



## School Annual Education Report (AER)

### 2.1.2026

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2024-25 educational progress for West Michigan Aviation Academy. 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 Dr. Chris Williams, Dean of Teaching & Student Learning, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting <https://bit.ly/3Y4J0w3> or you may review a copy in the main office.

For the 2025-26 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2023-24. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

West Michigan Aviation Academy has **not** been given one of these labels.

At WMAA, we strive to provide an exceptional educational opportunity, and we are proud to serve a diverse community of families and students. Each year, our students enter grade 9 from over 40 different school districts, and it is our mission to ensure that each of them finds academic success. Because of this diversity of experience, we tend to see a broad range of academic preparedness within each of our yearly cohorts. To overcome this challenge, we are focusing our efforts on developing how we analyze data, adjusting our curriculum, and targeting instruction to close these student achievement gaps. We have designed our instructional model to support all students by implementing those instructional strategies outlined in our School Improvement Plan, and our outstanding Student Services Team is formalizing our implementation of a holistic Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) to identify and support any students at-risk. Academic progress is maintained through consistent student monitoring and parent communication, and we have supplemented instructional time through Saturday school, tutoring programs, and the implementation of student support plans.

In this Annual Education Report, we invite you to review our academic success and learn more about the initiatives WMAA is implementing to ensure that our school fulfills our academic mission for each of our students.



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION OF WMAA AS A SPECIALIZED SCHOOL.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CORE CURRICULUM.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE &amp; DUAL ENROLLMENT.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CLOSING.....</b>	<b>10</b>



## PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

West Michigan Aviation Academy (WMAA) is a state-funded, public charter school academy. There is no cost to attend WMAA, and the school is open to any Michigan student wishing to attend. Students must be appropriately placed in the grade levels offered by WMAA (9th - 12th).

By law, WMAA cannot restrict enrollment based on selection criteria. Our charter, which is held by Grand Valley State University, does limit the total number of students who may attend the school. If the number of applications exceeds the number of available openings, a random lottery determines who attends the school.

WMAA's open enrollment period is from the first day of the current school year until 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of February of the current school year. During this enrollment period, all applications get equal consideration regardless of date submitted. Following the end of open enrollment, if the number of applications does not exceed the number of open seats, all students will receive a notice of acceptance into their respective grades. If applications received exceed offered seats in any grade level, a random selection process will take place for that grade level. Names are randomly drawn by a representative from the Kent Intermediate School District until all offered seats have been filled. Any remaining names are drawn to establish waiting list priority.

Once students are enrolled and remain enrolled, they will remain eligible to be re-enrolled at the school for successive years without having to re-enter the random selection process. Students will be requested to complete a re-enrollment form by the end of the open enrollment period showing intent to re-enroll for the next school year. All applicants on a waiting list must re-submit an application for the following school year during the next open enrollment period. In order to accommodate families who have more than one child eligible for enrollment, siblings of accepted or currently enrolled students are given preference over students who have no such siblings. Siblings of currently enrolled students at the school will be drawn first in the random selection process for offered seats. In addition, if a child is selected during the random selection process, that child's sibling will be offered the first available offered seat in his/her respective grade. Though siblings are afforded preference for offered seats, they are not given preference over a child previously enrolled.

Should offered seats remain available after the close of open enrollment, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until offered seats are no longer available. Applications are date and time stamped upon submission, and students are admitted in the order their application is received. Applications will be accepted after offered seats are filled and will be placed on a waiting list in the order received. Additionally, should seats open during the academic year (due to transfer etc.), students will be offered seats during a 2-week window at the start of each semester based on the original order of the wait list until the existing wait list is exhausted.



## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

WMAA currently has three focus areas specified for our Michigan Continuous Improvement Plan, which are focused on maintaining excellence in both our aviation and engineering thematic programs as well as our academic core.

**Goal 1:** Provide state-of-the-art opportunities in STEM education in order to grow and/or maintain student and stakeholder satisfaction with WMAA programs

**Goal 2:** Maintain our school's status as a top 50 high school in the state of Michigan as determined by our students' college readiness scores on the SAT.

**Goal 3:** Reach level 3 proficiency ("full implementation") on each of the gold standard written processes as outlined by the Michigan Department of Education's English Learner Program Evaluation Tool.

These goals are pursued through intentional planning by our Leadership Team and Department Leaders, continuous professional learning, and annual program evaluation.



## **WMAA AS A SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

On September 7, 2010, West Michigan Aviation Academy opened its doors to its first class of 9th grade students as a public charter high school with an Aviation and STEM theme. The school is chartered by Grand Valley State University, which provides many educational services in support of the school's programs. PartnerSolutions, a charter school management organization, also provides management services to the academy.

Our curriculum is designed to prepare students to meet the State of Michigan's Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). All core courses are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), adopted by the Michigan Board of Education in. WMAA also offers rigorous Advanced Placement and honors courses for students wishing to challenge themselves and enhance their learning. Students are required to complete 26 credits to earn a WMAA diploma.

In addition to providing a well-rounded academic experience, WMAA features extensive elective courses in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and specializes in a unique aviation theme. All WMAA students take a general introductory aviation and engineering curriculum during their first two years at the academy. Beginning with the junior year, students may choose to focus on one of our thematic strands for their elective coursework. Through WMAA's capstone classes, students have the opportunity to earn a private pilot's license, earn a commercial drone license, or participate in our Build-a-Plane class, where students are actively assembling a functional Carbon Cub airplane.

WMAA also provides students with the opportunity to access real-world technology. The school offers a 1:1 technology program, issuing students personal Chromebooks to use throughout their high school experience. Our Engineering department is furnished with robotics kits, 3-D printers, a laser cutter, and CNC mills, allowing students the opportunity to fabricate designs entirely from scratch. These tools and experiences are used to enhance learning opportunities in the classroom and support our STEM focus.

Another pillar of WMAA's educational model is a comprehensive character education. Character education is infused into all classes at WMAA by integrating it through classroom instruction and an expectation that all staff members model business-like rapport with our students. To support character development, WMAA provides character-based elective courses like Leadership, and WMAA requires all students to complete 100 hours of community service by graduation.

WMAA is also well-prepared to support any student who walks through our doors. WMAA employs an exceptional student services department, including two full time counselors, a full-time social worker, a full time Special Education Teacher Consultant, a full time EL coordinator, student support paraprofessionals, a school psychologist, and a speech pathologist.



## CORE CURRICULUM

In addition to meeting the requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Education through the Michigan Merit Curriculum, faculty, staff, and administrators at WMAA work together to align curricular content to state and national standards. In addition to embedding the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) into our core content areas, including English, mathematics, social studies, and science, our curriculum is guiding students towards college readiness as measured by college readiness benchmarks. Faculty design and implement lessons aligned to these benchmarks and their course standards while providing both enrichment and remedial opportunities as needed.

Our goal of preparing students for college and career success requires us to think beyond the Michigan High School Content Expectations and the Common Core as we implement our curriculum. Our goal is to graduate students who have experienced academic excellence and have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in college and in life. As such, WMAA students have access to college level work through curricular experiences with Advanced Placement (AP) coursework as well as dual enrollment.

Information about WMAA's curriculum can be found on our school website. Specifically, our Course Selection Handbook (available at [www.westmichiganaviation.org](http://www.westmichiganaviation.org)) identifies course sequencing, credit allocations, and core standards.



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

The tables below represent student achievement results on the SAT or PSAT tests for the past two years. Data is arranged to display each class's performance on their two most recent tests.

Class of 2026			
SAT Spring 2025 as Juniors			
	Composite	EBRW	MATH
MEAN	1139	575	564
MET BENCHMARK	68%	85%	70%
PSAT 10 Spring 2024 as Sophomores			
	Composite	EBRW	MATH
MEAN	1044	531	513
MET BENCHMARK	61%	84%	62%



# WEST MICHIGAN AVIATION ACADEMY

Class of 2027			
PSAT 10 Spring 2025 as Sophomores			
	Composite	EBRW	MATH
MEAN	1026	517	508
MET BENCHMARK	61%	83%	63%
PSAT 8/9 Spring 2024 as Freshmen			
	Composite	EBRW	MATH
MEAN	978	498	481
MET BENCHMARK	62%	80%	63%

Class of 2028			
PSAT 8/9 Spring 2025 as Freshmen			
	Composite	EBRW	MATH
MEAN	979	501	478
MET BENCHMARK	58%	79%	60%



## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

At WMAA, it is important that we remain partnered with the community we serve. Below please find our parent/guardian rate of attendance for the two most recent years of parent teacher conferences.

Parent/Guardian Representation at Parent-Teacher Conferences		
YEAR	TOTAL STUDENTS REPRESENTED	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT BODY REPRESENTED
2025 – 2026	328	54%
2024 - 2025	318	53%

## DUAL ENROLLMENT

Some WMAA students dual enroll with local colleges to pursue additional curriculum pathways beyond the school's course offerings. The amount of students who participated in these opportunities during the past two years is documented below.

Students Participating in Dual Enrollment		
YEAR	TOTAL STUDENTS REPRESENTED	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT BODY REPRESENTED
2025-2026	43	7.1%
2024-2025	55	9.2%



## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

WMAA offers a number of AP college equivalent courses in order to challenge our students and provide them an opportunity to excel. This school year, WMAA offered fourteen in-person AP course options:

- AP US Government and Politics
- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Physics: Mechanics
- AP Precalculus
- AP Psychology
- AP Spanish Language
- AP Statistics
- AP US History

Additionally, WMAA provides AP English Language online through Michigan Virtual University

Advanced Placement Enrollment & Achievement				
YEAR	TOTAL STUDENTS REPRESENTED	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL STUDENT BODY	TOTAL AP TESTS TAKEN	AP TEST PASS RATE
2025-2026	240	39.5%	Not Yet Available	Not Yet Available
2024-2025	213	35.4%	337	90%
2023-2024	231	38%	410	82%



## IN CLOSING,

We thank you for showing interest in our school and reviewing our Annual Education Report. As we conclude our eleventh year of operation, we are excited to see continued success on our campus. WMAA has grown tremendously since we began in September of 2010, both in terms of our facilities and our academic program. We take pride in knowing that our students are offered the highest level of opportunities, and we are passionate about our role in preparing students for college and career success. Thank you for partnering with us in your student's educational journey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole Gasper".

Nicole Gasper, CEO  
West Michigan Aviation Academy