses were offered. Michigan Great Lakes Virtual 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 MGLVA 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 Great Lakes Virtual Academy, 1309 Madison Road, Manistee, MI 49660, for your review at any time.

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-5, Individual Learning Plan (ILP) conferences are held 2 times per year.

It is our goal to consistently improve student performance year over year as Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy establishes itself within the Manistee ISD. Early engagement of students, consistently reviewing and making instructional decisions based on data, and providing the support needed within the virtual environment will help our students reach their potential.

Sincerely,



Kendall Schroeder
Head of School
Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy