



**Capital Area K-12 Online
School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

February 2025

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2023-24 educational progress for Capital Area K-12 Online. 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 Lori Abbott for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://bit.ly/3Yj4hjW> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. For the 2023-2024 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2022-23. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2022-23. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2022-23. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Our school was identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement school.

Some key challenges of our school is increasing our proficiency levels in both reading and math. Using various data sources, we have gained clear visibility of the growth and achievement levels and gaps that exist between our learners. Leaning on this data, we have developed strategies and begun implementation of strengthened tier 1 instruction using the workshop model, differentiation and targeted intervention, instructional coaching, after school tutoring, computer-adapted technologies, supplemental resources, test-prep strategies, and more. We will use the strategies appropriately to reach the unique needs of our students, aiming to increase growth and achievement levels and lesson our achievement gaps for all students to be evident through classroom data and state assessments.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

Capital Area K-12 Online requires all new students to submit an application through the enrollment page of the Lansing School District website. As part of a school of choice district, we consider all students regardless of where the student attended previously within the Lansing School District. Students from outside our district can also be considered to enroll in our school.

Our school is in the initial stages of school improvement activities. We look forward to continuing recognizing social and emotional learning (SEL) and early literacy practices as primary goals as part of our school improvement plan.

For Capital Area, part of our SEL vision is to infuse academic, social, and emotional learning that fits the needs of our virtual students. Our teachers and staff will be guided using the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) to help gain a deeper understanding of planning, assessing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating or SEL practices. Our strategies will consist of the use of the 5 CASEL Competencies Framework, establishing a CRPBIS team to support this goal, and making data-driven decisions to help us improve each year.

Moving further into our school improvement plans, a major goal is to achieve growth in our students' early reading literacy and math numeracy. We will use multiple strategies to help us reach this goal in the years ahead. It will be an important strategy for our teachers to receive professional learning in our core curriculum program and learn about available intervention tools and methods. Using tiered instructional frameworks such as the multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS), to help inform our decisions and address student needs at different levels as well as our district's tiered system of attendance to support a positive culture of attendance will be at the center of literacy and numeracy support.

Capital Area is a 100% online school that serves kindergarten through 12th grade. Part of the rationale for offering a virtual school in the Lansing School District followed the challenges of the Covid pandemic as it would be able to offer a choice for families as our district returned to face-to-face learning in school buildings. This continues to be a good fit for families who choose to keep their student learning outside of brick-and-mortar. However, Capital Area has an additional rationale to offer students an option who are seeking a more flexible learning environment. Our school allows students to be independent learners and work at their own pace.

Our K-8 students work virtually, both synchronously and asynchronously, with our own Lansing School District teachers each week using the Google classroom platform. Students complete much of their learning activities both independently and with the live support of their teacher using an all-access digital curriculum program.

Our 9-12 students work asynchronously with the lessons and assignments provided by certified virtual teachers through a certified program called Edgenuity, a Lansing School District partner. Students stay connected with a Lansing School District mentor each week through the Google classroom platform and have access to their certified teachers who initiate discussions around their coursework.

We follow the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and mathematics. For the social studies content area, we use the state of Michigan's grade level content expectations and the Next Generation Science standards for the science content area. These standards can be seen on the Michigan Department of Education website at, www.michigan.gov. Furthermore, the standards have been compiled into our district-made pacing guides, which can be found on the Lansing School District website found in the Curriculum Corner Tab within the Office of Curriculum and Instruction department page. The pacing guides serve as an effective tool for our teachers to have access to all standards in one location as they plan their lessons and units.

Aggregate Test Scores:

1. Student Achievement

a. Reading Proficiency

- i. AIMSweb SY21-22: 20.51%
- ii. AIMSweb SY22-23: 21.43%
- iii. NWEA SY21-22: 23.47%
- iv. NWEA SY22-23: 19.415
- v. NWEA SY23-24: 18.33%
- vi. NWEA Winter SY24-25 27.5%

b. Math Proficiency

- i. AIMSweb SY21-22: 22.93%
- ii. AIMSweb SY22-23: 25.29%
- iii. NWEA SY21-22: 18.35%
- iv. NWEA SY22-23: 11.81%
- v. NWEA SY23-24: 22.59%
- vi. NWEA Winter SY24-25 21.8%



Capital Area K-12 Online is proud of the strides and accomplishments we experienced last year. We are committed to continuous learning and improvement to meet our school goals and increase in our performance of the overall service we provide to our students and families.

Sincerely,

Zachary R. Dowdy

Zachary R. Dowdy
Capital Area K-12 Online
Assistant Principal