



## 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 Central High 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 this year.** Previously, Central High School was given a Targeted Support and Improvement label for 2023-24. With this label, the following actions occurred:

1. The school, working with district staff:
  - Completed a needs assessment
  - Developed an improvement plan, that addresses TSI requirements
  - Implemented the improvement plan
2. District, working with the school, monitored the improvement plan
3. After focused efforts to address the targeted areas for improvement, along with evaluation from the district, Central High School is no longer designated for Targeted Supports. The Michigan Department of Education notified the district on January 6, 2025.

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 students who attend our school. One key initiative continuing in the 2023-24 school year was the implementation of cross-curricular communication skills. With the skills4success framework our students build skills that they can apply academically as well as personally as a productive member of our community. Another continuing initiative 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 students of the students who attend our program. Helping students meet and maintain their basic needs, assists with achieving academic success for our students.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### Pupil Assignment

Students who attend Central High School enroll in the program following a meeting with student, parent, and school staff. This meeting provides the student/parent with information about expectations and requirements of the program, as well as a tour of the school campus.

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

Prior to the 2022-23 school year, Central High School completed a cycle of our school improvement plan and together with staff, parent and student input, developed goals for our subsequent school improvement plan for the school years 2022-23 through 2024-25. This specialized school is designed to provide students with an educational opportunity if and when the student requires a specialized program due to their unique educational needs.

### **Specialized School Description**

Central High School 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.

Students who do not find success at Central High School have two more alternatives:

- Grand Haven CyberSchool – 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.
- Career Development School – This program 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.

### **Core Curriculum**

A copy of Central High School curriculum and its plan for implementation can be found on our website located at: [Central HS Student Handbook](#)

### **Student Achievement Results**

SAT – Average Central High School Composite Score:

- 2023-24 = 825
- 2022-23 = 865
- 2021-22 = 800
- 2020-21 = n/a (less than 10 students tested)

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

During the 2021-2022 school year, 64% of parents attended parent-teacher conferences; a combination of in-person and virtual meetings. In the 2022-2023 school year, 63% of parents attended parent-teacher conferences; either in-person or virtually. In the 2023-2024 school year, 59% of parents attended parent-teacher conferences; either in-person or virtually.

### **Post-Secondary Participation**

Currently, Central High School has no dual enrollment students, nor offers any advanced placement course offerings.

Central High School continues to offer students high quality educational alternatives for completion of the high school graduation requirements. Central High School, recognized by US News and World Report as a "Bronze Medal" school in 2013, is a program designed to wrap itself around the "whole student" and provide them with opportunities to assist them with their basic needs so that academics can flourish. In 2015, Harvard University, along with the nationally recognized "Caring Schools Initiative", began partnering with Central High School to continue the work and improve our school for our students and community. The work done at Central High School not only impacts our community today, but for many years ahead. Since 2003, over 700 students have taken advantage of Central High School and earned a high school diploma.

Sincerely,

*Kevin Berko*

Kevin Berko, Principal  
Central High School