



**Ms. Kristin Sliwinski**  
*Learning Options*  
*Principal*

## Learning Options High School (AER)

February 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for Learning Options 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 Ms. Kristin Sliwinski for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://bit.ly/3iJ1AEB> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 school year, schools were identified using new 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.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Three key challenges for Learning Options High School, which is the alternative high school located within the Community Education Resource Center, are attendance, academic achievement, and graduation rate. The percentage of Learning Options students who scored proficient on the SAT and M-STEP is below the percentage of students proficient in the state in all subject areas. We have identified that a priority need was to focus on core instruction in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies while also integrating social-emotional learning courses and practices to improve academic achievement for all students. Another need is to improve the daily attendance rate for students. We believe that improving academic achievement and attendance will have a direct impact on graduation rates. Therefore, we have established several initiatives to improve and create student success in these three targeted areas:

1. This is the fourth year of implementing the Successful Student Program where each student is partnered with a mentor staff member in our program. Students meet with their mentors on a weekly basis and review their progress report (Successful Student Rubric-SSR) which summarizes their academic achievement, attendance, and actions for the week. Students develop weekly goals and action plans with their mentors. These SSRs are sent home for parents to review. If a student is not making adequate process, interventions are implemented using a response to intervention model.

2. The Student Support Team, which consists of all staff members, meets weekly to discuss students of concern and create goals and action plans to increase success. We use a data-based problem-solving model. Action items are created to support the student. Often, individual students are placed on academic or behavior contracts and plans to help improve overall achievement.

3. Attendance phone calls are made to parents on a daily basis for any student who has an unexcused absence. We also track attendance and send home a 5-day and 10-day absence letter. Once a student reaches 10 days absent, a student-parent-administrator meeting takes place to develop a plan for improvement. If the student does not improve, a referral is made to Oakland Schools Truancy.
4. To improve test-taking strategies and skills, all teachers embedded activities into their classrooms. We implemented writing across the curriculum and students were required to complete at least one writing task in the SAT format in each of their different classes.
5. The staff has worked to align their instruction and use the district developed common assessments for all core classes. Our staff works extremely hard to differentiate instruction to meet the diverse needs of our students. Their lesson design and pedagogy grounded in the latest research on the most effective practices for at-risk students.
6. Positivity Project is a course designed to enhance each student's capacity to integrate skills, attitudes, and behaviors to deal effectively with daily tasks and challenges. Most Learning Options students are enrolled in this course during the school year. Our goal is to create citizens and leaders who will enhance our communities and country by internalizing the belief that "Other People Matter." Positive psychology teaches that people have all 24 strengths within them, and that character is not just skills or behaviors, but rather an intrinsic part of each of us.
7. Academics are supported and enhanced by two full time learning support staff members. These staff members provide additional academic remediation to students in all subject areas as well as after school tutoring two days a week for one hour.
8. The Learning Options learning support staff and social worker also work in collaboration with our staff to increase college-going rates by providing admissions and financial aid advising to students and their families through one-on-one and group support. They help students identify colleges that will serve them well; complete their admissions and financial aid applications; and enroll successfully at the colleges they eventually choose.
9. Learning Options High School has a partnership with Oakland University for placement of undergraduate social work students to complete their internship requirements. Interns provide valuable social, emotional, behavioral, and academic support to the high school students throughout the academic year.
10. Students at Learning Options High School have the ability to recover credit using an online program called Edgenuity. Certified staff members monitor their progress, help students set goals, and review their submitted work to assign a grade. This program allows for flexibility so students can recovery credit and graduate on time.
11. We have partnered with the Genesee County ISD for Virtual Learning opportunities. Through this partnership (GENNET), we are able to offer hundreds of online class options through over a dozen online providers.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

### *Learning Options and Student Enrollment*

Learning Options is an alternative education program that is designed to support students in grades 9-12 who have individual needs not being met in the traditional setting. We provide personalized educational services for students living within Lake Orion Community Schools as well as surrounding communities. We offer a day program, a part-time day/virtual program, and a full-time virtual program. The day program follows the same time schedule and calendar as Lake Orion High School. The full-time virtual program utilizes a completely computer-based curriculum for students who need more flexibility in the time, location, and pace of their education. Students work mainly off-site while being monitored by a certified teacher and school mentor. The part-time day/virtual program combines a schedule of both a day program and virtual program for a student.

Lake Orion Community Schools continues its Schools-of-Choice enrollment program to include out-of-district students for the 2019-20 school year. Spaces were available at selected elementary and middle schools (K-8) during the 2019-20 school year. Lake Orion also accepted Schools-of-Choice students in our Learning Options High School, an alternative learning environment for students in grades 10-12.

### *School Improvement*

The Board of Education authorizes and supports the formation of building level school improvement committees at each building within the district. Based on information gathered throughout the school year, the School Improvement Team looks at revising, eliminating or evolving current goals for the following year. Information gathered includes standardized test scores analysis, teacher observation, information gathered through survey or other devices for parent/student input. School Improvement is a continuous process at Learning Options High School. Building School Improvement Plans are reviewed annually and submitted to the State.

#### Goals:

- Goal 1: All students at Learning Options High School will increase their proficiency in English Language Arts.
- Goal 2: All students at Learning Options High School will increase their proficiency in mathematics.
- Goal 3: All students will increase their engagement with career focused education

### *Specialized Schools*

High School students have an opportunity to attend the International Academy. The International Academy is a public, tuition-free, high school of choice for students of 14 Oakland County school districts collaborating in consortium with university and business partners. Commencing with ninth grade, it provides a unique blend of rigorous academic standards and practical, career-related learning throughout the 190-day school year. Featuring the world-recognized International Baccalaureate as the centerpiece of its curriculum, it concentrates on preparing students for success past secondary education and the world beyond. Lake Orion selects ten students each year to enter the International Academy. The ten students are selected through a lottery held at Lake Orion Community Schools.

Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to enroll at Oakland Schools Technical Campus (OSTC). They will attend either the morning or the afternoon session along with students from Pontiac, Avondale, Rochester and Oxford school districts. Students will earn four (4) credits at Lake Orion High School and four (4) credits at OSTC per year. Bus transportation is provided for all students attending OSTC.

Our school district provides educational programs, services and support to certified special education students throughout the District. During the 2019-20 school year, there were 965 students who were in need of special education support services.

Our school district also runs a separate facility for students with autism, emotional impairments, and young adults with special needs ages 18-26 years old. Within the building we support students K-8 autism and K-8 with emotional impairments. The building includes 83 students in total for the 2019-20 school year. Our new programs allow the District to increase our array of services to keep our students within our community.

### *Curriculum*

Lake Orion Community Schools continues to implement a comprehensive curriculum for all students. The curriculum is based on and aligns with the Michigan Standards. The curriculum at Learning Options is synonymous with the district's curriculum. Additional information on the curriculum can be found at <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/teaching-and-learning/curriculum>

### *Local Assessments*

In addition to the MME, students take common assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Results of the assessments are located at the school.

### *Parent Participation*

We strive to communicate with the parents of our students to ensure a successful high school experience.

#### *Fall Conferences*

2019-2020	Boys' parents attending – 10 (21.3%)	Girls' parents attending – 8 (28.6%)	Total – 24.0%
2018-2019	Boys' parents attending – 23 (51.1%)	Girls' parents attending – 3 (8.8%)	Total – 32.9%

#### *Spring Conferences*

2019-2020	Boys' parents attending – 11 (22.4%)	Girls' parents attending – 8 (26.7%)	Total – 24.1%
2018-2019	Boys' parents attending – 0 (0.0%)	Girls' parents attending – 1 (4.5 %)	Total – 1.6 %

### *Post-Secondary and Advanced Placement Enrollment*

2019-2020 Postsecondary Enrollments (Dual Enrollment)	0
2011-2019 Postsecondary Enrollments (Dual Enrollment)	0

2019-2020 College Equivalent Courses Offered (AP)	0
2011-2019 College Equivalent Courses Offered (AP)	0

2019-2020 Students Enrolled in College Equivalent Courses (AP)	0
2011-2019 Students Enrolled in College Equivalent Courses (AP)	0

2019-2020 Students Receiving a Score Leading to College Credit	0
2011-2019 Students Receiving a Score Leading to College Credit	0

### *Points of Pride*

The 2019-20 school year brought many exciting events and opportunities to Learning Options High School. Our goal is to help students successfully progress toward timely graduation by creating an optimal learning environment, implementing differentiated instruction, and building strong relationships. We also believe in educating the whole student while helping each student create individual goals and plans to be successful in post-secondary paths including college, apprenticeships, military service, or the world of work.

Approximately 100 students attend Learning Options High School each year. Our dedicated staff includes six highly qualified teachers, two learning support staff members, a social worker, a secretary, and a supervisor. Together, we believe that successful students actively engage in academics, have exceptional attendance, and exhibit appropriate, responsible behaviors. Therefore, all students and staff at Learning Options High School participate in the Successful Student Mentoring Program where we develop these skills while developing positive, nurturing, and supportive relationships. Through this multi-tiered intervention and reward system, the majority of students are able to find success and graduate in time with their class.

Students at Learning Options High School meet all of the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and earn a diploma from Lake Orion Community Schools. Our students are also able to participate in elective courses offered at the Oakland Technical Campus and Lake Orion High School. All extracurricular activities and events at LOHS including sports, clubs, and the fine arts are also available for Learning Options students who wish to participate.

We are proud that our district, through this program, can provide students an environment where they realize their unlimited potential. We work extremely hard to meet the unique and diverse needs of our student population. It is our goal to instill a sense of pride and self-worth in each student. In addition, our specialized learning environment promotes greater accountability, participation, and overall success for all students every day. Learning Options High School is a well-established and proven program for students who would benefit from a more individualized learning opportunity.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kristin Sliwinski  
Principal