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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-2020 educational progress for Ann Arbor Open School. 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 Karen Siegel, principal of Ann Arbor Open School for assistance.

The AER is available for your review electronically by visiting [a2schools.org/aer](http://a2schools.org/aer), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-2020 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student group. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student group performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all school 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 a label.

Ann Arbor Open School is a diverse and engaging learning community that promotes personalized academic and social-emotional development of each child. School and home are blended into a larger community as children, teachers and parents work together to support the 500+ students in grades K-8. We continue to excel in the areas of English Language Arts, Social studies, and Science. Teachers continue to implement and refine visible thinking to provide strategies for explicit instruction. We are focused on positive support, restorative justice, and mindful behavior, resulting in very few significant discipline problems. Our dedicated staff shares a continued focus on ongoing professional development and robust teaching and learning. Our current school improvement plan supports our work in individualized learning, particularly in the area of mathematics.

State law requires that we also report the following additional information:

1. Students are assigned to the school based on neighborhood residency in the school's attendance area, through an in-district choice application process for available seats, or through a schools-of-choice process where seats are available.
2. Our school improvement plan reflects a thoughtfully considered set of goals and objectives to guide continuous improvement. Ann Arbor Open School is in year 6 of our School Improvement Plan.
3. The Ann Arbor Public Schools is very proud to offer district students and families the option of attending the following specialized schools:
  - ★ Ann Arbor STEAM at Northside reflects excellence in project-based learning through the lens of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. Students engage in real-world problem solving and work together to enhance and grow in their knowledge and skills.
  - ★ Ann Arbor Open at Mack offers a unique, multi-grade learning experience honoring each student's interests and individuality. The high achieving K-8 school engages students and families as true members of this democratic school community.
  - ★ The International Baccalaureate (IB) Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade corridor at Mitchell Elementary School, Scarlett Middle School, and Huron High School reflects international standards of excellence taught from a global perspective and personalized through community service. Teaching and learning represents culturally responsive inquiry-based instruction that embraces the tenets of the IB Learner Profile and IB Programme Standards and Practices.
  - ★ Pathways to Success Academic Campus is an alternative high school for students who prefer a smaller learning environment. Pathways offers extended evening hours integrating online learning with face-to-face instruction (outside of the pandemic). Community internships and dual enrollment at Washtenaw Community College offer accelerated career/college preparation.
4. Ann Arbor Public Schools offers a rich and expansive core curriculum reflecting the Michigan State Standards. The core curriculum is published and posted in the high school course selection guide and on the pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum map available on our district web site.
5. State accountability and assessment data for Ann Arbor Open School can be found at <https://bit.ly/2N8SogV>.
6. One hundred percent (100%) or 356 parents/guardians were represented during recent parent-teacher conferences.

The following are some of the key initiatives for Ann Arbor Public Schools:

- ★ Project Lead The Way (PLTW), a PK-12 science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) curriculum, is being utilized at all of our schools.
  - PLTW LAUNCH is at all of our elementary schools and has been met with great enthusiasm. The students and teachers enjoy the STEAM activities and project-based learning. Students PK-5 will experience two different two to three-week long modules at each grade level in their home classroom, co-taught by their classroom teacher and a PLTW lead teacher.
  - PLTW Gateway is at all of our middle schools and has successfully replaced Technology Education. The students and teachers enjoy the STEAM activities and project-based learning. All 6th Grade students experience Design and Modeling (DM) for one term. 7th. and 8th. grade students may choose from various elective courses which include: Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (CSIM), Automation and Robotics (AR), Medical Detectives (MD), and Energy and the Environment (EE).
  - PLTW Engineering is at all of our high schools, varying depending on the school community, and has had great success. These project-based learning courses include Engineering Design (ED), Principles of Engineering (POE), Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM), Aerospace Engineering (AE), and Engineering Design and Development (EDD).
- ★ Integrated global studies and expanded K-12 world language opportunities.
- ★ The full International Baccalaureate continuum of programming from Pre-K (ages 3 and 4) through 12<sup>th</sup> grade including all four IB programs – Primary Years Programme, Middle Years Programme, Diploma Programme, and the first Career-related Programme in Michigan.
- ★ Enhanced interventions to support accelerated learning in mathematics
- ★ Early childhood education includes opportunities to attend Young 5's kindergarten.
- ★ Expanded magnet and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, K-12.
- ★ Personalized Learning Plans (PLP's) for every elementary student in every elementary school building.

The Annual Education Report provides an important snapshot of our academic progress and overall academic status at Ann Arbor Open School. We applaud the dedication and passion consistently demonstrated by our students, faculty, and staff. We pledge to continue to invest in curriculum enhancement, alignment to rigorous state standards, and to provide robust professional development on effective practices proven to eliminate achievement disparities and elevate school improvement.

In addition to being proud of our many accomplishments, Ann Arbor Open School will continue to monitor the progress of each student and the achievement gaps that continue to persist between groups of students. We continue to pay close attention to providing effective and differentiated support to students with disabilities, to students who primarily speak a language other than English, and to students who cope with the impact of poverty while developing academic proficiency.

We remain highly committed to increasing achievement for all student while addressing the achievement gaps that are evident for some groups. We will embrace effective teaching characterized by rigorous and personalized learning that nurtures the whole child. We do all this while ensuring that students have a sense of well-being in a safe environment that welcomes all families and celebrates the diversity evident in our community.

We are proud of Ann Arbor Open's ongoing emphasis on differentiated learning through experience. Academic goals are achieved through an integrated approach linked with the children's interests and needs. Attention is paid to the variable ways in which children learn. The idea is not what children should do at a given age or time, but what the child needs to help them develop to their full potential.

Sincerely,

*Karen Siegel*

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Ann Arbor Open School