



Dr. Joseph F. Pollack Academic Center of Excellence

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January 30, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for the Dr. Joseph F. Pollack Academic Center of Excellence (PACE 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 Darah L. Griffin, Director of Achievement Support Services for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site (www.pacek-8.org). You may also review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. 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, (Reward, Focus, or Priority).

PACE Academy continues to strive for Excellence. Despite our many challenges throughout the years, our scores for the 2015-16 school year, indicates that we continue to have many challenges ahead of us. In math, the students tested in grades 3-8 on the MStep; there was an average decrease in proficiency of 2%. In reading, there was an average decrease in proficiency of 8%. In Science, the students tested in grades 4 & 7; there was an average increase in proficiency of 2%. In Social Studies, of the students tested in grades 5 there was no change in proficiency, and in grade 8, there was an average increase in proficiency of 4%.

In an effort to accelerate student progress and close the persistent achievement gaps, the targeted initiatives that have been undertaken by PACE Academy are:

- Hiring a new school leader, whose focus is on building a school culture that has an academic focus.
- Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, our leadership team identified Math as an area of focus/or our "Wonderfully Important Goal (WIG)"; thus adopting a new K-8 curriculum (EngageNY/Eureka Math) which is more closely aligned with the Michigan State Standards.
- Our leadership team has made it a priority to monitor the fidelity of the curriculum, through the use of Instructional Rounds. We meet weekly to discuss the progress of

our initiatives.

- Our leadership team works closely along side our Instructional Coaches, to ensure the monitoring of the curriculum and assistance with weekly lesson planning.
- One of our major initiatives has been the formation of our Data Team and the restructuring of our School Improvement Team, to ensure that all stakeholders are collaborating and focused on improving student achievement.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

As a public school academy, PACE Academy provides education services to students who live anywhere within Michigan without any district boundaries. Parents must apply for admission to PACE Academy and provide proof of birth date, current grade placement, address and contact telephone numbers. If enrollment numbers are met, a waiting list is established and a lottery is held if needed.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The annual School Improvement Plan (SIP) has been submitted to the State and is posted on the school website at www.pacek-8.org. The SIP is updated annually by a team of staff and parents who meet monthly to monitor progress and implementation.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

PACE Academy is a K-8 grade institution located at 23777 Southfield Road on Mount Vernon Street in the City of Southfield. Our school's current enrollment for the 2016 -17 school year is 853. Our students represent two counties, to include Oakland, and Wayne. The school's largest enrollment contribution is from the County of Wayne, which accounts for 65% of the total student enrollment. We have a 11:1 students to one teacher ratio in each classroom, and 65% of the students are considered economically disadvantaged, thus they receive a free or reduced lunch.

4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL.

A copy of the PACE Academy's core curriculum can be obtained by contacting the Director of Achievement Support Services at 248-569-1060. PACE Academy adheres to the State of Michigan established curriculum. Mathematics and English Language Arts have been moved to the Common Core State Standards.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

As required by our Authorizer, Eastern Michigan University, PACE Academy transitioned from administering the Scantron Performance Series to the Northwest Educational Association (NWEA), Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) in the areas of Reading and Math. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward assessments. PACE Academy staff uses the results to better improve our curriculum, instruction, and assessment procedures to help all students become successful. The MAP assessment was administered, in the Fall 2016, to all students in grades K-8, and will be administered in the Spring 2017 in grades K-8.

Our baseline Fall data is as follows:

Grade	PACE Academy Average Score Math	National Average Score Math	PACE Academy Average Score Reading	National Average Score Reading
K	133	140	137	141
1	152	162	150	160
2	171	176	173	174
3	187	190	188	188
4	196	201	198	198
5	197	211	200	205
6	203	217	206	211
7	207	222	212	214
8	215	226	212	217

6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parental involvement is critical to the success of all PACE Academy students. The teaching staff completes Progress Reports for each student quarterly and sends them home to parents. Each quarter, the parents are invited to attend quarterly Parent Teacher Conferences (PTC). Attendance at PTC averages approximately 85% (around 680) parents per quarter. Parents are also invited to participate at monthly Board of Director and parent meetings.

At the PACE Academy, we strive to provide all students with a superior educational experience that result in career success and commitment to community service.

We encourage you to visit us to see the great things happening at PACE Academy!

Educationally yours,

Darah L. Griffin

Mrs. Darah L. Griffin
Director of Achievement Support Services