



# Caniff Liberty Academy

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January 30, 2017

## School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

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 Caniff Liberty 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 Mark Gable for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://canifflibertyacademy.com>, and clicking on the link <https://mischooldata.org>, 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.

Our school has not been given one of these labels.

Caniff Liberty Academy currently has a student population of 446, with 347 being English Language Learners (ELL). This is the largest challenge that we face as English proficiency is directly related to high stakes testing and student achievement data. To address this challenge, we have three English language (ELL) teachers and coaches who teach three-hour language acquisition blocks for identified students. We also have four bilingual paraprofessionals (Arabic and Bengali) who support students in all English Language Arts and Math classes. Students also are assigned a class when they can work with Rosetta Stone technology to further advance their language skills.

Many of our parents do not speak English, which means that they cannot assist with their child's education at home. Communication between the school and home is a targeted improvement goal. Most of the families in our community are considered to live at or below the poverty level, which correlates inversely with high academic achievement. Despite these challenges our students experience success on their own levels and rise above their surroundings within the community.

State law requires that we also report additional information

### 1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Caniff Liberty Academy is a public charter school and accepts all students who reside in Michigan. Most of our students live in Hamtramck, Detroit and the surrounding communities. Once the school year has started, and teacher staffing has been completed, students are only accepted where "room" exists within the class caps. There is also a re-enrollment process that begins in March to reserve a place for the upcoming fall.

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

Based on the designations in the school improvement plan in the State's ASSIST system, which is a system the state of Michigan uses for a standardized school improvement model for public schools. Caniff Liberty Academy is in the "developing" phase in most areas. We have recently redirected our focus and resources on improving language acquisition and ELL instruction for our

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students. As a "Marzano school", the staff and faculty are committed to ensuring five increasing levels of reliability, to include 1) Safe and Collaborative Culture, 2) Effective Teaching in Every Classroom, 3) Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, 4) Standards-Referenced Reporting, and 5) Competency-Based Education. The state approved, Marzano "iObserve" system is the evaluation tool used to ensure reliability.

### 3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

Caniff Liberty Academy is a public school academy offering a college preparatory program to students from kindergarten through 8th grade.

### 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

Our authorizer, Oakland University, requires that we follow the Common Core Standards. The curriculum can be viewed at <https://www.svsu.edu/supo/notinmenu/chs/>. We are also implementing the Next Generation Science Standards.

### 5. THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Students Proficient in Math Grades 3-8	2016 M-STEP Data 51%
Students Proficient in English Language Arts Grades 3-8	52%

### 6. IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES --- 31%

Caniff Liberty Academy is proud to provide a learning environment that places high value on respect, tolerance, and pride in diversity. We enroll many newcomers to the United States and offer programs and services to prepare them for life as an American citizen. We afford our students multiple field trips throughout the year to further acculturate them to society. We are proud of the culture established at Caniff Liberty Academy and the success of our students as they strive to be college and career ready.

Sincerely,

Mark Gable  
Principal  
Caniff Liberty Academy