



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

February 8, 2017

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 The Midland 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 Dean Katherine Jock for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <https://goo.gl/2sOz9p> 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. The Midland Academy was not given a label.

The Midland Academy is designated as a Central Michigan University School of Excellence. TMA continues to have high student achievement especially in reading. Our challenge has recently been our math assessment results. We have improved our math program through updated curriculum, additional math support for students, and more interim assessments for monitoring growth. The School Improvement Plan Committees continues to collaborate to identify ways to close the achievement gap of the top and bottom 30% through assessment data analysis of cohorts and individual students, along with individual student adaptability. In addition, The Midland Academy has a well-developed Differentiated Academic Development Program to concentrate on and implement academic plans according to School Improvement efforts.

### **Process for assigning pupils**

In 2014-15 and 2015-16 all students were welcome to attend The Midland Academy (TMA). TMA has an open policy for enrollment. The enrollment process for new student begins with a request to schedule a TMA campus tour through our school website or a phone call to the school office. Families are given a guided tour of The Midland Academy to inform parents and students of our mission and the benefits of attending The Midland Academy. Due to the rigor of the academic program, The Midland Academy performs a series of academic assessments to establish a learning portfolio, which will measure mastery level and preferred methods of learning for each enrolling student. Students' classes are arranged based on the learning portfolio. Each school year, returning students must indicate through a TMA reenrollment process their intent to return by a specified date.

## Status of the 3 – 5 year school improvement plan

The Midland Academy (TMA) is in compliance with the Michigan guidelines for school improvement. In 2015-16, TMA continued its fifth year of our School Improvement Plan (SIP), being monitored and evaluated by School Improvement Plan Committees (SIPC) including administrators and teachers, which collaborate in three sub-committees: Math/Science and English Language Arts/Social Studies and Organizational.

## Description of specialized school

Currently, The Midland Academy of Advanced and Creative Studies does not have any other specialized schools.

## Core Curriculum

A copy of the core curriculum may be obtained from the main office or at our school website. As a college preparatory school, the core curriculum is designed to prepare student to be career and college ready through the implementation of Common Core State Standards with the addition of 21 Century Learning Skills standards and Core Knowledge Sequence by E.D. Hirsch. Two diplomas of higher distinction may be earned at The Midland Academy of Advanced and Creative Studies. The diplomas of higher distinction are the College Preparatory and the Scholars Diplomas. The requirements of these diplomas exceed the requirements set forth by the State of Michigan, and are aligned to the desired curricular requirements accomplishments of colleges and universities. Recipients of both diplomas must maintain a GPA of 2.7 and seek Advanced Placement International Diploma. Scholar diploma graduates also must complete the requirements of an independent thesis Project.

## Local competency test results or national normed achievement tests

Michigan law requires that schools use a state-recognized summative assessments to measure student growth in English language arts and mathematics in grades 3–8, science in grades 4 and 7, and social studies in grades 5 and 8. It also includes the Michigan Merit Examination in 11th grade, which consists of the SAT, ACT WorkKeys, and M-STEP summative assessments in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Below is information on which assessments The Midland Academy (TMA) has listed in its contract. For detailed results of these assessments, other than what is below, please contact the school.

### 2015-2016 School Year

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Test in Contract</u>
3-8	M-STEP
1-12	NWEA
9	8/9 PSAT
10	10 PSAT
11	SAT

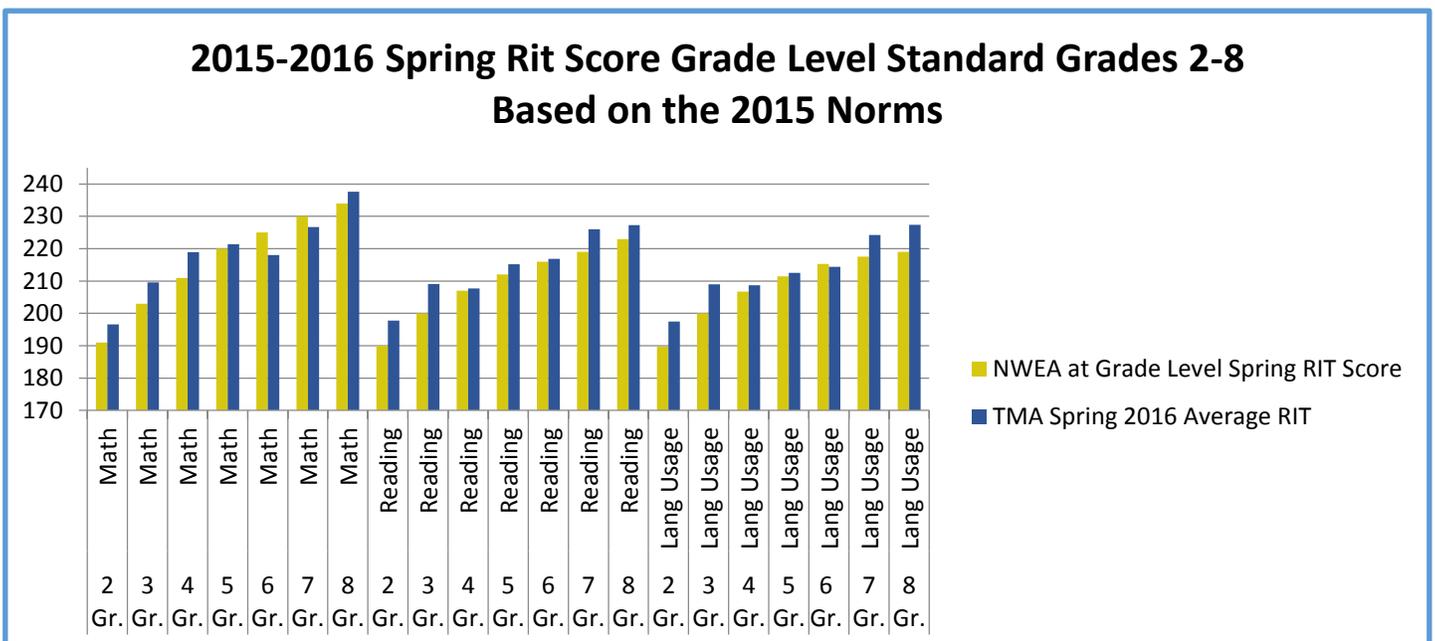
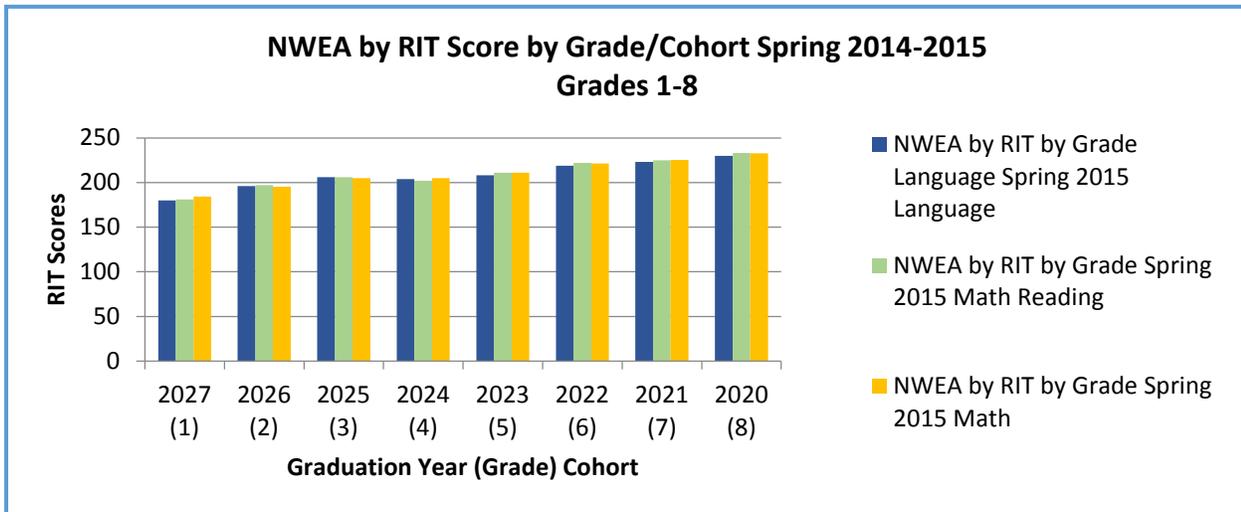
### 2014-2015 School Year

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Test in Contract</u>
3-8	M-STEP
2-12	NWEA
9	ACT EXPLORE
10	ACT PLAN
11	ACT

## Student Growth– Northwest Evaluation Association-Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA-MAPs)

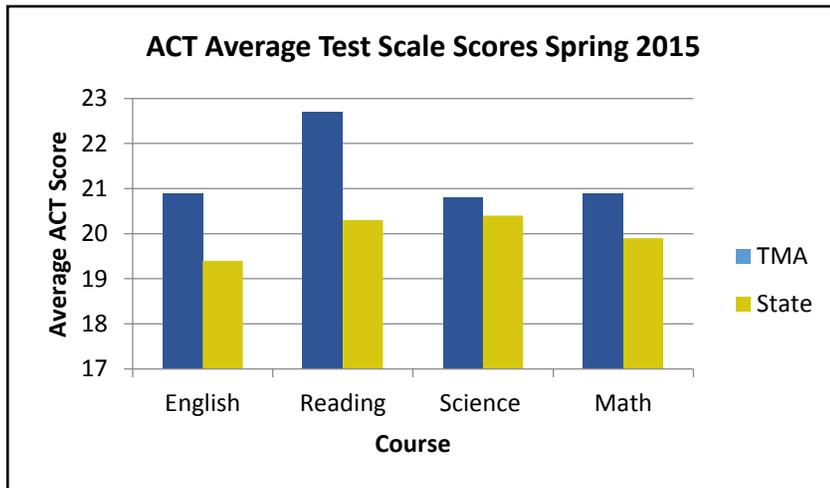
Students are assessed in mathematics, reading and language for grades 2-8 for additional data to improve teaching and learning. MAP combines adaptive technology, assessment content, a vertical measurement scale, and educator resources to provide a stable, reliable growth measure for students. Considering students may not be at grade level, MAP serves to identify the instructional level of each child whether at above or below grade level. Specific learning objectives being assessed at the student’s identified instructional level.

You may review *Assessment Instrument Description* electronically by visiting the following website [https://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/nwea\\_map\\_instrument\\_description\\_2013](https://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/nwea_map_instrument_description_2013)



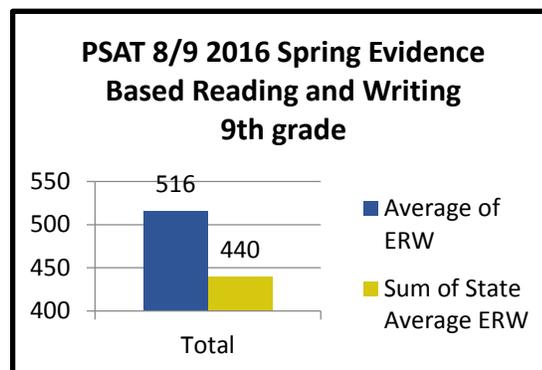
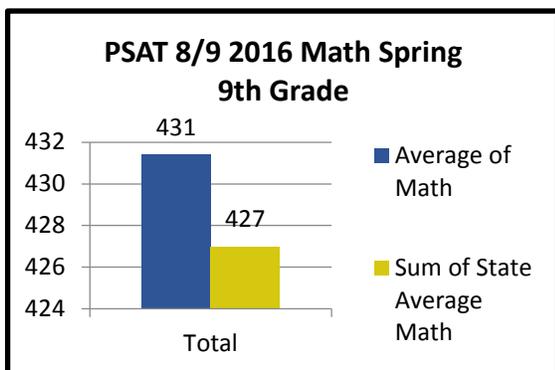
## ACT (American College Testing)

ACT is a US college admissions test, measuring what you learn in high school to determine your academic readiness for college. As a college preparatory school we focus on a rigorous college prep curriculum. Our high school courses are structured to bring out each student's full potential. They require a commitment of study, effort, and participation, higher than the standard level of high school courses.

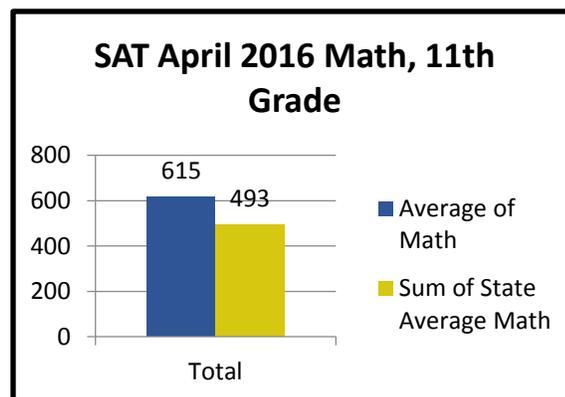
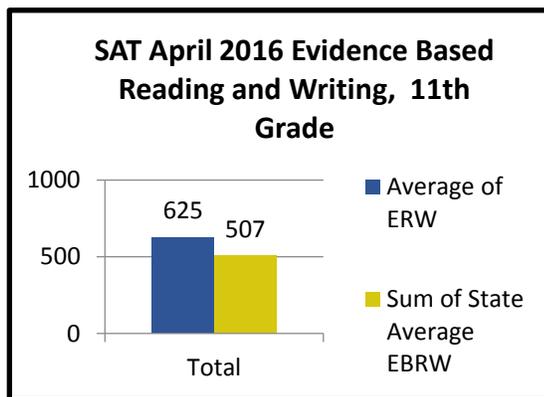
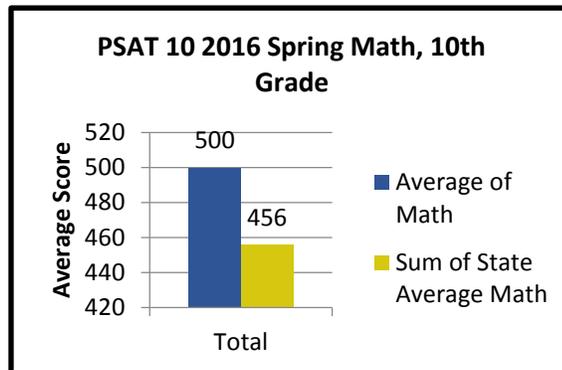
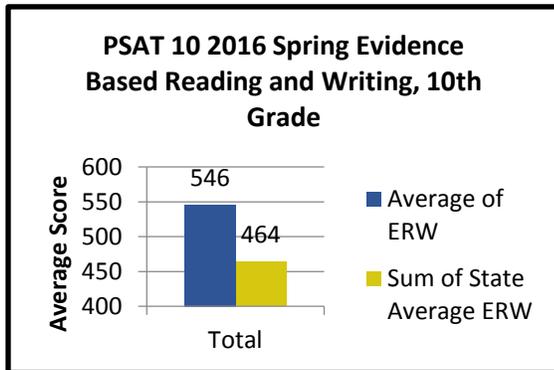


## SAT and PSAT

The SAT is created by the College Board, the SAT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. The idea is to provide colleges with one common criterion that can be used to compare all applicants. However, it is just one factor in the admissions decision. Schools also consider your high school GPA, academic transcript, letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, interviews, and personal essays. The weight placed on SAT scores varies from school to school. The SAT is a required Assessment by the Michigan Department of Education.



## SAT and PSAT



## Percentage of students represented by parents at conferences

*The conference participation rate is the percentage of students who met with their parents or guardians at student-led conferences during the school year.*

<b>Average Participation Rate for Fall and Spring</b>		
Year	2014-15	2015-16
Percent of Participants	94.2%	100%
Number of Participants	210	206

## College equivalent courses offered

In 2015-16 and 2014-15 TMA offers 26 Honors, Pre-AP, or accelerated courses as preparation for Advanced Placement exams.

## Postsecondary enrollments (dual enrollments)

Dual enrolling student are taking a blend of high school and college classes within a school year. Our ACE and ACE Plus Program provide high school students opportunities to earn college credits while in grades 9-12. The dual enrollment is a part of our ACE program is offered to The Midland Academy (TMA) students in good academic standing, usually during their junior or senior year. Our ACE Plus Program offers student with a specific PSAT or SAT scores an enhanced dual enrollment option to earn college credit beyond the limits of the regular dual enrolment. A student must possess the academic quality to be successful at the college level, organizational skills and convey maturity to adapt to the

college setting. Dual enrollment is available to students that need a particular course to graduate that is not being offered by The Midland Academy as described in our Upper School Curriculum Guide at the time needed for a student to graduate. Dual enrollment also allows students to gain high school and college credit for each college course. All dual enrollment must be approved by the Dean and must be part of a graduation requirement.

- In the 2015-2016 year, TMA had 5 students (31%) enrolled in one or more postsecondary courses
- In the 2014-2015 year, TMA had 8 students (17%) enrolled in one or more postsecondary courses

### Students enrolled in college equivalent courses

- Students at The Midland Academy may earn college credit by taking Advanced Placement (AP) exams. 8 students, accounting for 42% of 10-12 grade high school students, were enrolled in an AP college equivalent course in 2015-16.
- Students at The Midland Academy may earn college credit by taking Advanced Placement (AP) exams. 13 students, accounting for 29% of high school students, were enrolled in an AP college equivalent course in 2014-2015.

### Students receiving college credit

- In 2015-2016, all students enrolled in an AP class at the start of the school year took the AP exam to earn credit. Of those test taken, 24 (54%) were at or above (scores 3, 4, 5) the level recommended by the testing service for college credit. 30% earned a 3; 54% earned a 4; and 16% earned a 5 (the highest score).
- In 2014-2015, all students enrolled in an AP class at the start of the school year took the AP exam to earn credit. Of those test taken, 13 (54%) were at or above (scores 3, 4, 5) the level recommended by the testing service for college credit. 16% earned a 3; 21% earned a 4; and 8% earned a 5 (the highest score).

### Dean's Statement

The Midland Academy, chartered through Central Michigan University, provides a family atmosphere and a nurturing environment by embracing all grades. The continuity as students' transition between grades K-12 enables them to grow in a stable setting, with guiding principles and key values consistently reinforced through the collaboration of home and school.

The Academy offers a challenging academic program with an advanced and expanded curriculum. Students are known for rising and accepting challenges of higher level thinking. Beyond academics, enrichment is provided through such offerings as visual and performing arts, athletics, school-sponsored trips and community involvement. Parental participation is a vital link in the success of our school and is encouraged through our formal Parent Partnership. The Midland Academy also builds such life-skills as responsibility, proper social behavior, and decision-making. Students experience the rewards and self-respect that stem from shared responsibility for their education.

The Midland Academy experience is unique. We have designed our program and our Mission to be rigorous yet diverse enough to be balanced by community volunteers and social activities.

The Mission of The Midland Academy is to provide a values-driven, rigorous academic learning environment that challenges each student to reach his or her full academic potential. The Academy prepares each student for a future as a productive, well-rounded person who enhances his or her community, working from a personal foundation of traditional values, self-discipline, and accountability. According to our mission, we have three specific requirements for families enrolled at TMA. Based on those requirements, we have written three goals that are constantly being assessed and developed.

Mission Goal #1: Students are required to participate in the Blue (sports), Gold (club/activity), and White (community service) Point Program for each year they attend The Academy. It is expected that students enrolled in our college mentoring program will earn the minimum of three points per year fulfilling the requirements of the Blue, Gold, and White Point Program.

Mission Goal #2: Students will set one academic goal, one standardized assessment goal, and one character goal which they will communicate to their parents or a staff mentor for educational accountability semi-annually.

Mission Goal #3: As a college-preparatory academy, we seek to increase the college experiences of our students to maximize participation in dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, CLEP testing, and other college experiences (including, but not limited to college visits, meetings with college recruiters, and college planning seminars).

Based on our Mission, our goals, and our school improvement plan, The Midland Academy will continue to strive for “higher things” and are committed to producing the best environment possible for the students, their families, and the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katherine Jock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Katherine Jock  
Dean, The Midland Academy of Advanced & Creative Studies