

Marcellus Community Schools

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 8, 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 the Volinia Outcomes School. 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 Amy Anderson for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://goo.gl/0NZ7nk> , or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given. Volinia did not receive a label.

Volinia Outcomes provides a quality alternative to the traditional school environment and primarily serves students who have encountered challenges in other school settings. Volinia endeavors to meet the needs of students who may be at risk of leaving school and/or who need additional credit recovery opportunities. Important challenges for our alternative program include increasing student achievement in core areas and in improving graduation rates. Key initiatives designed to meet these challenges include increased on line, blended course options for students and increased supports for academic assistance and support. The school also utilizes waiver days granted through the Michigan Department of Education's Alternative Education Innovative Program to give individualized or remedial help to struggling students.

State law requires that we also report additional information. Volinia Outcomes School is part of Marcellus Community School District. Students in grades 7 -12 may be referred to our specialized school based on several factors, including attendance rates, academic progress, or behavioral record. Volinia serves students within our district as well as students from surrounding communities who participate in Schools of Choice Sections 105 and 105c. Students applying for enrollment must participate in a pre-enrollment interview to determine if the alternative setting is appropriate.

Volinia's School Improvement Plan is an extension of the Marcellus Middle /High School plan. Goals include all students becoming proficient writers, improving mathematical and social studies proficiency, and improving knowledge and skills in science. The core curriculum follows the Michigan Merit Curriculum and a copy of the district's curriculum may be obtained at the school office. Marcellus Community Schools District policy ensures that all students have the same opportunities to learn the core curriculum.

The Volinia faculty and staff value communication with parents and students. Parent-Teacher conferences are held twice a school year and an annual Open House is held at the beginning of the school year. In 2015-16, 18% of parents attended conferences. However, frequent communication occurs via email, our online parent viewer, and telephone.

Volinia students primarily participate in on-line courses that are supported with on-site teacher and paraprofessional assistance. Some blended and direct instruction is also available. Students are encouraged to participate in available credit recovery options in an effort to graduate on time. No students participated in dual enrollment or AP classes in 2015-16.

Thank you for your interest and support of Volinia Outcomes School. The faculty and staff at Volinia are committed to being the best alternative school in the area. We believe in continuous improvement and are committed to assisting students prepare for college, career. Employment and life.

Sincerely,

Amy Anderson
Volinia Outcomes School Principal
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