CONTRACT PERFORMANCE REPORT FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Charter Schools Office

2017-2018

**Michigan Connections Academy** 

Ferris State University Big Rapids, MI 49307 (231) 591-5802 www.ferris.edu/charterschools

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### Mission

The Ferris State University Charter Schools Office focuses on student success and continuous improvement through quality oversight, professional learning opportunities, and relevant resources for its authorized public school academies.

### Vision

Ferris State University will authorize public school academies that promise to transform the lives of students by demonstrating high-quality performance.

### **Core Values**

The core values of the Ferris State University Charter Schools Office are the foundation of our organization's culture. Our values are static, unchanging and non-negotiable, built from the belief that learning is a lifelong process and all students can learn.

We Value:

### **Student Learning**

As a higher education institution, student learning is in our DNA; we see the opportunities created when students succeed, and we focus our oversight and support efforts on continual student success.

### **A Collaborative Working Environment**

By supporting each other and building partnerships, we encourage a sense of community through cooperation, teamwork and consensus building with our stakeholders.

### **Diversity**

Recognizing that stakeholders are made up of diverse populations, we honor diversity of ideas, beliefs, and cultures.

### **Opportunities**

Through the work we do as a charter school authorizer, we help create learning opportunities and environments by lending support for professional growth and development.

#### **Excellence**

Committed to superior results, we engage in practices that produce the highest quality outcomes in all our endeavors.

#### **Accountability**

Accountability leads to academic progress-we believe in being held accountable for our work as an authorizer as deeply as we believe in holding all stakeholders accountable for their work.

### **Integrity & Trust**

Our actions are guided by fairness and respect through transparency, effective communication and the building of positive relationships with each other and our stakeholders.

# Partners in Education

The Contract Performance Reports (CPR) are individually prepared for each Ferris State University authorized public school academy, and are a service of the Charter Schools Office (CSO). The CPR is a comprehensive report on each academy's contractual performance in the areas of finance, compliance, governance, and student achievement and growth. Each academy is also shown in comparison to the overall FSU charter school portfolio, as well as the resident and composite school district.

Dr. RONALD S. RIZZO Director

It is our hope that by providing this information about each academy that the CPR will be a valuable diagnostic tool for Boards, administration and education service providers. The CPR is one of the most important documents the CSO uses when determining the overall performance of the academy and in decisions relative to school support and Reauthorization. We hope you will find it valuable as well.

Focused on student success and continuous improvement through quality oversight, we take our role seriously to provide resources for each FSU-authorized academy to help them achieve their contractual expectations. This document, along with initiatives such as the School Support Team are but a few examples of that commitment.

Ferris State University is proud of its authorized public school academies, and we look forward to our continued partnership for the benefit of students and families who chose to enroll at each of our academies. We thank all school personnel and academy Boards of Directors for their commitment to quality and improvement.

The CPR is a collaborative effort by the CSO Executive Leadership Team and it is my pleasure to introduce that team to you:



Charissa Talsma Academic Assessment Specialist



**Ronald Schneider** Associate Director



Sharon Hopper Compliance Auditor/Board Liaison

# **CONTRACTUAL GOALS**

### **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of the Contract ("Contract") issued by the Ferris State University Board of Trustees ("University Board"), this contractual Educational Goal Policy has been prepared by the Ferris State University Charter Schools Office (CSO). It now becomes part of the Contract and will go into effect 30 days after Academy Board notification, as stated in Article XII, Section 12.16 of the Contract for all academies being authorized or reauthorized pursuant to Contracts issued by the University Board. Failure by the Academy Board to comply with this policy may result in the non-issuance of a Contract, or for existing academies, the initiation of suspension, termination or revocation proceedings under the Contract, and will be taken into account when considering reauthorization of an academy upon expiration of the contract.

### A. Educational Goals and Related Measures:

The Academy shall pursue the educational goal of preparing all students academically for success in college, work, and life. Although an increase in academic achievement for all groups of pupils as measured by assessments and other objective criteria is the most important factor in determining the Academy's progress toward the achievement of the educational goal, the CSO also considers other factors. Upon request, the Academy shall provide to Ferris State University a written report, along with supporting data, demonstrating:

- 1. Improved academic achievement for all groups of students, and
- 2. Measurable progress toward the achievement of the educational goal.

It is expected that the Academy will meet the State of Michigan's academic standards and any improvement targets required to be achieved pursuant to state and federal law. The Academy is also expected to remain off the Priority School List published by the Michigan Department of Education or School Reform Office. If the Academy already has school buildings identified on this list, it is expected to make the progress necessary for them to no longer be identified.

### B. Educational Goal to Be Achieved:

Academies authorized by the Ferris State University Board of Trustees will prepare all students academically for success in college, work, and life.

### C. Measure for Determining Goal Achievement:

To determine whether the Academy is demonstrating measurable progress in preparing all students academically for success in college, work, and life, the CSO will assess the Academy's performance using the following measures of student growth and achievement. The Academy will properly administer the tests detailed under each of the following metrics in accordance with the time frames identified in the Academy's Master Calendar of Reporting Requirements.

### Measure 1: Student Growth Towards Achievement

Improved academic achievement for all students in grades 2-11 regardless of each student's achievement level. On average, all students, regardless of academic ability, will meet or exceed national average growth benchmarks.

GRADE(S)	GOAL	METRIC
Grades 2-8	The Fall to Spring growth rate for all students in Reading and Math of each grade and subject area as measured by the CSO designated nationally norm-referenced test will fall at or above the 50th percentile.	Average percent of growth (gains percentile) as measured by the CSO designated nationally norm-referenced assessments for each grade level and subject area*
Grades 9-10	The average Spring to Spring Subject Area Scores on State assigned college entrance suite of assessments will increase by 30 points.  If average scores are at or above the published benchmark, subject area scores are expected to increase.	Average Spring to Spring Evidence Based Reading/Writing (EBRW) and Math scores on the state provided college entrance suite of assessments will increase by 30 points. (same cohort of students) Average EBRW and Math scores from 9th Grade to 10th Grade will increase by 30 points. Average EBRW and Math scores from 10th Grade to 11th Grade will increase by 30 points.

<sup>\*</sup>The CSO will look at the total number of grade levels for each subject area in determining progress towards the CSO determined assessment growth goal. (i.e., in a grade 2-8 building, there are 7 grades, with 14 data points. Meeting 12/14 would not be attaining the goal; however, it would be a factor in determining school support status.)

#### **Measure 2:** Student Achievement

The average academic achievement percentiles of all students in grades 2-11 will be at or above the 50th percentile and/or improve from year to year and over the course of the charter contract.\*\*

GRADE(S)	GOAL	METRIC
Grades 2-8	The average Spring percentile ranking for the Academy on a nationally normed assessment will be at the 50th percentile in both Math and Reading.	The average national achievement percentile ranking for Math and Reading (grades 2-8 combined) will be at the 50th percentile.**
Grades 8-11 NOTE: 8th Grade will begin this testing in 2019	Students' average achievement levels on the state assigned college entrance suite will be at the 50th percentile.	The national percentile ranking of the average total score for all assessed students in each individual grade (8th, 9th, 10th, & 11th) on the state assigned college entrance suite will be at or above the 50th percentile.**

<sup>\*\*</sup>The CSO will look at the average percentile ranking for each subject area in determining progress towards this student achievement goal. (i.e. if a school's average percentile ranking is not at or above the 50th percentile in any area, the CSO will look at whether the school's percentile ranking is increasing from year to year and over the course of the charter contract.)

### Measure 3: Student Achievement & Growth: Relative Performance and State/Federal Accountability **State Assessment:**

GRADE(S)	GOAL	METRIC
Grades 3-8	The percent proficient of all grade levels assessed in ELA and Math as determined by the state identified assessment for each grade will be at or above the resident and composite district.	State Required Assessments Composite resident district will be determined based on pupil enrollment as submitted to CEPI via MSDS in the fall of each academic year. The Academy's MSTEP percent proficient in ELA and Math will be compared with the composite district's percent proficient.
Grade 11	The average State Required College Entrance Assessment Scores will be at or above the resident district's scores.	State Required College Entrance Assessment The academy's average SAT Total Score, EBRW Score, and Math Score scores will be compared with the resident district's average scores.
All grades assessed	The growth values for both ELA and Math must meet or exceed the established state targets stated in the MDE Index.	State determined growth target values are stated in the Growth Component of the MDE Index. The Academy earns a growth value based in the percentage of students attaining their Adequate Growth Percentile (AGP). The Academy's value in the Growth Component will be compared to the State's Growth Target.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>The CSO will look at the year-to-year growth component index value in determining progress towards this growth goal (i.e.- Academy's growth values should reduce the gap between the state target values and the school's growth values by 25% year to year and over the course of the charter contract.)

### State/Federal Accountability:

GRADE(S)	GOAL	METRIC
School	The Academy will have an index score of 40 or higher. Based on contractual language, the Academy cannot be in the bottom 5% of index values.	MDE Annual Index Score

#### **Strict Discipline and Alternative Education Academies**

Academies designated as Strict Discipline Academies or Alternative Education Academies, as per the Michigan School Code, may be exempted from certain parts of these requirements due to their unique nature. In all cases, specific educational goals will be mutually developed and agreed upon by the Academy and FSU-CSO and shall be attached to the contract.

#### **New Academies**

For the first three years of operation, new academies will be expected to improve academic achievement for all grades and subject areas using the following measures:

Measure 1: Student Growth

Measure 2: Student Achievement

Measure 3: State/Federal Accountability: as required by the State

# Michigan Connections Academy

#### **MISSION**

The mission of Michigan Connections Academy is to help each student maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards. Michigan Connections Academy is a high-quality, high-tech, high-touch "school without walls" that brings out the best in every student.

PRINCIPAL Bryan Klochack

GRADES SERVED: K-12

YEAR OPENED: 2010

CSO FIELD REP: Laura Emshanov

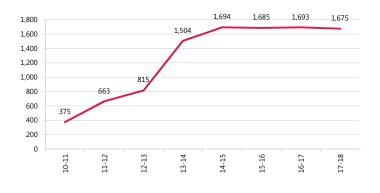
CURRENT CHARTER CONTRACT TERM: 2018-2025

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER: Connections Education, LLC

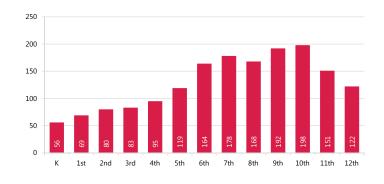
RESIDENT DISTRICT: Okemos Public Schools



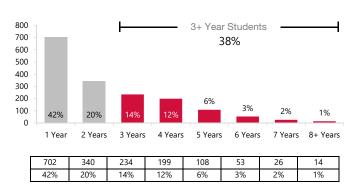
### Enrollment by Year



### Number of Students in Each Grade



### Length of Enrollment



### Student Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Academy	Local District	State
American Indian or Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%	<1%
Asian American	2%	23%	3%
Black or African American	17%	6%	18%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%	<1%
Caucasian	69%	59%	66%
Hispanic or Latino	6%	6%	8%
Multi-racial	6%	6%	4%

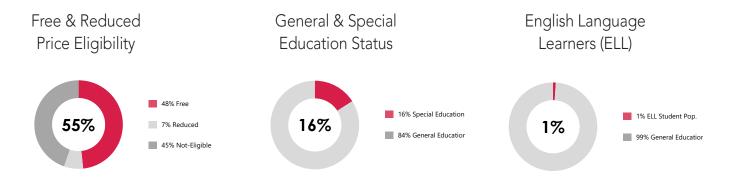
### **COMPOSITE DISTRICT**

The composite district is a proxy district using the weighted average of the public school districts where the Academy's students reside. The composite district is a more accurate comparison to the Academy than the resident district, based on the make-up of the student body. This comparator is used as a benchmark for student performance in various academic measures, such as the M-STEP and SAT assessments. A list of districts that make up the composite district are presented in the table to the right.

#### **RESIDENT DISTRICT**

The resident district, identified on the prior page, refers to the public school district in which the Academy physically resides. Similar to the composite district, this district is used as a comparison for student performance in various academic measures.

District in Which Students Live	% of Students From That District
Detroit Public Schools Community District	7.5%
Lansing Public School District	2.1%
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	1.7%
Wayne-Westland Community School District	1.5%
Utica Community Schools	1.5%
Flint, School District of the City of	1.4%
Dearborn City School District	1.4%
Livonia Public Schools School District	1.4%
Woodhaven-Brownstown School District	1.4%
Pontiac City School District	1.4%
Roseville Community Schools	1.3%
Port Huron Area School District	1.3%
Redford Union Schools, District No. 1	1.2%
Taylor School District	1.2%
Grand Rapids Public Schools	1.2%
Ann Arbor Public Schools	1.0%
Kalamazoo Public Schools	0.9%
Holt Public Schools	0.8%
Ypsilanti Community Schools	0.8%
Other	69.0%



### M-STEP Proficiency

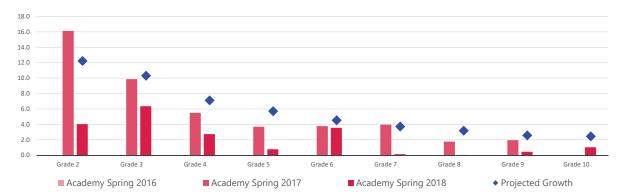
Grade	Subject	Prior Year 2016-2017	Current Year 2017-2018	Composite District	Resident District	State
Grade 3	ELA	49.4%	46.6%	38.4%	70.4%	44.4%
Grade 5	Math	38.4%	31.1%	38.6%	72.4%	45.7%
Grade 4	ELA	48.0%	47.6%	34.5%	74.2%	45.0%
Graue 4	Math	26.7%	34.1%	32.4%	76.9%	42.0%
Grade 5	ELA	53.7%	45.9%	41.5%	70.3%	46.5%
Grade 5	Math	29.1%	23.4%	28.3%	60.5%	34.3%
Grade 6	ELA	52.7%	41.7%	35.0%	67.9%	41.4%
Grade 0	Math	34.0%	21.7%	26.8%	58.5%	34.6%
Grade 7	ELA	62.5%	45.8%	38.2%	70.2%	43.4%
Grade /	Math	36.2%	23.2%	30.6%	59.4%	35.7%
Grade 8	ELA	73.0%	47.8%	38.1%	70.8%	42.8%
Grade o	Math	28.8%	15.7%	28.6%	63.1%	32.7%
C 1- 11	ELA (SAT)	62.7%	59.7%	56.7%	85.7%	57.8%
Grade 11	Math (SAT)	18.6%	27.4%	36.2%	73.6%	36.9%

# **MEASURE 1: STUDENT GROWTH**

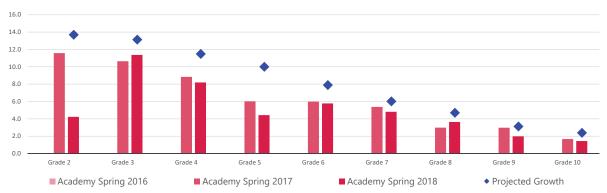
# NWEA MAP Growth Percentiles for Grades 2 through 10

School Conditional Growth Percentile (Gains Percentile) for Reading & Math in grades 2 through 10 will be at or above the 50th percentile.

READING	Count	Fall 2017 RIT	Spring 2018 RIT	Observed Growth	Projected Growth •	# Meeting Growth Proj.	% Meeting Growth Proj.	School Conditional Growth Percentile
Grade 2	67	185.5	189.5	4.0	12.2	19	28.4%	1.0
Grade 3	62	188.9	195.2	6.4	10.3	23	37.1%	2.0
Grade 4	75	202.7	205.4	2.7	7.1	31	41.3%	1.0
Grade 5	100	208.9	209.7	0.8	5.7	37	37.0%	1.0
Grade 6	132	212.8	216.3	3.6	4.5	63	47.7%	26.0
Grade 7	149	215.6	215.7	0.1	3.7	61	40.9%	2.0
Grade 8	147	220.4	220.5	0.0	3.2	63	42.9%	12.0
Grade 9	155	223.9	224.4	0.5	2.6	75	48.4%	32.0
Grade 10	157	223.0	224.0	1.0	2.4	78	49.7%	55.0



MATH	Count	Fall 2017 RIT	Spring 2018 RIT	Observed Growth	Projected Growth 🄷	# Meeting Growth Proj.	% Meeting Growth Proj.	School Conditional Growth Percentile
Grade 2	67	188.0	192.2	4.2	13.7	12	17.9%	1.0
Grade 3	62	188.7	200.1	11.4	13.1	30	48.4%	24.0
Grade 4	74	203.4	211.6	8.2	11.5	36	48.6%	6.0
Grade 5	100	209.7	214.1	4.4	10.0	35	35.0%	2.0
Grade 6	134	215.0	220.8	5.8	7.9	57	42.5%	22.0
Grade 7	149	219.3	224.1	4.8	6.0	76	51.0%	32.0
Grade 8	145	223.0	226.6	3.6	4.7	65	44.8%	35.0
Grade 9	156	230.2	232.1	2.0	3.1	69	44.2%	30.0
Grade 10	158	232.6	234.1	1.4	2.4	78	49.4%	37.0



<sup>\*</sup> Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) – Federal law that prohibits student identifiable education data from being publicly disseminated. A group of 10 or less students is considered to contain student identifiable data.

# **MEASURE 2: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

### Spring NWEA MAP Achievement for Grades 2 through 10

The average national achievement percentile ranking for Reading and Math in grades 2-8 (combined) will be at the 50th percentile.

#### **READING**



### **MATH**

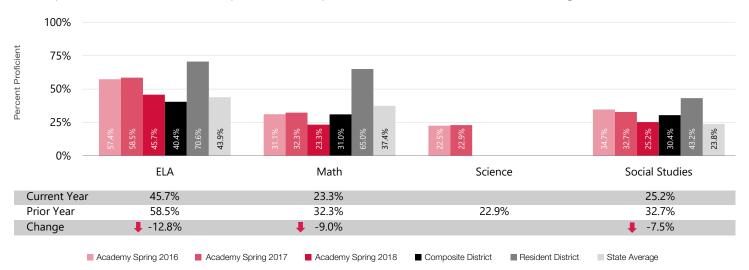


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### **MEASURE 3: STATE & FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

### M-STEP Proficiency in Grades 3 through 8

Percent proficient for all students, as compared to the composite district, resident district, and state average



### M-STEP Proficiency by Subgroup

2017-2018 percent proficient for all students, as compared to the state average

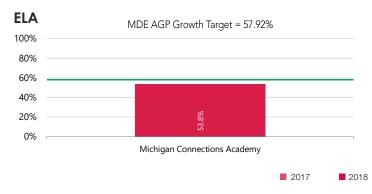
ELA	Academy	State
All Students	45.7%	43.9%
Ethnic/Racial Minorities	37.1%	40.4%
Students with Disabilities		13.9%
Limited English Proficient		22.5%
Economically Disadvantaged		29.2%
Male	41.9%	39.6%
Female	50.3%	48.3%

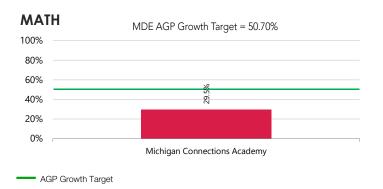
Math	Academy	State
All Students	23.3%	37.4%
Ethnic/Racial Minorities	15.7%	33.9%
Students with Disabilities		11.6%
Limited English Proficient		23.0%
Economically Disadvantaged		22.4%
Male	24.7%	38.6%
Female	21.7%	36.0%

### MDE School Growth Index 2017

Percent of all students in grades 4-8 & 11 who met their Adequate Growth Percentile (AGP)

(The 2018 Growth Index will be available when released by the MDE)



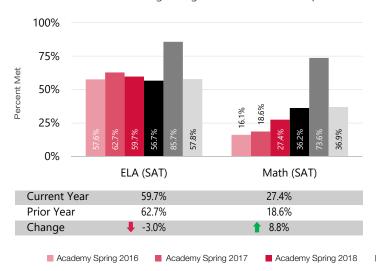


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### **MEASURE 3: STATE & FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

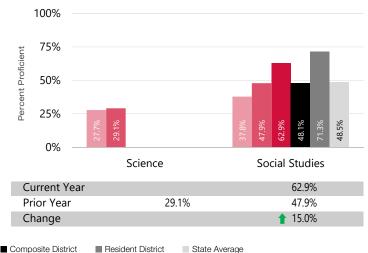
### SAT Results of Grade 11

Percent of students meeting college readiness, with comparisons



### M-STEP Results of Grade 11

Percent of students proficient, with comparisons



### SAT Total Score Results 2018

Composite SAT scores of all Ferris charter schools, with the state-wide average and comparison districts

School	Total Score
National Average	1010
Statewide	1000
Composite District	997
Creative Technologies Academy	977
Michigan Connections Academy	973
Grand Rapids Public Schools	943
Conner Creek Academy East	877
Detroit City School District	866
Voyageur Academy	866
Blended Learning Academies Credit Recovery High School	850
Lansing Public School District	844
Hope Academy of West Michigan	841
Hope of Detroit Academy	822
Flint Public Schools	788
Detroit Delta Preparatory Academy for Social Justice	785
Lighthouse Academy (SDA)	784
Clara B. Ford Academy (SDA)	738

### MDE Index Value 2017

Overall Index of all Ferris charter schools (The 2018 Index Value will be available when released by the MDE)

School	Value
Huron Academy - Elementary	82.62
Huron Academy - Elementary/Middle School	81.41
New Bedford Academy	76.34
Bridge Academy	76.09
Hope of Detroit Academy - Elementary	74.41
Muskegon Montessori Academy for Environmental Change	73.16
Bridge Academy West	70.92
Michigan Connections Academy	70.24
Creative Technologies Academy	67.13
Marshall Academy	62.71
Northridge Academy	62.28
Benton Harbor Charter School	50.05
Conner Creek Academy East - Elementary	47.53
Hope of Detroit Academy - Middle/High	46.06
Battle Creek Montessori Academy	45.93
Voyageur College Prep	42.89
Conner Creek Academy East - Collegiate	40.04
Hope Academy of West Michigan	39.18
Voyageur Academy	37.10
Joy Preparatory Academy	30.37
Clara B. Ford Academy (SDA)	26.73
Detroit Delta Preparatory Academy for Social Justice	25.66
Lighthouse Academy - North Campus	21.20
Lighthouse Academy - East Village	16.81
Lighthouse Academy	15.67
Blended Learning Academies Credit Recovery High School	10.93
Lighthouse Academy - St. Johns	0.00
Lighthouse Academy - Waalkes	0.00
Lighthouse Academy - The Pier	*

<sup>\*</sup>Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) - Federal law that prohibits student identifiable education data from being publicly disseminated. A group of 10 or less students is considered to contain student identifiable data.

# THE CHARTER CONTRACT

# **COMPLIANCE & CONTRACT LENGTH OF TERM**

### **Charter Contract Compliance History**

On-time compliance record for the Board's compliance activities, the Academy's compliance activities, and overall compliance.

Year	On-time Compliance Overall	On-time Compliance Board	On-time Compliance Academy	
2015-2016	99%	100%	97%	
2016-2017	100%	100%	100%	
2017-2018	99%	100%	97%	
	99%	100%	97%	

### Charter Contract Timeline

History of the Academy's charter contracts, along with key aspects to each contract period.

Length of Term	Dates	Ammendments During the Contract	Notes
5 year	2013-2018	N	
3 year	2010-2013	Υ	Initial Contract

# **BOARD of DIRECTORS**

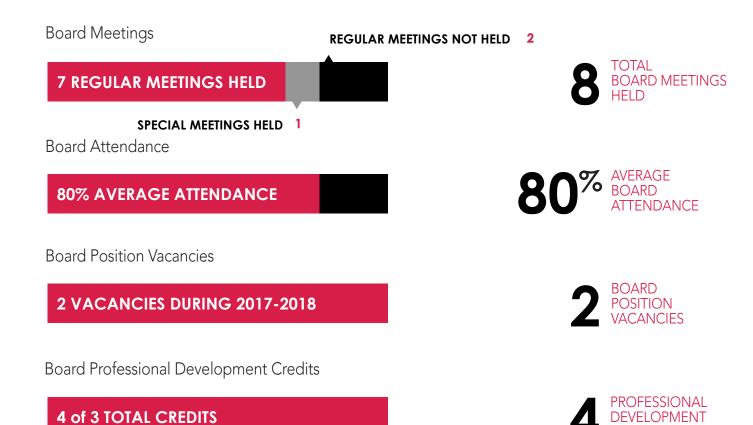
### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP & ACTIVITIES**

### Academy Board Service

Board demographics and required professional development credits.

Board Member	Office	Length of Service		
Linda Frost	President	8 Years	6/30/2018	
Randy Zylstra	Vice President	5 Years	6/30/2018	
Andrew Bellingar	Treasurer	7 Years	6/30/2019	
Todd Terry	Secretary	6 Years	6/30/2021	
Bruce Bellingar	Director	2 Years	6/30/2021	
Vacant				
Vacant				

# Academy Board Meetings, Attendance, and Position Vacancies



# FISCAL PERFORMANCE

# **BUDGETING & REPORTING**

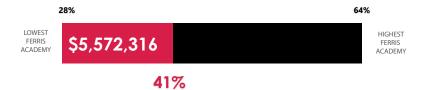
### Your Academy's Revenue

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Trend	% of Revenue
Enrollment	1,574	1,582	1,659		
Per-pupil Foundation Allowance	\$7,391	\$7,511	\$7,631		
General Fund Revenues					
Local	\$82,201	\$106,493	\$0		<1%
State	\$12,802,343	\$13,034,320	\$13,393,626		94%
Federal	\$478,215	\$362,611	\$754,159		5%
Other	\$76,333	\$59,777	\$76,549		<1%
Detail					
51c Spec Ed Headlee Obligation	\$298,262	\$297,559	\$350,705		2%
22b Discretionary Payment	\$2,842,027	\$3,057,151	\$3,184,006		22%
11(3) PSA Protected	\$9,133,575	\$9,174,990	\$9,122,905		64%
31A At Risk	\$486,784	\$460,756	\$656,051		5%
152a Headlee Obligation for Data Collection	\$41,813	\$42,145	\$42,104		<1%
64b Dual Enrollment Incentives		\$1,720	\$2,010		<1%
22n High School Pupil Supports			\$14,781		<1%
Total	\$12,802,462	\$13,034,321	\$13,372,562		
Total General Fund Revenues	\$13,439,092	\$13,563,202	\$14,224,334	_/	

### Your Academy's Expenditures

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Trend	% of Expenditures
Expenses/Transfers					
Instruction	\$8,735,093	\$8,804,909	\$5,572,316		41%
Pupil Support Services	\$453,188	\$928,855	\$100,183		<1%
Administration	\$3,996,671	\$3,657,204	\$7,796,938		57%
Operations and Maintenance	\$205,469	\$225,425	\$244,640		2%
Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0		<1%
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0		<1%
Outgoing Transfers & Other Transactions	\$0	\$0	\$0		<1%
Total Expenses/Transfers	\$13,390,420	\$13,616,392	\$13,714,077	\_	
Total Revenues over Expenses	\$48,672	-\$53,191	\$510,257		
General Fund Balance Beginning of Year	\$20,895	\$69,567	\$16,377		
General Fund Balance End of Year	\$69,567	\$16,377	\$526,634		
Fund Balance as a % of Revenue	1%	0%	4%		

### **Total Instruction**





### Total Business & Administration





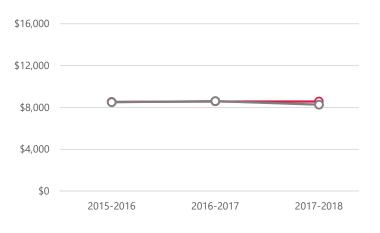
### Total Operations & Maintenance





#### Per-student Finances

HOW AVERAGE EXPENSES AND REVENUES PER STUDENT COMPARE

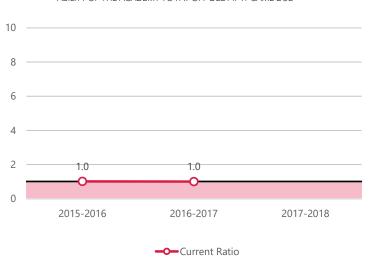


**─**Total Revenue/FTE Enrollment **─**Total Expenses/FTE Enrollment

The Total Revenue per Student illustrates all revenues received, divided by the Academy's overall total enrollment. Similarly, the Total Expenses/Student illustrates total expenses, divided by enrollment. Revenue per Student should exceed Expenses per Student, with a trend to increase this difference. If the Expenses per Student exceed Revenue per Student, the Academy is operating in deficit spending.

### Current Ratio

ABILITY OF THE ACADEMY TO PAY OFF DEBT IF IT CAME DUE



The current ratio illustrates the balance of debts to assets. This measures the ability of the Academy to pay back its short-term and long-term obligations with its current assets on hand. If the ratio is 1.0, then the Academy has an equal amount of debt to assets. If the ratio is below 1.0, then the Academy could not fulfill its current liabilities if they came due all at once.

# OTHER MEASURES REVIEWS

### **School Visits**

In order to carry out its responsibility for evaluating academy performance, the CSO has developed the Mid-Contract and Reauthorization Visitation procedures. The CSO views these visitations as part of an ongoing evaluative process, and not as a single event. Visitation teams of three to four educators spend one to two days interviewing stakeholders, observing operations, and reviewing information for each visited school. Visitation guides are sent to each school outlining the procedures for their upcoming visit. The Academy Internal Review Guide focuses on what the school will do before the visit. This internal review process provides an opportunity for the Academy's School Improvement Team and other key stakeholders to self-reflect on some of the key indicators of quality student performance and organizational effectiveness. The Visitation Preparation Guide describes the review procedures and the responsibilities of the school and the CSO.

After each visit, CSO personnel discuss observations, review data, and create a comprehensive Visitation Report. These reports help determine placement in the School Support Team designation process, share visitation findings, and review the school's School Improvement Plan. In addition, the report contains Opportunities for Growth related to facilities, school systems, school culture, mission accomplishment, student academic outcomes, governance/leadership, resources, and the school's support system. Reauthorization Visits are used to make recommendations to the FSU Board of Trustees regarding contract renewal, extension, revocation, or non-renewal. Mid-Contract Visits help schools to focus on areas of concern, recognize points of pride, and ensure boards of directors and the CSO understand any issues that must be addressed before the Reauthorization Visit.

Visitation Reports are available on the FSU CSO website by selecting the authorized school and going to the Reports/Performance Data link (https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/academicaffairs/charterschools/schools/homepage.htm)

### Quality Reviews

The CSO may elect to contract with a nationally recognized expert in the area of charter school reviews to conduct a Quality School Review (QSR). An external review team conducts a multi-day site visit utilizing the QSR Protocol, which is grounded in the Charter Contract and focuses on critical areas of inquiry associated with curriculum, instruction, assessment, and a limited fiscal review of support of the Educational Program. The external team conducts classroom observations and schedules interviews with board members, administrators, staff members, and students. In addition to school reviews, the CSO may bring in external teams to provide an analysis of office procedures and policies.

# END NOTES

### SOURCES

Page 8: Charter Contract, CSO Office, Ferris State University

CEPI, Michigan Department of Education MSDS, Michigan Department of Education M-STEP, Michigan Department of Education SAT, Michigan Department of Education

CEPI, Michigan Department of Education Page 9:

> MSDS, Michigan Department of Education M-STEP, Michigan Department of Education SAT, Michigan Department of Education

Page 10-11: Measures of Academic Progress, NWEA

Page 12: M-STEP/Growth Index Scores, Michigan Department of Education

Page 13: M-STEP/Index Values, Michigan Department of Education

SAT, Michigan Department of Education

Page 14-15: Charter Contract, CSO Office, Ferris State University

Epicenter, Academy Document Submission (current year represents 4th Quarter, unaudited)

Page 16-17: FID, Michigan Department of Education

Epicenter, Academy Document Submission

### **ACRONYMS & GLOSSARY**

Adequate Growth Percentile (AGP): The SGP a student needs to become or remain proficient in 3 years. These growth targets are set by the Michigan Department of Education.

Composite District: The composite district is a proxy district using the weighted average of the public school districts where the

Academy's students reside. The composite district is a more accurate comparison to the Academy than the resident district, based on the make-up of the student body. This comparator is used as a benchmark for student performance in various academic measures, such as the M-STEP and SAT assessments. A list of districts that make up the composite

district are presented in the table to the right.

Conditional Growth Percentile (CGP): The students percentile rank for growth based on all other students who took the assessment nation-wide. A CGP of 50 means that the students growth was greater than 50% of similar students.

Current Ratio: The current ratio illustrates the balance of debts to assets. This measures the ability of the Academy to pay back its short-

term and long-term obligations with its current assets on hand. If the ratio is 1.0, then the Academy has an equal amount of debt to assets. If the ratio is below 1.0, then the Academy could not fulfill its current liabilities if they came due all at once

Expenditures: The amount the Academy spent on various activities to education its students.

Growth Percentile: The amount of growth students had between two tests; usually fall-to-spring (MAP), or year-to-year (M-STEP).

M-STEP: The state administered standardized assessment in grades 3 through 10.

MAP: A standardized assessment administered by NWEA in grades 2 through 8 that provides student diagnostics.

Per-student Finances: The Total Revenue per Student illustrates all revenues received, divided by the Academy's overall total enrollment.

Similarly, the Total Expenses/Student illustrates total expenses, divided by enrollment. Revenue per Student should exceed Expenses per Student, with a trend to increase this difference. If the Expenses per Student exceed Revenue

per Student, the Academy is operating in deficit spending.

Proficiency: A state-determined level of achievement that all students should obtain.

Projected Growth: The amount of growth a student (or group of students) should be able to obtain based on national trends and the student's prior test scores.

Resident District: The resident district, identified on the prior page, refers to the public school district in which the Academy physically

resides. Similar to the composite district, this district is used as a comparison for student performance in various

academic measures

Revenue: The amount the Academy received from various sources, that it can allocate to operate the program.

RIT Score: The Rasch Unit used in the MAP test for measuring the difficulty and complexity of the assessment.

Student Achievement: The amount of academic content a student has learned over a set amount of time.

Student Growth: The amount of change (gain or loss) in student achievement over a set amount of time.

Student Growth Percentile (SGP): The amount of growth a student achieved from the last time he or she took the test compared to other Michigan students who performed at a similar level.



