



2021-2023

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MISSION

The mission of Learning Options High School is to provide students opportunities for success by:

- ***Creating*** an optimal learning environment
- ***Implementing*** highly effective instruction
- ***Building*** strong relationships



WELCOME

Welcome to Learning Options High School. We are here to give students educational OPTIONS! We understand that all students are unique and a traditional approach to education may not be best for every student. Our school is an alternative education program within Lake Orion Community Schools that is designed to work with students and parents to customize a learning plan that is best for each individual.

Our goal is to help students successfully progress toward timely graduation by creating an optimal learning environment, implementing effective, research-based instruction, and building positive relationships. We also believe in educating the whole student—academically, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. We focus on helping each student create individual goals and plans to be successful in post-secondary paths including college, apprenticeships, military service, or immediate career.

At Learning Options High School, we will create an educational plan that is individualized for each student with graduation as the ultimate goal. Each student’s schedule will be tailored to specifically meet their unique needs. Most of our students are most successful when they are scheduled in our face-to-face courses with our specialized teachers during the typical school day. However, there are some students who find success in virtual learning courses where they receive academic instruction through an online learning environment which is primarily off-campus. They are able to self-schedule their learning and have control over the time, location, and pace of their education. Our responsibility is to work with each student to find the perfect environment and instructional method that meets each student’s needs and promotes success.

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 paraprofessional, 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 Mentor Program where we develop these skills while developing positive, nurturing and supportive relationships.

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. Learning Options High School is a well-established and proven program for students who would benefit from a more individualized learning opportunity. If you would like to learn more about Learning Options High School, we would be happy to help. Please contact us at (248) 693-5450.

STAFF

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- **Kristin Sliwinski**- Supervisor
 - **Elizabeth Spearing**- Secretary
 - **Lisa Bulat**- Science Teacher
 - **Becki Hornbeck**- Social Studies Teacher
 - **Jennifer Smith**- Language Arts Teacher
 - **Rachel Yearby**- Mathematics Teacher
 - **Stephanie Ris**- Special Ed—Resource
 - **Jessica Trueblood**- Special Ed— Resource
 - **Courtney Maynard**- Social Work Services
 - **Meghan Kubit**- Learning Support Staff
 - **Stephanie Ludwig**- Learning Support Staff
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APPLICATION PROCESS

Availability –Student in grades 9 through 12 must complete the Learning Options High School Online Application and be accepted in the program. Accepted students will then meet with Admin/Staff to create a schedule that best fits their individual needs and graduation requirements.

Commitment –All courses (in-person and virtual) are based on a block schedule (Term) or “skinny” schedule (Semester). Changes in courses can occur at the end of the scheduled course(s) (Term or Semester).

Learning Options Online Application

- Available March 1, 2021 via the LOCS-Learning Options website here:

Term 1 Enrollment (Beginning of the School Year)

- Dragon Virtual: Applications are due May 4, 2021. Dragon Virtual students will be notified of acceptance by May 14 – Limited spots are available
- Traditional, In-Person Courses: Applications are due May 29, 2021. Students will be notified of acceptance by June 4 – Limited spots are available
- Additional applications will be accepted throughout the summer until all spots are filled for the school year

Term 2 through Term 4 Enrollment (During School Year) – Learning Options accepts students when openings are available.

SCHOOLS-OF-CHOICE

Learning Options High School will open the non-resident 2021-22 Schools-of-Choice applications period in April for enrollment in the fall of 2021.

Application Period: April 5 – May 4

Application: Will be posted on March 15 to be submitted beginning April 5 Here:

Process: Acceptance is not first-come, first-served. All applicants will be notified of their enrollment status by letter via e-mail and mail (instruction will be in the letter), and applicants must be enrolled no later than the specified date.

Note: Lake Orion Community Schools does not provide transportation to Schools-of-Choice students. Those enrolled in the program are expected to arrive and depart from school on time.

SOC Important Dates for 2021

March 15: SOC application available but cannot be turned in until the SOC period is open (April 5 – May 4)

April 5 – May 4: SOC application period is open

May 12: SOC lotter if necessary, 10 a.m. at the Administration Building

May 14: SOC families notified of acceptance and location

May 17 – June 4: SOC registration and enrollment for 2021-22 school year

Questions regarding the SOC program? Contact Central Enrollment at (248) 814-0215

COMMUNICATION

Learning Options High School Office

- Phone: 248-693-5450
- Supervisor: Kristin Sliwinski, email: Kristin.Sliwinski@lok12.org
- Secretary: Elizabeth Spearing, email: Elizabeth.Spearing@lok12.org

Learning Options Website

- <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/learning-options-high-school>

PowerSchool

- View current grades and attendance: <https://lakeorion.powerschool.com/public/>

School Messenger

- All district communication: Emergency and Superintendent
- School communication: Building/Principal and Attendance
- <https://www.lakeorionschools.org/resources/schoolmessenger>

Facebook

- Like us on Facebook!
- Learning Options High School
- @LearningOptionsHighSchool

Twitter

- Follow us on Twitter!
- LearningOptionsHS
- @LOptionsHS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Learning Options students must earn between 24 and 30 credits that meet the Michigan Merit High School Graduation requirements. Staff will work with each student to determine the minimum required amount of credits required for graduation. Once complete, students earn a high school diploma from Lake Orion Community Schools.

English Language Arts (ELA) – 4 Credits
ELA 9, ELA 10, ELA 11, ELA 12

Mathematics – 4 Credits
Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Math Elective,
Senior Math Course

Science – 3 Credits
Physical Science, Biology, Earth Science

Social Studies – 3 Credits
World History, US History,
Economics, Government

Physical Education – 0.5 Credit

Health – 0.5 Credit

Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts – 1 Credit

World Language – 2 Credits

Electives – 6+ Credits

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Successful Student Mentoring Program

Successful students at Learning Options High School actively engage in **academics**, have exceptional **attendance**, and are **accountable** for appropriate, responsible student behaviors. All students are matched with an adult staff member. Each week, students meet with their mentors and review the Successful Student Rubric (SSR). Based on their reports, students will earn a “successful week” or “unsuccessful week.” The goal is to develop positive, nurturing, and supportive relationships while developing school accountability. Students who earned a successful week will be eligible to participate in “Friday Fun.” Students who did not meet goals will be required to attend “Extra Support Class.” Through this multi-tiered intervention and reward system, students find success.

Academics: In order to maintain enrollment in the program, students must make progress towards graduation (earn credit). Full-time students will be enrolled in a total of 7 credits per academic year. **ANY** loss of credit in **ANY** class in a single term may result in the student being placed on academic probation. Failure to meet the terms of their academic probation will be considered a permanent withdrawal from the Learning Options Program.

Attendance: It is the expectation that students are present every day of instruction. Please call the office if your son or daughter is going to be late, absent, or needs to leave early. The nature of our program is that most work is done in class. Students with excessive absences will be placed on an attendance contract. Tardiness is a disruption of the learning environment; habitual tardiness shows a lack of respect for the other students in the class and will be viewed as insubordination. Learning Options is a closed campus. Students may not leave the CERC building during the school day without administrator approval. Failure to adhere to the policy will be considered a permanent withdrawal from Learning Options High School.

Accountable Actions: Students will demonstrate respect and conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for a school setting. Behavior that interferes with the learning environment, including insubordination, loud and/or abusive speech, and antagonistic or threatening behavior, will result in immediate suspension and possible expulsion from Learning Options High School. **All students are responsible for knowing the policies of Lake Orion Community Schools.** Students are accountable for any actions that violate the Student Code of Conduct as outlined by the district in the student handbook.

Positivity Project

Positivity Project is a program designed to enhance each student’s capacity to integrate skills, attitudes, and behaviors to deal effectively with daily tasks and challenges. 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.

Positivity Project focuses on five core competencies:

1. Self-awareness
2. Self-management
3. Social awareness
4. Relationship skills
5. Responsible decision-making

Positive Character Traits:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| • Appreciation of Beauty | • Humility | • Optimism |
| • Bravery | • Humor | • Perseverance |
| • Creativity | • Integrity | • Perspective |
| • Curiosity | • Kindness | • Prudence |
| • Enthusiasm | • Leadership | • Purpose |
| • Fairness | • Love | • Self-control |
| • Forgiveness | • Love of Learning | • Social Intelligence |
| • Gratitude | • Open-mindedness | • Teamwork |

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (continued)

Successful Student Course

Successful Student is an elective course that the majority of Learning Options students will be scheduled in. The class meets daily and covers important topics including:

- Social-Emotional Learning Activities
- Positivity Project Lessons
- Current Events
- Career and College Readiness, Xello
- STEM
- SSR Successful Student Program—weekly meeting with a mentor
- Friday Fun—extended learning activities based on student interest and choice
- ESC—extra support class for students needing additional help in a course

DRAGON VIRTUAL

Full or Partial Day Virtual Learning –Learning Options students will create a daily schedule that meets their individual needs and customize their experience by choosing courses from a mix of our core in-person academic courses along with virtual courses that are offered at a self-paced rate.

Student Success –The school team (student, staff, and parent/guardian) will consider carefully if a 100% virtual course is idea for the student given the fact that they will be forfeiting face-to-face teacher classroom instruction and support. They will carefully consider the unique qualities of the student when investigating if an online class is right for them. These factors include:

- Can your student create and maintain a study schedule without face-to-face interaction of a teacher?
- Can your student self-advocate seeking help within a virtual setting?
- Does your student possess the independent study habits needed to complete an entire course online without daily supervision?
- Does your student have the reading, writing, math, and computer literacy skills to succeed in a class that is completely online?

Virtual Curriculum –A large selection of courses is available through third-party providers including Connexus, Edgenuity, eDynamic Learning, Fuel Education, Lincoln Learning, and Edmentum. Learning Options teachers may also offer various core virtual courses. Each student schedule will be individualized to align with student interests while preparing them for next steps in careers and education.

Virtual Course Schedule –Students have some control over the time, location, and pace of their virtual courses. Work is completed in an asynchronous format. Daily “in-seat” or live attendance is not required.

Mentor –Students will be assigned a Learning Options staff member who will meet with them weekly to review virtual progress, establish goals, and help the student achieve success.

Virtual Learning Lab –Student enrolled in virtual courses have the choice to work in-person at Learning Options with staff support. The lab provides WIFI access as well as proctoring of assessments.

DIGITAL LEARNING

Digital learning is a method of receiving academic instruction in courses through a digital/online learning environment. Learning Options High School uses courses through Edgenuity. Learning Options teachers are responsible for managing the course content, grading assignments, and ensuring success in the program. Edgenuity is available at: www.edgenuity.com.

- Edgenuity is an online curriculum that students work on during the school day in a lab setting with teacher support to complete courses that are required for graduation.
- At any one-time, numerous students are able to work on different courses, all in the same classroom.
- Edgenuity also allows students to work at their own pace and accomplish their personal goals each day.

STUDENT SERVICES

Special Education/504

- Students with an IEP or 504 will have a plan to address their individual needs within the school setting—virtual or in-person
- Adjustments to schedules and added supports will be determined by these teams

English Learner

- Qualifying students will be supported by a certified LOCS EL teachers

Learning Support Services

- Learning Options students will be provided additional academic, behavioral, or emotional intervention should they qualify for these supports

POST-SECONDARY SUPPORT

The Learning Options staff works to increase college-going rates by providing admissions and financial aid advising to students and their families through one-on-one and group support. Together, we help students identify post-secondary education that will serve them well; complete their admissions and financial aid applications; and enroll successfully at the colleges and/or programs they eventually choose.

We are dedicated to promoting post-secondary planning and learning about different opportunities. Topics included:

1. STAT-R Transition Assessment
2. Educational Development Plan Completion
3. Xello
4. FAFSA presentation
5. College Presentations—OCC, Baker, Rochester College, Henry Ford Community
6. Alternative Pathways Presentation
7. Apprenticeship Program Presentation
8. Military Recruitment Presentation

EXTRA SUPPORT CLASS (ESC)

Extra Support Class can be assigned as a consequence for a violation of the Student Handbook as well as various situations including missing work, failing grades, inappropriate use of class time, etc. Students are responsible for their own transportation. If extra support class is skipped, students may receive additional consequences. Students may also choose to attend Extra Support Class to receive extra help and tutoring.

ESC Hours: TBD

TIME-IN

“Time In” is a form of intervention in which the student attends school, but is held out of regular classes, for the purpose of taking action to repair the harm caused by negative behavior. “Time In” will be used at the administrator’s discretion.

OSTC

All Learning Options students (including students taking virtual courses) are eligible to enroll in the Oakland Technical Campus.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

Learning Options High School follows the exact calendar of Lake Orion High School. In addition, if Lake Orion High School closes for any reason, Learning Options High School does as well.

TIME SCHEDULE-TBD

CERC BUILDING ENTRANCE & VISITORS

Students not arriving on the bus, as well as any visitors, must enter the CERC building through the north entrance (closest to the football stadium). The north entrance is monitored and open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

PARKING PASS

Students are required to have a parking pass if they would like to drive to school. Our students park in the north CERC parking lot in designated spots. The parking pass application is located on the website at the link below. Please contact the office if your student qualifies for free or reduced lunch as the cost will be reduced.
<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/learning-options-high-school/student-life/parking>

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students who live in-district will be provided bus transportation from their home to Lake Orion High School in the morning and from Lake Orion High School to their home in the afternoon. There is also a bus that shuttles students from LOHS to CERC and back, including OSTC students. This bus shuttle is located at the front of the LOHS bus loop in the morning and at the CERC bus loop in the afternoon.
OSTC students must set up their own Wednesday morning pick up through Transportation Department (248-391-5455).

ATHLETICS, CLUBS, ACTIVITIES

Learning Options students are able to participate in any athletics, clubs, and activities that are offered at LOHS.

FOOD SERVICE

School breakfast and lunch can be purchased daily from the CERC cafeteria.
The free and reduced lunch application and meal payment information can be found at:
<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/departments/food-nutrition/meal-payment-information>

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Other important information can be found in the student handbook:
<https://www.lakeorionschools.org/learning-options-high-school/student-life/student-handbook>

QUESTIONS? We are happy to help! Please contact Elizabeth Spearing (Secretary) or Kristin Sliwinski (Supervisor) if you have any questions at 248-693-5450.