

## **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

January 31, 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Career Development School. 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 Instructional Services Director, Mary Jane Evink at (616) 850-5075 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website - [MI School Data](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 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 2023-24. 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 2022-23. 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 2022-23. 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.**

The challenges faced by the students of this school are numerous and often not measurable from data gained through the completion of State Assessments. Hence, many of the key initiatives - while they may not look like they are academic in nature up front - do indeed give us a greater opportunity to better educate the kids who attend our school. One key initiative during the 2023-24 school year was the long-term sustainability of a Food and Clothing Pantry. Together, with the support of many stakeholders in our community, the Food and Clothing Pantry is thriving and meeting the needs of the students who attend our program. Helping students meet and maintain their basic needs, assists with achieving academic success for our students. Another initiative was to connect students with post-secondary education and placement needs through a partnership with the College Access Network.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### **Pupil Assignment**

Students who enroll in the Career Development program are 18 or 19 years old, without the possible credit opportunities remaining to earn a high school diploma.

Enrollment in the program follows a meeting with student and Career Development staff. Parents are informed of this meeting and invited to attend, but not required since the student has reached the age of majority. This meeting provides the student information about expectations and requirements of the Career Development program and the steps a student will need to complete to earn their G.E.D.

### **3-5 Year School Improvement**

Prior to the 2022-23 school year, the Career Development program completed a cycle of our school improvement plan and together with staff, parent and student input, will be developing goals for our subsequent school improvement for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years. The program's key goal is to support students in progressing toward earning their high school equivalency certificate.

### **Specialized School Description**

Career Development School is designed for students who have reached the age of majority, but due to circumstances, have restrictions making it improbable they will earn a high school diploma. The G.E.D. is the outcome of this program.

Students who do not find success at Career Development School, with enough time to complete credits for graduation, have two possible alternatives:

- Central High School - This program is designed to help high school students achieve a diploma upon graduation. This school serves as an alternative to the comprehensive high school (Grand Haven High School) for students who attend in our district.
- Grand Haven Cyber School – This program is designed to help high school students achieve a diploma upon graduation. This school serves as an alternative from a traditional “brick and mortar” high school and is intended to meet the needs of the students (and their families) that attend.

### **Core Curriculum**

A copy of the Career Development curriculum and its plan for implementation can be found at the following website: [Student Handbook and Curriculum Guide](#)

### **Student Achievement**

Success criteria is the student obtaining his/her GED credential. During the 2022-23 school year, 2 of the 6 students enrolled in the program earned their GED, with 3 students continuing the program into the 2023-24 school year. For the 2023-24 school year, 6 students completed their GED, with 2 students continuing the program into the 2024-25 school year.

### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

During the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, 0% of the parents whose students attend the Career Development program attended parent-teacher conferences.

### **Post-Secondary Participation**

Currently, the Career Development program has no dual enrollment students, nor offers any advanced placement course offerings.

Career Development School continues to offer students high quality educational alternatives for successful completion of the high school equivalency requirements.

Sincerely,

*Kevin Berko*

Kevin Berko, Principal  
Career Development School