



Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District: 730 W Maple St. Lansing, MI 48906

District Code Number: 33904

Building Code Number(s): 08323

District Contact Person: Mr. Lacey James

District Contact Person Email Address: ljames@mmlalions.org

Local Public Health Department: Ingham County Health Department

Local Public Health Department Contact Person Email Address: N/A

Name of Intermediate School District: Ingham County ISD

Name of Authorizing Body: Central Michigan University

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors: September 14, 2020



October 01, 2020 [via email]

Ms. Lacey James
Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy

Re: Approval of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan (“Extended Learning Plan”)

Dear Ms. James:

I am pleased to inform you that the Extended Learning Plan for Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy (“Academy”) has been approved by The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University. The Center will transmit the Extended Learning Plan to the State as soon as an appropriate mechanism to do so is made available. The Extended Learning Plan is effective as of the date indicated in the document.

To fulfill one of the required assurances, immediately add a copy of the approved Extended Learning Plan to the Academy’s Transparency Page of its website. An approved copy of the Extended Learning Plan is attached and can be found in Epicenter. The approved Extended Learning Plan constitutes a Charter Contract amendment and remains in effect as long as the Extended Learning Plan remains in effect.

Thank you for all your efforts to keep student learning moving forward in these trying times. If you have any further questions or need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Northrop". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" and "N".

Corey Northrop
Executive Director

cc: Robert Macomber, Board President
Lauri McCollum, Board Corresponding Agent

Attachment: Approved Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLANS ("ECLP") AND APPROVAL OF CHARTER CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy (the "Academy")

A regular meeting of the Academy Board of Directors was held on the 14th day of September, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Board Member Rob Macomber:

Present: N. Benavides, N. Curry, L. Faith, R. Macomber, V. Williams

Absent: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Board Member Nicholas Benavides and supported by Board Member Leigha Faith:

BACKGROUND

On August 20, 2020, in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic affecting our state, Governor Whitmer signed into law certain amendments to the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended, MCL 388.1601 et seq. ("Back to School Laws"). The Back to School Laws include additional requirements for all Michigan schools as they plan for a return of preK-12 education for the 2020-2021 school year. Under the Back to School Laws, a public school academy must provide for instruction under an extended COVID-19 learning plan ("ECLP") that is approved by its authorizing body ("Authorizer"). ECLPs includes many of the same subject matters addressed in a public school academy's charter contract, including measurable educational goals to be achieved by all subgroups in the school, measurement of those educational goals by one or more benchmark assessments, a description of how the educational program, including instruction, will be delivered, a description of the school's curricula and specific reporting requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. Under the Back to School Laws, schools retain the flexibility to tailor and adjust their ECLPs to meet the needs of their students and the community they serve.

The Back to School Laws require, among other things, that each public school academy do the following:

- (1) Establish educational goals required to be included in the ECLP no later than September 15, 2020.
- (2) Approve an ECLP and submit it to their respective authorizing body ("Authorizer") for approval by October 1, 2020. If approved by the Authorizer, the ECLP is transmitted by the Authorizer to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Treasurer.
- (3) Make an ECLP accessible through the transparency reporting link on the school's website by October 1, 2020.
- (4) Within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year, administer 1 or more benchmark assessments from the list approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE)¹, a benchmark assessment provided by MDE, or local benchmark assessments, or a combination of the above, to pupils in grades K-8 to measure math and reading proficiency. In addition, by the last day of the 2020-2021 school year, administer another benchmark assessment to pupils in K-8 to measure proficiency in the same subject matter. The Back to School Laws require schools to use the same benchmark assessment(s) used in the 2019-2020 school year, if applicable.
- (5) Provide each pupil's data from the benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments, as available, to the pupil's parent or legal guardian within 30 days of administering the benchmark assessment(s).

¹ MDE has approved four providers of benchmark assessments and continues to assess additional providers. See [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Benchmark assessments 700077 7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Benchmark_assessments_700077_7.pdf)

(6) Not later than February 1, 2021, create a report that addresses the progress made in meeting the educational goals in the ECLP that the academy expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and make the report available on the transparency reporting link on a public school academy's website.

(7) Not later than the last day of the 2020-2021 school year, create a report concerning progress made in meeting the educational goals in the ECLP and make the report available on the transparency reporting link on a public school academy's website.

(8) No later than June 30, 2021, send the aggregate academy-level data from a benchmark assessment(s), excluding data from a local benchmark assessment or local benchmark assessments, to a regional data hub that is part of the Michigan data hub network that shall compile the data and send it to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI).

(9) Thirty days after approval of the ECLP, the Board shall meet monthly to re-confirm how pupil instruction is being delivered at the school and whether it is consistent with the ECLP and to ensure that 2 2-way interaction, as defined in the Act, is occurring between students and teachers each week of the school year for at least 75% of students enrolled in the school. At each meeting, the Board shall: (a) publicly announce its weekly interaction rates of 2 2-way interaction since its last meeting; (b) allow for public comment on the ECLP; and (c) discuss whether changes to the method of delivery for pupil instruction under the ECLP are necessary.

THE ACADEMY BOARD THEREFORE RESOLVES THAT:

1. The actions taken by Academy representatives to prepare and submit the Academy's ECLP to Authorizer are ratified.
2. The ECLP, as approved by the Authorizer, is approved by the Academy Board as the ECLP and as the ECLP Amendment to the Contract.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.
4. The Academy will deliver from time to time such information regarding the implementation of the Academy's ECLP as the Authorizer or Michigan Department of Education may reasonably request.
5. Any Board policies or provision of Board policies that prohibit or impede the Academy's compliance with ECLP are temporarily waived, suspended or altered.
6. This Resolution shall take immediate effect and continue through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. If the Back to School Laws are amended, and such amendments requires additional Board action relative to the ECLP, the Board may take such action to comply with existing law.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Resolution declared adopted.



Nicholas Benavides
Secretary, Academy Board



Assurances

- The Academy will administer an approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Within thirty days after the approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter, the Academy, at a meeting of its board of directors, will re-confirm how instruction is delivered during the 2020-2021 school year and will solicit public comment, at a public meeting, from the parents or legal guardians enrolled in the Academy.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the Academy had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.
- The Academy will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.
- The Academy, in consultation with a local health department, and district employees, will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the Academy Board's discretion. Key metrics that the Academy will consider shall include at least all of the following:
 - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
 - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
 - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
 - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
 - The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
 - Health capacity strength
 - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19
- If the Academy determines that it is safe to provide in-person pupil instruction to pupils, the Academy will prioritize providing in-person pupil instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the Academy.
- The Academy will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the Academy and the pupil's teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil's teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the Academy. The Academy will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each Academy Board meeting where it re-confirm how instruction is being delivered, beginning 30 days after approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter. The Academy will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the Academy website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.



- The Academy will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy’s website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the Academy expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.

Robert Macomber
Board President

Board approved: 09/14/2020



Introduction and Overview

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy (MMLA) is a public school academy in Lansing, MI serving students in Kindergarten through 8th grade. MMLA's goal is to provide an environment where all students can achieve success to their fullest potential.

MMLA affords families in the greater Lansing area a tuition free alternative education option to their local district. MMLA provides dynamic options to all grades and works to ensure the success of all students. A fully integrated PBIS program, MTSS program, Special Education Services, and a college-bound focus are just a few highlights of the school. In addition, continuous monitoring of student's achievement is done through NWEA MAP growth assessments, DRAs, and progress monitoring. These assessments allow teachers, parents and students to know exactly where to focus in order to achieve at high levels.

Highly Qualified and Certified Teachers and School Staff work together with the Board of Directors to fulfill Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy's goal to provide an environment where all students can achieve success at their fullest potential.

1. Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
2. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
3. Northwest Evaluation Association, Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP)
4. Developmental Reading Assessments (DRA)

Our Mission, Vision, and Values continued to guide our work. Most importantly, our mission, vision, and values guided our work in providing students with an equitable education during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the teachers, who are our essential workers who delivered the core curriculum to students daily using a variety of resources and tools. Our offerings have continued to allow students to grow academically through a school environment that fosters support and commitment.

Educational Goals

The median Student Growth Percentile for students grades 3 through 8 will be at or above the 50th percentile on NWEA's Measure of Academic Progress for the fall-to-spring testing period in reading and math.

The Northwest Evaluation Association Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP), a nationally normed and computer-adaptive test, will be administered to all grade 3-8 students three times in the 2020-21 school year - in the fall (within the first nine weeks of the start of school), the winter, and in the spring - to determine whether students are making meaningful progress toward mastery of the standards. The NWEA MAP is aligned to the Common Core Standards and listed by the Michigan Department of Education as an approved testing tool.

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy's website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the education goals not later than February 1, 2021 for fall-to-winter goal and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-21 school year for the winter-to-spring goal.



Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

During the 2020-2021 school year at Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy, instruction will occur virtually for the first nine weeks. Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will facilitate this alternative means of instruction for its students through the use of digital and non-digital materials, activities, and resources to support continued education during this period of at-home learning. Staff will use the Academy's Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) curriculum. Additional resources will include G-Suite applications. Teachers will have a remote learning schedule and will communicate with parents and students by phone, email, Classtag, or Google Classroom throughout the week.

Instructional expectations include best practices for all options, confirmation of grade-level proficiencies, implementation of various modes of student assessment and feedback, and the continuation of differentiation. Exceptional learners will continue to receive services based on IEPs and 504s under the direction of the special education team. Attendance will be tracked via Google Meet, Google Classroom and PowerSchool. Communication with students and parents will occur via Classtag, Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy's website and Facebook, email, and phone. Report cards will be provided twice (once each term) and parent teacher conferences will be scheduled to facilitate teacher and parent dialogue.

PHASE LEVELS

Phases 1-3

Virtual Learning - During this phase at Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy, school is closed for in-person instruction. All students will receive instruction virtually through G-Suite Applications, such as Google Classroom and Google Meet.

Phase 4:

Virtual Learning – For the first nine weeks of the 2020-21 school year, all students will receive instruction virtually through G-Suite Applications, such as Google Classroom and Google Meet. Teachers will report to the school building Monday-Friday for virtual learning.

In-Person Learning – School is open for in-person instruction. CDC protocols will be followed, as noted in safety section and will include social distancing, smaller class sizes, wearing of masks and cleaning. Virtual learning will continue for students who select that option.

Phase 5:

Traditional Learning - School is open for synchronous in-person instruction, Monday through Friday. Virtual learning will continue for students that select that option.



Equitable Access

In order to ensure a successful and equitable start to the school year, we needed to ensure that all of our students had access to the Internet and a device. Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will survey all parents before the start of the school. The data results from the survey will aid the Academy in determining the number of computers per household available for student learning and whether or not our families require Internet access to support remote learning. Moreover, the survey will help the district determine the number of Chromebooks required for study disbursement. Chromebooks will be assigned per student with detailed instructions of how to sign on, access the Internet, and procedures for launching all relevant learning icons.

All students that identified a need were provided with a school-issued Chromebook. If students do not have Internet access, Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will work to provide students with access to Wi-Fi in locations where possible. Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will continue to survey families through email and phone calls to identify technology needs.

Other arrangements, such as paper based assignments or material drop-offs/pick-ups, will be available on a case-by-case basis. Students with any technological issues will contact the School Office for assistance. If necessary, proper arrangements will be made for device exchanges and repairs.

All exceptional students will be provided with all programs and services as outlined in their most recent IEPs. The Special Education Department will hold IEPs virtually or in person following CDC Guidelines as needed. Service providers will utilize Google Meet and Google Classroom to meet 1:1 and/or in small groups for students participating in virtual learning. General and special education teachers will collaborate on a weekly basis to discuss students' individual needs and adjust students' plans and services accordingly based on their current needs.

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy is continuing to work with all normal timelines, procedures, and support related to students with IEPs and 504s. Updated contingency learning plans are also being put into place as necessary.