



*Island City
Academy*

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Island City Academy Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District: 6421 South Clinton Trail Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

District Code Number: 23901

Building Code Number(s): 08322

District Contact Person: Aaron Warren

District Contact Person Email Address: wawarren@islandcity.org

Local Public Health Department: Barry-Eaton Health Department

Local Public Health Department Contact Person Email Address: JCasarez@bedhd.org

Name of Intermediate School District: Eaton RESA

Name of Authorizing Body: Central Michigan University

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors: 09/23/2020



October 01, 2020 [via email]

Mr. Aaron Warren
Island City Academy

Re: Approval of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan (“Extended Learning Plan”)

Dear Mr. Warren:

I am pleased to inform you that the Extended Learning Plan for Island City Academy (“Academy”) has been approved by The Governor John Engler Center for Charter Schools at Central Michigan University. The Center will transmit the Extended Learning Plan to the State as soon as an appropriate mechanism to do so is made available. The Extended Learning Plan is effective as of the date indicated in the document.

To fulfill one of the required assurances, immediately add a copy of the approved Extended Learning Plan to the Academy’s Transparency Page of its website. An approved copy of the Extended Learning Plan is attached and can be found in Epicenter. The approved Extended Learning Plan constitutes a Charter Contract amendment and remains in effect as long as the Extended Learning Plan remains in effect.

Thank you for all your efforts to keep student learning moving forward in these trying times. If you have any further questions or need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Northrop". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" and "N".

Corey Northrop
Executive Director

cc: David Sysum, Board President
Heidi Brininstool, Board Corresponding Agent

Attachment: Approved Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLANS
("ECLP") AND APPROVAL OF CHARTER CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Island City Academy (the "Academy")

A [regular/ special] meeting of the Academy Board of Directors was held on the 23rd day of September, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Board Member Dave Sysum:

Present: Sysum, Sayer, Groesbeck, Hall

Absent: McGee

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Board Member Sysum and supported by Board Member Sayer:

BACKGROUND

On August 20, 2020, in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic affecting our state, Governor Whitmer signed into law certain amendments to the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended, MCL 388.1601 et seq. ("Back to School Laws"). The Back to School Laws include additional requirements for all Michigan schools as they plan for a return of preK-12 education for the 2020-2021 school year. Under the Back to School Laws, a public school academy must provide for instruction under an extended COVID-19 learning plan ("ECLP") that is approved by its authorizing body ("Authorizer"). ECLPs includes many of the same subject matters addressed in a public school academy's charter contract, including measurable educational goals to be achieved by all subgroups in the school, measurement of those educational goals by one or more benchmark assessments, a description of how the educational program, including instruction, will be delivered, a description of the school's curricula and specific reporting requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. Under the Back to School Laws, schools retain the flexibility to tailor and adjust their ECLPs to meet the needs of their students and the community they serve.

The Back to School Laws require, among other things, that each public school academy do the following:

- (1) Establish educational goals required to be included in the ECLP no later than September 15, 2020.
- (2) Approve an ECLP and submit it to their respective authorizing body ("Authorizer") for approval by October 1, 2020. If approved by the Authorizer, the ECLP is transmitted by the Authorizer to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Treasurer.
- (3) Make an ECLP accessible through the transparency reporting link on the school's website by October 1, 2020.
- (4) Within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year, administer 1 or more benchmark assessments from the list approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE)¹, a benchmark assessment provided by MDE, or local benchmark assessments, or a combination of the above, to pupils in grades K-8 to measure math and reading proficiency. In addition, by the last day of the 2020-2021 school year, administer another benchmark assessment to pupils in K-8 to measure proficiency in the same subject matter. The Back to School Laws require schools to use the same benchmark assessment(s) used in the 2019-2020 school year, if applicable.
- (5) Provide each pupil's data from the benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments, as available, to the pupil's parent or legal guardian within 30 days of administering the benchmark assessment(s).

¹ MDE has approved four providers of benchmark assessments and continues to assess additional providers. See [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Benchmark assessments 700077 7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Benchmark_assessments_700077_7.pdf)

(6) Not later than February 1, 2021, create a report that addresses the progress made in meeting the educational goals in the ECLP that the academy expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and make the report available on the transparency reporting link on a public school academy's website.

(7) Not later than the last day of the 2020-2021 school year, create a report concerning progress made in meeting the educational goals in the ECLP and make the report available on the transparency reporting link on a public school academy's website.

(8) No later than June 30, 2021, send the aggregate academy-level data from a benchmark assessment(s), excluding data from a local benchmark assessment or local benchmark assessments, to a regional data hub that is part of the Michigan data hub network that shall compile the data and send it to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI).

(9) Thirty days after approval of the ECLP, the Board shall meet monthly to re-confirm how pupil instruction is being delivered at the school and whether it is consistent with the ECLP and to ensure that 2-way interaction, as defined in the Act, is occurring between students and teachers each week of the school year for at least 75% of students enrolled in the school. At each meeting, the Board shall: (a) publicly announce its weekly interaction rates of 2 2-way interaction since its last meeting; (b) allow for public comment on the ECLP; and (c) discuss whether changes to the method of delivery for pupil instruction under the ECLP are necessary.

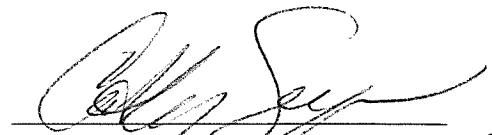
THE ACADEMY BOARD THEREFORE RESOLVES THAT:

1. The actions taken by Academy representatives to prepare and submit the Academy's ECLP to Authorizer are ratified.
2. The ECLP, as approved by the Authorizer, is approved by the Academy Board as the ECLP and as the ECLP Amendment to the Contract.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.
4. The Academy will deliver from time to time such information regarding the implementation of the Academy's ECLP as the Authorizer or Michigan Department of Education may reasonably request.
5. Any Board policies or provision of Board policies that prohibit or impede the Academy's compliance with ECLP are temporarily waived, suspended or altered.
6. This Resolution shall take immediate effect and continue through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. If the Back to School Laws are amended, and such amendments requires additional Board action relative to the ECLP, the Board may take such action to comply with existing law.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Resolution declared adopted.



Print Name: ~~Krysta McGee~~ Cathy Sayer
Secretary, Academy Board Vice President



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Assurances

- The Academy will administer an approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Within thirty days after the approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter, the Academy, at a meeting of its board of directors, will re-confirm how instruction is delivered during the 2020-2021 school year and will solicit public comment, at a public meeting, from the parents or legal guardians enrolled in the Academy.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the Academy had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.
- The Academy will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.
- The Academy, in consultation with a local health department, and district employees, will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the Academy Board's discretion. Key metrics that the Academy will consider shall include at least all of the following:
 - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
 - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
 - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
 - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
 - The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
 - Health capacity strength
 - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19
- If the Academy determines that it is safe to provide in-person pupil instruction to pupils, the Academy will prioritize providing in-person pupil instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the Academy.



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- The Academy will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the Academy and the pupil's teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil's teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the Academy. The Academy will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each Academy Board meeting where it re-confirm how instruction is being delivered , beginning 30 days after approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter. The Academy will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the Academy website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.
- The Academy will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy's website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the Academy expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.

David Sysum

Board President

Board approved: 09/23/2020



Introduction and Overview

Island City Academy has approximately 20% of our families that are requesting a virtual option for their children due to the risk associated with COVID-19. In addition, in constant conversations with our staff, students, family, and Barry-Eaton Health Department, we determined a plan was needed to ensure all students could be actively engaged and achieve during the 2020-2021 school year.



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Educational Goals

Island City Academy will administer NWEA benchmark assessment in both reading and math, which align to our charter contract, for kindergarten through eighth grades. This benchmark assessment will be given to all students in the fall, winter, and spring, giving us beginning, middle, and end of the year assessment data.

Goals:

- The median growth percentiles reflecting fall-to-winter growth in grades K-8 on reading and math NWEA Growth tests will be at or higher than 50.
- The median growth percentiles reflecting fall-to-spring growth in grades K-8 on reading and math NWEA Growth tests will be at or higher than 50.

Fall Testing

- Will be completed within nine weeks of the start of school.
- Parents or legal guardians will be given assessment results within 30 days of the completion of testing.

Winter Testing

- Parents or legal guardians will be given assessment results within 30 days of the completion of testing.
- A report that shows progress made of the above goal will be placed on our transparency reporting link no later than February 1, 2021, on Island City Academy's website for data on grades kindergarten - eighth.

Spring Testing

- Parents or legal guardians will be given assessment results within 30 days of the completion of testing.
- A report that shows progress made of the above goal will be placed on our transparency reporting link no later than June 10th on Island City Academy's website for data on grades kindergarten - eighth.
- The aggregate school-level data for grades kindergarten - eighth will be compiled and sent to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) no later than June 30, 2021.



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Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

Due to the needs of our students and families, Island City will activate a blended learning program using streaming technology to provide direct instruction to all students. We will offer instruction five days a week both in person and remotely for those who are not able to attend in person. Students will be asked to choose either in person, distance learning at the academy, or distance learning from home. If a student chooses distance learning at the academy, they will be allowed to rotate back into their classroom as spacing allows. For those families that choose the distance learning model we are highly encouraging them to utilize the synchronous model. Our classrooms will all be live streamed for the student to connect with his/her Teacher and classmates. Realizing that this may not be an option for all families and to accommodate the needs of all students, all class sessions are recorded and shared out for the students to watch at a later time if needed. This instructional model helps ensure that all students both remotely and in-person are exposed to the academic standards that apply to their grade level. Whether the students are in person or distance learning, the assessments are the same for both models. Students are given work to complete that is graded by their classroom teacher. The grading is shared via our online student management system, and provides instant feedback to both students and parents.



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Equitable Access

For those students who choose the home based distance learning, Island City Academy will implement the following:

- activate plans to monitor and assess the following:
 - Connectivity and Access:
 - Ensure that all students and families have adequate connectivity and the devices necessary to successfully engage in and complete schoolwork.
 - Attendance:
 - Develop systems to monitor and track students' online attendance on a daily basis.
 - Student Work:
 - Teachers will assess the quality of student work and provide feedback to students and families. Students will self-assess the quality of work, reflect on teacher feedback, and learning progress.

Island City Academy will revise students' IEPs, 504 plans in coordination with general and special education teachers to reflect the students' evolving needs based on assessment data and parent feedback, and design accommodations and match services.

- Island City Academy will continue to offer intervention and support services across all of the instructional options for all grades K - 8th.
- Island City will continue to provide structures for general and special education teachers to collaborate on delivery methods for assessments and instruction as outlined in IEP, consider students' needs around accessibility and provide assistive technologies where possible.
- The school administrator and the intervention team will inventory all intervention programs and services available to students on the district and school level and identify any gaps.
- The intervention and special education staff will remain connected with MDE about policies and guidance.
- The school administrator will work closely with Eaton RESA to develop a continuation of services plan for students needing either occupational, physical, and/or speech and language therapy, including evaluations by school psychologists and social workers.