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April 30, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for Southgate Asher High 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 Leonard Samborski, Director of Adult & Community Education, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site, <https://goo.gl/D8NsnV>, or you may review a copy in Asher High School main office.

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new 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. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Southgate Asher has not been given one of the new definitions and labels as described in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) due to our classification as a non-traditional public school. Southgate Asher serves a population that is 100% at-risk and accepts students from over 20 different school districts throughout the Downriver area. Students who attend Asher are most often off-track students who have considerable gaps in their education due to transiency, homelessness, teen parenting, medical, emotional, and learning disabilities. Many Asher students have attended multiple high schools throughout their educational career and in many cases have personal, medical, or situational issues that have prohibited them from attending traditional high school regularly or having success at traditional high schools.

Recognizing the unique social, emotional, and academic challenges of the Asher High School population, the key initiatives for improvement include working on eliminating barriers to education, focusing on school improvement goals in reading, writing, mathematics and providing additional post-secondary opportunities, especially in our special education subgroups. Initiatives to remove barriers to education include: Counselor and social worker services, free and reduced breakfast and lunch, state licensed pre-school, tutoring, on-site career training programs, career readiness and job placement services in collaboration with the Downriver Community Council Michigan Works Office.

Southgate Asher follows the Michigan Merit Curriculum and is aligned to the Common Core State Standards, MSTEP Learning Standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards. Through the

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implementation of the 5D+ Teaching and Learning Framework Asher High School is focusing on our School Improvement Goals in reading, mathematics, and writing and teacher effectiveness. Asher High School continues to provide specific lower level classes for students who struggle in reading and mathematics while regular semester assessments track academic improvement.

### **Process for Assigning Students to Southgate Asher High School**

Asher is an alternative high school program provided by the Southgate Community Schools District and is available to students living in the surrounding Downriver area. The student population is 100% at-risk and represents a diverse population of 16-21-year old students who have not been successful at their previous high school(s) and are attempting to earn a high school diploma. Students are not assigned to Asher but must apply and participate in an interview process with their parent/guardian, school Social Worker, Counselor, and Director. Most students who apply are accepted into the program.

### **The Status of the 3-5 year School Improvement Plan**

Recognizing that students who attend Southgate Asher High School come from over 20 different surrounding communities with gaps in their traditional schooling, the Asher High School staff has developed a School Improvement Plan that addresses students' needs in reading, math, and writing. All students are pre-assessed using the standardized Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) to determine basic levels in reading and math. Students are placed in classes by staff after their scores have been assessed. On the first day of class, students are given a pre-assessment to determine reading and math ability and eventual post tests are used to measure on-going academic progress and subsequent course assignment.

### **A Brief Description of each Specialized School**

Southgate Asher High School is an alternative high school program created to serve students in the surrounding Downriver area who have not been successful in a traditional setting. The program provides wrap around support services for students who require alternative methods of instruction, flexible scheduling, childcare support, academic and behavioral interventions and individualized attention and support.

### **How to Access a Copy of the Core Curriculum**

The Southgate Asher High School follows the Michigan Merit Curriculum which can be accessed at, [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753\\_64839\\_65510---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html).

### **Parent-Teacher Conference Data and Postsecondary Courses /Credit**

The majority of the Southgate Asher High School students are adults over the age of 18. Approximately 10-20% of our students are minors 16-17 years old. Of this group approximately 50% of those students are represented by their parents at parent-teacher conferences. Southgate Asher High School does not offer a dual enrollment program, AP or IB courses, college equivalent courses or courses that provide college credit.



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The staff and administration of Southgate Asher School are committed to providing the best possible programming for the unique and diverse population attending. We continue to work through our School Improvement Plan to demonstrate achievement in reading, mathematics, and writing while overcoming barriers to education for all of our students. If you have any questions or concerns regarding programming at Southgate Asher, please contact Leonard Samborski, Director of Adult & Community Education/Asher School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leonard A. Samborski".

Leonard A. Samborski  
Director of Adult & Community Education  
Southgate Asher School