

January 20, 2017

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for WoodsEdge Learning Center. 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 Aubree Spencer (Principa) or Angela Telfer (Director) for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/YXoaUR> or you may review a copy from the main office of our school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. At this time, center-based schools like WoodsEdge Learning Center are not given one of these labels.

For 2015-16, WoodsEdge Learning Center students performed very well on state assessments. However, the system of reporting data for schools does not give good information about WoodsEdge Learning Center student performance because at most grade levels we don't have enough students taking the test for the state to report our scores. So within this document you will find:

- Annual Education Report from the Michigan Department of Education (link to the report)
- School Accountability Score Card from the Michigan Department of Education (link to the scorecard)
- Graphs of our students' scores created from the actual MI-ACCESS scores of all of our students.

Our School Accountability Scorecard shows a GREEN rating in all academic areas. This is something to celebrate at WoodsEdge Learning Center. The green rating means that our students met the proficiency target in all academic areas. We have a very few number of students testing each year in Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, so this means at least 80% of our students testing in 2015-16 school year passed. Our students are tested in the areas of Math, English/Language Arts, and Science. Our school also tests the students in Social Studies with a district provided assessment. We are extremely proud of the progress our students are making and the hard work our teachers and staff are doing daily to be sure students receive quality instruction. We are committed to insuring that all of our students continue to learn and achieve their goals. State testing is one measure of learning; however, we measure student progress in many ways. Again, you may locate the full report of WoodsEdge Learning Center and more information on our test scores at <https://goo.gl/YXoaUR>.

Additional Information:

Our school improvement team will be discussing the needs for academic goals in the coming years.

Our key challenge with assessing our students is to be sure every student has a clear way of communicating their answer choice. Communication is a goal for all of our students, and we will continue to give many more opportunities in their lessons to answer questions in a similar format as the MI-ACCESS assessment.

We encourage parents to be involved in their child's education by supporting learning in the following ways:

- Regularly attend parent/teacher conferences
- Regularly send your child to school. Attendance is a significant factor in a child or young adult's ability to learn. Consistent instruction helps students make progress.
- Be an active member of the IEP Team and give input.
- Involvement in school volunteer activities.

State law also requires that we report additional information on the following:

1. Enrollment Process:

WoodsEdge Learning Center works with Kalamazoo County local school districts to provide center based programs and services to students, as determined through the IEP process. WoodsEdge Learning Center does not enroll students independent of local involvement. If an individual family is interested in the programming at WoodsEdge Learning Center, their first contact should be with the local school district in which they reside.

2. Status of the School Improvement Plan:

Our School Improvement Team has been working on goals A and B, below and has added a goal regarding student behavior for the coming year:

- A. Goal #1 (Math): Students will demonstrate progress in one or more areas of Mathematics as assessed by agreed upon teacher developed curriculum assessments.

**Our leadership team of teachers has developed additional concepts and assessments to measure student progress in Math to supplement our current ULS math curriculum.**

- B. Goal #2 (Student Behavior): WoodsEdge Learning Center will reduce the percentage of behavior incidents that involve seclusion and/or restraint.

**Our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports Team will be collecting data to look at current data, needs, staff trainings, current PBIS practices, and staff knowledge/training, to reduce the percentage of behavioral incidents involving seclusion and/or restraint.**

Our goals are aligned to the curriculum and support our Mission, Vision and Beliefs:

**MISSION**

WoodsEdge Learning Center is an innovative school dedicated to developing independence in our students.

**VISION**

A community without barriers

## **BELIEFS**

1. WE are committed to making sure that every student has a way to communicate.
2. WE allow students TIME to do things independently.
3. WE ask: What am I doing for my students that they could do for themselves?
4. WE use state of the art technology to foster independence.
5. WE implement evidence-based practices.
6. WE use a team approach.
7. WE recognize each student as a unique individual with unique strengths and needs.

### 3. School Description:

WoodsEdge Learning Center serves students in Kalamazoo County who are eligible to receive services under the categories of early childhood developmental delay, moderate and severe cognitive impairments, severe multiple impairments, other health impairments, and autism spectrum disorder. WoodsEdge Learning Center staff work with local districts and families to provide center-based programs and services to students, as determined through the IEP process. WoodsEdge Learning Center does not enroll students independent of local district involvement. Students who attend WoodsEdge Learning Center are between the ages of 2.5 and 26.

Our building is a state of the art facility, designed specifically with the needs of our population in mind. It is 117,000 square feet, located on the grounds of Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency. The school capacity is approximately 275 students. In addition to our classrooms and office area, WoodsEdge Learning Center has two therapeutic swimming pools, a gymnasium, cafeteria, two playgrounds, a vocational room, recycling center, and a student closet. An overhead rail/track system allows students with multiple impairments added support and independence in learning to move and become ambulatory.

### 4. Core Curriculum:

The WoodsEdge Learning Center curriculum is aligned to the Common Core Standards. The Unique Learning System curriculum is the school's primary curriculum. Individualized Education Planning Meetings determine a customized focus for each student. In addition, teachers teach self-help skills, mobility and functional skills to develop independence in students.

Unique Learning System can be viewed at:

[www.unique.n2y.com](http://www.unique.n2y.com)

Please talk with your child's teacher if you'd like to see more of the curriculum or have questions.

### 5. Student Assessment Data:

You will see in the combined report that for most categories, there are no scores for WoodsEdge Learning Center. This is due to there being fewer than 10 students taking a particular test at a certain grade and is done to protect individual scores. We do review student scores as a school team and determine areas we need to focus on and improve, but unfortunately, the state assessment results for our school are limited.

6. Percent of Students Represented by parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Year	% Participation
2009-2010	80%
2010-2011	82%
2011-2012	80%
2012-2013	78%
2013-2014	62%*
2015-2016	58%*

\*The drop in attendance for last couple of school years is due in part to counting only K-12+ students.

Parents, guardians and community members are encouraged to be involved in WoodsEdge Learning Center school life by volunteering and attending special performances and events.

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to continue to serve your child, and look forward to continued growth and educational progress.

Find the full Annual Report for 2015-16 at <https://goo.gl/YXoaUR>.

Sincerely,

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