



Southwestern Classical Academy
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2016-2017 School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

May 31, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-2017 educational progress for Southwestern Classical Academy. 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 Dr. Maria Boyd-Springer, Principal at (810) 760-1400 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/vyy95h> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

Southwestern Classical Academy (SCA) 7th–12th is a Title I (neighborhood) International Baccalaureate School operating within the Flint Community School District. We are a state and nationally accredited school through the AdvancED/North Central Accreditation of Colleges and Schools. Our students are provided a world-class education with competitive course offerings which include college prep, honors and Career & Technical Education. In addition, all 11th and 12th grade students can select the (IB) Diploma Program studies in all core content areas. Additionally, we offer Learning Support Services (LSS) to eligible students with special needs to ensure that they are able to fully access the curriculum and extra-curricular activities within the least restrictive environment. We provide educational services for Visually Impaired, Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Learning Disabled, Cognitively Impaired and Emotionally Impaired students.

For the 2016-2017 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. 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.

Overall our assessment data highlights the fact that we have many challenges across all four content areas. In an effort to provide support for students, our staff strives to help every child be successful by implementing a curriculum that is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and providing rigorous and engaging lessons. We work collaboratively with the district, Genesee Intermediate School District (MiExcel), Michigan State University Leadership Fellowship and the Michigan Department of Education as we leverage SIG Grant funds to supplement our instructional practices and provide rich learning experiences for our students. These partners support us by helping us better understand our school's strengths and weaknesses by looking at the achievement data more closely and making changes in how instruction is delivered in the classroom to help close the achievement gaps. Another major challenge has been the need to utilize long term substitutes rather than having highly qualified teaching staff. Finally, the inconsistency of leadership has impacted the implementation and monitoring of building initiatives.

PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

The Flint Community School District has a centralized enrollment process. The Flint School District has established residential boundaries that govern which schools students attend. Consideration of student needs and specialized programming are also taken into consideration to determine school placement. The district has a process for school transfers and participates in the County Section 105 Schools of Choice program which parents can apply for in the office of Centralized Enrollment.

THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Southwestern Classical Academy continues to be a School-wide Title I building. SIP/Unpacking Tool academic goals continue to address the need to increase school-wide increase academic achievement in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies and science. These goals comprise our academic focus and key instructional areas in an ongoing effort to improve student achievement, and exceed the State's M-STEP and WorkKeys, PSAT, and SAT achievement test scores. As a recipient of a Michigan Department of Education SIG Grant, our SIP/Unpacking Tool continues to be a working and living document that will lead our instructional practices and professional development. It will be reviewed annually to examine the impact on our desired outcomes. We will continuously examine student data to ensure that our work is progressive and aligned with meeting the needs of our students as they experience academic and personal growth and successfully complete high school.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

All 7th-10th grade students complete (4) years of Mathematics, Language A (English), Language B (Foreign Languages), Humanities (Social Studies), Sciences, Fine Arts

(Visual and Performing), Technology and Physical Education/Health. Completing this coursework prepares students to advance to the 11th-12th grade DP Program if desired general graduation requirements for SCA students include: Four (4) years of English Language Arts and Mathematics, three (3) years of Science and Social Studies, and two (2) consecutive years of a Foreign Language. Additionally, students are required to complete courses in Fine Arts, PE, Health, Computer Technology, and Career Planning and Professional Growth preparation. Our World Language offerings include multi-year study in French and Spanish. Students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible to enhance their academic experience by completing the IB-Diploma program courses, enrollment at GCI, Dual Enrollment at U of M-Flint, Kettering University, Mott Community College or Baker College. Prior to graduation, all seniors are required to complete a Senior Exit Presentation on their post-secondary academic, professional and personal goals.

All staff can access the core curriculum for ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies online at www.flintcurriculum.weebly.com. Daily instruction and on-going classroom assessment occurs in all content areas. Mathematics also has end-of-module assessments and science has unit assessments. High school students utilize Plato online platform which is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Buildings receive support in curriculum implementation from building principals, and instructional specialists. The district uses Common Core State Standards, Michigan’s Science Standards, and grade level expectations as the basis for developing all curriculum documents.

THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Spring 2016-2017 Testing Period: Southwestern Classical Academy

	Language Usage		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
	Mean RIT Score	% Students At or Above Norm Mean Grade RIT	Mean RIT Score	% Students At or Above Norm Mean Grade RIT	Mean RIT Score	% Students At or Above Norm Mean Grade RIT	Mean RIT Score	% Students At or Above Norm Mean Grade RIT
7th Grade	202.1	9.5%	206.4	4.1%	205.7	17.7%	199.7	15.1%
8th Grade	202.2	14.3%	210.8	12.6%	203.0	15.6%	201.8	20.3%
9th Grade	203.8	14.8%	212.2	12.2%	202.2	14.3%	201.4	16.5%
10th Grade	213.3	31.8%	220.5	19.6%	215.5	35.9%	*	*
11th Grade	216.9	34.9%	228.0	34.8%	221.3	46.2%	**	**
12th Grade	218.5	*	227.3	*	218.0	*	**	**

IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences at Southwestern were held twice during the 2016-2017 school year. Southwestern Classical Academy continues to have active and involved

parents. For our scheduled parent/teacher conferences days we had 75% of our parents attend in the fall, while 70% of our parents attended in the spring.

THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

Four or 3.3% of our seniors are dually enrolled.

THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)

We offered a total of 13 AP/IB courses

THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)

There are a total of 46 students enrolled in college equivalent courses. Twenty-one juniors or 22% and 25 seniors or 22%.

THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT

Based on our latest test scores, 40% of our seniors and 38% of our juniors received a score leading to college credit; 53 in English, 68 in History, 15 in World Language and 43 in Fine Arts.

Southwestern Classical Academy is proud of the way we continue to support our students so that they can become their best; academically and socially. Though we continue to face many program changes and challenges, staff continues to stay focused on our goal to prepare our students to live, work and contribute to an ever-changing society. We will continue to self-assess as we utilize instructional practices that yield the best results. We will also continue to emphasize the importance of building positive relationships and raising the rigor for all students. We would like to thank our staff, students, parents, and community members/partners for your continued support. It takes a team to help students achieve their goals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maria Boyd-Springer, Principal
Southwestern Classical Academy