



Mia L. Clark-Grisson
School Leader

January 30, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-2019 educational progress for Muskegon Covenant Academy (MCA). 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 our School Leader, Mia Clark Grissom, for assistance. Mrs. Clark-Grisson can be reached at (231)720-3100.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site; www.m covenantacademy.org, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. The following link; <http://bit.ly/38Ogy5f>, will take you directly to the MISchoolData website to view MCA's "Combined Report".

For the 2018-2019 school year, schools were identified using new 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. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Muskegon Covenant Academy is in its fifth year of operation. As such, we have not been given any one of those labels. Muskegon Covenant Academy is an alternative school offering a blended instruction curriculum model. Our students use an online curriculum provider, Edgenuity, and highly-qualified content area teachers to deliver the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) to our students. The courses are aligned with the MMC and the Common Core Curriculum. Anyone who wishes to access a copy of our core curriculum may do so at the school's main office.

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Our students, who are 9th-12th grade, are assessed using the SAT, PSAT, TABE, WorkKeys, and M-Step assessments. Because our students come in with very few credits, we focus on building their skills as well as help students to earn credits towards their graduation.

All public schools and public school academies face certain challenges during this time of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Muskegon Covenant Academy is no different. MCA's primary challenges include working with "at-risk" and "high-risk" students, lack of support for education in the family, student homelessness, and poor attendance rates. In addition, MCA currently has low numbers in various groupings that make it difficult to draw conclusions as to the success of our educational program.

Muskegon Covenant Academy is meeting the following challenges as it transitions into its fifth year of operation:

1. Developing a consistent percentage of students in attendance on a daily basis. Our goal is to have 66% of our students in attendance each school day.
2. Improvement of grade-level reading scores throughout our student population.
3. Improvement of career readiness scores on the WorkKeys® Assessment to at least the "Silver" level.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Students who want to enroll in our school may do so throughout the school year. We have a rolling enrollment process that is open until the school is at capacity. The enrollment process involves completing the required application packet and an orientation with the prospective student as well as the parent or guardian. During this process, future enrollees learn about the policies and procedures of the school and ensure all paperwork is complete.
2. Muskegon Covenant Academy has a developed the School Improvement Plan and will continue to modify the plan as needed for the upcoming school year.
3. Muskegon Covenant Academy school provides youth 16-22 years that are at-risk (high school dropouts, homeless youth, those living in poverty, teen parents and expectant parents, and those that have been disenfranchised) the opportunity to earn high school diplomas, improve their life skills, and continue on to higher

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education or post-secondary employment training. Our school works to break down barriers so that students up to the age of 22 can have the opportunity to achieve their high school diploma. Because we offer a blended learning program and flexible, year-round classes, we are able to provide an individualized education for each of our students that allow them to work at their own pace. Our caring staff works toward preventing poverty, underachievement, and homelessness in our students, while offering them hope, encouragement, and a better chance for future success.

4. Muskegon Covenant Academy is implementing the Common Core Standards. A copy of the latest School Improvement Plan and curriculum is available electronically by visiting the following website: www.mcovenantacademy.org or you may review a copy in the administration office at MCA.
5. Our students at MCA have participated in state mandated testing. However, the low number of students actually completing the battery or testing does not allow for aggregate achievement results to be compiled there must be a cohort larger than ten students. During the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 school years the number of students tested was less than ten.

We strongly encourage parental involvement in our school. We offer these specific opportunities for parents/guardians or significant adult mentors to participate in their student's educational program:

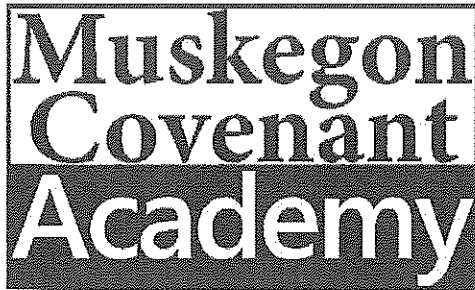
1. Approximately 60% of our students are represented in regular communication with their parents.
2. MCA hosted our 3rd and 4th annual parent "Back to School" events in August 2017 and August of 2018. This event featured backpack and school supply giveaways, information from various community agencies, food, and games. We were also able to share vital information concerning various programs that are offered here at the school. Each event reached nearly 70% - 75% of our students and their families.
3. Our Title I program offers a parent informational meeting to parents who students qualify for Title I services in reading and mathematics.

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Another measure of the success of our student's success is the number of graduates that pursue post-secondary education following graduation. In the 2018-2019 school year 18 out of 34(53%) graduates enrolled in some form of post-secondary education including community college, vocational training, or the military. Currently, MCA does not offer any college equivalent courses (AP/IB) to its students.

In closing, I am proud of the accomplishments of our students and the hard work of our staff to further the educational goals of our high needs student population. As we get to know our students and their personal backgrounds, we are re-energized to provide the resources needed for them to be successful and contributing citizens of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mia Clark-Grissom".

Mia L. Clark-Grissom, School Leader
Muskegon Covenant Academy

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