

**Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw Schools**  
**Horizons Alternative High School**

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Chris Davidson, Principal/Teacher

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

August 9, 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 Horizons Alternative High School. 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 Chris Davidson for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://www.clkschools.org/horizons/aer-report> or you may review a copy from the Horizons Alternative High School office.

For 2010-2011, Horizons Alternative High School did not make **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)** because we did not attain target achievement goals in mathematics. If we do not make AYP for two years in a row, we will be identified for school improvement. It should be noted that we test a statistically insignificant number of students each year (<30); however, we are displeased to have not made AYP for the first time in 6 years. Currently, school staff and administration are working hard to improve several components of the school structure to provide a more rigorous, structured, and accountable learning environment for all students. Our focus will still remain on properly preparing students for success after high school, but we must also prepare our student to perform better on state assessments. Additionally, research shows that student academic performance also improves when parents are regularly involved in the school. Parents are always encouraged to become more involved with their student(s) education by volunteering in the school. Please contact Chris Davidson at the Horizons office for more information and existing opportunities for parent volunteers.

**New students** enrolling at Horizons Alternative High School are asked to register immediately. Those arriving in the summer should register as soon as possible to assure appropriate scheduling. Parents must present a state-certified birth certificate, immunization verification and proof of residency upon enrollment.

In order to ENROLL at CLK, each child must have at least one dose of:  
DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)  
OPV/IPV (Oral or injectable Polio)

MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

HepB (Hepatitis B)

Additionally, in order to ATTEND high school the following doses are required:

4 doses of DTP (the 4<sup>th</sup> dose must be given after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)

3 doses of OPV or IPV (if dose 3 is given after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday; otherwise 4 doses)

2 doses of MMR

2 doses of Varicella

3 doses of HepB

Highly recommended by the health dept: 1 dose of Meningococcal Conjugate

The school district is required to exclude students who do not comply with the state's immunization laws. Parents objecting to mandatory immunizations must sign an Immunization Waiver. This statement will be kept by the school as part of the child's immunization record.

Custodial parents are encouraged to inform school officials of any concerns or situations related to their child(ren). Release of a child to a non-custodial parent can be prohibited only when an official court document is on file in the alternative high school office stating the child may not be released to the non-custodial parent. Unless otherwise stated in official documents, non-custodial parents have the right to attend IEPs and parent-teacher conferences and to receive report cards, newsletters, etc. Please be sure to request such information at the beginning of the school year and verify your mailing addresses.

The district **School Improvement** Plan is developed by school and community members and is reviewed and communicated to the public annually. This plan serves as an overview and a compilation of our specific building plans. Based on our district strategic plan and on-going analysis of individual school and district data, the district plan expresses the philosophy and fundamental goals of our entire organization. The district School Improvement Plan is submitted to the Michigan Department of Education each year by June 30th. Copies of this district plan are available at the CLK District Office. Building goals and improvement efforts are fully aligned with the district plan and are submitted to the Michigan Department of Education each year by September 1st. Copies of the Horizons Alternative High School Improvement Plan are available through the Horizons office.

Curriculum is at the heart of every school district and CLK is no exception. Students in our district receive a rich and diverse academic program. We promote a balanced education that meets our students' intellectual, social and personal needs and we strive to prepare our students to be thoughtful, active citizens who can function productively in a multi-cultural, rapidly changing, interdependent world. Creating and modifying curriculum is a challenge due to the ever-changing expectations for student learning. We continue to strive for "complete" curriculum alignment: external alignment with our Michigan state standards and benchmarks and internal alignment by subject and grade level and by matching instructional activities and assessments accurately to learner objectives. Our goal is to assist in creating an environment where all students experience and receive powerful teaching and learning every single day. A listing of our course offerings and descriptions can be found in the School Handbook on our web page.

Curriculum guides for the core subject areas are available for review at any time through the appropriate classroom teacher, the Horizons Alternative High School office or the district curriculum director.

**Parent Involvement** is a priority here at CLK. Research shows that academic achievement improves significantly when parents are involved in school and at home. Families are invited to be involved in the following ways:

- Attend parent/teacher/child conferences
- Assist your child with schoolwork and learning activities at home
- Participate in school and district Title 1 parent events
- Join your school's Title 1 program planning
- Volunteer in your child's school or during school events
- Engage your child in conversations about what he/she is learning
- Communicate with your child's teacher and school staff when you have questions

In the 2010-11 school year 35 out of 52 (67%) of our Horizons families were represented at our parent-teacher conferences. This was an increase of 17%, and we strive to make that number 100% in the coming year!

We are extremely proud of the achievements Horizons continue to make. Students have opportunities to excel in more areas than ever before. Although, in the 2010-11 school year zero students took advantage of dual enrollment opportunities, zero advanced placement (AP) courses were offered, and zero of the 52 students enrolled in at least one AP course, the students and staff of Horizons are dedicated to an education that meets graduation requirements and prepares students for placement in the work force or post-secondary education.

We are very proud of our staff and students, and all that they have accomplished in our brief history. It is with great anticipation that we look forward to the continued growth of our program over the coming year, and many years to come.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Davidson  
Principal