



**LIGHTHOUSE
ACADEMY**

January 7, 2021

Dear Community Member;

Lighthouse Academy is pleased to tell you about another successful school year we are having in 2019-2020 in this Annual Education Report (AER).

In the past twelve years since Lighthouse Academy opened its doors as a Strict Discipline Academy, it has enrolled students in grades 6-12 from the community until it reached its enrollment cap, at which point, if there was not an opening at the grade level needed by the students, they were put on a waiting list and a lottery to fill any open slots occurred from this list. Equal access for all on the waiting list was given except where they may have been a sibling of a student. In this case only, this student was given priority. In addition, Lighthouse Academy began to serve resident students at Wedgwood Christian services in the 2009-2010 school year, serving 1-12 grades. Subsequently, in the 2012-2013 school year, Lighthouse Academy began serving St. John's Home residents, Waalkes Juvenile Detention Center students, The Haven residents, and unaccompanied minor refugee students and the Kent Fields and Day Treatment program of the Kent County Juvenile Court in a new North campus community building. In the 2016-2017 school year, Lighthouse Academy-The Haven was closed by the end of October 2016 due to the facility closing. In addition, in the Fall of 2016, the district became the educational provider for the Kent County Correctional Facility (The school program is called, Lighthouse Academy-The Pier) and Eagle Village.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/3hPNK2N> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in 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 Comprehensive Support and Improvement School.

All Lighthouse Academy sites have faced multiple barriers throughout the 19/20 school year. Like other schools in the country, Lighthouse was forced to navigate the education process through the COVID 19 Pandemic. Along with pandemic, Lighthouse is a strict-discipline academy and therefore has faced a variety of challenges when educating our student population but also opportunities for growth. Many of the students who attend are transient, having previously attended multiple educational institutions, some during the same school year. Students at Lighthouse Academy are court ordered, IEP placed, long-term suspended, expelled, as well as in residential programming.

Historically, a combination of risk factors have resulted in minimal amounts of credit earned toward the attainment of a high school diploma. The key initiative that is currently being implemented at Lighthouse Academy, to fill persistent gaps in achievement is the application of the MTSS/PBIS model across all sites. This program places a large emphasis on building positive student and staff cultures to ensure students are being encouraged and celebrated for personal achievements and success each day. In addition, additional remediation and enrichment occur in the areas of math and reading and writing skill within the advisory class.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Students are enrolled/referred to Lighthouse Academy by parents, agencies, probation officers, caseworkers, Wedgwood Christian Services and Eagle Village residential client intake. These students are court ordered, IEP placed, expelled, long-term suspended, or residential students.
2. Lighthouse Academy is in the 4th year of our district improvement plan. The plan remains consistent as in previous years with only minor additions. Our main goals remain for students to increase scores in reading and math while maintaining a holistic approach to education.
3. There are no specialized schools at this time.
4. Our Common Core aligned curriculum can be accessed in our handbook or can be requested at the school office.

5. Lighthouse Academy utilizes summative assessments to monitor student progress and determine where our students are in comparison to state averages. Lighthouse students participate in the NWEA MAP assessment, MSTEP, PSAT, SAT, and Work keys as well as WIDA for English Language Learners. Overall, in all categories, our students typically test below state averages. The data generated from these assessments is reviewed and considered to make changes to programming to ensure improved student achievement.
6. Parent teacher conferences are held at the midway point of each trimester. If parents, guardians, unit staff, caseworkers or probation officers are unavailable to meet during the scheduled conference time, individual appointments can be made at their convenience.
7. Currently at Lighthouse Academy South, there is a possibility for students to participate for dual enrollment as well through the KCTC program at the ISD, and at Grand Rapids Community College for those who qualify. Currently there are no AP/IB courses offered at any of our sites.

In conclusion, the staff at Lighthouse Academy are invested in providing opportunities to serve our students and provide them hope through the implementation of our mission, vision, and core values. Lighthouse Academy continues to grow, improve practices, and strive to increase the number of graduates each year as well as the number of students served in Kent County. It is with great pride that we observe and guide students as they realize their potential while participating in Lighthouse programming. We are looking forward to celebrating continued successes in the future.

If you have any questions about this report, you may address them with Heidi Cate, Superintendent by calling 616-600-6501. The AER is available at our website at <https://www.lighthouseacademyschool.org/transparency-reporting/> or you may review it by asking at the Integrity Education Services' Main Office at 3300 36th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512 where a copy is kept.

Sincerely;

Heidi Cate