



LIGHTHOUSE ACADEMY

12/29/2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2024-25 educational progress for Lighthouse Academy – The Port. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about accountability, student assessment, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Matthew Milanowski, Principal, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: <https://bit.ly/3MQtgdR>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2025-26 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student group in 2024-25. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had at least one student group performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, failed to exit CSI status in 2024-25, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no status label is given.

Our school was not identified for: 'Targeted Support and Improvement', 'Additional Targeted Support', 'Comprehensive Support and Improvement'.

Lighthouse – The Port (MTP) has faced multiple challenges over the school year as the program continues to serve students who are with our facility short term as the school is inside of the Muskegon County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). The students who are residing in the JDC program also usually come with heavy trauma from their past, which makes for another barrier in regards to breakthroughs in learning. The MTP continues to serve students who are with our program short term due to the programming of the facility. The students who are residing in the facility

also usually come with heavy trauma from their past, which makes for another barrier in regards to breakthroughs in learning. MTP also continues to struggle with funding changes year to year due to ever changing enrollment numbers which impacts our ability to meet our variety of student needs. The average length of stay at the JDC is short term which has a high impact on our ability to have students take standardized assessments which would help with gauging individual academic needs. The school continues to implement new, best practices, review data, and improve systems at JDC in order to bridge some of these gaps and help accelerate student achievement. Lighthouse Academy District and MTP leadership continues to analyze data and adjust programming as needed, within budgeting cost, to focus on student achievement. Finally, MTP continues to look at the objectives in comparison to state standards in regards to monitoring student progress in the school due to the short average of stay with the facility. Best practices are continually looked into as to how to make the greatest impact in the short amount of time MTP has to work with the students.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Enrollment for Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) comes from a referral process of Muskegon County Juvenile Court. MTP students must reside at the Muskegon County Juvenile Detention Center and meet the enrollment requirements for age and of needing a diploma.
2. Lighthouse Academy – The Port collaborates in the development of and follows the district’s Continuous Improvement Plan (MICIP). The overall plan is on course with overall school and district goals as we focus on Trauma training, Career and Job skills training program development, as well as MTSS/PBIS program development. Our core goals remain on focusing on having students improve math and reading scores and gain high school credit by offering a holistic educational experience.
3. Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) provides free appropriate public education for youth residing in the Muskegon County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). The JDC is a Court Operated Facility operated by the Muskegon County 14th Circuit Court’s Family Division for youth accused or adjudicated for law violations. MTP provides full time education for all for the students residing in JDC, which makes school a requirement for all youth under their care. The focus for MTP is on students meeting objectives which align with state standards as well as puts a serious concentration on credit recovery. Full Special Education services are also provided as needed following state and federal guidelines.
4. Lighthouse Academy – The Port uses the Lighthouse Academy viable district curriculum, which meets all the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements for

high school graduation. The curriculum course guide is available on the district website and can be requested from the school office at any time.

5. Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) uses standardized testing for students to determine where they are scoring in comparison to the state average. Using the data from the PSAT/SAT, MSTEP, and WorkKeys tests, as well as the NWEA Map tests for students who are transferring from or are planning to transfer to a Lighthouse Academy site upon their exit from MTP. In all categories, MTP students fall below the state average. The data is periodically reviewed in order to make necessary changes to the program in order to improve student achievement.
6. Parent-teacher conferences for Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) students are held at the request of parent(s)/guardian(s) or the community partner. MTP staff and teachers are in constant contact with case workers and court workers, therefore all students participate in a form of parent-teacher conferences. In addition, progress reports are shared with parent(s)/guardian(s), the JDC administration, and court workers (i.e., probation officers, judges, etc...) on a normal basis. This is accompanied by meetings to review individual learning plans, which have been specially put together for clients, when appropriate and/or as requested.
7. Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) operates within a restrictive juvenile justice setting, which severely restricts their ability to be dually enrolled. However, if a student meets the necessary requirements, MTP would collaborate with the Muskegon County Juvenile Detention Center administration and staff to give the student the opportunity to dual enroll. MTP is a credit recovery institution and does not offer college credit for its high school classes. MTP does not offer AP courses, as our 100% of our students are behind in their current coursework.

In conclusion, Lighthouse Academy – The Port (MTP) continues to expand and serve more youth each year. Educational programming provided by MTP continues to support students that need a non-traditional educational placement. We find that our students who continue with Lighthouse Academy, even after their release from the JDC and exit from MTP, are able to obtain their high school diploma in a successful pursuit of their postsecondary goals. The students who MTP serves are truly unique and deserve advocates to come to their aid and provide a quality education. The Lighthouse students are capable and able to achieve at the highest level! Let's continue to work hard to help our students achieve their goals!

Sincerely,

Matthew Milanowski

Principal of Lighthouse Academy – The Port