



CASSOPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Cassopolis Public Schools
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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for Cassopolis Alternative Education. 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 Karen Gavin-McCarthy at (269)445-0536 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2Fk6fcK>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI – The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS – The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Cassopolis Alternative Education provides education to students who have not been successful in the traditional environment. It provides one-on-one assistance, using certified staff and curriculum that matches the needs of the students. We have recently added Edmentum/Platoweb online coursework as another way of providing curriculum that matches state requirements and better prepares our students for standardized testing. Students in our program complete all state required testing, as well as pre-and post-testing that is administered using the TABE. In addition to classroom instruction a certified teacher provides education to incarcerated alternative students. Students work in the classroom, online, or at home but must report and complete work on a weekly basis. Our biggest challenge continues to be developing enforceable attendance requirements, consistent completion of quality work, and keeping students motivated to move forward until graduation. State law requires that we also report additional information.

- PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Students who are behind on credits at our high school are assigned to our program. Any other student can voluntarily enroll. There are no requirements for enrollment.

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

Our school improvement plan is focused on improving attendance by, for certain students, requiring seat time in the program based on the development of a comprehensive educational plan that will meet individual needs of students and their families. Additionally, we will continue to focus and assist student to remediate low math and language arts skills. For this reason we provide individualized assistance and have added a literacy specialist to the staff. Using Edmentum online course-work allows us to assign courses at a TABE-determined reading and math levels.

- A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

There are not specialized schools in the program

Our curriculum follows the standards outlined in the Michigan Merit Curriculum. We also require two additional CTE credits. A copy of our course offerings is available online at http://www.cassopolis.k12.mi.us/schools/squires_education_center/adult__alternative_education.

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

2016-17: There is no data available because of our small sample size

2017-18: There is no data available because of our small sample size

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

We do not schedule parent-teacher conferences. Parents are welcome to visit. Students under eighteen are required to have a parent's signature to enroll. Additionally, we frequently contact students and parents to report on online activity and progress.

We are continually striving to improve our program and meet the needs of our students. Edmentum has great benefits, including pretesting to assess prior knowledge and using it to modify course topics. More students have access to technology than ever before. Online classes are a great way for students to acquire additional skills they will need to succeed in the future. For some it is a pathway to success; for others it is an opportunity to grow. We will continue to encourage students and teach them to be self-disciplined by aiding them in following a well-defined plan and helping them develop their future vision and transitional goals. This letter is just an overview of our program. Please visit our program at any time for a more comprehensive picture.

Sincerely,

Karen Gavin-McCarthy