



# LAWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

101 PRIMARY WAY • LAWTON, MICHIGAN 49065

## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 1, 2021

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 Lawton High School. 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 Principal Tammy Wilson for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site **[http://www.lawtoncs.org/Our\\_District/Annual\\_Reports.html](http://www.lawtoncs.org/Our_District/Annual_Reports.html)**, 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 has not been given one of these labels.

Not unlike other Michigan schools, Lawton High School has areas of strength and areas for improvement. For a small school, we have a high percentage of students taking AP course work. In an average year, we have between 44-56% of our students scoring a three or better on the AP exam. In 2019 the percentage went down to 33.3% but then rebounded to 45% in 2020. Our AP teachers continue to stay current with best practices and AP test preparation for all of our students.

An additional challenge being faced right now is student success in the area of mathematics. A variety of strategies have greatly reduced our number of failures in mathematics as well as increasing our enrollment in rigorous math classes. Students in grades nine through twelve are assigned to Lawton High School as their primary school of instruction. Due to circumstances created by the Covid Pandemic,



Elementary School 269.624.7500 • Middle School 269.624.7600 • High School 269.624.7800  
LAAC 269.624.7542 • Superintendent 269.624.7901 • Business Office 269.624.7906  
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students were also given the option of fully virtual instruction at home through the Apex Program for the 2020-21 school year. Students that chose this option were provided a high school teacher as their mentor.

Students may also choose to attend the district's alternative school for full online instruction. If a student falls behind in credits, they will be assigned to the alternative school as the self-paced program in the alternative school provides the best opportunity for them to regain their position in their class. New students entering with insufficient credits are also assigned to the alternative school.

Lawton High School is proud to boast one of the highest graduation rates in the state. Each year, the rate is consistently between 95-100%.

Lawton High School is in a continuous school improvement plan. This plan is revisited by collaborative teams monthly and updated annually.

Lawton High School students have access to rigorous and relevant instruction of an increasing variety as part of a district strategic goal. Among the opportunities provided for students is enrollment half days in the Van Buren County Technology Center. By percent of total student body, Lawton High School is one of the biggest users of the Technology Center Programs among participating schools. Lawton students also are the largest portion of the Early and Middle College programs through the Van Buren Technology Center.

Lawton High School provides the Michigan Merit Curriculum focusing on Essential Standards. Implementation is monitored through monthly collaborative team meetings. In addition to the state core, we offer the Project Lead the Way Engineering programs as well Advanced Placement classes in English, Social Studies, Spanish and Mathematics, classes in the Visual and Performing Arts and a variety of Physical Education Classes.

During the 2019-20 school year, sixteen Lawton High School students participated in sixty-nine college classes through dual enrollment. This represents approximately twenty-three percent of eligible students. This number does not reflect the additional eight students enrolled in the Early and Middle College Program which increases that percentage to thirty-four. Additionally, we offered four Advanced Placement Classes. Total enrollment in these classes was fifty-one. Twenty-three students (forty-five percent) earned scores that qualify for college credit on the Advanced Placement exams.



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Lawton High School has parent-teacher conferences three times per year. Once each trimester. The approximate percentage of students represented by parents at these conferences is 15-20%. All parents have daily access to their child's grades, academic progress and attendance through the Powerschool Program.

Lawton High School accepts all resident students in grades nine through twelve as well as those students in grades nine through twelve accepted through the School of Choice Window. School of Choice students are accepted by application. Students who are credit deficient enough to be in danger of not graduating with their class are referred to the district's alternative school. Some resident special education students are assigned to attend county programs based on the decision of their IEP team.

At Lawton High School, we are proud of our accomplishments but are continually striving to improve. It is our goal to provide quality instruction and a wide variety of academic experiences to meet the needs of all students. Promoting academic excellence in a positive environment is a focal point in all we do.

Keep up the Blue Devil Pride!

Sincerely,

Tammy Wilson, Principal  
Lawton High School



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