



Mt. Hope

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 7, 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 Mt. Hope. 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 Nicole Holliday- Gosnell 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.

Although our school has not yet reached the statewide average proficiency rates in ELA and Math, student assessment data from the **2023-24** school year demonstrates a **consistent three-year growth trend** in proficiency rates:

**M-STEP Math:**

**2021-22:** 4.30% proficiency

**2022-23:** 8.90% proficiency

**2023-24:** 12.70% proficiency

**M-STEP Reading:**

**2021-22:** 11.00% proficiency

**2022-23:** 17.70% proficiency

**2023-24:** 18.30% proficiency

To continue improving student proficiency and address academic achievement gaps, the Mt. Hope staff remains dedicated to implementing effective strategies that support student success, by implementing the following interventions:

**Implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)** – Using data-driven strategies to provide targeted interventions for struggling students;

**In-School Tutoring** – Small group and one-on-one instruction tailored to individual student needs.

**After School Tutoring** – Additional academic support beyond the school day to reinforce learning and close skill gaps.

**Reading & Math Interventions** – Targeted support during the school day to strengthen foundational skills.

**Computerized Interventions with IXL** – Personalized, adaptive learning in reading and math, helping students master skills assessed on NWEA and M-STEP.

**Engaging Classroom Strategies** – Teachers incorporate collaborative team activities, peer discussions, and structured academic conversations to maximize engagement.

**Think-Alouds & Math Discourse** – Encouraging students to verbalize their thought processes while solving problems, using sentence stems, and articulating complete answers.

**Sentence Stems**- Using sentence stems during instruction to provide students with a structured way to express their thinking and communicate more effectively. This guide them in forming complete, coherent responses, which helps develop their academic language skills and boosts their confidence in sharing their ideas.

**Embedded Formative Assessments & Rigor** – Teachers continuously assess student understanding and adjust instruction to promote deep learning.

**Strengthening Writing Instruction** - Teachers are improving writing instruction by increasing daily opportunities for students to develop their writing skills across all subjects. Together, we remain committed to closing achievement gaps, fostering a culture of excellence, and empowering every student to succeed.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

#### 1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

- Families interested in enrolling their students at Mt. Hope must submit an application through the district's enrollment process. Students residing within Lansing School District (LSD) boundaries may apply to attend under the district's Schools of Choice policy.

#### 2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- To ensure that Mt. Hope's school Improvement Plan is implemented with fidelity, we focus on academic proficiency in Reading and Mathematics, and literacy across all content areas, in alignment with Michigan's Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP).
- Teachers are frequently participating in PLCs and professional developments for continuous improvement of instructional practices.
- Our school is data driven, thus students' progress is continually monitored, by analyzing NWEA, M-STEP, and classroom assessments data.

- A tiered CRPBIS framework is in place to ensure that students receive the necessary support to develop strong social-emotional skills while maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment.
- Frequent Restorative Circles, led by our Office of School Culture team, to help students de-escalate conflicts, reflect on their actions, and build problem-solving skills. Through open dialogue, students gain tools to resolve disputes and develop stronger peer relationships.

### 3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

- Mt. Hope serves students in **4th through 8th grade**, providing a diverse and supportive learning environment that meets the needs of all learners. Our comprehensive student support services include Special Education, School Social Work, and Speech Pathology for students who qualify. Additionally, we support a small but growing population of Multilingual (ML) students, ensuring they receive targeted instruction and resources to thrive academically.
- Our core curriculum is aligned with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and follows the Common Core Standards, ensuring students receive a high-quality, standards-based education. Some of our key instructional priorities include creating highly engaging, rigorous, and collaborative lessons that promote critical thinking, problem-solving, and student discourse.
- Additionally, we are committed to integrating reading and writing across all content areas to strengthen literacy skills and deepen comprehension in every subject. Through intentional instructional strategies, cross-curricular literacy integration, and student-centered learning, we aim to prepare all students for success.
- As a STEAM-focused school, we provide students with engaging opportunities in Coding, LEGO Robotics, and Technology, fostering creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. Additionally, we offer theatre arts as an integral part of our after school co- curricular, allowing students to explore self-expression and collaboration. Our Drama Club is currently preparing for
- its highly anticipated spring production of *Shrek The Musical Jr.* We look forward to showcasing our students' talents and hard work on stage!

#### 4. HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

The District's Core Curriculum is aligned with Common Core Standards. Teachers and instructional staff receive on-going training, which includes Professional Learning Communities (PLC), and implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). Click the link below of the Lansing School District to access a copy of the core curriculum. [www.lansingschools.net](http://www.lansingschools.net).

#### 5. Student Achievement

##### a. Reading Proficiency

- i. NWEA 21-22: 14.60%
- ii. NWEA 22-23: 16.48%
- iii. NWEA 23-24: 16.04%

##### b. Math Proficiency

- i. NWEA 21-22: 5.83%
- ii. NWEA 22-23: 5.84%
- iii. NWEA 23-24: 13.68%

#### 6. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

- During the 2023-24 school year, 80% of Mt. Hope families participated in fall parent-teacher conferences, while 75% attended spring conferences through in-person meetings, Zoom, or phone calls. To further increase engagement, Mt. Hope is collaborating with the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) to implement incentives and parent initiatives with the goal of reaching 90% participation.

As the Principal at Mt. Hope, I am humbled by the opportunity to make a difference in our students' lives. It is truly empowering to see the love, care, and dedication that the entire Mt. Hope staff shows to our students every day. While we often face behavioral challenges, I want to assure you that we love our students for who they are, and we are committed to continually learning new ways and finding effective strategies to support both their academic growth and emotional well-being. We recognize the importance of building a positive, inclusive, and nurturing environment where each student feels valued and empowered to succeed.



We are dedicated to fostering a school culture where students are not only academically challenged but also emotionally supported. By building strong relationships, embracing restorative practices, and providing targeted interventions, we aim to help all students thrive in every aspect of their development.

We deeply appreciate the trust you have placed in us to educate your children, who are truly tomorrow's leaders. Together, with the support of our parents, staff, and community, we will continue to ensure that every student at Mt. Hope receives the tools they need to succeed and become the best version of themselves.

Thank you for being part of this amazing journey with us!

For any questions, please contact me at (517) 755-1550.

Sincerely,  
Nicole Holliday