



January 27, 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-22 educational progress for Fostering Leadership 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 Jessica Fessler, *Principal* or Kerri Smith, *Superintendent*, at 313.977.9178 for assistance.

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

For the 2021-22 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 subgroup in 2021-22. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup 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 or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. 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.

Areas of improvement are summarized by an overall increase in student achievement across core academic areas. In guiding our students down this path, we have experienced challenges with reading and mathematics which impacts our students' achievement. To address these challenges we make an intentional effort to use lesson plan development with teacher observation and feedback, cycles of data-based decision making, and targeted interventions.

The school has also developed wrap-around support programs to provide students with social emotional and attendance support needed to experience academic success.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. Our students come to us, primarily, from local foster care residential programs and homes. Some students are from the local Redford and Detroit resident districts. Re-enrollment, typically a week-long period begins in the end of February and ends in early March. Open enrollment is during March and April for the upcoming school year and there is a student lottery in early May, if necessary. This process is designed to give all interested parents equal opportunity for their child to attend Detroit Leadership Academy. In order to apply, you must be a resident of the State of Michigan.

Academy enrollment shall be open to all individuals who reside in Michigan. Except for a foreign exchange student who is not a United States citizen, a public-school academy shall not enroll a pupil who is not a Michigan resident.

- Academy admissions may be limited to pupils within a particular age range/grade level or on any other basis that would be legal if used by a Michigan school district.
 - The Academy shall allow any pupil who was enrolled in the Academy in the immediately preceding school year to enroll in the Academy unless the appropriate grade is not offered.
 - No student may be denied participation in the application process due to lack of student records.
 - If the Academy receives more applications for enrollment than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected for enrollment through a random selection drawing.
 - The Academy may give enrollment priority to one (1) or more of the following:
 - A sibling of a pupil enrolled in the Academy.
 - A pupil who transfers to the Academy from another public school pursuant to a matriculation agreement between the Academy and other public school that provides for this enrollment priority
 - A child, including an adopted child or legal ward, of a person who is employed by or at the Academy or who is on the Academy Board.
2. Our School Improvement or MICIP Team is involved in a comprehensive school improvement process that addresses student learning in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and social emotional learning. Fostering Leadership Academy does not currently receive federal title monies. Our plan is up-to-date and current, per requirements of the State of Michigan School Improvement Office.

Our goals for the next three - five years will include continued academic growth through lowering chronic absenteeism and improving academics through teacher coaching and development. For the upcoming years, our goals for school improvement will continue to include ongoing alignment of curriculum to Common Core Standards, MDE aligned standards, Next Generations Science Standards, further development of our social-emotional learning program, and continued growth of academic achievement.

3. Fostering Leadership Academy Elementary School is a K through 8th grade authorized school, serving approximately 60 students. We are located in Redford, MI and serve students from that specific area as Greater Detroit Region. In conjunction with local partners, the long-term vision of the school is to serve as both a school and community support to both students and their families/guardians. Our school mission is that FLA provides individualized education, treatment, and leadership skills to children impacted by childhood trauma.
4. Fostering Leadership Academy implements core curriculum aligned to State of MI standards, Common Core State Standards, and Next Generations Science Standards in our K-8 classrooms. A copy of the curriculum can be obtained by request, or in the Main Office.

5. Below are the aggregate student achievement results for M-STEP:

Grade	M-STEP % Proficient+: 2020-21		M-STEP % Proficient+: 2021-22	
	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
4	NA	NA	0%	0%
5	NA	NA	0%	0%
6	0%	0%	25%	0%
7	0%	0%	0%	0%
8	50%	33.3%	0%	0%

6. The number and percentage of students represented by parents at school sponsored Family-teacher conferences were:
- a. 100% for residential students in the 2020-2021 school year
 - b. 100% for residential students in the 2021-2022 school year

In its 3rd year of operation, Fostering Leadership Academy – having opened during the Pandemic in the Fall of 2020 with only grades 6-8 has seen over a 200% increase in their enrollment in just 1 year as the academy now educates all grades K-8. Additionally, the academy is realizing its mission and vision, in partnership with Champion Education Network and MCHS Family of Services, to reach a broad range of K-8 youth and families in the local community to provide wrap around support services including but not limited to 2 free meals a day for all, free transportation, free before and after school care in addition to offering state of the art school facilities and individualized care and academic programming.

Sincerely,

Jessica Fessler
Principal