



January 10, 2020

District Annual Education Report (AER)

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for the Uplift Michigan Academy. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and some requirements of state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. Our staff is available to help you understand this information. Please contact Tonya Lowry, Superintendent at tonya.lowry@uplift-mi.org for help if you need assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2TbMlt5>, or you may review a copy in the main office with the registrar, Mrs. Victoria Malone. The main office is located at W526 Division Street, Stephenson, MI 49887.

For the 2018-19 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 subgroups. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school 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. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

For 2018-19, at the end of the school-year, Uplift Michigan Academy had 29 seniors eligible for Graduation. Of those, 15 obtained the required credits to graduate and received diplomas. Since the 2018-19 school-year was the first year of operations for Uplift Michigan Academy, we will not receive a "cohort graduation rate" from the Michigan Department of Education until the data for the 2019-20 school year has been posted. We will continue to offer career counseling, graduation planning, and credit recovery options for our high school students. Uplift Michigan Academy expanded our course offerings and supports for students who were credit deficient. We will continue to improve our practices to increase our student proficiency and credit achievement in all core academic subject areas.

Uplift Michigan Academy continues to promote best practices within Professional Development sessions that are held once per month. Professional Development sessions focus on improving math and english proficiency across all grades, as well as utilization of student data, support for English learners, and improving school-wide engagement. Additionally, Uplift Michigan Academy instituted Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) in the 2018-19 school-year to improve teaching skills and academic performance for all students. Through PLCs staff work collaboratively to increase student success using recurring cycles of collective inquiry and research. The findings of the inquiry and research are used to increase student learning and close achievement gaps. Further, PLCs allow teacher teams to become disciplined and deliberate with data as they design and implement program improvements to enhance student learning. PLC achievement evidence suggests that when constant, high-quality collaborative inquiry becomes the norm, students will prosper and the school culture will become enriched. We are confident that our progression of PLCs will focus collaborative efforts on student learning to continue improving achievement results.

State law requires that we also report the additional information.

Student Selection



Uplift Michigan Academy does not discriminate against students on the basis of any class protected by law. In addition, Uplift Michigan Academy does not discriminate based on academic ability. Uplift conducts open enrollment throughout the school-year as required by law, until the applicable student enrollment cap has been met. If the applicable cap is reached, students will be placed on a waitlist. Waitlist preference is given to siblings of currently enrolled students. For 2018-19, there was no waitlist as Uplift did not meet its student enrollment cap.

School Improvement Plan

Uplift Michigan Academy's School Improvement Plan has been approved by the State as of September 2019.

School Description

Uplift Michigan Academy is a public school academy (charter school) that opened in September of 2018 and whose educational platform is solely virtual (cyber). Stephenson Public Schools has been the chartering institution since the school's inception. Uplift Michigan Academy serves students in grades K-12 and is dedicated to providing individualized supports for every student. Each of our teachers and relationship managers has built strong relationships with families by providing robust orientation and 1:1 support. Additionally, all educators are certified and highly-qualified.

Uplift Michigan Academy did not utilize federal Title 1 and state 31A At-Risk funds for 2018-19. Certified teachers and instructional support staff provide one to one and small group instruction for students displaying the greatest need for specialized academic assistance. Additionally, through the use of the Response to Intervention approach staff work to identify students with additional academic or behavioral needs and provide additional intervention supports. Uplift uses the results of the Northwest Education Association (NWEA) MAP assessments, M-STEP scores, authentic assessments and informal teacher testing to identify and assist these students.

Uplift Michigan Academy provides every student with a relationship manager, from the start of their enrollment, that provides them with an additional layer of support. Relationship managers (RM) at Uplift regularly meet with students to check on their mental well-being and academic progress. Relationship managers also promote our school community by offering social hours, homework help, 1:1 support, clubs and more. The RM position at Uplift is an integral part of our goals and mission for student success.

Core Curriculum

Uplift Michigan Academy's curriculum, powered by Accelerate Education, meets the Michigan Department of Education requirements and maintains our school's Mission of providing a caring environment where students are engaged and feel empowered to be successful learners who make positive contributions to their communities. If you are interested in seeing a demo of the district's core curriculum, please contact Mrs. Tonya Lowry at tonya.lowry@uplift-mi.org. The Accelerate curriculum is implemented and supplemented in every classroom by our highly qualified teachers and support personnel.

To learn more about our curriculum please review the web links below. Please note that not all courses listed are offered at Uplift Michigan Academy. Please review the family handbook and course offerings guide on the Uplift website for a complete list of courses offered at Uplift Michigan Academy.

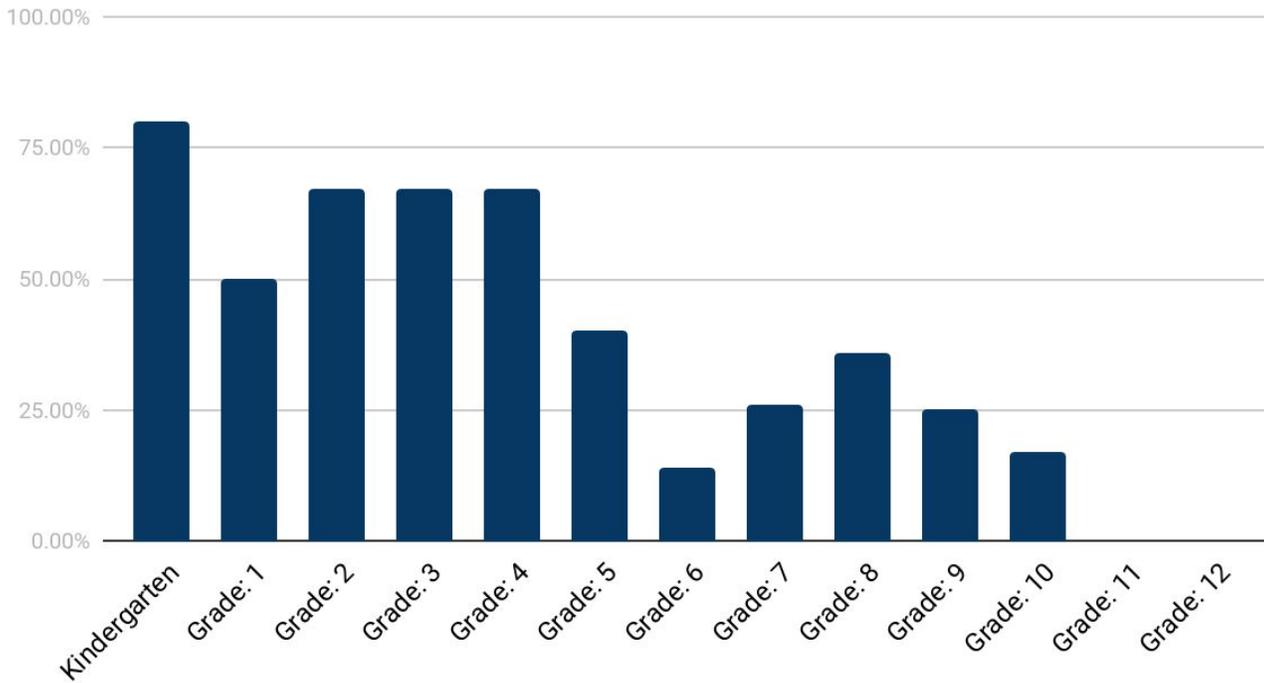
- K-5 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/k-5-courses/>
- 6-8 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/6-8-courses/>
- 9-12 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/9-12-courses/>

Student Achievement Results for NWEA

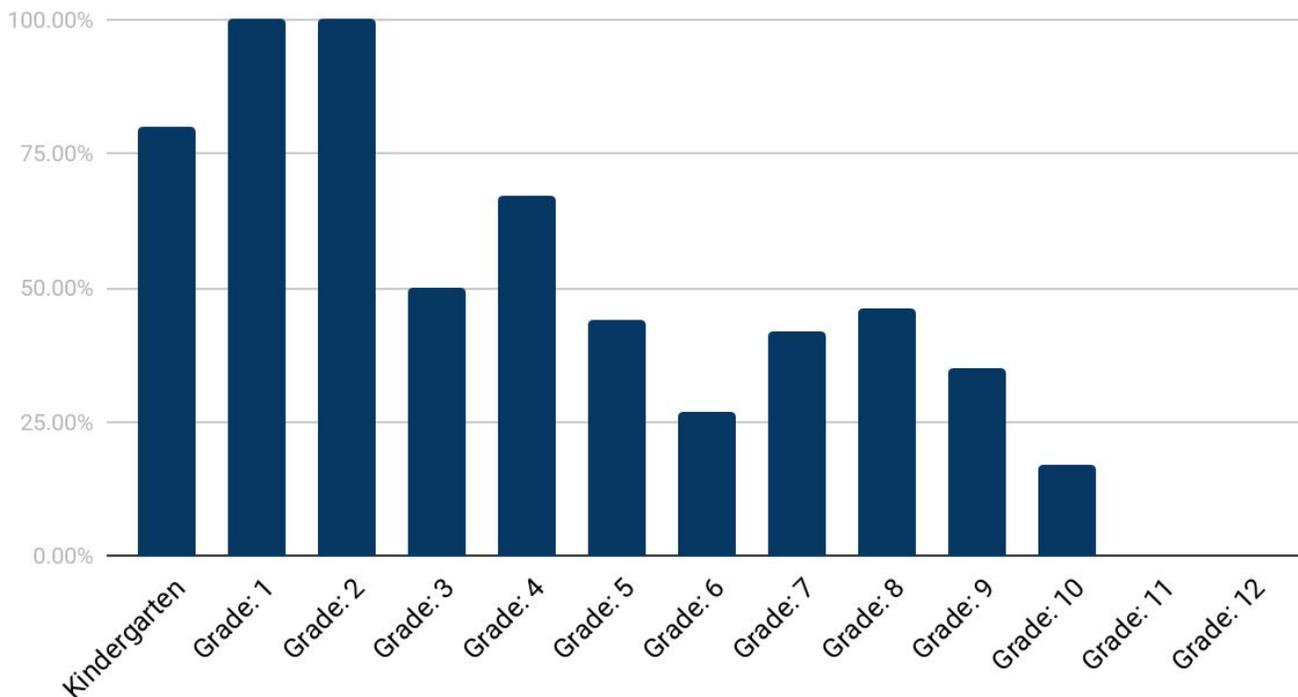
For 2018-19, Uplift Michigan Academy was able to test 90% of students in grades K-10.



Uplift Michigan Academy NWEA Math Proficiency 2018-19



Uplift Michigan Academy NWEA Reading Proficiency 2018-19





Parent-Teacher Conferences

For 2018-19 Uplift Michigan Academy worked hard to engage parents in attending virtual parent-teacher conferences. Conferences were hosted through our virtual portal where webcams and microphones could be utilized. 35% of students were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences. To improve this attendance, Uplift Michigan Academy will provide additional communication, conference times and expectations for attendance.

2018-19 Enrollment Data

Spring 2018

- Elementary (K-5) - 42 students representing 15% of total school population.
- Middle/High School - 232 students representing 85% of total school population.
 - 0 students (00%) dual-enrollment students.
 - 3 students (01%) enrolled in college equivalent courses (AP).
 - 7 college equivalent courses offered.
 - 0 students (00%) received a score leading to college credit.

Uplift has a world-class team of educators who are dedicated to our students' success, not just academically, but emotionally and socially, as well. We always put the rounded needs of our students above all else. We will continue to encourage students to pursue their passions and to make positive contributions to their communities. As our school continues to grow and thrive we will focus on improving engagement and proficiency across all subject areas and grade levels.

We continue to look forward to increased parent and community involvement in our school. Our students have immense potential and working together we can help them see it.

This 2018-19 Annual Education Report represents our very 1st year of operation. It was an incredible success and we are very grateful to our UMA families. Thank you for choosing to be a part of this exciting new education option. Uplift Michigan Academy continues to be a leader in virtual education because of the commitment our students and parents have dedicated. To that end, we are proud of the school community we have built.

Together, we are creating an UProar!

Sincerely,

Tonya Lowry
Superintendent