



University Yes Academy

Annual Education Report (AER)

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 2017-2018 educational progress for University YES Academy (UYA). 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 the chief academic officer for the New Paradigm for Education (NPFE) network, Kimberly Bland.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following <http://bit.ly/2G8G4rb> or you may review a copy in the main office at our school location.

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 student subgroups. 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.

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.



Current Challenges

New Paradigm for Education is UYA's new Charter Management Organization, in its third year. New Paradigm for Education provides a rigorous college-focus learning environment by utilizing a scientifically research-based curriculum, high expectations, and a safe and nurturing school campus. Our goal is to bring stability so that we can lay a strong foundation to cultivate high student achievement.

Our school has seen challenges with developing a strong math and literacy program for our students. Our goal is to bring stability to both programs so that we can lay a strong foundation to cultivate high student achievement.

Key Initiatives to Foster Student Achievement

We are currently focusing on the following initiatives to accelerate student achievement:

1. Building a Strong Literacy Block through implementation of Success For All literacy curriculum
2. Creating a Strong Math Block through the implementation of Eureka Math curriculum
3. Building Teacher Capacity through support of curriculum coaches
4. Effective Curriculum Alignment and Pacing through resources provided by New Paradigm
5. UYA will focus on the **analysis of all data** inclusive of **NWEA, SFA data, quarterly assessments, exit tickets, student work, writing samples, etc.**, to guide instruction, planning and re-teaching.
6. UYA will increase **student engagement** through **high quality questioning via DOK research** and **check for understanding strategies**.
7. UYA instructors, coach, and principal will use **Interventionist and Classroom Data** to support classroom and interventionist instruction. (Interventionist, teachers, coach and principal will work together to determine **focus standards** for bottom 30% that can be supported in their **homeroom and interventionist classroom**.)
8. UYA will continue to focus on **high achievement** and a **strong culture of learning** in all classrooms. All teachers will implement classroom procedures, routines and transitions effectively.
9. Scaffold evidenced-based questions (responses) that translate into discussion and writing—all driving toward key understandings.
10. Integrate reading, writing, discussion...in all content areas...to provide cohesive instruction and opportunities for productive struggle.
11. Study and deeply understand coherence within and across grade-level standards to effectively connect new learning to students' prior skills and knowledge.



1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

UYA operates as an open enrollment charter school under New Paradigm for Education, our charter school management company. Students residing in the state of Michigan can apply to our school at any time during the school year. However, per state law each year enrollment waitlisted students must reapply for the upcoming school year after February, but enrollment is based on open slots. All interested families can contact the registrar's office to obtain an application for grades Kindergarten – 8th grade. Applications can also be downloaded from the district website using the following link: [Enrollment Application](#) When grades have reached enrollment capacity, students are placed on a waiting list.

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

Goals have been set for each core subject in our school improvement plan. The following outlines those goals:

- All UYA students will demonstrate reading proficiency by having a deep understanding of Common Core Standards.
- All UYA students will demonstrate Math proficiency by having a deep understanding of Common Core Standards.
- All UYA students will demonstrate Science proficiency by integrating reading, writing, and discussion across all subject areas to provide cohesive instruction.
- All UYA students will demonstrate Writing proficiency by integrating reading, writing, and discussion across all subject areas to provide cohesive instruction.
- All UYA students will demonstrate Social Studies proficiency by integrating reading, writing, and discussion across all subject areas to provide cohesive instruction.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

University YES Academy exists to prepare students entrusted to our care for a future as compassionate and caring global citizens and successful lifelong learners. Academic development is achieved in a dignified and supportive environment that incorporates diversity, family, staff, and community partnerships, in pursuit of educational excellence.

Our school environment is one in which all learners grow, thrive and succeed beyond measure. We value, appreciate and accommodate diversity. We support our students because they are more than capable, and we fully believe in them. Our teaching practices are both reflective of and responsive to the needs of ALL our students. Our families are recognized as partners in the learning process. We embrace communication between students, parents, teachers, support staff and the community as we work to create the ultimate learning experiences for all children.

BELIEFS



At the University YES Academy, we:

1. Believe that a culture of achievement promotes high student achievement.
2. Believe that students who are empowered with prior knowledge of assessment goals will be better prepared to take an active role in their own achievement.
3. Believe that high expectations promote excellence.
4. Believe that learning is optimized when parents and professionals work in partnership.
5. Believe that children have individual learning styles and intelligences that must be addressed in order for everyone to achieve.
6. Believe that staff members must be aware of state curriculum standards and benchmarks to maximize a student's achievement of goals.
7. Believe that the use of best practices reflecting current educational research increases our standard of quality.
8. Believe that all staff members are models for our students.
9. Believe that staff and students are entitled to learn and work in a clean and safe environment.

Believe that a cooperative learning environment educates, empowers and enlightens.

Goals of our University YES Academy Students:

- To create a culture of high expectations for behavior and academics through rigorous, research-based curricula and a focus on achievement.
- To attend a college preparatory high school.
- To gain acceptance to and graduate from a four-year college.
- 100% of our graduates positively affect change in their local communities while making a contribution to our global society.

University YES Academy is a K – 8th grade school. The full-day program, in self-contained homerooms K-5, and block scheduling in 6-8, provides a nurturing and stimulating environment in which reading, social studies, mathematics and science are presented through a variety of whole-group, partner, and independent activities. Every classroom will be considered a different college with students having every opportunity to develop core knowledge of the school their classroom represents. Students will begin each morning by completing “Knowledge for College”. This will enhance the learning experience while enforcing a student’s love for post-secondary education (Going to College).

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

Curriculum Overview

University YES Academy came under new management during the 2016-17 school year and due to this, we are unaware of the curricular programs utilized during the 2015-16 school year. The current and new curricular programs for UYA were chosen and are aligned to the Common Core standards which are adopted by the state of Michigan. Websites containing information about the programs utilized by our school are listed below:

Literacy

In many ways, the achievement gap can be equated to a gap in vocabulary and literacy development. Students will receive 60 minutes of literacy instruction and 60 minutes of writing instruction every day. This scared time will ensure that students are given the opportunity to immerse themselves in all aspects of literacy and that educators have enough time to create various engagement opportunities for our scholars.

Curricular Program	Resources in program used for:
Success for All www.successforall.org	Oral Language and Vocabulary Development, Phonics, Fluency, Comprehension Skill Development, Written Expression
Step Up to Writing www.voyagersopris.com	Foundational Writing Skills, Vocabulary Acquisition, Speaking and Listening, Development in Writing Purpose
Write Source www.hmhco.com	Grammar, Six Traits, Usage and Mechanics

Math

At UYA we believe in creating a strong math foundation by building strong number sense with our students during a 60-minute math block. Rather than increasing the pace and covering standards from higher grade levels, we focus on the depth of our instruction rather than the breadth. This strong foundation will prevent future gaps and equip our students with the necessary tools to be critical thinkers and problem solvers.

Curricular Program	Resources in program used for:
Eureka Math http://greatminds.net	Measurement, Geometry, Numbers and Operations, Algebraic Thinking, Data Analysis and Probability, Problem Solving



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FOR EDUCATION

Science and Social Studies

UYA offers interdisciplinary study of literacy and math skills through science and social studies. Our goal is for students to study the world through a focus on world events, research, and experimentation. Each block will occur daily for 60 minutes.

Subject and Curricular Program	Resources in program used for:
Social Studies – MC3 Rubicon www.resa.net/curriculum/curriculum/socialstudies	Civics and Government, Economics, US History and Geography, World History and Geography
Science – STEMscopes www.acceleratelearning.com	Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Space, Force, Matter & Energy, Motion & Energy, Organisms and Environments, Physics



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

Our overall student achievement data for the 2016-2017 school term and 2017-2018 school term is listed below with a focus on reporting from the Student Growth Summary Report for the NWEA MAP Test:

UYA Reading Performance on the NWEA MAP		
Grade Level	Percent of Students Meeting RIT Growth Projection by Spring 2017	Percent of Students Meeting RIT Growth Projection by Spring 2018
Kindergarten	32	59
1st Grade	22	56
2nd Grade	28	46
3rd Grade	30	43
4th Grade	25	55
5th Grade	36	79
6th Grade	49	65
7th Grade	65	71
8th Grade	56	74

UYA Math Performance on the NWEA MAP		
Grade Level	Percent of Students Meeting RIT Growth Projection by Spring 2017	Percent of Students Meeting RIT Growth Projection by Spring 2018
Kindergarten	30	90
1st Grade	57	68
2nd Grade	10	49
3rd Grade	33	33
4th Grade	12	53
5th Grade	19	50
6th Grade	40	47
7th Grade	77	67
8th Grade	65	64

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



NEW PARADIGM
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University YES Academy	
Parent/Teacher Report Card Conference Attendance Data	
2016	2017
8%	32.7%

The students, families and faculty members at University YES Academy are on a journey together to make our school a great place to teach, learn and grow. We have seen a great deal of success this year with our initiatives put in place to lay a foundation for strong academic achievement and for our students to develop strong social skills as they navigate their education with others. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions, concerns or feedback to help our school become one of the strongest learning institutions in Detroit.

Sincerely,

Robert Hines
Principal
University YES Academy