



Preparing today's students  
for tomorrow's world.

May 31, 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2016-17 educational progress for the Monroe County Educational Center. 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 William Hite at (734) 342-8400 for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site [https://www.mischooldata.org/AER2018/CombinedReport2.aspx?Common\\_Location=1-S,9472,1735,102&Common\\_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal\\_InquiryDisplayType=None](https://www.mischooldata.org/AER2018/CombinedReport2.aspx?Common_Location=1-S,9472,1735,102&Common_LocationIncludeComparison=False&Portal_InquiryDisplayType=None) (SEE Q.4 AND Q.5 OF THE 2017-18 AER FAQ DOCUMENT FOR DIRECTIONS), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2016-17 school year, schools were identified using new 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. Our school has not been given one of these labels.



## **Key Challenge**

A key challenge for our school is overcoming the limitations in communication that most of our students struggle with. Most students at the Educational Center have limited or no verbal communication skills. Students who have communication impairments utilize visual picture cards, assistive technology, sign language, gestures, and eye gaze to communicate wants, needs, and academic knowledge. While students may fully comprehend a subject, they have difficulties communicating learned knowledge during testing situations.

## **Description and Placement**

The Monroe County Educational Center serves 125 students with moderate to severe cognitive impairments, severe multiple impairments, and Autism Spectrum Disorder. There is a team of 42 classroom staff and 18 ancillary, administrative, and secretarial staff members that support the educational needs of the students.

The Educational Center is located in Monroe, MI. Students enrolled at the Educational Center come from all nine local school districts within Monroe County.

Enrollment at the Monroe County Educational Center is determined by IEP team decision. The team must determine that the student requires the supports and services of a center-based school in order to access a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

## **School Improvement**

The primary focus of the Educational Center's School Improvement Plan is to support academic growth for our students in the areas of ELA and Math. Student growth for the school improvement goals is measured by an annual administration of the Educational Center Student Assessment Kit. This assessment is aligned with Michigan's state standards and is used to measure growth and predict student achievement on the MI-Access assessment.

Goals for the 2017/2018 school year were as follows:

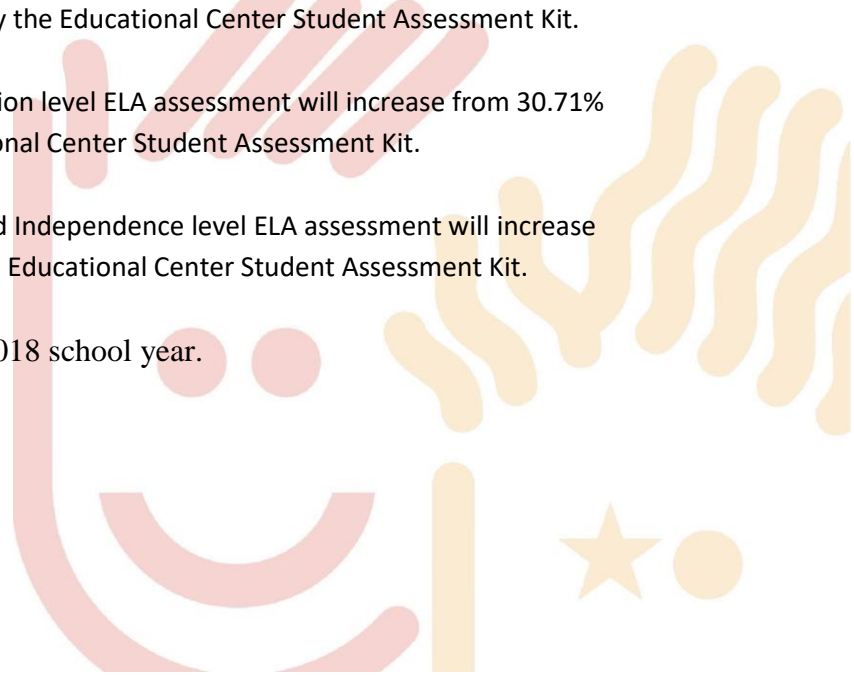
By May 2018, the average score on the Participation level math assessment will increase from 31.17% to 33.17% or higher, as measured by the Educational Center Student Assessment Kit.

By May 2018, the average score on the Supported Independence level math assessment will increase from 52.15% to 54.15% or higher, as measured by the Educational Center Student Assessment Kit.

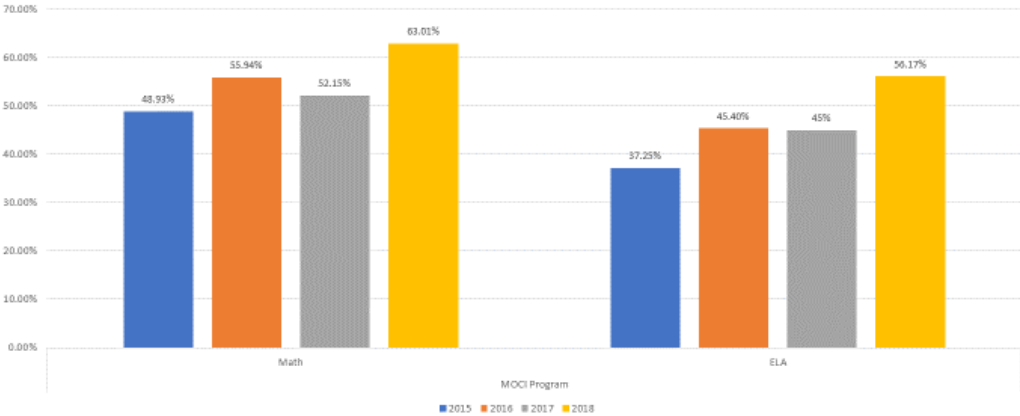
By May 2018, the average score on the Participation level ELA assessment will increase from 30.71% to 32.21% or higher, as measured by the Educational Center Student Assessment Kit.

By May 2018, the average score on the Supported Independence level ELA assessment will increase from 45% to 46.5% or higher, as measured by the Educational Center Student Assessment Kit.

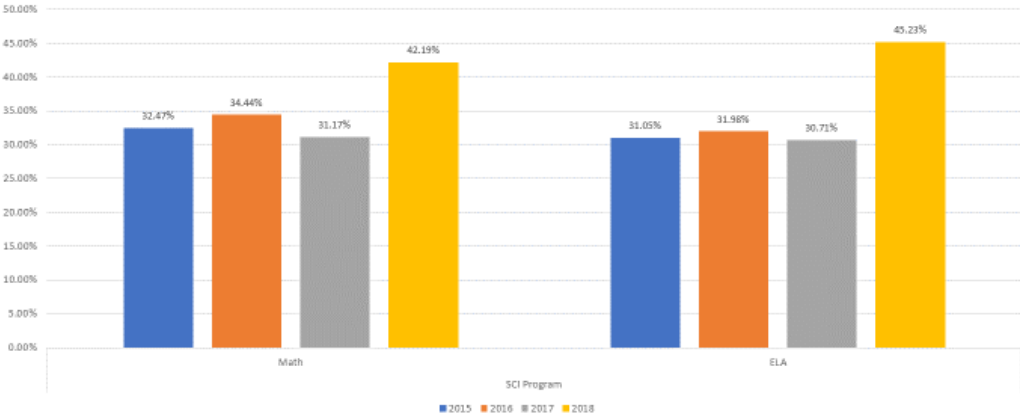
The school exceeded all goals for the 2017/2018 school year.



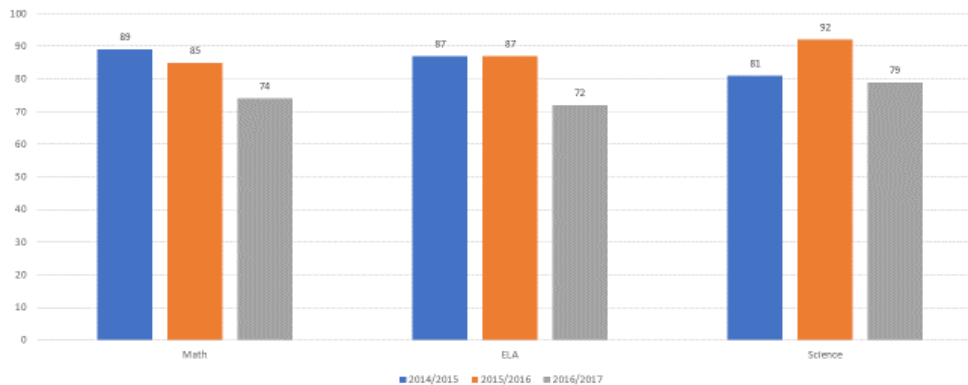
# Student Assessment Kit Data Trends: Supported Independence



# Student Assessment Kit Data Trends: Participation



## Educational Center % of Students Scoring Proficient on MI-Access



### Core Curriculum

The Educational Center's curriculum focuses on the Michigan Essential Elements, transition skills, communication, and social/life skills. All classrooms in our Pre-K through adult programs utilize the Unique Learning Systems curriculum to learn skills in Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. In addition to this core curriculum, many classrooms utilize the Equals Math program and the Edmark Functional Word Series to teach important content standards.

As young as age 14, but no later than age 16, the IEP team begins to address the transition needs of students. Based on needs identified in the IEP, students begin to participate in our school and community based transition programs. As a student enters into their adult years at the Educational Center, the curriculum primarily focuses on the student's transition needs in the areas of work-based learning, adult-daily living skills, and community based education. Although students will continue to receive instruction in the core content areas, transition programming allows them to apply the academic concepts they have learned in the real world setting and to build independence as they work towards graduation.

For more information about the Educational Center's curriculum please visit the websites below. You may also speak with your child's teacher, our building teacher consultant, or principal.

### Representation at Parent Teacher Conferences

The Educational Center has a number of opportunities for parent/staff engagement. We had 125 students enrolled during the 2017/2018 school year. The following is a breakdown of the number of students who had one or more family members attend an event:

- Annual Open House: 51 Families (41%)
- Annual IEP Meeting: 110 Families (88%)
- Annual Holiday Family Event (December): 22 Families (18%)
- Annual Holiday Family Event (March): 19 Families (15%)

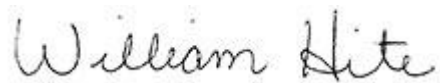
Annual Family Event (April): 12 Families (10%)

Annual Family Event (June): 33 Families (26%)

Students at the Monroe County Educational Center have demonstrated strong performances on the annual MI-Access assessment and our school's annual assessment. Additionally, students demonstrate the ability to transfer this academic knowledge to functional skills such as daily-living skills, community-based experiences, and work-based learning.

The students and staff at the Educational Center look forward to continuous improvement and student growth in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Hite". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "W".

William Hite, Principal  
Monroe County Educational Center  
Monroe County Transition Center

