



March 12, 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 High School of Lansing. 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 Jamie DeWitt for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2VZP2fe> 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 been identified as a CSI school.

At NexTech High School of Lansing, we believe that all students can learn and must learn at relatively high levels of achievement. It is our job, at the NexTech High School of Lansing, to create an environment in our classrooms that result in this

high level of performance. We are confident that, with our support and help, students can master challenging academic material, and we expect them to do so. We are prepared to work collaboratively with colleagues, students, and parents to achieve this shared educational purpose. To improve academic performance and achievement data, our staff has put together an action plan to specifically address our students' needs for this school year. We also offer an SAT preparation course that is offered to all students. Our classroom teachers and Success Coaches will work to ensure that all students have the proper testing skills and techniques needed to be successful. In addition to those programs, our English, math, science, and social studies teachers will also offer on-campus course sessions that create a college-like atmosphere for students. Students will have face-to-face experiences that are supplemented with online experiences. We have also begun the implementation of restorative practices and restorative justice in order to build our community and keep students in school and productive. We are confident that these interventions, programs, and plans will bolster student engagement, achievement, and success.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

#### **1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

NexTech High School of Lansing had an enrollment cap of 300 students for the 2017–18 school year. The school does not have individual grade caps but instead has session caps of 150 each for our morning and afternoon sessions. Enrollment opens every March. 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 of Lansing 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, is 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 of Lansing's school improvement plan is available at the school. NexTech High School of Lansing has implemented an improvement plan based on school needs. The school improvement plan is based upon:

- Improving standardized test scores
- Increasing parent satisfaction
- Implementing a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program

### **3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

NexTech High School of Lansing is a blended learning high school authorized by Central Michigan University. NexTech High School of Lansing offers students an blended learning environment. In this blended learning model, students attend on-campus courses for their engaging face-to-face experiences. These experiences are then supplemented with online assessments, lessons, reflections and pre-learning activities that prepare the students for the next class session. Students experience this blended learning model for every core course and even a few electives. Students do engage in a few fully-online courses for some elective choices, which are still taught by highly qualified and fully-certified Michigan educators. Each student is required to attend the school site for their courses. A typical student attends on-campus courses 3.5 hours a day, 4 days a week. The school offers a morning session and an afternoon session. Students are required to work beyond their on-campus hours as independent learners, completing work assigned to them in the online environment. In all cases, students must meet the minimum number of instructional hours each week as required by the state. The goal of NexTech High School of Lansing 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, meeting periodically with virtual teachers, supplementary educational opportunities, targeted face-to-face skill instruction based on performance data, clubs, activities, or our rigorous, standards-based curriculum, everything our school provides revolves around ensuring student success. Students have great flexibility and freedom in NexTech High School of Lansing but you will also find that our school's dedicated teachers and administration are focused on fulfilling the NexTech High School of Lansing's mission: to maximize academic achievement and college/career readiness for high school students who seek a cutting-edge alternative to the traditional classroom. This is a very exciting time for NexTech High School of Lansing as we continue to grow and progress; we are beginning to see the deep and impactful differences our blended learning model makes every day in the lives of our students. Our school staff is directly focused on levels of high achievement for all students and is working together to identify areas and create action plans around areas in which we can be more effective in our approach. We assign all students upon

enrollment a Success Coach who is the advocate and guide throughout their education. Certified Teachers are on site for face to face support in the core subjects and students receive support in all elective courses while on campus as well. A certified School Counselor provides guidance on college and career aspirations.

**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 High School of Lansing’s curriculum and program information is available upon request at the academy. NexTech High School of Lansing is a blended school, so rather than working in just a traditional brick and mortar classroom setting, students, Success Coaches, and teachers all access curriculum and communicate with one another via Buzz and Odysseyware. Buzz and Odysseyware are two of the most comprehensive, reliable, and user-friendly online learning systems available. These proprietary systems bring the school right to students 24 hours a day from any Internet connection. Both systems are powerful, yet very intuitive and user-friendly. Interested students who are academically and socially ready may wish to consider supplementing their NexTech High School of Lansing curriculum with college-level courses. All students should consult with our School Counselor or mentor 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.

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

In accordance with state requirements, students at NexTech High School of Lansing, in the spring take PSAT 8/9 as 9<sup>th</sup> graders, PSAT 10 as 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and the SAT as 11<sup>th</sup> graders. Below is the summary of our performance on the assessments during the past two school years (2016-2017 and 2017-2018).

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	419	433	391	404	835	837
PSAT 10	438	435	415	390	852	825
SAT	466	453	431	424	882	878

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

NexTech High School of Lansing holds parent teacher conferences twice a year.

2015-2016 School Year:  $145/262 = 55\%$

2016-2017 School Year:  $55/232 = 24\%$

2017-2018 School Year:  $35 /200 (18\%)$

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

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

2015-2016: 2 (1%)

2016-2017: 3 (1%) (5 courses total)

2017-2018: 2 (1%) (9 courses total)

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

2015-2016: 16

2016-2017: 6

2017-2018: 0

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

2015-2016: 11 (4%)

2016-2017: 8 (4%)

2017-2018: 0 (0%)

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

2015-2016: 1 (<1%)

2016-2017: 1 (<1%)

2017-2018: 2 (1%)

NexTech High School of Lansing is focused on providing a personalized and transformational high school experience. In doing this the NexTech High School of Lansing staff strives 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.

Sincerely,

Jamie DeWitt