



Pathways Academy Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

May 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Pathways Academy. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Principal Michelle Y. Shawver for help if you need assistance.

The DISTRICT AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.pathwaysdetroit.com, or <https://goo.gl/N1fCwW>. You may also review a copy in the main office at your child's school. Each school will also be communicating their own AER to parents directly.

These reports contain the following information:

Student Assessment Data – Includes the following three assessments: M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress), MI-Access (Alternate Assessment), and College Board SAT. Presents assessment information for English language arts and mathematics for grades 3 to 8 and 11, and science for grades 4, 7, and 11, compared to state averages for all students as well as subgroups of students. The report helps users to understand achievement performance within grades and schools, and to make comparisons to district, state, and national achievement benchmarks.

Accountability – Detail Data and Status

The accountability portion of the AER includes assessment proficiency and participation rates, graduation or attendance rates, as well as accountability index values showing school performance on a 0-100 scale.



Teacher Qualification Data

- Identifies teacher qualifications at district and school levels
- Reports percentage of core academic classes taught by teachers not considered highly qualified to teach such classes

NAEP Data (National Assessment of Educational Progress)

- Provides state results of the national assessment in mathematics and reading every other year in grades 4 and 8

Review the table below listing our schools. For the 2016-17 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 status label is given.

School Name	Status Label	Key Initiative to Accelerate Achievement
Pathways Academy	Comprehensive Support Improvement	Math and Reading Intervention Program

Pathways Academy is a public charter school in Detroit, Michigan, that serves students in grades 7-12. Within a caring and supportive environment we provide students with the academic and ethical skills necessary for success in spite of the personal, emotional, and social challenges they are facing. Through a blended learning approach, the course of study is focused on interdisciplinary activities and real-world applications. Day-care and early childhood education services are provided onsite and accelerated credit recovery opportunities will are offered.

Pathways Academy is designed to prepare disconnected, vulnerable youth with options for adult living by also including rigorous dropout prevention and credit recovery components which benefit especially those students that have fallen so far behind that, without an accelerated and focused credit recovery intervention, they will not have the opportunity to graduate on time. Accelerated credit recovery opportunities help to bridge the transition from a disconnected life to a meaningful life through completion of a high school diploma and exposure to career options, post- secondary training, and work opportunities. The curriculum that IEP utilizes is



correlated with the Michigan Core Curriculum Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards. Students work with certified instructional staff, utilizing computer-assisted instruction to master the skills necessary to meet those standards.

At Pathways Academy, students work at their own pace thus developing and applying time management skills that are essential in helping them become college and career ready. Failure is not an option. General education skills are taught within a caring and supporting environment, while applied knowledge and community service are part of the curriculum requirements. Students will see a distinct connection between the core curriculum and the real-world, while project-based and collaborative learning shapes each student's pathway to college and career readiness. With the help of technology, learning is extended beyond the four walls of the traditional classroom.

While our primary focus is on educating pregnant teens and young parents, more than 90% of our population choose Pathways Academy because they have been unsuccessful in the traditional school setting. Our students are looking for an alternative environment where they are accepted for who they are and encouraged to succeed in spite of their past challenges. Pathways Academy utilizes a variety of strategies and resources to engage students and help them achieve success and therefore close the achievement gap.

Some of the programs and activities that we have implemented to assist in closing the achievement gap include:

Employ a full time Math Interventionist – Using McGraw Hill's Corrective Math program our math interventionist, who is a certified teacher, provides pull-out services where students work either one-on-one or in small groups to address their areas of math deficiency.

Employ a full time Reading Interventionist - Using McGraw Hill's Corrective Reading program our reading interventionist provides pull-out services where students work either one-on-one or in small groups to address their areas of reading deficiency.

Home school – We have a home school component to our program for students who, for various reasons, cannot come into the building. This program provides students with a laptop and internet access so they can access their courses. Each home school student is assigned an advocate who maintains constant communication with the student to assist with classes and motivation to complete

Pathways Academy 11340 E. Jefferson Ave Suite A Detroit MI 48214 Phone: 313 209-3804 Fax: 313- 264-1042

Michelle Y. Shawver, Ed. S., Principal



their graduation requirements. Advocates make regular home visits to monitor student progress. Advocates help students set academic and career goals and utilize various strategies to motivate students to achieve the set goals. Advocates also get the extended family (uncle, aunts, grandparents etc.) involved to help motivate students to succeed.

Math tutoring – after school tutoring is provided free of charge by a certified Math teacher for students who want or need help in math after school

Senior lab- While all of our classrooms are multi-grade and multi-age, we are currently running a “senior lab”. This is a classroom reserved only for students who have earned enough credit hours to be classified as seniors. This classroom is staffed with a full-time certified teacher and two additional certified teachers are available as needed to assist the seniors in a focused uninterrupted environment so they can concentrate on their coursework without the interruptions of the “normal” school day. The goal of this lab is to provide students uninterrupted time so they can complete their classes and earn the required 23 credits in time for June 2018 graduation.

Parental Involvement – At Pathways Academy we realize positive parental involvement is vital to success. We meet with parents one-on-one and give them access to our online curriculum so they can monitor their child’s academic progress. We strive to create a climate that is family friendly and welcome parents and grandparents into our building to visit classrooms or sit in on workshops and presentations. When enrolling new students, we often have one-on-one orientations with the prospective student and his/her family to introduce them to our program and explain the academic and behavioral expectations. This is most useful when enrolling students who have been expelled from traditional schools and it helps set them up for success in a new environment.

Day Care – As our primary focus is on educating pregnant teens and young parents, we provide onsite daycare services at **no charge**. We provide door-to-door transportation for our pregnant teens and young parents. Students can bring their babies to school with them thus eliminating the need to find and afford daycare.

Gleaners Nutrition and Cooking class – Healthy choices are important for lifelong success. This class teaches nutrition, cooking and budgeting. Gleaners has designed this particular class for our specific population. As a culmination to the class, the students go on a field trip to the local grocery store. They are given \$10 and instructed to purchase the ingredients for a healthy meal. The students then take the purchased items home to share with their families.

Gleaners Cooking Class – Students are taught about healthy food choices, reading labels for nutritional information and menu preparations. During class there is a cooking demonstration where a healthy meal is prepared and sampled by



each student. At the culmination of each class, every student is given the day's recipe and the necessary ingredients so they can go home and prepare a healthy meal for their family.

MI-APPP – MI-APPP is the Michigan Adolescent, Pregnancy and Parenting Program. We have two, MI-APPP grant funded, full-time social workers onsite. The goal of MI-APPP is to create an integrated system of care, including linkages to support services, for pregnant and parenting adolescents 15-19 years of age, young fathers, and their families. Finishing high school is important. Having your diploma puts you on the path to better jobs, better pay, more independence, and more choices in your future.

Baby and Me – provided in partnership St John's Hospital this class is for expectant moms and new parents. The class teaches students the fundamentals of parenting such as:

- Introduction to Parenting
- The care and needs of an Infant
- SIDS
- Safe Sleep
- Car Seat Safety
- Healthy Relationships vs Toxic Relationships
- Disciplining your child
- Nurturing and Attachment
- Erickson's Stages of Psychosocial Development: Infant-Older Adult.

They class also provides workshops on the following subjects:

- Domestic Violence
- Teen Dating Violence
- Self-esteem/Self Worth
- Personal Hygiene/Upkeep and
- Life Skills

Detroit cares (mentoring program) – Pathways Academy partners with Detroit Cares. This is a mentoring program that is an affiliation of the National Cares Mentoring Movement (NCMM). NCMM's mission is to create a highly visible and effective national mentoring campaign targeting the Black community. The specific goals of the are to bring guidance to the lives of youngsters by pairing them with organizations that offer mentoring services and programs and to significantly increase the pool of caring Black mentors.

Detroit Cares Mentoring is a call to action to every able and caring Black adult to help end the crisis in our community by mentoring our young people who are at risk

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and by recruiting other caring adults to mentor. NCMM does not offer mentoring services; instead, we encourage local leaders to raise awareness of the need and benefits of mentoring, as well as recruit mentors for organizations that provide mentoring and other youth-support services.

We target the needs of Black youngsters, who are greatly overrepresented on long waiting lists for mentors. Unfortunately, Black adult mentors are grossly underrepresented as volunteers for the youngsters in the Black community. NCMM works to fill the pipelines of local organizations with caring Black men and women.

Professional Development - Quarterly professional development sessions are held to help equip staff with the tools necessary to become better and more efficient at teaching young people in an alternative environment.

College tours - Students are taken on field trips to attend college fairs to talk with representatives from Community Colleges and four-year universities. We have direct relationships with Henry Ford Community College and Wayne County Community College District and walk our students through the enrollment, financial aid and scholarship application processes.

Pre-Ets. Art Work LLC. And Michigan Rehabilitation Services - Weekly classes provided onsite to teach soft skills, life skills, and work-based learning activities. Students are taught interview skills and participate in mock-interviews. Students are taken on a field trip to a local mall and each student is provided the funds to purchase a complete outfit that is suitable for interviewing. At the culmination of the program students are introduced to various employers and many are offered part-time or temporary employment for summer.

Sincerely,

Michelle Y. Shawver, Ed. S.
Principal