



August 11, 2014

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2013-2014 educational progress for the Covenant House Academy Site. 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 Derek Joshua E'Lon, Sr., for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.covenanthouseacademy.org/images/stories/AnnualEducationReportsw.pdf> or [https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer/CombinedReport.aspx?Common\\_Location=1-S,6682,1050,119&Common\\_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal\\_InquiryDisplayType=N](https://www.mischooldata.org/NewAer/CombinedReport.aspx?Common_Location=1-S,6682,1050,119&Common_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal_InquiryDisplayType=N) or you may review a copy in our main office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.

Our school has been identified as a HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN ONE OF THESE LABELS.

Covenant House Academy Southwest is primarily a computer-based school. We have partnered with Edgenuity for our curriculum. The courses are aligned with the Michigan Merit Curriculum and the Common Core Curriculum. Anyone who wishes to access a copy of our core curriculum may do so at the school's main office.

In light of our findings, our school will be taking the following steps to improve our status:

1. Continued implementation of the new School Improvement Plan with the assistance of an Educational Process Consultant and from the district's new Authorizer – Grand Valley State University (GVSU).
2. Implementing a new research-based strategy in ELA called Evidence Based Literacy Instruction, EB LI

3. Implementing more direct instruction using Common Core instructional strategies in all classes and labs.

State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. Students who want to enroll in our school may do so throughout the school year. We have a rolling enrollment process that is open until the school is at capacity. When maximum enrollment for a grade has been reached, applications shall be placed on a waiting list and admitted on the basis of a lottery system. CHASW (Covenant House Academy Southwest) did not need to hold a lottery for the 2012-2013 school year. The enrollment process involves completing the required application packet and an orientation with the prospective student as well as the parent or guardian. During this process, future enrollees learn about the policies and procedures of the school, ensure all paperwork is complete, and take an assessment to measure their skill levels in reading and mathematics.
2. CHASW is in its first year of the School Improvement Plan and will continue to modify the plan as needed for the upcoming school year.
3. Our school provides at-risk youth and high school dropouts the opportunity to earn high school diplomas, improve their life skills, and continue on to higher education or post-secondary employment training. Because we are affiliated with a homeless shelter, Covenant House Academies are the only schools allowed to grant a high school diploma up to the age of 22. Our caring staff works toward preventing poverty, underachievement, and homelessness for our students, while offering them hope, encouragement, and a better chance for future success. We offer small class sizes and on-line software programs that allow students to catch up and return back to their neighborhood school on track for graduation.
4. CHASW will now be implementing the Common Core Standards. A copy of the School Improvement Plan and curriculum will be available electronically by visiting the following web site: [www.covenanthouseacademy.org](http://www.covenanthouseacademy.org) or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school. This academic school year all teachers will undergo training for the Common Core through workshops and district wide professional development.
5. For 2012-13, school year Covenant House Academy Southwest met the proficiency target in reading, writing and social studies. For the 2013-14 school year we met the proficiency target in the areas of reading. We are continually working to improve our students' academic skills in all core subject areas.. We appreciate the continued support of parents, staff and our community in this effort.
6. For 2012-13 the number of students represent by parents at parent teachers conferences was 32%. For 2013-14 we strongly encourage parental involvement in our school. At the beginning of the year we hold an open house in which we invite all parents/guardians to visit and tour the school to see "a day in the life" of a student at Covenant House Academy Southwest. We periodically hold parent meetings as well as parent/teacher conferences. Last year we began an annual Parent Academy and hope to increase participation this year. This year we had 20 parents attend our parent teacher conferences. We hope to see this increase with our implementation of the Parent Academy, Open Houses and Parent Dinner.

7. Since we are an alternative high school with a high transit population, we have no students that were dual-enrolled in college classes or were placed in any Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

The Covenant House Academy Southwest administration, along with our staff is committed to accelerating student achievement and providing a continuous process of school improvement. We will continue to provide a solid partnership between home and school. The CHASW staff is dedicated to providing each of our students with educational opportunities that will help them be successful in their future goals. We look forward to working with you in our continued efforts to provide for your student's education.

Sincerely,

*Derek Joshua E'Lon, Sr.*

Covenant House Academy Southwest Administration

Derek Joshua E'Lon, Sr., Principal