

New Bedford Academy

“Taking Kids Into the Future”

6315 Secor Rd.
Lambertville, MI 48144-9546

Telephone (734) 854-5437
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Dr. Amanda Magnuson, Principal

New Bedford Academy School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

March 27, 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2017-2018 educational progress for the New Bedford 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 our Principal, Dr. Amanda Magnuson, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://newbedfordacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NBA-17-18-NewAnnualEducationReport.pdf> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2017-2018 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. 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.

New Bedford Academy **WAS NOT GIVEN ANY OF THESE LABELS.**

New Bedford Academy key challenges continue to be a reduction in enrollment, reductions in ELA and Math standardized test scores, poverty, and a growing At-Risk population.

A primary concern the Academy has been addressing for over the past two years is the academic level of the students enrolling in the Academy. New Bedford Academy has seen standardized test scores slip

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in the last two years. The Board and Academy have focused on raising student achievement multiple grade levels per year in order to bring students up to their appropriate grade level and have them college ready when they graduate. New Bedford will continue to work with all stakeholders to review data and develop/revise plans to increase academic success.

Enrollment has also been a big concern in recent years. New Bedford Academy has seen a consistent reduction in enrollment since its high of 168 students in 2011-2012. 2017-2018 saw a reduction to just 83 students.

Some of the successes and changes the Academy has implemented in the past year and a half include the following:

- New Bedford Academy spent 2017-2018 planning for the addition of a Young-5's program, which was implemented in 2018-2019.
- The academy brought in new Technology for the 2018-2019 school year.
- New Bedford Academy brought in new curriculum and instructional materials for the 2018-2019 school year.
- The academy increased its Special Education support.
- New Bedford Academy saw enrollment climb from 82 to 113 students for the 2018-2019 school year.
- New Bedford continues to utilize NWEA-MAP testing to gauge academic success of its students, create individualized plans for success and utilize data from NWEA to pin-point areas of concern.
- While other schools have struggled with retention of teachers and administrators, the Academy has retained the same school teaching team which provides consistency of instruction as student's progress from one grade to another.
- New Bedford Academy brought in new school leadership at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.
- New Bedford Academy hired a new management company to start the 2018-2019 school year.
- New Bedford continues to experience incredible levels of parent and community involvement. The Academy has worked hard to become an integral part of the local community, providing numerous resources to students and families.
- Door to Door Transportation is now provided to all students, adding one bus for the 2018-2019 school year, for a total of two buses.
- Our legacy students, who have been with the Academy at least one full academic year, continues to grow, with 56% of our students being at the school 3 years or more.

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State law requires that we also report additional information:

1. **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:** Students are enrolled during an assigned re-enrollment period in the Spring of each year and through open enrollment all year. All students are welcome. In the event there are no seats available for any particular grade level, students are placed on a waiting list until a seat opens.
2. **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:** A copy of the New Bedford Academy District Improvement Plan can be found at:
3. **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL:** New Bedford Academy is a K-8 Public School Academy focusing on improving the academic achievement of its students. In Spring of 2018, New Bedford Academy was given a one year extension to its charter with Ferris State University, with the provision of making certain improvements for long-term renewal. In Spring 2019, Ferris State University confirmed a 5-year charter agreement with New Bedford Academy, due to its improvements, including increases in enrollment, development of a revised strategic plan and a change in management companies.
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:**
 - a. KC-4
 - b. ELA: Benchmark Literacy Series
 - c. Pearson Envision Common Core Mathematics Series
 - d. Pearson My World Social Studies series
 - e. Pearson Interactive Science series (MS only)

The teachers receive all their materials and meet as a group to become familiar with the new texts at the start of each school year. Representatives from Pearson have also been onsite to provide teachers strategies for implementation.
5. **THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS** The Academy used the NWEA MAP assessment tool. During the 2017-2018 school year 53% of the students met or exceeded the norm in Reading and 45.5% of the students met or exceeded the norm in Math.
6. **IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:** 100% of parents attend parent/teacher conferences.

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Conclusion

The Academy Board, students and staff continue work very hard to overcome some challenges but overall are encouraged by increased enrollment, introduction of a new curriculum and curriculum resources and new school leadership. Students are demonstrating great academic successes but still have room to improve. New Bedford provides a safe and caring environment where learning is taking place. Our staff is strong and committed to the students and families of New Bedford Academy and our plan for academic improvements is solid. We will continue to collaborate with the MDE and Monroe ISD as well as numerous other stakeholders to ensure the successes at New Bedford Academy will endure.

Sincerely,

Jefferson Hamlin

Dr. Jefferson Hamlin, Superintendent
New Bedford Academy