



Michigan Online School 209 S. State Street PO Box 408 Gobles, MI 49055  
Phone: 269-216-6972 FAX: 269-430-3985

## **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

Monday, February 15, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for Michigan Online 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 Stephanie Hargens, Superintendent, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://www.michiganonlineschool.com/financials/> or you may review a copy in the main office.

For the 2019-20 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 was identified as a 'TARGETED SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT'. Michigan Online School has not had the opportunity to complete statewide assessments since 2018-2019, thus not being able to show improvements on those tests. Additionally, our school has also doubled in size since the 2019-2020 school year. At current, 90% of our students are at-risk as measured by state criteria.

We have implemented numerous strategies to improve our Targeted Support and Improvement status including hiring our own teachers and staff; holding everyone on the team accountable for data; improving curricular options available to students; increasing the opportunities for intervention and support for students for engagement, attendance, and academics. We have continued to increase our course pass rates in courses across the curriculum year over year. This year, MOS is very excited to be partnering with Graduation Alliance-Engage Michigan to help us increase our graduation rates.



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State law requires that we also report additional information.

### **Enrollment**

Michigan Online School (MOS) serves full-time students in grades 6-12 who meet the requirements of this Policy and who are residents of the state of Michigan.

MOS 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 and at all information sessions and publications regarding enrollment for the school.

On an annual basis, MOS will determine its maximum capacity for student enrollment in the 6-12 program. For the 2019-2020 school year, enrollment in MOS was not capped. In 2020-2021, enrollment is capped at 1500 students.

To apply for enrollment in MOS during the open enrollment period, parents must complete the online application on the MOS website <http://www.michiganonlineschool.com/> indicating 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. 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.

### **School Improvement Plan**

To improve our school, we are working on six main areas: engagement, math achievement, ELA achievement, science achievement, social studies achievement and college and career readiness.



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To help us increase our students' engagement we are adding staff to support our at-risk students; engaging in professional learning conferences and a book study which focuses on resiliency; implementing enhanced communication systems; providing Chromebooks; and other basic needs our most at-risk students so they can focus on their education. MOS is also increasing staff diversity; using an advisory model; adding a Resource Room for students with disabilities; adding math and reading intervention teachers and supplemental lab classrooms for students who need extra academic support; reducing class sizes in English language arts and math courses; using evidence-based curricula; holding summer school for students who need to recover credits or extend their learning; and, writing individual success plans that are targeted to students specific needs related to academics and engagement/attendance.

Our second, third, fourth, and fifth school improvement goals are to increase our mathematics, English Language Arts, science, and social studies achievement. To do this, we are increasing our staff diversity; implementing a Resource Room for students with disabilities; keeping on staff our At-Risk Guidance Counselors; adding to our College and Career Counselors; and adding math and English language arts intervention teachers and supplemental labs to close students' achievement gaps. Staff will also be participating in professional learning, instructional coaching, and a book study to improve teaching and learning. Evidence-based curricula and intervention programs have been added. Summer school will be available to students who need to recover credits or extend learning. MOS writes individual success plans that are targeted to students' specific needs related to academics and engagement/attendance. All students participate in iReady diagnostic assessments in math and reading.

Our sixth area of improvement focuses on college and career readiness with the ultimate goal of increasing our graduation rates. MOS has added an additional college and career school counselors to our team to support these efforts. Students will use a college and career planning tool called Xello and staff will be participating in professional learning and a book study focusing on resiliency and high-yield instructional practices to enhance our professional practices. All of our strategies in Goals 1-5 apply here; in addition, we utilize senior interviews and surveys, virtual college visits, dual enrollment, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

MOS is making excellent progress on its goals and the implementation of these strategies.



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### **Curriculum**

All parents and students are given access to the Michigan Online School curricula used upon approval of enrollment. Information on the MOS middle school curriculum can be found here: <https://www.michiganonlineschool.com/middleschool/> Information on the MOS high school curriculum can be found here: <https://www.michiganonlineschool.com/highschool/>

Michigan Online School curriculum is delivered in an asynchronous model of online instruction. Students have access to the materials and course work 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Teachers hold live sessions for students in whole class, small group, and 1-to-1 settings.

### **Testing Results**

Michigan Online School gave the Exact Path Diagnostic Assessments two times per year to measure student growth in 2019-2020. The aggregate results are as follows:

#### **Exact Path Math**

Diagnostic 1 (Fall): Average National Percentile Rank = 51%

Diagnostic 2 (Spring): Average National Percentile Rank = 46%

#### **Exact Path Reading**

Diagnostic 1 (Fall): Average National Percentile Rank = 50%

Diagnostic 2 (Spring): Average National Percentile Rank = 49%

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

In our 2019-2020 model, parents interacted on a consistent basis with teachers. Communications between teachers, students and parents take place on a daily basis and include chat, email, instant message, in-person meetings, video conferences, phone calls and text messages. Below is the breakdown of communications for the 2019-2020 school year, fall semester.



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Form of Communication	Number
Chat Room	2
Email	95,312
Instant Message	78
In-Person Meetings	6
Phone Calls	2782
Video Conferences	215
Text Messages	5021

### High School Statistics

The number and percent of postsecondary enrollments (dual enrollment) in 2019-2020: 1 student or .2%

The number of college equivalent courses (AP or IB) offered: 17 Advanced Placement courses

The number and percentage of students enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP or IB): 6 students or 1.2%

The number and percentage of students receiving a score leading to college credit: 0, no students took AP exams in 2019-2020.

I want to encourage you to take the challenge of working collaboratively with everyone at Michigan Online School to help us improve. We look forward to the continued academic growth of our students and to improving our engagement and our participation rates in state testing. The mission of Michigan Online School is to deliver a high-quality, technology-based education that provide the skills and knowledge students need for success. Our students are at the center of every decision we make.

Sincerely,

Stephanie D. Hargens, Superintendent