

Watervliet High School 450 E. Red Arrow Highway Watervliet, Michigan 49098

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

April 12, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 education progress of Watervliet High School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The schools report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Mr. Brad Coon for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <http://bit.ly/2lorNlu> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using 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 subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) 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.

* Note TSI and ATS definitions were changed for the 2018-19 school year per federal requirements. The new definitions are:

TSI - The school has at least one subgroup performing in the bottom 25% within each applicable accountability index component.

ATS - The school has met the criteria for TSI identification and has at least one subgroup performing at the same level as a CSI school.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

While we are satisfied with our recent 2017-18 achievement scores on the Social Studies M-STEP and SAT Total, SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing (EBRW), and SAT Mathematics, we are continuously working to improve. In Social Studies the 17/18 cohort scored 14% above the state proficiency percentage, where our students had a proficiency of 62.5%, bettering the

16/17 cohort by 9.6%. The 17/18 cohort achieved slightly above the state on the SAT Total score by 0.6% with 35.2 % meeting or exceeding the benchmarks, whereas the 16/17 cohort scored below the state average, therefore displaying growth. The 17/18 cohort experienced a decrease in EBRW compared to the 16/17 cohort, however, they bettered the state by 7%, with 64.8% of our 17/18 cohort meeting or exceeding the standards for EBRW. For Mathematics, the 17/18 cohort closed the gap on the state score to 1.7% below state, showing improvement of 8% from 16/17 cohort. The 17/18 cohort improved the Mathematics to 35.2% of students meeting or exceeding benchmarks. We appreciate the continued support of parents, students, staff and our community in this effort to show annual growth and we will continue working diligently moving forward. We are implementing intervention-based initiatives to support our growth mindset culture.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. **ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:** Students are assigned to Watervliet High School by grade level and credits earned. Based on the number of credits earned, determines what grade level the student will be placed in, as well as courses assigned. Students who excel in certain content areas, area encouraged to enroll in more rigorous courses.
2. **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:** Watervliet High School has a 3-5 year school improvement plan (SIP) implementing, adjusting and working on the new school improvement plan. We will continue to let our SIP guide our professional development for the upcoming school year. Our goals are:
 - a. **Goal #1:** All students will meet the College/Career Readiness standards in Mathematics as evidenced by SAT achievement by August 31, 2019.
 - b. **Goal #2:** All students will meet the College/Career Readiness standards in Literacy as evidenced by SAT achievement by August 31, 2019.
 - c. **Goal #3:** Watervliet High School will be part of a district-wide system of data-based decision making by August 31, 2019.
 - d. **Goal #4:** All students at Watervliet High School will become technology literate.
3. **SPECIALIZED SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES:** Along with our traditional education services provided through our high school, we are pleased to be able to provide additional services to members of our learning community:
 - a. Berrien RESA provides services to special needs students though Blossomland Learning Center, Lighthouse Education Center, and the Berrien County Hearing Impaired Program.
 - b. Furthermore, Berrien RESA works in conjunction with the Berrien Juvenile Detention Center to provide services to students being housed at the center.
 - c. Watervliet High School students are afforded the opportunity to attend vocational programs at the Van Buren Intermediate School District program and Berrien County districts for their in-house programs. We had 50 students attend vocational programs in the 2017-18 year.
4. **CORE CURRICULUM:** Watervliet does not vary from the state's model of the Michigan Common Core State Standards, available at following website https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html . Furthermore, a copy can be viewed in Mr. Brad Coon's office at Watervliet High School.
5. **MME RESULTS:** Watervliet High School eligible juniors take the Michigan Merit Exam in the spring as scheduled by MDE each school year. This data can be viewed in the Annual Education Report, which is available online at <http://watervlietps.org> . If you are unable to access the information via the internet, copies may be viewed in Mr. Brad Coon's

office. Our building met the Participation target (100% in fact), our Graduation Rate was 100% and our Attendance Rate was 93.7%.

6. **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:** Watervliet High School offers parent-teacher conferences in the Fall of the school year. Our students were represented by over 20% of their parents. We also provide a parent internet viewer, which allows parents to view their child's progress in each of their classes. We also mail report cards four times, with 4 progress reports during the school year as well.
7. **POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT:** In the 2017/18 school year, Watervliet High School had 29 students enrolled in postsecondary classes for a total of 7.9% representation of our student body. Twenty (20) students dual enrolled, with nine (9) attending Berrien RESA's Early Middle College in our second year of the program.
8. **COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED:** Watervliet High School offers five (5) Advanced Placement courses: AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP Computer Science and AP European History. In 2017/18 students participated in AP Calculus and AP Computer Science, twenty-three (23) students in all. Of the 23 students participating in coursework, fifteen (15) of the students took the exams (65.2% exam participation). We also offer a plethora of college equivalent courses through Michigan Virtual High School. In the AP assessment, twelve (12) of the fifteen (15), or 80%, who participated in the assessment received a score of three (3) or higher making them eligible to receive college credit.

Our staff at Watervliet High School place emphasis on student growth and we are constantly looking for ways to ensure that all students experience success. WHS was recognized by US News and World Report as a Silver Award school placing WHS in the top 10% for "*America's Best High Schools*". We also received recognition from the Mackinac Centers' Michigan Public High School Context and Performance Report Card, where WHS ranked 43rd among the 674 eligible high schools in Michigan, earning a grade of "A" with completing in 93.77 percentile of the eligible schools in Michigan. We were proud of our growth in the rankings from 16/17 school year and continue to look for growth.

Sincerely,

Brad Coon, EdS
Principal of Watervliet High School