



**Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy
 Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

August 5, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2010-2011 educational progress for the Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Lynn Wietecha, the Program Director for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site http://www.district7.net/DHVA/DHVA_AER.html or you may review a copy from the Dearborn Heights Board of Education building.

For 2010-2011, the Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) because it did not test 95% of its students on the MME/ACT as required. DHVA opened in September 2011. It applied of an Education Entity Master (EEM) code on August 8, 2010 to register the new school with the State. However, the DHVA had to be registered with the State before August 1, 2011 in order to administer the MME/ACT to its 11th graders. As a result the three (3) 11th grade students enrolled in DHVA did not take the MME/ACT the following March as required. These students will be tested in their 12th grade year and the program is now registered and eligible to administer the MME/ACT. DHVA 9th grade students did take the Social Studies MEAP in October 2010. Below are the results. DHVA is pleased that 81% of its 9th grade students met or exceeded the requirements. That percentage exceeds both the state and country proficiency rates.

2010/2011 School Year - Social Studies MEAP Proficiency Report for Wayne RESA, Dearborn Heights School District #7, Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy - Grade 09

Category	Level 1	%	Level 2	%	Level 3	%	Level 4	%	Number Met	%	Not Met	%	Total Students
10-11 School	1	4.8	16	76.2	4	19	0	0	17	81	4	19	21
10-11 District	48	12	213	53.4	115	28.8	23	5.8	261	65.4	138	34.6	399
10-11 ISD	4385	18.8	9802	42	7248	31.1	1887	8.1	14187	60.8	9135	39.2	23322
10-11 State	35917	29.1	53869	43.7	27532	22.3	5966	4.8	89786	72.8	33498	27.2	123284

State law requires that DHVA also report additional information for the two most recent years. Since DHVA opened in September 2010, it is reporting data for its first year. Also, DHVA is an online high school and several of the items below do not apply to virtual programs. Answers are provided as relevant.

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Students apply to the Virtual Academy by completing an application that may be found at this URL: <http://www.district7.net/DHVA/DHVAEnrollmentForm.pdf>. The program is an alternative high school and applicants are evaluated on several elements including their likely success in an online learning environment. Prior academic performance, credit completion, and behavior incidences are all considered. Applicants complete an assessment to help identify if they are good candidates for online delivery though assessment found here (<http://www.district7.net/DHVA/onlineQuiZ.html>). Once accepted, students are enrolled in the program.

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

The DHVA opened in September 2011 and is in the process of developing its School Improvement Plan as student performance data becomes available.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

The Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy is a completely online high school that opened in September 2010. All courses are offered online through the MDE seat-time waiver through Genesee ISD. The program meets the requirements of the Michigan Department of Education for graduation. DHVA has limited enrollment, and students must apply for admission. Students are screened to ensure that they are good candidates for online learning. Students who struggle in traditional high schools due to attendance problems, chronic illness, bullying, discipline issues, etc. often find success in online learning. Students must be self-directed and motivated to complete courses. Courses are selected through the GenNet portal and based on students' credit completion needs. The program meets the seta-time waiver requirements.

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

DHVA is a virtual high school. All courses are offered online through the MDE seat-time waiver through Genesee ISD. Courses are selected through the GenNet portal and based on students' credit completion needs. Currently there are nine (9) content providers approved by Genesee ISD to use through the waiver program. Their curriculum and course descriptions of our primary vendors can be found on this website -- <http://www.district7.net/DHVA/courses.html> <http://www.district7.net/DHVA/courses.html>. Our program meets the requirements of the Michigan Department of Education for graduation and the MMC.

5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS
 9th grade students completed the MEAP in October 2010. Below are the results. 81% of DHVA students met or exceeded the requirements. That percentage exceeds both the state and country proficiency rates.

2010/2011 School Year - Social Studies MEAP Proficiency Report for Wayne RESA, Dearborn Heights School District #7, Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy - Grade 09

Category	Level 1	%	Level 2	%	Level 3	%	Level 4	%	Number Met	%	Not Met	%	Total Students
10-11 School	1	4.8	16	76.2	4	19	0	0	17	81	4	19	21
10-11 District	48	12	213	53.4	115	28.8	23	5.8	261	65.4	138	34.6	399
10-11 ISD	4385	18.8	9802	42	7248	31.1	1887	8.1	14187	60.8	9135	39.2	23322
10-11 State	35917	29.1	53869	43.7	27532	22.3	5966	4.8	89786	72.8	33498	27.2	123284

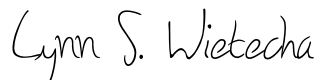
6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
 DHVA is an online high school and does not host traditional parent-teacher conferences. A mandatory meeting is held with parents and students upon entry into our program and at the end of the year another meeting is held to review student completion and any needed modifications for next year. Participation in these meetings for the 2010-11 year was 100%. Throughout the year email and phone communication takes place weekly per the seta-time waiver requirements.
7. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS ONLY ALSO REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:
- THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENTS (DUAL ENROLLMENT)
 None at this time
 - THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES OFFERED (AP/IB)
 None at this time
 - THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE EQUIVALENT COURSES (AP/IB)
 None at this time
 - THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A SCORE LEADING TO COLLEGE CREDIT>
 None at this time

The Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy completed its first year with mixed results. Two students graduated and received their diplomas this June. Without the online program, their graduation might have not happened. The program allows students to work at their own pace. This provided these two motivated students to achieve course credits they had lost in their traditional high school programs. They exceeded the required number of online hours and were able to complete their needed courses and achieve credits. A number of likewise motivated students did well and completed courses and were promoted to the next grade in our program.

However, some students discovered that online learning is difficult and dropped after one year in the program. They are returning to their traditional high school programs, seeking other alternative programs (not online) or pursuing a GED. Our program did not help these students move forward to graduation.

Online course management systems provide the ability to look closely at data on student works habits. In reviewing this data, it became clear that the number of hours a student spends working on course work directly correlated to his/her completion and success. As the district moves forward in improving the program, it will stress the importance of time-on-task in online learning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn S. Wietecha".

Lynn Wietecha, Ph.D
Director of Technology and
Dearborn Heights Virtual Academy