WEST OTTAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students to be College, Career and Life Ready.

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 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 Dunes Alternative High School. 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 Michelle Woods for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website **Dunes Alternative High School Annual Education Report**, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

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 2024-25. 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, had a graduation rate at or below 67%, or failed to exit ATS status in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was not identified for improvement and has not been given one of these labels

Dunes Alternative High School is an alternative high school serving 11th and 12th-grade students and is located in the South Building of West Ottawa High School. Each year, our school provides approximately 60 students with the opportunity to graduate on time and become college, career, and life-ready. The Dunes is committed to empowering students for lifelong success through a supportive, inclusive, and personalized learning environment. The school focuses on meeting each student's unique needs, goals, and aspirations. Centered on three pillars, supportive culture, community connections, and personal growth, Dunes fosters a strong sense of belonging while building meaningful partnerships that provide mentorships, career exploration, hands-on learning, and post-secondary preparation. Through targeted supports for juniors and seniors and initiatives like Dunes Prep'd Partnerships, the school intentionally helps students develop skills, confidence, and clear pathways beyond high school. Dunes aims to expand community partnerships, increase work-based and project-based learning opportunities, and further strengthen its culture of belonging to ensure every student is equipped for lifelong success.

In addition to our in-person Dunes Alternative High School, we offer a fully online dropout recovery program for students living in the district. Students who are expelled/suspended, referred by the court, pregnant/parent, previously dropped out, or at risk of dropping out may be recommended for Graduation Alliance. West Ottawa currently has 47 students enrolled in Graduation Alliance. Students enroll in two classes at a time and work toward earning a Dunes Alternative High School diploma.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL
   Students are referred to the Dunes Alternative High School and Graduation Alliance by their WOHS school counselor and/or administrator. Referrals are based on a student's need for an alternative path to graduation. Candidates may be credit-deficient, struggle with attendance, or need a smaller environment.

2. THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
   Please refer to the District Michigan Continuous Improvement Plan.

3. 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
   Dunes Alternative Education requires students to earn **18 total credits** aligned to the **Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC)** to receive a State of Michigan high school diploma. Students complete 4 credits in English (English 1–4), 4 credits in Mathematics, 3 credits in Science (including Biology and additional approved science coursework), and 3 credits in Social Studies (World History, U.S. History, Economics, and Government). In addition, students earn 1 credit in Physical Education & Health, 1 credit in Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts, and 2 elective credits. Dunes provides flexible pathways, including Personal Curriculum options when appropriate, while maintaining rigorous academic standards and a focus on preparing students for graduation and successful post-secondary plans. The instructional model includes blended learning using Edmentum online coursework with in-person support, mentoring, project-based learning, and career-connected experiences.

4. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

SAT Data Review:

Grad Year	# Tested	EBRW	% Prof.	Math	% Prof.	Composite
2024	40	381	20%	342	0%	723
2025	37	362	8%	327	0%	689

Graduation Data Review (# of graduates):

	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25
Dunes	42	39	43	59*	66*	41**	44**
GA						6	10

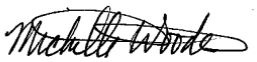
*post COVID-19, an increase in the number of students with credit deficiencies
**moved from OdysseyWare to Edmentum as our online curriculum platform

5. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
   Parents and students are invited to meet with staff during Open House, before the first day of school. Parents are provided an overview of the program and important details on how to stay up to date on student progress. Throughout the year, the Dunes staff connect with parents regarding progress updates. Students in jeopardy are required to have a parent meeting to develop a plan of success. Due to the ongoing communication, a low percentage of parents participate in virtual parent-teacher conferences.

Additional Points of Pride About Our School

The past two years, Dunes has prioritized students developing a post-secondary plan to launch upon completion of their high school graduation requirements. Dunes Prep'd is the signature transition experience at Dunes Alternative High School, intentionally designed to ensure every senior graduates not only with a diploma, but with a clear, actionable post-secondary plan. Through structured field experiences and mentor-led workshops, students engage directly with local industry and community leaders, visiting sites such as Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC/MTEC), ITW Drawform, Suburban Inns, Corewell Health, West Coast Chamber, and Board of Public Works. Mentors attend each field experience, providing our students with consistent guidance and professional coaching. These real-world connections allow students to explore career pathways, build professional skills, expand their networks, and envision themselves in future roles with confidence. Dunes Prep'd transforms post-secondary planning from a conversation into an experience, empowering students to graduate prepared, connected, and ready to take their next step.

Sincerely,



Michelle Woods, Principal