



Memphis Junior/Senior High School

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School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

January 10, 2020

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 Memphis Jr/Sr 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 principal Matthew Karaffa for assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.memphisk12.org, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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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 subgroup. 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.

Each year the staff is continuously working towards improving student achievement and close persistent gaps in achievement. We are currently working to increase the achievement scores of our bottom 30% through increased tutoring opportunities, implementation of Close and Critical Reading Strategies, increasing school support for struggling students and increasing student responsibility to promote academic success (PBIS, restorative practices). This year we have implemented STING hour in order to add additional time for intervention and more focused support for students in their subject areas. We are also continuing to focus on parent involvement and communications to improve all student achievement scores including promotion of our district website, Jr/Sr High School Newsletter and Skylert message system. Our staff also focuses our Early Release hours on examining and studying student academic and behavioral data to make informed decisions.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Pupil Assignment Process 2018-19. Students are located as follows: Memphis Jr/Sr High School houses students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, & 12. New students entering the building are placed in the appropriate grade based on the year they started kindergarten. High School students are enrolled in classes according to their current grade, credits earned and previous classes. The Memphis Community School District has a policy and process in place for non-district residents' school of choice requests. Copies are available at the Administrative Office.

2. School Improvement Status 2017-18. The School Improvement Team collected data in areas of achievement, demographics, process and perception. The results of this data gave the team direction in setting school improvement goals which include a focus on math and ELA proficiency and an improvement in high school graduation rate. The plan was revised to more closely relate to the current state of the school. The District School Improvement Team held meetings during the school year to increase the parents' involvement in promoting school changes. All teachers created and maintained a web site to help keep parents and students abreast of classroom happenings. Teachers were encouraged to maintain weekly contact with parents via phone calls, emails, text messages and postcards.

3. Specialized schools and alternative education: The following programs are offered to Memphis students: • St. Clair TEC offers countywide career and technical training to high school students. • Woodland Developmental Center serves students with severe learning disabilities to age 26. • Blue Water Middle College Academy allows students to complete college classes while completing their HS diploma.

4. Core Curriculum.: Memphis Jr/Sr High has aligned each subject of the core academic curriculum (reading, math, science, social studies) to the Common Core Standards with focus on Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs). The Michigan Citizenship Collaborative Curriculum for Social Studies was implemented to meet the content expectations. The High school has aligned each subject to the course content expectations of the Common Core Curriculum and is in the process of adopting the common core curriculum. The curriculum is reviewed every four years by the District School Improvement Team, building-level school improvement teams and department-level teachers. Recommendations are made for revisions to the curriculum and for the purchase of needed textbooks and supplemental materials. Yearly professional development is provided in all four of the core academic areas to offer staff with the opportunity to improve instruction and student learning in each subject. In addition, other non-core subject areas (such as fine arts, foreign language and health/physical education) are reviewed once every four years. All curriculum review is done with the goal of having Memphis Community Schools' curriculum aligned with state standards and requirements, providing students with the greatest opportunity to excel in all academic areas. For more information on the common core curriculum please visit www.michigan.gov/mde.

5. Student Achievement. The academic progress of students in sixth through twelfth grade is evaluated by the staff at Memphis Jr/Sr High School. Students in grades 6-8, 11 take the MSTEP test annually. Ninth through twelfth graders take a combination of the MSTEP and PSAT and

SAT. Please refer to the school annual report for more information on our MSTEP data
<http://bit.ly/2FawOkk>

6. Parent-Teacher Conference Rate: 2018-19 45%

7. Additional Information:

- a. Dual Enrollment: Dual Enrollment extends learning options to 9th through 12th graders. Qualified students may take classes at a post-secondary institution while attending high school. During the 2018-19 school year, students were able to enroll in one or more post-secondary courses.
- b. Blue Water Middle College Academy: 44 juniors and seniors were enrolled in the BWMCA and worked concurrently on attaining an associate's degree at St. Clair County Community College while continuing on their high school diploma path.
- c. Advanced Placement: Four, in seat advanced placements classes were made available to high school students. In 2018-19, 17 students were able to enroll in these courses and took a college equivalent examination. Four students took AP tests and earned a score which lead to earning college credit.
- d. Points of Yellowjacket Pride: The 2018-19 school year was another successful year for Memphis Jr/Sr High School. The band and choir once again received ratings of 1 at the district and state level and the band performed well in many venues and throughout the community. The Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Baseball, Cheer, Bass Fishing Club, Bowling, Cross Country Club, Equestrian Club and Softball teams had successful seasons including league, district and state qualifiers. The Memphis Robotics team continued a very successful program with teams at both the JH and HS level. The High School also continues to improve its technology platform, adding additional technology including, adding Chromebook carts to be used in classrooms and additional classroom technology to enhance the delivery of course content and curriculum. Students also continued to have success in Mock Trial by participating in both St. Clair and Macomb counties.

Thank you to everyone involved with Memphis Community Schools and the success we have achieved. We are fortunate to have the wonderful support of the staff, parents, and students at Memphis Jr/Sr High School. With the support and determination of everyone we will sustain our expectations, high standards, and continue to be a "successful small school where big things occur."

Sincerely,

Matthew Karaffa
Principal, Memphis Jr/Sr High School