



2023-24

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

February 15, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for The Comstock STEM 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 Chris Chopp, principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website [AER STEM](#) or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2022-23. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. 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.

The STEM Academy scores higher than the state average at nearly every grade in every subject. The area that we are working to improve is math. We continue to invest resources in professional development for teachers focusing on place-based and problem-based learning, and social-emotional learning. We are in the second year with a new math curriculum K-7, and we are adopting a new science curriculum for middle school next school year.



State law requires that we also report additional information. <TO HAVE THIS LETTER MEET THE STATE REQUIREMENTS, EACH SCHOOL SHOULD PROVIDE A REPORT FOR THE **TWO MOST RECENT YEARS** ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

The STEM Academy is an application school. We participate in open enrollment through the school of choice. Students who attend the STEM Academy interview with the principal and submit NWEA assessment data, showing they are at or above grade level in reading and math. They also write an essay about why they want to attend the STEM Academy. This year we have 282 students enrolled.

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

The 5 year school improvement plan is in the implementation phase and available for review on our website using the following address <http://www.comstockps.org/academics/si>. The STEM Academy is in its 11th year of implementation of the school improvement plan. Our School Improvement Plan was state-approved and is submitted yearly. As we continuously work to improve the education our students receive, our teachers, parents, and support staff meet regularly to discuss data, implementation plans, and necessary changes.

3. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL

The Comstock STEM Academy is a K-8th grade building with 282 students enrolled. We offer a rigorous, enriched curriculum focusing on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), using place-, and project-based learning. We also offer music, (general, modern band, and band), art, physical education, and Spanish. We offer engineering classes including engineering and robotics, green architecture, and energy and the environment. All middle school students take a class called CCA & PBL, (College and Career Academy & Project Based Learning) Where students explore post-secondary options through field trips, presentations, and projects and they collaborate and work on projects to make the world a better place.

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

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A copy of the core curriculum can be accessed by visiting [this website](#). Comstock Public Schools’ curriculum is fully aligned with Michigan’s Standards and Benchmarks and Grade Level Content Expectations for each core area. Curriculum maps and common classroom assessments have been developed to provide teachers with consistent expectations to monitor student achievement. Teachers are actively involved in the curriculum development process and provide valuable feedback as we continue to focus on improved outcomes for all students.

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

NWEA Average Percentile for Each Grade							
Building	Grade	Fall 2022		Spring 2023		Fall 2023	
		Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA
STEM	K	81	64	94	89	70	54
STEM	1	69	83	92	83	74	81
STEM	2	46	54	66	77	68	72
STEM	3	69	76	75	80	54	69
STEM	4	52	76	61	75	57	67
STEM	5	56	70	56	67	52	76
STEM	6	62	66	59	68	52	71
STEM	7	56	60	53	72	61	68
STEM	8		53	43	58	51	71

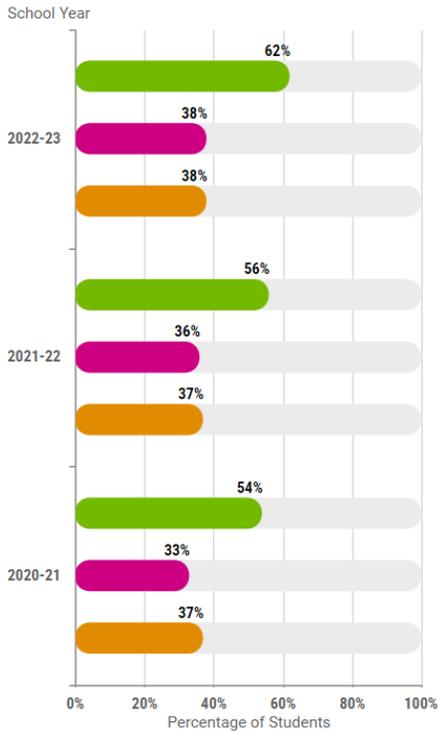
M-STEP Student Outcomes		
Student Outcomes	21-22	22-23
% of Students Proficient in ELA at the End of 3rd Grade	63.60%	76.90%
Student Academic Growth 3-8	40.6	47.9
Students Proficient in Math and ELA 3-8	59.70%	50%



MiSchool Data 3-year Trend M-STEP ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science

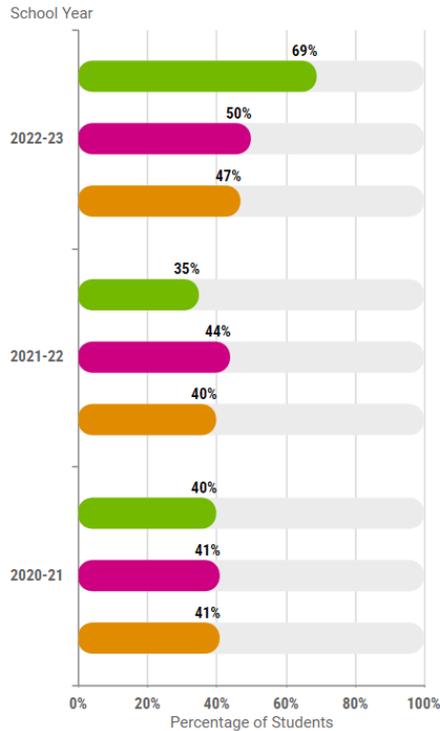
Performance Summary ?

Percent of students proficient in all subjects on state tests.



Progress Summary ?

Percent of students who are making progress towards proficiency or increasing their proficiency in all subjects on the state tests.



Key:

- STEM Academy
- [Average of Similar Schools by Student Characteristics](#)
- State of Michigan Average



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

Number and % of Students Represented by Parents at Parent Teacher Conferences			
Grade	# of Conferences	# of Students	% of students that attended
K	33	34	97%
1	41	42	98%
2	25	25	100%
3	41	41	100%
4	32	33	97%
5	21	23	91%
6	27	35	77%
7	21	27	78%
8	16	22	73%

The Comstock STEM Academy is proud of scoring a 99.52 overall index score on the School Performance Data through the MiSchool Data dashboard. We are also proud of earning an "A" in both proficiency and growth on our MI School Data school report card for the 22-23 school year. This distinction earned the STEM Academy a reward school designation. Our Science Olympiad team made it to the state tournament, after placing first in our region, and our future city team earned the award "Best Use of Energy" with their model city of the future at the annual Future City Competition. Our school also raised over \$10,000 for the Kids Heart Challenge/American Heart Challenge program.

Sincerely,

Principal, Comstock STEM Academy