



School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 30, 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 Great Lakes Learning Academy Alt HS. 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 Dan McMinn for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website https://www.mischooldata.org/annual-education-report-1?Common_Locations=1-S,16441,1844,85 or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2024-25 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 2023-24. 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 2021-22. 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 2021-22. 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.

Great Lakes Learning Academy Alt HS is a fully virtual alternative education program. It is important to note that students often enter GLLA's Alt HS as they are at risk of not graduating with their class and/or have individual needs that are not being met in a traditional school setting. For example, our students may have experiences that have caused them to be under-educated prior to enrolling and are looking to re-engage in school. In addition, our students and families often have outside barriers that impact the school day, many needing to hold full time jobs, support a family, while simultaneously working on a high school diploma.

In order to support our students and families and to keep learning a stable and constant influence in the lives of our students, GLLA Alt HS has implemented or strengthened the following initiatives: 1) a robust system of academic intervention supports through our MTSS (Multi-Tier System of Supports) team, 2) PLC (Professional Learning Community) teams focused on addressing identified school and district goals for improving processes and outcomes for students, and 3) an engagement coordinator who help families identify barriers to learning and problem solve to address those issues so the students can focus on academics. Through these initiatives, we aimed to enhance student engagement with the learning process, as well as outcomes for students, which will raise academic achievement and increase the overall graduation rate.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Enrollment Cap and Lottery

Open enrollment begins in February. If, after accounting for returning students and siblings of returning students, the number of new student applications exceeds the number of open enrollment slots, a lottery will be held each year in April. The lottery will be held at the school office and will be open to the public. If a lottery is necessary, selected students must provide the school with their academic documentation for course placement by June 30 or forfeit their space to another student on the waitlist. Students not selected in the lottery or who miss the open enrollment period will be placed on a wait list on a first-come, first-serve basis based on the date on which they complete the enrollment paperwork and return it to the school. Siblings of enrolled students will have waitlist priority and will be released first if space becomes available in their grade. These criteria have been approved by the school's authorizer, Central Michigan University, and are reflected in the current school policies.

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

A copy of our MICIP is available at the school. Our plan is on track, meeting all requirements for establishing goals and monitoring progress.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Great Lakes Learning Academy Alt HS (GLLA) is a free online public school, also known as a cyber charter school, serving students in grades 9–12 throughout Michigan. The school, which opened for the 2013-2014 school year, is authorized by Central Michigan University Charter Schools Office. GLLA gives students the flexibility to learn at home with a curriculum that meets rigorous state education standards. At GLLA, students, teachers, and Learning Coaches are all partners in the Personalized Performance Learning® (PPL) approach. Together, they develop an instructional plan tailored to each

student's academic abilities. The program and goals are adjusted as needed to ensure the student is learning and growing. Teachers, students, and Learning Coaches monitor the plan and the student's progress throughout the year, aided by GLLA's powerful Education Management System (EMS) known as Pearson Online Classroom.

The school's mission is to focus on empowering our students to achieve academic success while creating a community of respect and responsibility through an adaptive learning program. This mission achieved with the following:

- A challenging, curriculum developed by leading education experts.
- Instruction from highly qualified and state-certified teachers.
- Support from trained counselors, principals, and administrative staff.
- Dozens of clubs and activities that foster social development and academic growth.
- An involved community of students and their families.

GLLA also offers Dual Enrollment, a program that allows eligible students to take a class at a local college or university as part of their regular school day. Students will receive credit from the college as well as Great Lakes Learning Academy. Admission to the program requires meeting additional criteria.

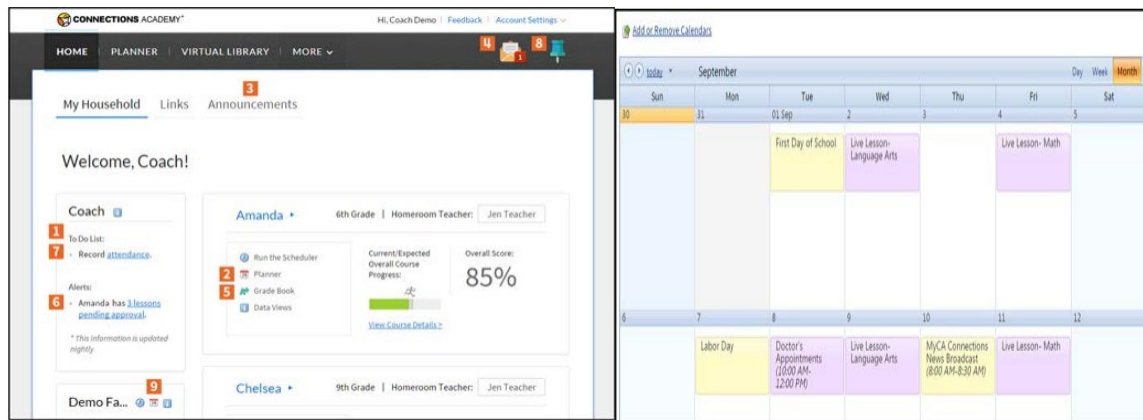
4. IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL

GLLA's curriculum and program information can be found on the [school website](#).

GLLA is a virtual school, so rather than working in a traditional brick and mortar classroom setting, students, parents/Learning Coaches, and teachers all access curriculum and communicate with one another via Connections Academy's secure education management system known as Pearson Online Classroom.

Pearson Online Classroom is one of the most comprehensive, reliable, and user- friendly online learning systems available. This proprietary system, designed from the ground up to meet the exact requirements of the Connections Academy instructional model and the needs of our students and families, brings the school right to students 24 hours a day from any Internet connection. Pearson Online Classroom is powerful, yet very intuitive and user-friendly. It is also comprehensive, allowing students, parents, and educators to access everything they need from one place.

Tools for Parents and Learning Coaches



From their personalized home page, parents can:

- View all students' schedules, assignments, and lessons.
- Adjust the learning schedule for students in grades K–8.
- Monitor students' progress using the online grade book.
- Record attendance.
- Communicate with teachers and other families via our secure WebMail and message boards.
- Rate the Connections Academy learning experience, at any time.

Tools for Students

The student's individualized home page helps students communicate, organize, and complete and submit assignments. From the homepage, they can:

- View daily and monthly schedules and access lessons.
- Monitor progress through the online grade book (for students in grade 6 and above).
- Communicate with teachers and students through WebMail and message boards.
- Access many online learning resources.
- Participate in clubs and activities.
- View a directory of students.

Tools for Teachers and Administrators

Pearson Online Classroom is used extensively by teachers and administrators. Some of the many tools for teachers allow them to:

- Conduct lessons live over the Internet with LiveLesson® sessions.
- Track student progress.
- Review and grade online assignments and assessments.
- Communicate quickly and effectively with students, parents, and Learning Coaches.
- Keep track of student and family interactions.
- Modify learning to meet students' needs

Because much of the learning and record-keeping is done online through Pearson Online Classroom, school administrators can monitor the effectiveness of instruction and assure students are making progress, every day.

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

2022-23 MAP Results – Math

Grade	Mean Math Pretest RIT Score	Mean Math Posttest RIT Score	% with Satisfactory Progress
9	219.9	217.2	30.9%
10	232.6	234.7	41.5%
11	229.5	225.2	29.3%

2023-24 P/SAT Scores – Math

Grade	Test	Average Scale Score	% Proficient
9	PSAT9	353	3%
10	PSAT10	368	4%
11	SAT	375	0%

2022-23 MAP Results – Reading

Grade	Mean Reading Pretest RIT Score	Mean Reading Posttest RIT Score	% with Satisfactory Progress
9	211.5	211.8	39.5%
10	217.0	217.2	53.1%
11	217.8	212.8	31.7%

2023-24 P/SAT Scores – Reading

Grade	Test	Average Scale Score	% Proficient
9	PSAT9	404	56%
10	PSAT10	442	55%
11	SAT	430	27%

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

2022-2023: 330 students or 94.3%

2023-2024: 173 students or 98.3%

7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

a. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

2022-2023: 19 (1%)

2023-2024: 9 (1%)

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

2022-2023: 25 AP courses available

2023-2024: 25 AP Courses Available

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

2022-2023: 6 (1%)

2023-2024: 5 (1%)

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

2022-2023: 2 (33%)

2023-2024: 0 (0%)

On behalf of the Great Lakes Learning Academy, I am proud of the work of our staff and their tireless dedication to provide individualized education, targeted interventions, specialized programs, and advanced course work to our students. Their work is evident in our students' increasing scores; however, the district

remains committed to the students who have not achieved mastery of the essential content and skills necessary to their success. Through professional development, infusion of the latest technology, and a desire to provide the very best instruction, GLLA will continue to improve and deliver an excellent and prosperous educational experience to all students.

Sincerely,

Dan McMinn
Executive Director