



# Caniff Liberty Academy

**REVISED 2019-20 TEMPLATE**

## **School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

December 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2019-20 educational progress for Caniff Liberty 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 Larry Cowger for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <https://www.canifflibertyacademy.com/> and clicking on the link <https://bit.ly/2KcXBmM>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2019-20 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 a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Our school was not identified with any of these labels.

Caniff Liberty Academy currently has a student population of 484, with 290 being English Language Learners. This is the largest challenge that we face, as our students' English proficiency directly impacts high stakes testing and student achievement data. Many of our students are also considered to be at-risk. To address these challenges, we have three English language (ELL) teachers and two Reading Specialists who serve our identified ELL and at-risk students. We also have five paraprofessionals, which speak Arabic and Bengali, who work with students in



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their classes. These challenges are now magnified as a result the COVID19 pandemic and students being on remote/online instruction.

Many of our parents do not speak English, which means that they cannot assist with their child's education at home. Communication between the school and home is a targeted improvement goal. Most of the families in our community are considered to be at the poverty level, which correlates inversely with high academic achievement. Despite these challenges our students experience success on their own levels, rise above their surroundings, and go on to colleges and universities. Our school has higher MSTEP scores than many of our competitors in the city of Hamtramck, which is a testament to our success.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

## 1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Caniff Liberty Academy is a public charter school and by law accepts all students who reside in Michigan. Our students primarily come from Hamtramck, Detroit, and the surrounding areas. Once the school year has started, and teacher staffing has been completed, students are only accepted where "room" exists within the class caps.

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

Based on designations in the school improvement plan in State of Michigan's ASSIST system, Caniff Liberty Academy is considered to be in the "implementing" phase in most areas. We are redirecting our focus and resources on the improvement of student language acquisition through effective ELL instruction for our students. As a "Marzano school", the staff and faculty are committed to ensuring five increasing levels of reliability, to include 1) Safe, Collaborative, and Positive Culture, 2) Effective Teaching in Every Classroom, 3) Standards-Based Curriculum, 4) Data-Based Decision-Making, and 5) Language Acquisition. The state approved, Marzano "iObserve" system is the evaluation tool used to ensure reliability.



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

There are no specialized schools.

### 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

Our authorizer, Oakland University, requires that we follow the Michigan Academic Standards. The curriculum can be viewed at <http://www.emaninc.rubiconatlas.org>.

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

#### 2020 MSTEP Data (Percent Proficient)

No Data due to Pandemic and school closures

#### 2019 MSTEP Data (Percent Proficient)

Assessment Name	Assessment Subject	Grade Level Content	Percent Students Proficient	Percent Advanced	Percent Proficient	Percent Partially Proficient
M-STEP	English Language Arts	3rd Grade Content	34.5%	12.7%	21.8%	30.9%
M-STEP	English Language Arts	4th Grade Content	46.0%	30.0%	16.0%	14.0%
M-STEP	English Language Arts	5th Grade Content	32.4%	≤10%	*	20.6%
M-STEP	English Language Arts	6th Grade Content	45.2%	≤10%	*	31.0%
M-STEP	English Language Arts	7th Grade Content	24.0%	≤10%	*	28.0%
PSAT	Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing	8th Grade Content	16.3%	*	≤10%	28.6%



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

2020 Conferences

45%

2019 Conferences

45%

Caniff Liberty Academy is proud to provide a learning environment that places high value on respect, tolerance, and pride in diversity. We enroll many newcomers to the United States and offer programs and services to prepare them for life as American citizens. We afford our students multiple field trips throughout the year to further acculturate them to society. We are proud of our students and stay focused on our motto of graduating college ready and college bound students.

Sincerely,

Larry Cowger, Principal  
Caniff Liberty Academy