



Veritas Alternative Ed
17715 Brady, Redford Michigan 48240
Telephone (313) 242-3720
Fax (313) 242-3705

Katy Jain, Program Coordinator

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2015-16 educational progress for Veritas Alternative Ed. 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 Katy Jain, Program Coordinator, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.redfordu.k12.mi.us/district/aer/> or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 year, no new Priority or Focus schools were named; some Priority or Focus schools did exit their status because they met the exit criteria. New Reward schools were identified using school rankings and Beating the Odds information. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest and lowest achieving 30% of schools. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or "Beating the Odds" by outperforming the school's predicted ranking and/or similar schools. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given. Our school has not been given one of these labels but still faces key challenges.

As denoted by the data, two challenges that Veritas continues to face are meeting proficiency targets in science and our overall attendance rate. The data also indicates that students who have enrolled at Veritas struggle in all four core academic subject areas as many enroll because they are either behind in credits or have dropped out after facing academic challenges in their former school. Many of the students who come to Veritas arrive with these learning gaps and it is our primary focus to help students narrow these gaps and become successful learners.

To help our students be successful, Veritas has developed several key initiatives. First of all, all students may participate in free tutoring that is available both after school and on Fridays. All students also have access to free Credit Recovery classes and lab time to complete these classes on Fridays. Secondly, the small size of our school also gives our students opportunities to have one on one support and counseling from our Alternative Ed Specialist and certified social worker. Additionally, we have also been working hard to incorporate restorative practices to

help reduce suspensions while still repairing the harm done. Restorative practices help promote a positive school culture based on building and restoring relationships. Finally, we are also using Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and enlisting the help of the district attendance liaison to help students and families improve attendance as part of the district attendance campaign.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

1. **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL:**

Students are assigned to Veritas Alternative Ed through an application process. Students complete an application and an interview with the program coordinator and key staff members. A small percentage of students are referred from Redford Union High School. This is done through a referral process, as openings are limited.

2. **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The School Improvement Plan for Veritas Alternative Ed is in its third year and is beginning to implement its goals.

3. **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

Redford Union Schools offers a Day Treatment High School Program for students with emotional impairments.

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**

All teaching staff follow the curriculum model provided by the State of Michigan and is transitioning to use of the Common Core Standards. A copy of this curriculum can be accessed on line at <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>. In addition, a copy of the curriculum can be reviewed at the school office.

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

Please refer to the following website, www.mischooldata.org, to view the combined data report for Veritas. A copy of this report is also available on our school's website under the Annual Education Report tab.

6. **IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES.**

We offer parent teacher conferences two times per year, at varying times of the day. We also offer to schedule individual conferences for those parents who cannot make the prearranged times. Parental attendance remains low at conferences. Approximately 20% of students were represented at fall conferences and approximately 13% were represented at spring conferences. Continued effort will be placed on getting parents actively engaged in our school.

7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS, ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

- a. THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)

To date, Veritas Alternative Ed does not have and has not had any students who are dual enrolled in a post-secondary institution.

- b. THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)

Due to limited staffing and a population of at-risk students, no college equivalent courses are offered. Therefore, no results are available for students in college equivalent courses.

- c. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)

Veritas does not currently have any students enrolled in college equivalent courses such as AP and IB courses.

- d. THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT

Veritas does not have any students receiving a score leading to college credit.

As we approach the 2017-18 school year, the staff and administration look forward to working in partnership with our students to help them achieve their educational goals. While we are pleased for the goals already attained, we are working continuously to improve. We recognize the importance of the staff, students and community working in collaboration and we appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Katy Jain,
Program Coordinator
Veritas Alternative Ed
Redford Union Schools
313-242-3720
jaink@redfordu.k12.mi.us