



Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 6, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Michigan Great Lakes Virtual 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 Kendall Schroeder, Head of School, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [MGLVA's ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT](#) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 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 2022-23. 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 was identified as a **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)** school.

It is our goal to consistently improve student performance year after year. Virtual schools are unique and need an open mindset for learning. Building relationships with each student and family is a goal that is critical to implementing change. Setting expectations for improvement and striving to overcome the obstacles of this form of distance learning is imperative to our success. Active engagement of students, consistent review of instructional practices, identifying areas of need, and providing support for students within the virtual environment will continue to help our students reach their potential.

State law requires that we also report the following additional information.

Process for Assigning Pupils to the School

Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy (MGLVA) serves full-time students in grades K-12 who meet the requirements for enrollment and who are residents of the state of Michigan or are foreign exchange students.

Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy does not charge tuition and does not discriminate in its pupil admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a student with a disability, or any other basis that would be illegal if used by a school district.

An open enrollment period is held annually using the procedure outlined below. The deadline for accepting applications is clearly stated on the enrollment section of the school website and at all information sessions and publications regarding enrollment for the school.



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Enrollment in MGLVA is capped at 4,500 students in grades K-12. There are several options for parents wanting to enroll in MGLVA during the open enrollment period. Options can be found on the [How To Enroll](#) section of the school's website.

Students who were enrolled at the Academy in the prior school year shall have priority for re-registration. All current students' siblings who have compliant applications will be placed.

After admitting and enrolling students who were enrolled at the Academy in the prior school year, if there are remaining seats, in the event that the number of eligible applications for enrollment exceeds capacity for the school, a lottery will be held.

The Status of The 3-5 Year School Improvement Plan

MGLVA has a School Improvement Team and Parent Success Coaches designed to solicit stakeholder feedback and make continuous school improvements. The team has worked closely with all stakeholders to develop a schoolwide single district improvement plan focusing on the goals listed below.

Goal 1	Increase math growth scores on STAR360 assessments to 51-61% of students reaching 50 SGP or higher and increase proficiency on MSTEP by 2% for Grade 3-8.
Goal 2	Increase 4-year cohort graduation rate to a minimum of 67% by the 24-25 school year.
Goal 3	Increase reading growth scores on STAR360 assessments to 56-61% of students reaching 50 SGP or higher and increasing proficiency on MSTEP by 2% for Grades 3-8.
Goal 4	Increase attendance in all grades and decrease chronic absenteeism.

A Brief Description of Each Specialized School

MGLVA is a single-building district and does not have additional specialized schools.

The Core Curriculum and Associated Programs

The Online Learning System (OLS) for elementary grades, the Online Middle School (OMS), and the Online High School (OHS) programs are online platforms that provide enrolled students and families with access to a state-of-the-art curriculum designed to provide students with a mix of online lessons and offline activities. All parents are provided access to the MGLVA curriculum upon approval of enrollment. Curriculum alignment teams ensure that all curricula are aligned to state and Common Core Standards. Curriculum documents are available for review upon request at the Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy, 50 Filer St., Suite 324, Manistee, MI 49660.

Elementary School Program (Developmental Kindergarten – Grade 5)

Our Elementary School Program serves students in Developmental Kindergarten through Grade 5. Each student is assigned a highly qualified, Michigan certified teacher who serves as the content teacher for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies. Additional electives are offered and taught by Michigan certified teachers. Parents are an integral part of the elementary program and serve as the Learning Coach (LC) to assist in communication between their student and the teacher, as well as monitor lessons and assessments, review student progress, and support student attendance. Students work with teachers and other classmates during live, online class sessions.

Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)

Our Middle School Program serves students in grades 6-8. Each student is assigned a highly qualified, Michigan certified homeroom teacher, but also have separate content teachers for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, Art, and Career-Readiness opportunities. In Middle School students become more independent and take on more responsibility and ownership of their work. Students work with their teachers and other classmates during live, online sessions.



High School Program (Grade 9-12)

Our High School Program serves students in grades 9-12. Each student is assigned a highly qualified, Michigan certified homeroom teacher who acts as a main point of contact and support. The student also has highly qualified, Michigan certified teachers for Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and other electives, including a robust Career and College Prep program offerings. The Career and College Prep Program at MGLVA offers students the ability to develop skills in five key areas, which include Business Management and Entrepreneurship, Marketing, Finance, Information Technology, and Health Sciences. This program allows students the opportunity to develop partnerships with business and health care professionals in their desired field. More information can be found here: [MGLVA Career and College Prep](#).

Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy high school also offers dual enrollment for students. Less than 1% of students participated in dual enrollment courses. No students enrolled in college equivalent IB courses. Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy offers 17 Advanced Placement (AP) courses in English, mathematics, science, history, and world languages. Less than 1% of students were enrolled in AP courses.

The Aggregate Student Achievement Results for Nationally Normed Star360 Achievement Tests

MGLVA students are given the STAR 360 assessment at the beginning, middle and end of the school year. The following data details the percentage of students who met or exceeded their growth targets in math and reading. MGLVA staff uses this data to help determine the next course of action for each student.

2022-2023 Academic Year		
% Meeting Growth on STAR360 Assessment		
Grade	Math	Reading
K	N/A	71.11%
1	58.90%	64.20%
2	47.59%	53.79%
3	61.69%	66.88%
4	63.31%	75.88%
5	70.59%	74.51%
6	49.51%	51.76%
7	58.00%	57.49%
8	70.47%	60.54%
9	48.55%	48.71%
10	53.00%	43.52%
11	47.08%	51.89%
12	N/A	N/A

In 2022-23 school year, MGLVA students in grades K-11 were given the STAR360 assessment at the beginning, middle, and end of the year. The data details the percentage of Full Academic Year students who met their growth targets at the end of the year.

More than 50% of students in all grades, except 2nd, 6th, 9th, and 11th, met or exceeded their growth targets in Math.

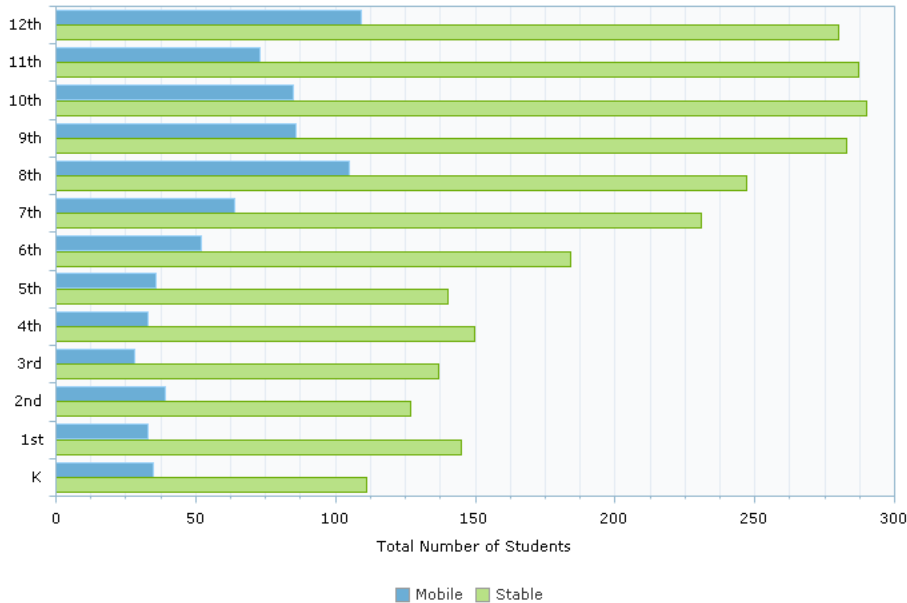
More than 50% of students in all grades, except 9th and 10th, met or exceeded their growth targets in Reading.

Student Mobility

Frequent mobility of students can disrupt learning and have significant impacts on student growth, proficiency, and graduation rates. A student is considered mobile if he or she is present for the fall pupil count day and then exits a school before the end of the school year or transfers into a school mid-year. Stable students remain enrolled in the same school for the entire school year.



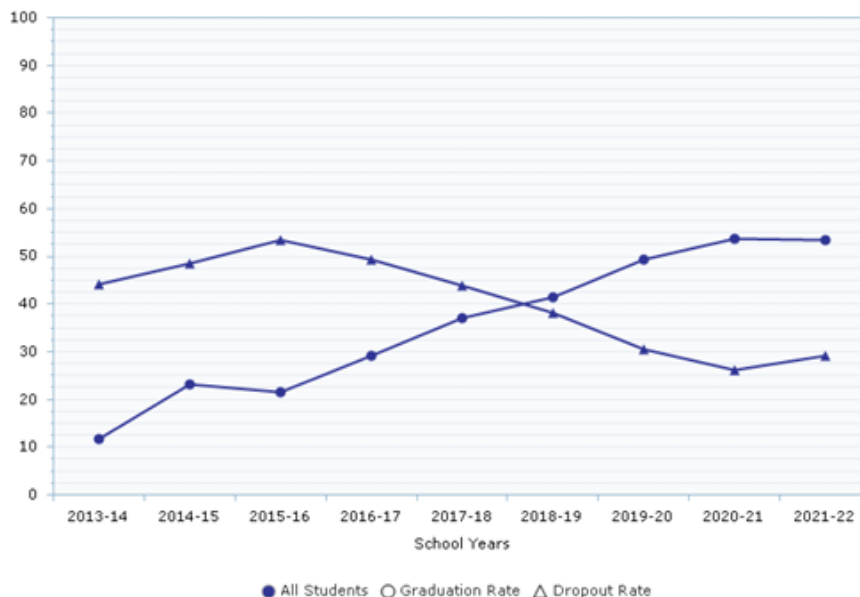
The following chart compares the counts of mobile students (blue) to the counts of stable students (green) for MGLVA.



MGLVA has improved the stability of student enrollments over the past few years, which in turn has had a positive effect on student growth, proficiency, and graduation rate.

Graduation Rate

MGLVA has been identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school for having a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22 school year. Supporting students in high school continues to be a focus. Providing social-emotional support, as well as academic remediation and stabilization, to increase graduation rate and reduce dropout rates has had positive effects.



The chart to the left shows a positive trend in 4-year graduation cohort for MGLVA students and a decrease in dropout rates over the past several years.



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The Number and Percent of Students Represented by Parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences

In our model, parents interact on a consistent basis with teachers as we have a collaborative partnership to ensure student success. In K-5, Individual Learning Plan (ILP) conferences are held 2 times per year. In Middle School (Grade 6-8), parent conferences are held twice per year. At the high school level, conferences are held throughout the year at the parent, teacher, or student request.

Conclusion

It is our goal to consistently improve student performance, including graduation rate, year over year. Virtual schools are unique and need an open mindset for learning. Building relationships with each student and family is a goal that is crucial to implementing change. Setting expectations for improvement and striving to overcome the obstacles of this form of “distance learning” is imperative to our success. Active and early engagement of students, consistent review of instructional practices, identifying areas of need, and providing the support needed within the virtual environment will continue to help our students reach their potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Schroeder', is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Kendall Schroeder
Head of School
Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy