

June 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022 - 2023 education progress at Rising Stars Academy.

The AER addressed 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 the school for help.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website: <u>www.rising-star-academy.org</u> or you may review a copy in the school office.

The State of Michigan 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.

Rising Stars Academy has not been given one of these labels due in part to our specialized demographics of our students.

The Key challenge for Rising Stars Academy is increased proficiency in essential skills necessary to prepare our students for employment and independent living. In order to meet these challenges, the academy has implemented the following:

**Corrective Reading** – to maintain reading levels based on student ability levels for success in the workplace

**Corrective Math** – To maintain math levels based on student ability levels for success in the workplace

**Worksite Training** – To develop work-based skills through repetition of essential skills that teach students necessary employment skills.

**Life Skill Training** – To develop repetition of essential skills mastery in Daily Living and through student directed progress monitoring teach students responsibility of self-monitoring for life long success.



## State law requires that we also report additional school site-based information:

Annual process for assigning pupils to the school:

Rising Stars Academy is a free, public school and adhered to all requirements outlined by its charter authorizer and federal and state law regarding enrollments.

The academy does not charge tuition nor discriminate in admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, religion, creed, race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, color or national origin.

Current students are given the opportunity to re-enroll in spring, with preferences given to them and their siblings.

In the spring the school advertises open enrollment with any Michigan resident may apply.

In the event that the school is oversubscribed, a public lottery is held to determine enrollment and a waiting list.

The academy identifies and evaluates all students with disabilities for proper placement within the curriculum.

### The Status of the 3-5 year School Improvement Plan:

The Academy is in its eleventh year of operation. We are currently setting up a committee to work on a strategic plan.

This year we are putting our focus on our Extended Continuation of Learning mandates by MDE.

Our goals encompass each student's individual IEP. Lessons are presented and focus is individualized for each student.

The selected focus areas of the plan are chosen and designed to increase proficiency in Data Driven Decision Making and Contextual based learning. Behavior Improvement Plans and self-monitoring of essential skills are a critical piece of our focus on student's success in a workplace, and aligns itself with the mission of the school. "Learning for all students, to achieve success in school, the workplace and life".

Our focus on two areas:



**Student Growth** – All students will demonstrate growth in the areas of reading, math, workplace and life skills as measured by the following:

**Objective 1** – Corrective Reading and Math mastery tests.

Objective 2 - Workplace skill mastery checklists and job placement evaluations

Objective 3 - Life skills mastery checklists

**Learning Environment** – Every teacher will engage in a collaborative process of study, clarify and commit the teaching in a contextual (real-life/outside of classroom) format where all students have the opportunity to master essential learning.

**Objective 1** – Through classroom observations, implementation of pre/post assessments (application), examination of students work, teachers will clarify what all students must know and be able to do (Contextual learning).

**Objective 2** – Teachers will work in collaborative teams to develop and examine indicators of achievement for all students and track the indicators (evidence of student learning) over time (PLC).

**Objective 3** – Staff will participate in professional learning communities in the areas of contextual learning, PLC implantation, and other related learning to feel confident in their ability and commitment to helping each student develop knowledge and essential skills to achieve their individual success (Professional Development).

# **Status of Curriculum**

Utilizing the Extended High School Content Expectations and Transition Outcomes the staff and administration worked collectively to identify check lists of mastery in all areas of the curriculum.

Mastery objectives are in three different levels of Mastery:

- Level 1 Functional
- Level 2 Supported
- Level 3 Participation

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Curriculum standards are broken into the following categories:

Daily Living Employment Social Emotional Culinary

ACCUMULATIVE ECOL DATA FOR 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Data below shows growth in percent of students who demonstrated growth with respect to their IEP goals.

- ▶ Progress to IEP goals 98% students progressed 25% or more towards their goals.
- ▶ Mastery in work skill 92% of students progressed 25% or more toward their goals.

### Parent Conference:

2022-2023 students (100%) were represented by a parent/guardian/self and/or advocate for annual IEP meetings.

76 Students were represented at Fall Parent Meeting

### **Completion Data: 2023**

Nine students aged out of Rising Stars Academy in June 2023. One of the students is employed. Six of those students are currently enrolled in a program through Community Mental Health.

#### Cumulative Data: 2013-2023

Cumulatively 89 students have aged out of Rising Stars Academy .



I would personally like to congratulate the Board, staff, students, parents, families and community members on another successful year at Rising Stars Academy. It is only because of the support of each and every person connected to Rising Stars Academy that has enabled us to continue our vision and mission for our students. We look forward to our continued success and growth while providing our students with the best tools for success in the workplace and independent living.

Respectfully,

Emily Bregier Superintendent Rising Stars Academy