



NEXTECH
HIGH SCHOOL

March 8, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for the NexTech Grand Rapids. 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 Dan McMinn for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2Hfqj2E>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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.

At NexTech High School we believe that all students can learn, and it is our job to help in that process in any way that we can. We are constantly reflecting on our practices, and implementing changes to get the best out of all our staff and students.

To that end, we have identified specific goals and strategies for improvement that we believe will allow us to address growth and development this year. We have implemented a number of strategies that involve early interventions and support, along with altered scheduling in an effort to reach all students.

Additionally we have hired specific staff geared towards the goal of improving on-time graduation. We believe that these changes will have a great impact as we look to push forward to strengthen all of our students' skills and set them on the path for a positive future. Within our Combined Report we need to continue to focus on Mathematics as an area of need in order to reach and surpass the state averages in regards to the M-STEP. We need to look closer and improve our applications to the new SAT test, and ensure our students are prepared for the rigor of this assessment. Overall though, we will continue to push our students and continue to provide strong support in sub categories, specifically with our economically disadvantaged students, as we are seeing success in multiple categories based on our prior effort.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

NexTech High School had an enrollment cap of 300 students for the 2017-2018 school year. NexTech does not have individual grade caps but instead has session caps of 150 each for our morning and afternoon sessions. Students will be enrolled on a first come/first served basis until all spaces are filled. Once the cap is met, students will be placed on a waiting list once all enrollment tasks are completed and released to enroll as space becomes available. The school encourages families to complete all enrollment tasks as soon as possible to ensure that interested students receive a space in the school.

NexTech High School abides by all federal, state, and local policies and guidelines for student admission and will not impose admission requirements that are inconsistent with these policies and guidelines. Full information on school enrollment policies, including waitlist and lottery policies, if applicable, are found under the Enrollment tab on the school website.

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

A copy of NexTech High School's school improvement plan is available at the school. NexTech High School has implemented an improvement plan based on school needs and it is currently on track, and meets all requirements for establishing goals and monitoring progress.

- All students will improve in total credit acquisition through the school year.
- All students will be prepared for post-secondary opportunities.
- We will continue to improve our parent involvement through school initiatives.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

NexTech High School is a blended learning high school authorized by Central Michigan University. We offer students an exciting combination of engaging online courses facilitated by certified virtual teachers, and support from face-to-face teachers and mentors who are at the school site. Each student is required to attend the school site a minimum number of hours per week, based on their assigned schedule. Schools offer a morning session and an afternoon session. Students are invited to work at school beyond their required hours, or to complete their remaining online classwork from home or another location with Internet access. In all cases, students must meet the minimum number of instructional hours each week as required by the state.

The goal of NexTech is to maximize academic achievement and college/career readiness through a rigorous curriculum, high expectations, and a personalized approach to learning. The school is first and foremost designed for its students, and we strive to make learning challenging, relevant, and interesting. We also strive to make sure students are able to learn in a safe and comfortable environment. Our student-centered approach means that each child receives the educational support s/he needs to succeed. Whether it's one-on-one discussions with our highly trained team of professionals who are focused on each student's well-being, virtual classroom sessions, supplementary educational opportunities, targeted face-to-face skill instruction based on performance data, clubs, activities, or our rigorous, standards-based curriculum, everything the school provides revolves around ensuring student success. Students have great flexibility and freedom in NexTech — but you will also find that the school's dedicated teachers and administration are focused on fulfilling the NexTech's mission: to maximize academic achievement and college/career readiness for high school students who seek a cutting-edge alternative to the traditional classroom.

Interested students who are academically and socially ready may wish to consider supplementing their NexTech High School curriculum with college-level courses. All students should consult with their school counselor or teacher prior to enrolling in college courses to be sure they are fully informed about the benefits and responsibilities of adding one or more college course(s) to their workload. This is part of our Dual-enrollment program and requires meeting additional criteria.

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

NexTech's curriculum and program information is available upon request at the academy. NexTech High School is a blended school, so rather than working in just a traditional brick and mortar classroom setting, students, parents/success coaches, and teachers all access curriculum and communicate with one another via our online system, Buzz. Buzz is one of the most comprehensive, reliable, and user-friendly online learning systems available. This online learning

system, designed from the ground up to meet the needs of our students and families, brings the school right to students 24 hours a day from any Internet connection. Buzz is powerful, yet very intuitive and user-friendly. It is also comprehensive, allowing students, parents, and educators to access everything they need from one place. The student’s individualized home page helps students communicate, organize, and complete and submit assignments. From the homepage, they can:

- View daily and monthly schedules and access lessons.
- Monitor progress through the online grade book.
- Communicate with teachers and students through email and message boards.
- Access many online learning resources.

Buzz is used extensively by teachers and administrators. Some of the many tools for teachers allow them to:

- Track student progress.
- Review and grade online assignments and assessments.
- Communicate quickly and effectively with students, parents, and other teachers.
- Modify learning to meet students’ needs

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

Test	Average Reading Score		Average Math Score		Average Composite Score	
	2016-2017	2017-2018	2016-2017	2017-2018	2016-2017	2017-2018
PSAT 8/9	421	378	414	367	789	745
PSAT 10	417	426	414	405	869	830
SAT	478	448	454	418	954	866

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

- 2017-2018 School Year
 - Fall Total – 113 (76%)
 - Spring Total – 130 (87%)
- 2016-2017 School Year
 - Fall Total – 135 (82%)
 - Spring Total – 118 (72%)

7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

a. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

NexTech High School had students 7 (5%) participate in dual enrollment during the 2017-2018 School year

Nexus Academy had 3 students (2%) participate in dual enrollment during the 16-17 School year

b. THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)

We offered 16 AP courses during the year.

c. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)

NexTech High School had 0 students were enrolled in AP Courses in the 2017-18 school year.

Nexus Academy had 4 students (4%) participate in AP courses during the 2016-2017 school year.

d. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT

NexTech High School had 0 students test for AP for college credit in the 2017-2018 School Year.

Nexus Academy had 4 (4%) Students receive a score for 6 tests that led to college credit during the 2016-17 school year.

NexTech High School is focused on providing a personalized and transformational high school experience. In doing this we strive to prepare each student academically for success in college, work, and life. We appreciate the continued support of our parents, staff and community in reaching these goals. Thank you for your support and dedication to NexTech High School!

Sincerely,

Dan McMinn
Principal, NexTech High School