



# COLE ACADEMY

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## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 4, 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 Cole Academy. 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 Mrs. Jasonowicz for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/2JRVIRI>, 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 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 has not been given one of these labels.

Key challenges for Cole Academy are similar to what schools are facing throughout the nation due to COVID-19. The closure of in-person instruction in March of 2020 and into the 2020-2021 school year has resulted in many students falling academically behind drastically. In addition, teachers are challenged with balancing virtual and in-person instruction. The mental health of students has also become a national issue and warrants current and future efforts to curb long-term effects of the pandemic.

We have begun to develop Individual Reading Plans (IRIPs) in order to ensure every student is receiving proper interventions and support at home and school. We appreciate the support of our parents, staff and our community in this effort.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Students are assigned to the Academy through an application process. The application period shall be a minimum of two weeks in duration; however the Academy accepts applications all year. If openings exist, students shall be enrolled. If openings do not exist applicants shall be placed on the official waiting list. The position on the waiting list is determined by random selection drawing. The waiting list will cease to exist at the beginnings of the next enrollment period.
  
2. Cole Academy is underway with the following School Improvement Plan goals:
  - a. All Cole Academy students will be proficient in English Language Arts.
  - b. All Cole Academy students will be proficient in Mathematics.
  - c. All Cole Academy students will be proficient in Science.
  - d. All Cole Academy students will demonstrate appropriate behavior to ensure a safe learning environment.
  - e. All students at Cole Academy will receive necessary knowledge and skills for success in a career of their choice and lifelong learning.

These goals were reinstated again this year due to lack of data and the suspension of end of the year testing.

3. Cole Academy is Lansing's longest standing charter school and received a charter through Central Michigan University in 1995. The Academy originated as an early childhood center and over the years became a K-6 public school. Maximum enrollment at Cole is 210 students. Enrollment for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 was recorded at 210 students and we currently sit at maximum student enrollment for the present school year. In 2019-2020, the student population was 59.5% free and reduced lunch, 73.3% minority population, 49% male and 51% female students. This is consistent with the student population in 2018-2019 which was 57% free and reduced lunch, 68.4% minority population, 51% male and 49% female.

Cole Academy believes in:

- Students being the center of all we do.
- Nurturing collaborative relationships among students, families and schools.
- Fostering an inclusive, equitable and diverse culture.
- Providing a safe and supportive environment.

- A commitment of excellence for all.
4. Cole Academy provides opportunities for parents to review curriculum and instructional materials and to visit the Academy to observe the instructional process. Our curriculum can be digitally accessed by visiting <http://www.centerforcharters.org> or a copy be requested in our main office. Curriculum implementation is overseen by Mrs. Jasonowicz. The Academy's curriculum is flexible to meet the needs of all learners. The Academy utilizes a variety of learning opportunities to meet student needs that adapt and modify the curriculum including providing a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). MTSS is utilized for instructional planning regarding student achievement and growth. The result is a curriculum that addresses the need for tangible experiences in all of the Academy student's educational experiences. Active student engagement is a key feature of student success and there is an expectation that all teachers design lessons and assessments that engage student. This is in line with the State's model.
  5. The Measures of Academic Progress, or MAP test, is given three times a year in grades 3-6 for reading and math. In the 2018-2019 school year, 68% of students enrolled for three or more years met the target for reading and 71% of students enrolled for three or more years met the target for math. For the 2019-2020 school year, students were not assessed in the spring due to the Emergency School Closures due to COVID-19.
  6. The number and percent of students represented by parents at Parent-Teacher conferences are as follows:

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>% Participation</b> |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 2018-2019   | 197           | 93%                    |
| 2019-2020   | 200           | 95%                    |

We are pleased to have this opportunity to serve your students at Cole Academy and look forward to continued growth and educational success.

Sincerely,

Annie Jasonowicz  
Principal