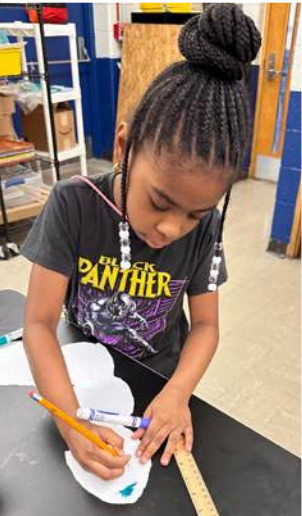


2024

PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE REPORT

INNOVATION IN LEARNING



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOLS
OFFICE

BE READY FOR WHATEVER IS NEXT

At Grand Valley, next is opportunity and innovation. Next is global, connecting and uniting us. It's local, shaping the spaces in which we work and live. It's a commitment to progress. Next is where minds are free to imagine what could be. At GVSU, next is now. And whatever's next, we will empower our students, our communities, and our partners to reach higher to get there.

22,011
STUDENTS

300+
AREAS OF
STUDY

4
CAMPUSES

gvsu.edu/next



4

INTRODUCTION

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SUSTAINING INQUIRY





Leah C. Breen
*Associate Vice President for
Charter Schools
Grand Valley State University*

Dear friends:

At GVSU, we believe every learner deserves access to an exceptional public education—one that unlocks their potential and prepares them to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Our portfolio of charter public schools embodies this belief in the K-12 space, with our schools serving as community innovation hubs for educators, families, and board members to reimagine what is possible for all kids.

The 2024 GVSU Charter Schools Office’s Portfolio Performance Report details how our schools are fulfilling this mission, and how such passionate stakeholders are continuously striving to help more learners reach even higher.

As families seek more high-quality education opportunities, GVSU works alongside schools to provide pathways toward empowerment. In the report, you’ll read examples about how our schools pursue bold, student-centered approaches to learning that foster meaningful growth and development. You’ll also get a snapshot of how our schools are advancing educational equity by serving diverse communities across Michigan, including those historically underserved by traditional systems.

We are proud of what has been accomplished, but it does not mean that our work is complete; rather, it refines the focus of our efforts. We must continue to recognize that the requirements for making a lasting impact are everchanging, and we must hold ourselves and our partners accountable for adapting to meet unique learner needs.

This makes me enthusiastic about the possibilities that are still ahead for public education. I hope this report inspires you to consider what we can do next, together, to ensure learners for generations to come can achieve their dreams.

In Partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah C. Breen". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Leah C. Breen
Associate Vice President for Charter Schools
Grand Valley State University

MISSION

Grand Valley State University authorizes charter public schools to join together professors, practitioners, policymakers, and communities in new ways to solve problems in education.

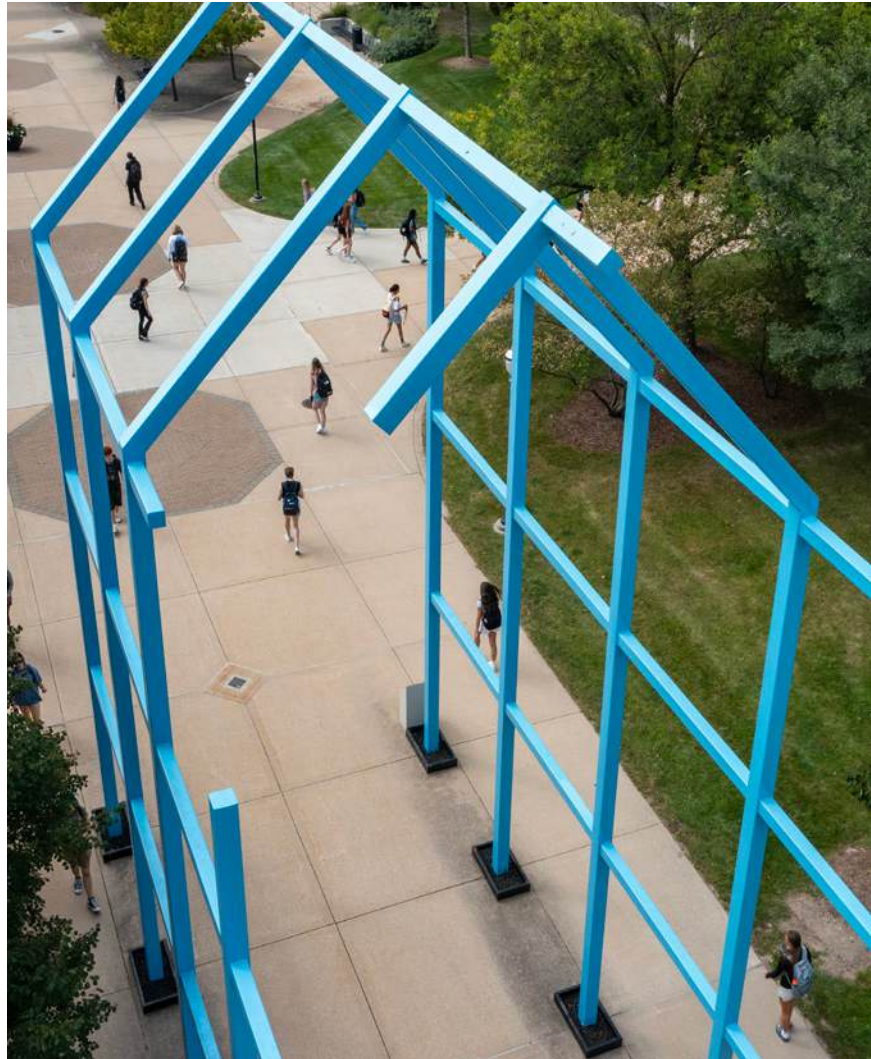
VISION

We strive to be the model university authorizer by accessing the university's collective resources and diversity to contribute to the enrichment and constant improvement of all public schools chartered by Grand Valley State University.

VALUES

At Grand Valley State University's Charter Schools Office, the primary focus is understanding complex problems in the GVSU network of schools, facilitating the design of solutions, and advancing remarkable change in teaching and learning. Our mission, vision, and strategic outcomes reflect the university's five core values. These core values, which are a part of GVSU's Reach Higher 2025 Strategic Plan, provide a foundation and framework for all of Grand Valley Charter School's Office decision-making processes.

- Inquiry
- Inclusive and Equitable Community
- Innovation
- Integrity
- International Perspectives





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SCHOOL COMMUNITY

By the Numbers

At GVSU, we ensure that each charter public school we authorize is a good fit for its community by providing opportunities to families that better meet their students' individual needs. In this section, you will read more about the learners and communities served by GVSU's charter public schools across Michigan.



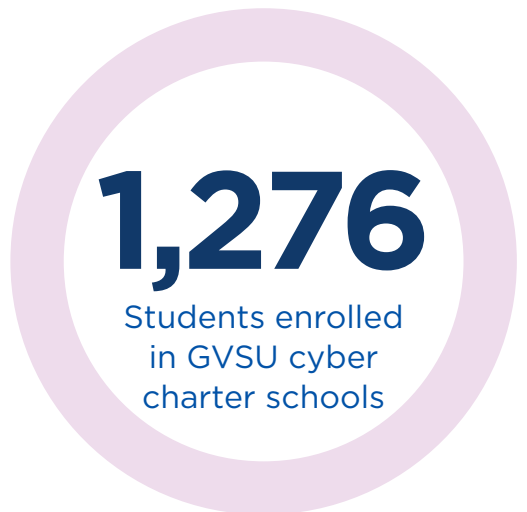
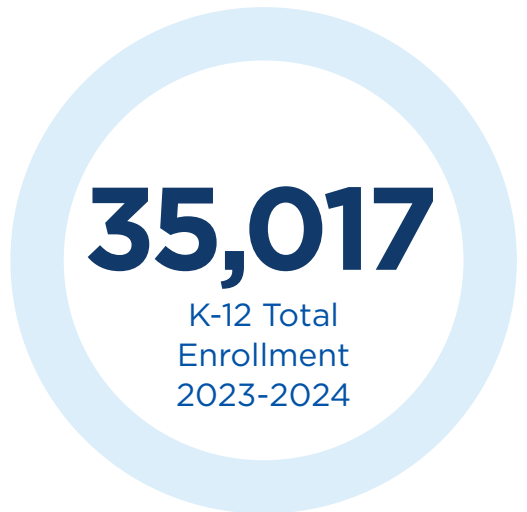
Our Schools

GVSU's portfolio of charter public schools is filled with a variety of innovative options, including:

- College preparatory schools
- Montessori schools
- Project-Based Learning (PBL) schools
- Schools focused on aviation, STEM, or the arts
- Schools designed to serve students dealing with homelessness or other extreme barriers to learning

During the 2023-2024 academic year, GVSU authorized 79 charter public schools, serving 35,017 learners in inner-city, metropolitan, and rural communities throughout Michigan's lower peninsula.

Additionally, a combined 1,276 learners enrolled in the two K-12 statewide cyber schools that GVSU authorized. Those learners represented more than 100 resident school districts located in all corners of the state.

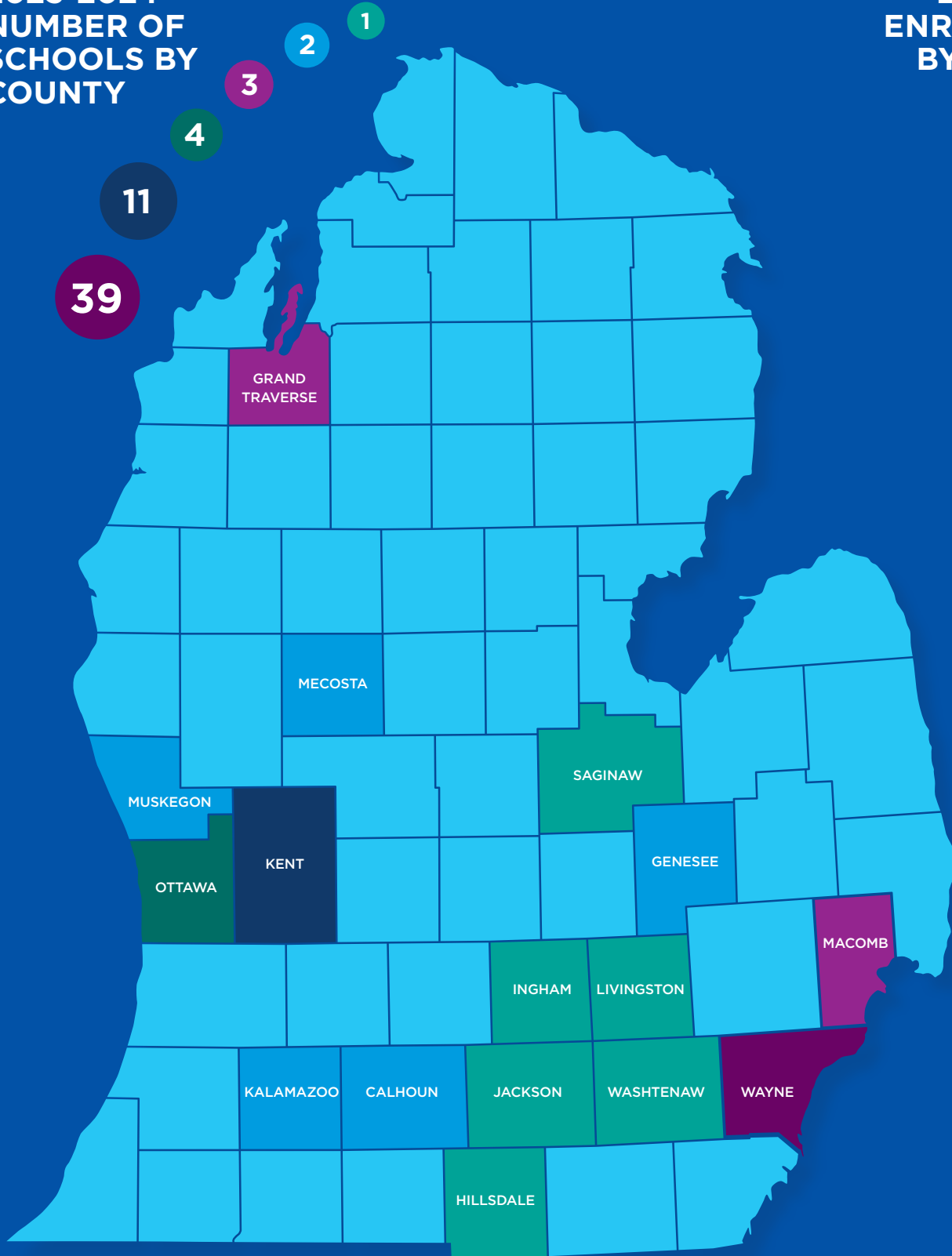


GRAND VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOLS

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS IN EACH COUNTY

2023-2024
NUMBER OF
SCHOOLS BY
COUNTY

2023-2024
ENROLLMENT
BY COUNTY



WAYNE	19,431
KENT	5,495
OTTAWA	1,801
MACOMB	1,391
MUSKEGON	860
GENESEE	822
CALHOUN	808
INGHAM	612
JACKSON	604
WASHTENAW	473
GRAND TRAVERSE	384
KALAMAZOO	314
MECOSTA	290
LIVINGSTON	232
SAGINAW	170
HILLSDALE	54
VIRTUAL (STATEWIDE)	1,276

SCHOOLS BY COUNTY

2023-2024

CALHOUN

Arbor Academy
Endeavor Charter Academy

GENESEE

Eagle's Nest Academy
Flint Cultural Center Academy

GRAND TRAVERSE

Old Mission Peninsula School
The Greenspire School
The Greenspire High School

HILLSDALE

Hillsdale Preparatory School

INGHAM

Windemere Park Charter Academy

JACKSON

Paragon Charter Academy

KALAMAZOO

Kalamazoo Covenant Academy
Oakland Academy

KENT

Byron Center Charter School
Chandler Woods Charter Academy
Covenant High School Grand Rapids
Excel Charter Academy
Gerald Dawkins Academy
Grand River Preparatory High School
Knapp Charter Academy
Vanguard Charter Academy
Walker Charter Academy
West Michigan Aviation Academy
William C. Abney Academy

LIVINGSTON

Light of the World Academy

MACOMB

Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy Dequindre
Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy Lorraine
Reach Charter Academy

MECOSTA

Crossroads Charter Academy (K-5)
Crossroads Charter Academy (6-12)

MUSKEGON

Muskegon Covenant Academy
Timberland Charter Academy

OTTAWA

Black River Public School Elementary
Black River Public School Middle/High
Vanderbilt Charter Academy
West MI Academy of Arts and Academics

SAGINAW

Saginaw Covenant Academy

WASHTENAW

East Arbor Charter Academy

WAYNE

Achieve Charter Academy
Adams-Young Elementary
Canton Preparatory High School
Cornerstone Jefferson-Douglass Academy
Covenant High School Central
Covenant High School East
Covenant High School Southwest
Covenant High School Spectrum
Detroit Achievement Academy
Detroit Enterprise Academy
Detroit Merit Charter Academy
Detroit Premier Academy
Detroit Prep
Fostering Leadership Academy
Global Heights Academy
Grand River Academy
Hanley International Academy
Legacy Charter Academy
Lincoln-King Adams Young High School Grove Campus
Lincoln-King Adams-Young (6-8)
Madison-Carver Academy
Martin Luther King, Jr. Education Center Academy
Metro Charter Academy
New Paradigm College Prep
New Paradigm Glazer Academy
South Canton Scholars Charter Academy
Taylor Preparatory High School
University Preparatory Academy Elementary (Mark Murray campus)
University Preparatory Academy Elementary (Ellen Thompson campus)
University Preparatory Academy - High School
University Preparatory Academy - Middle
University Preparatory Art & Design Elementary
University Preparatory Art & Design Middle/High
University Preparatory Science and Math - Elementary
University Preparatory Science and Math High School
University Preparatory Science and Math Middle School
Warrendale Charter Academy
Washington-Parks Academy
Westfield Charter Academy
Westfield Preparatory High School

VIRTUAL

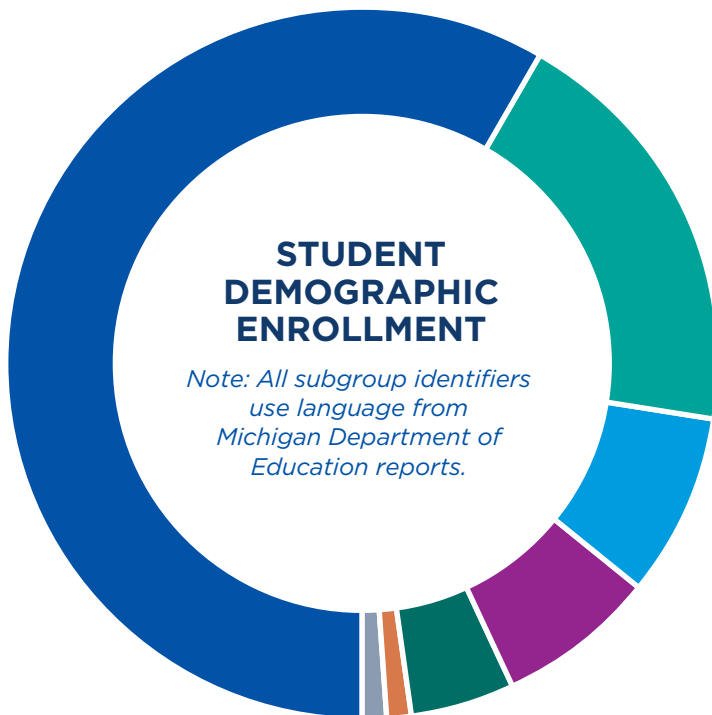
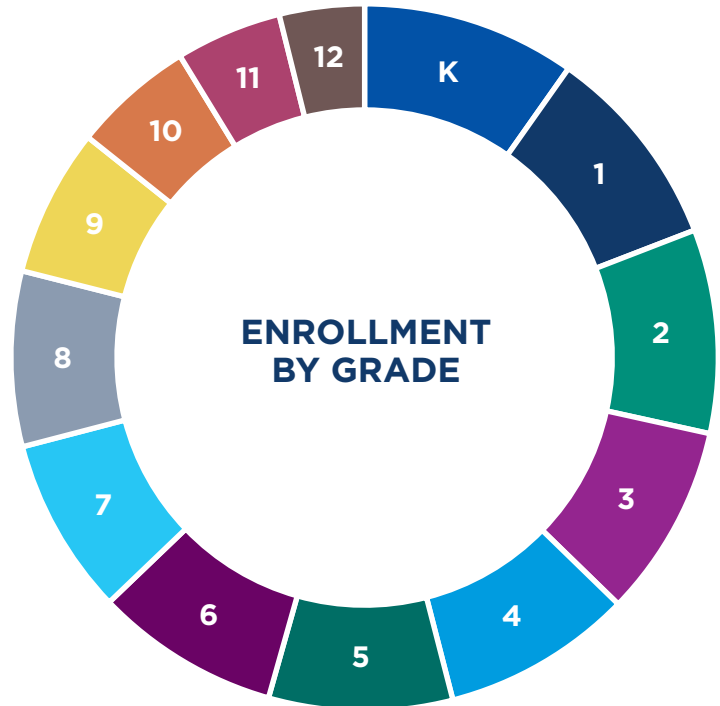
GEE Compass Academy
PrepNet Virtual Academy

Our Learners

GVSU’s charter public schools advance equity by offering more education opportunities to historically underserved communities and populations. As learners grow along their K-12 pathway, GVSU aims to be a supporting presence every step of the way. GVSU’s charter public schools work diligently to accommodate every child and make them feel included.

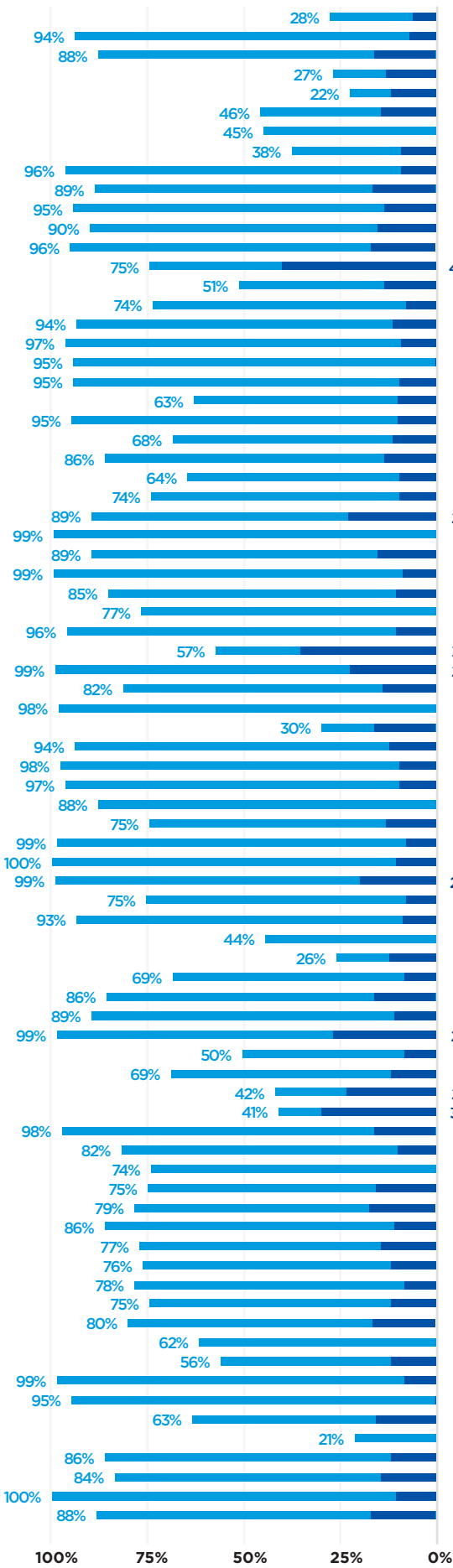
The following graphics and tables offer a look at the 2023-2024 student demographics for our schools, including the major services each school’s population receives and how they compare to state averages.

K	Kindergarten	9.75%
1	1st Grade	9.33%
2	2nd Grade	9.29%
3	3rd Grade	8.80%
4	4th Grade	8.68%
5	5th Grade	8.38%
6	6th Grade	8.44%
7	7th Grade	8.08%
8	8th Grade	7.99%
9	9th Grade	6.74%
10	10th Grade	5.54%
11	11th Grade	4.84%
12	12th Grade	3.88%



59.42%	African American
19.56%	White
8.44%	Hispanic
7.41%	Two or More Races
4.89%	Asian
<1.0%	American Indian
<1.0%	Hawaiian

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH AND SPECIAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW



Students qualifying for free- or reduced-lunch programs (percentage of enrollment)

Students receiving special education services (percentage of enrollment)

77%

GVSU-authorized Charter Schools FRL Average

52%

Michigan FRL Average

13%

GVSU-authorized Charter Schools Special Education Average

14%

Michigan Special Education Average

N/A=Data suppressed by Michigan Department of Education in compliance with FERPA regulations.

ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

Charter school authorizers are responsible for ensuring the learners they serve are growing academically. GVSU uses multiple performance indicators to track learner growth over the course of a school year and best understand how well schools are meeting the academic expectations in their charter contract. In this section, we present 2023-2024 academic results from state assessments and other evaluative data sets.

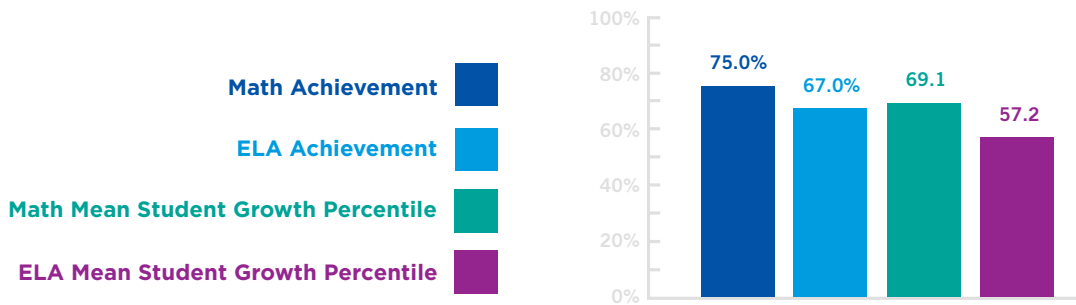


M-Step Results

The M-STEP is an online test administered by the State of Michigan to gauge how well learners are mastering state standards. On the following pages, you will see how each GVSU charter school performed on the 2023-2024 M-STEP for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. You will also see how they grew compared to their peers.

Here’s how it works: Each school is assigned a bar chart with four graphs. Two of the graphs measure the school’s M-STEP achievement levels in both ELA and math. The other two indicate how the average learner grew in ELA and math compared to their peers, a measurement known as the M-STEP Mean Student Growth Percentile. All measurements are scaled from 1 to 100.

GVSU uses these measures as the basis for evaluating if a school is outperforming statistically similar peer schools, creating the closest “apples to apples” comparison possible.



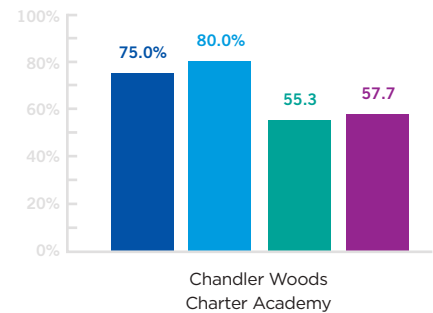
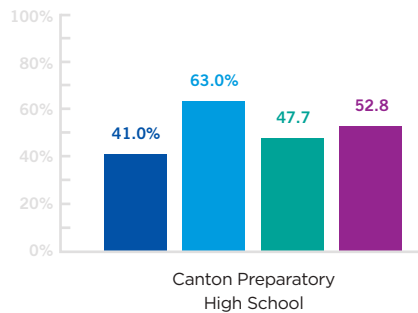
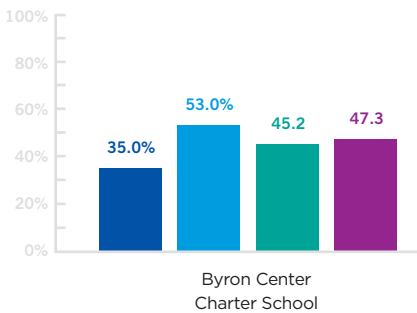
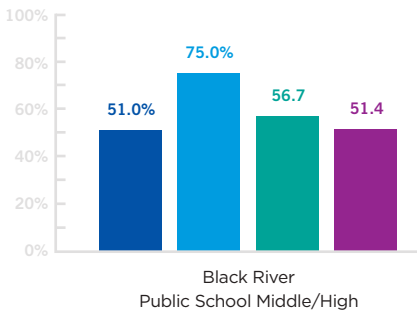
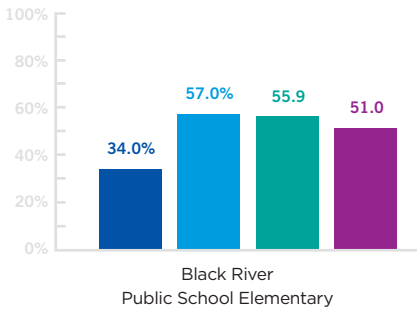
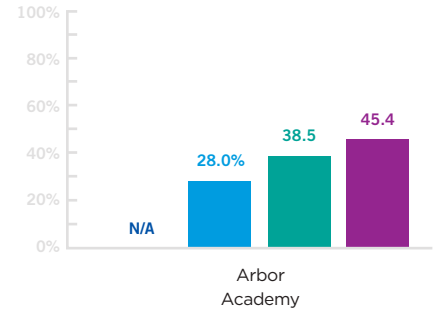
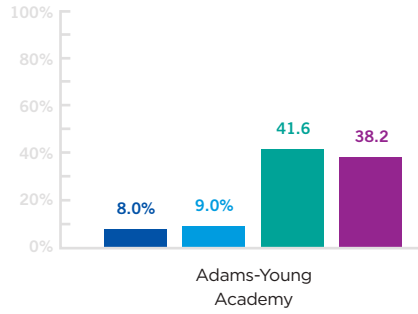
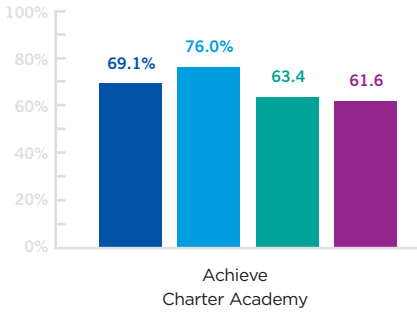
2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement

ELA Achievement

Math Mean Student Growth Percentile

ELA Mean Student Growth Percentile



N/A* = Data suppressed by MDE in compliance with FERPA regulations (10 or fewer students tested).

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2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement



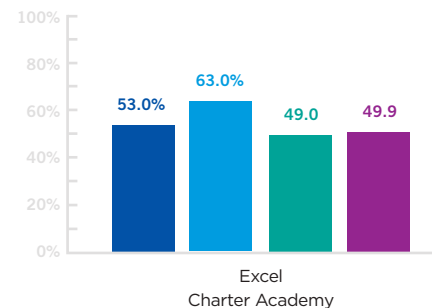
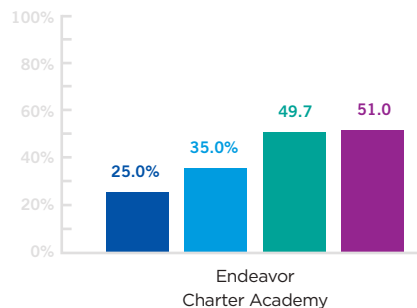
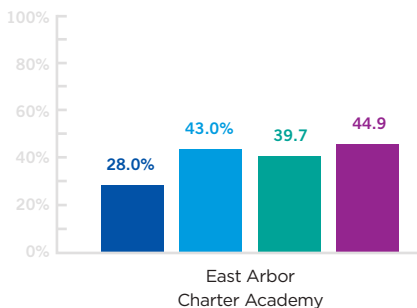
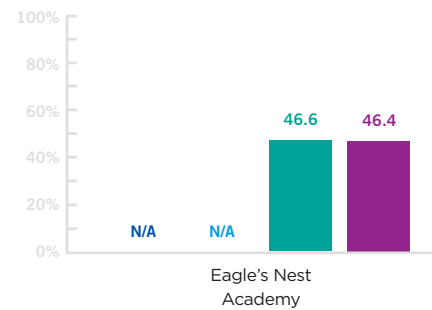
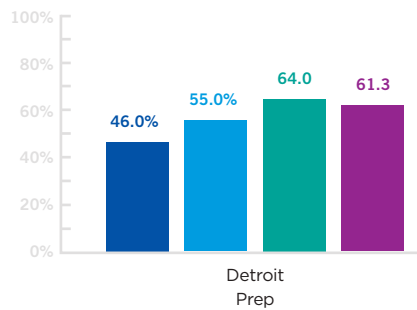
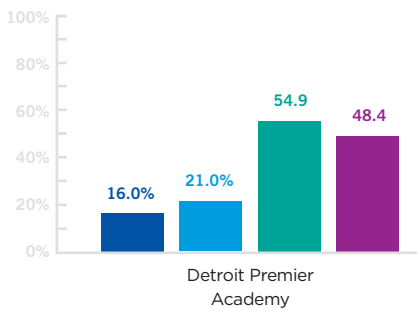
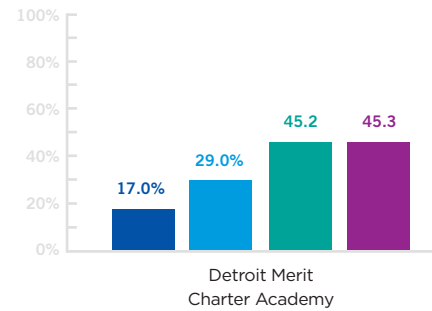
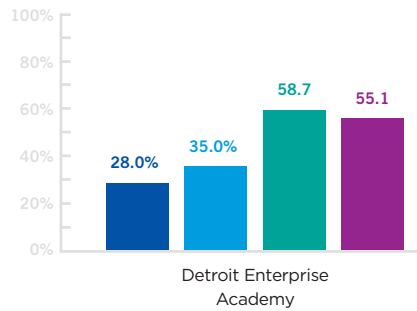
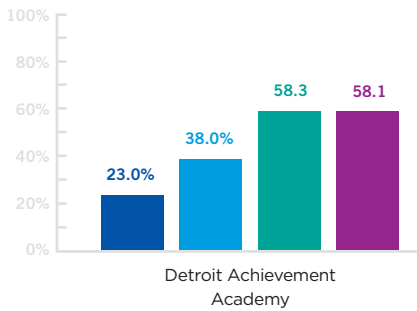
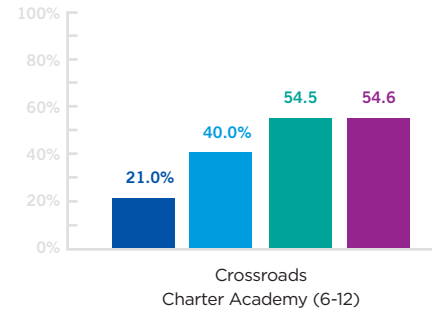
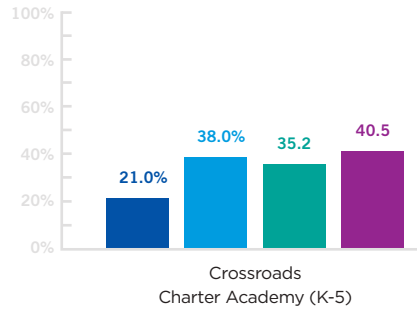
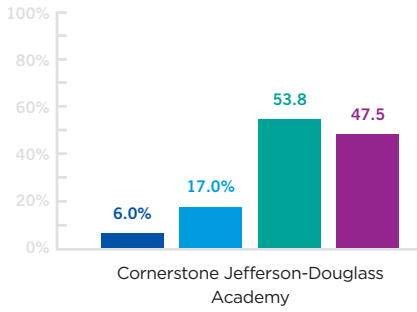
ELA Achievement



Math Mean Student Growth Percentile



ELA Mean Student Growth Percentile



N/A* = Data suppressed by MDE in compliance with FERPA regulations (10 or fewer students tested).

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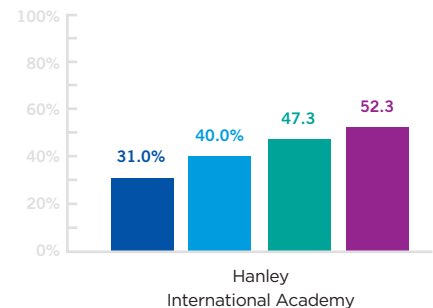
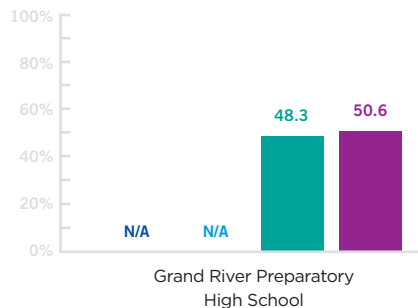
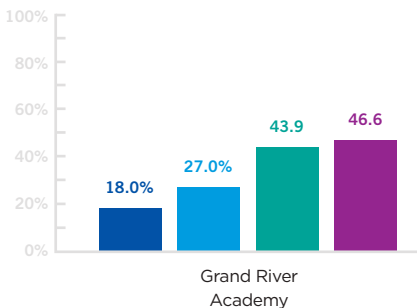
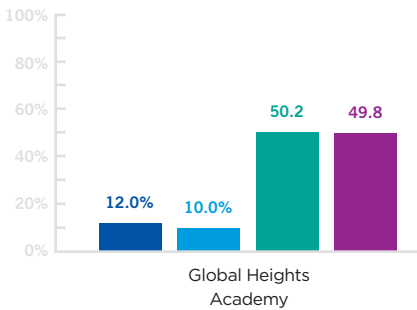
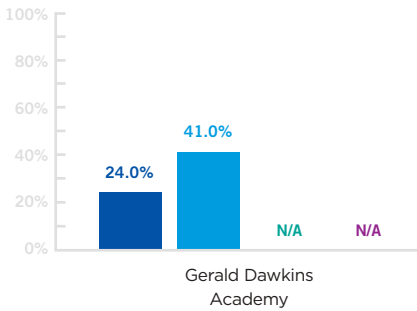
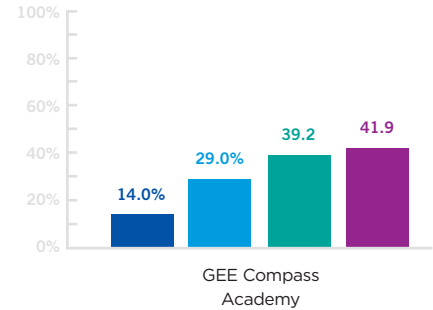
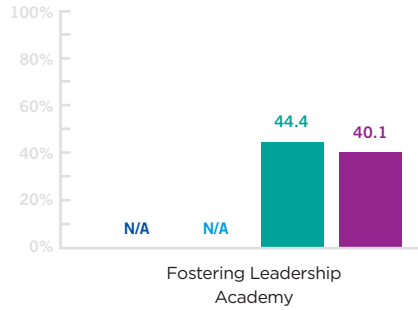
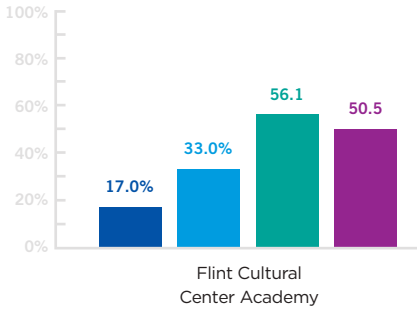
2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement

ELA Achievement

Math Mean Student Growth Percentile

ELA Mean Student Growth Percentile



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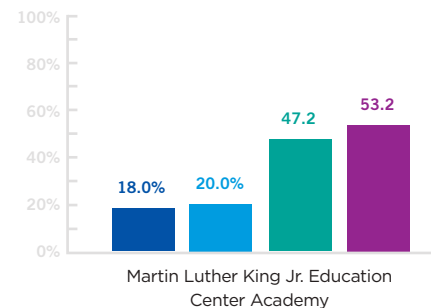
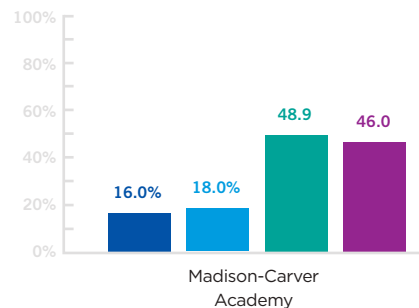
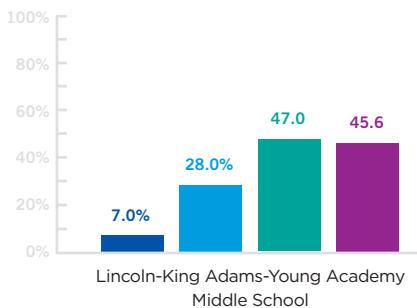
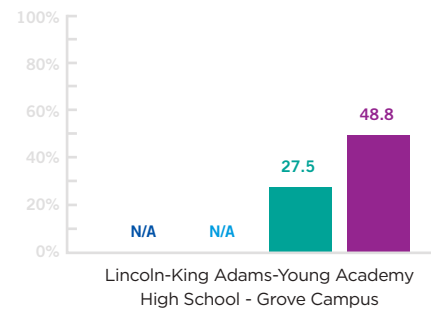
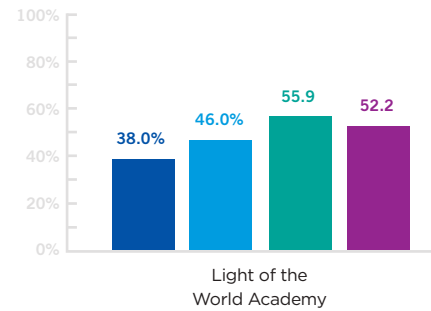
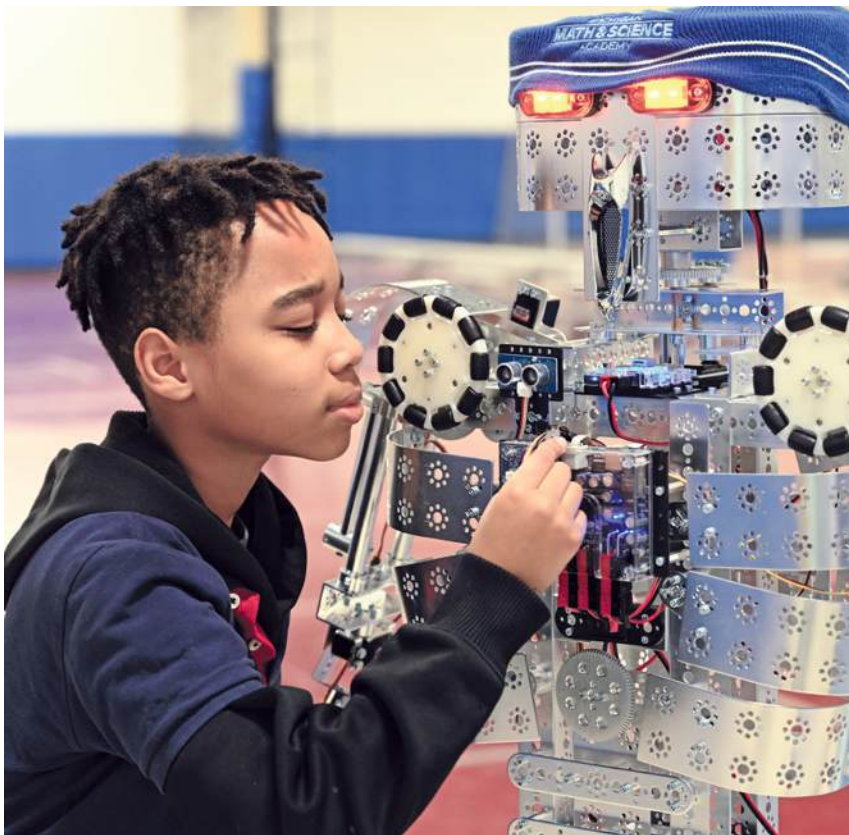
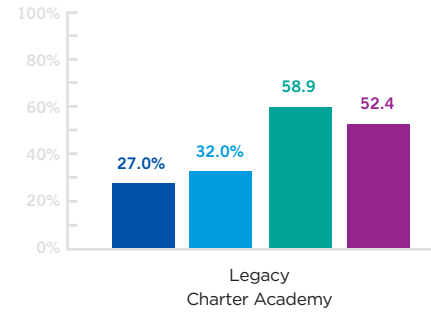
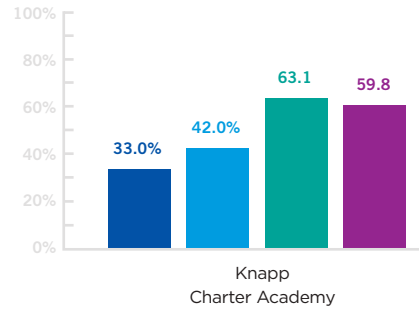
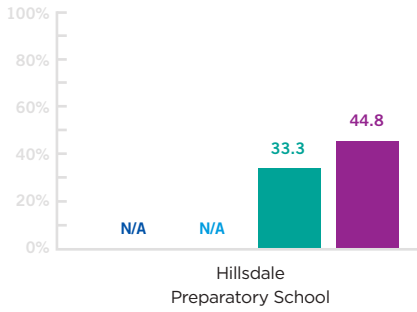
2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement

ELA Achievement

Math Mean Student Growth Percentile

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2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement



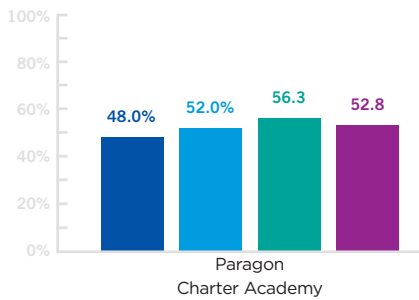
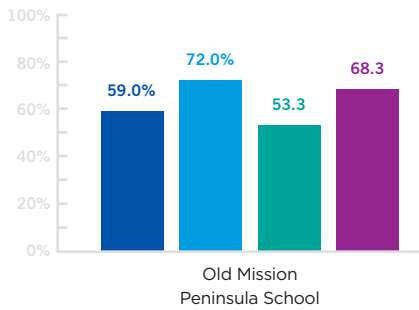
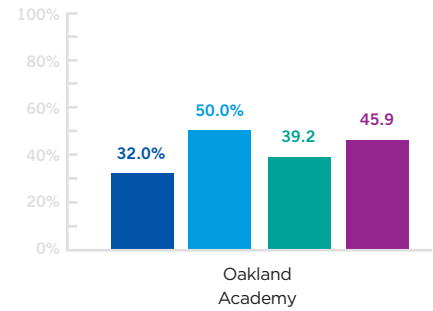
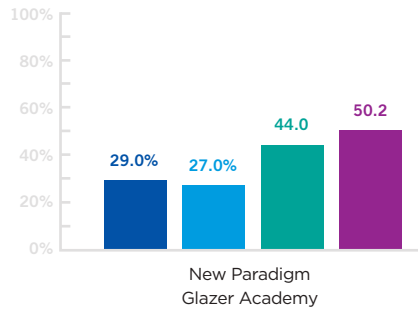
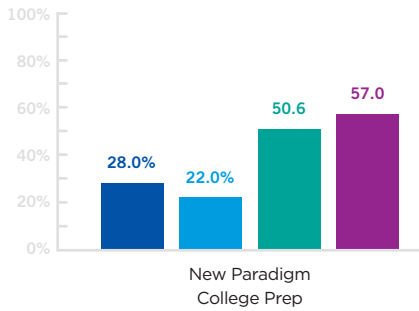
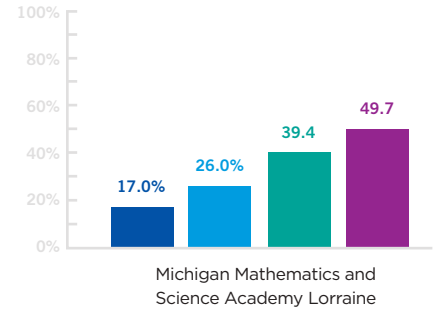
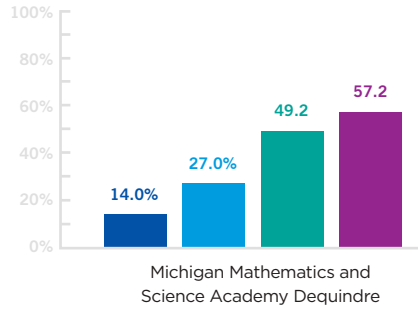
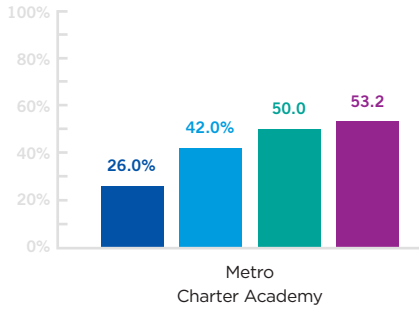
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2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement



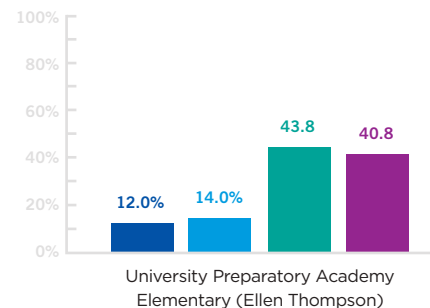
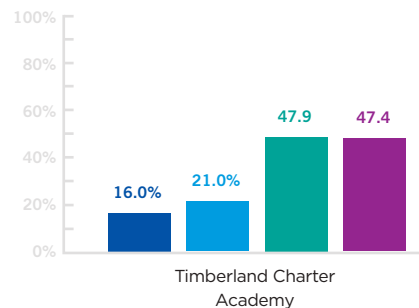
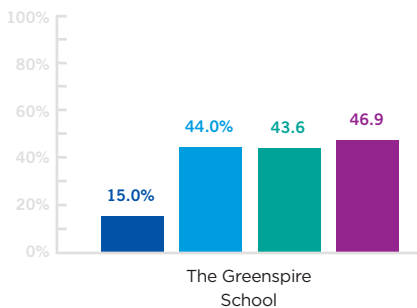
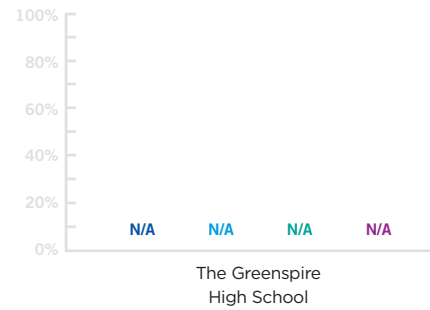
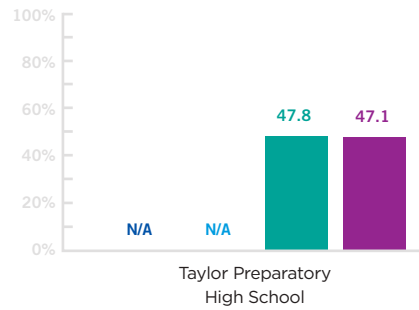
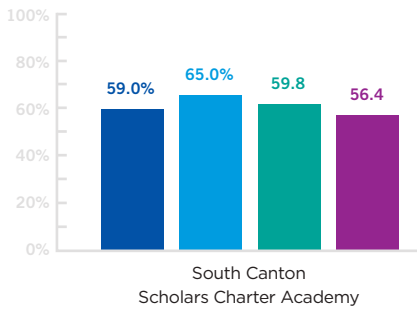
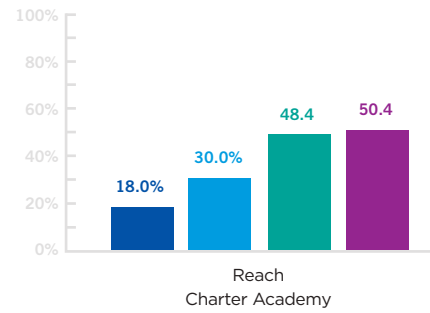
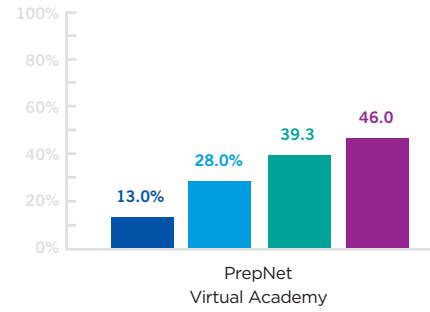
ELA Achievement



Math Mean Student Growth Percentile



ELA Mean Student Growth Percentile



N/A* = Data suppressed by MDE in compliance with FERPA regulations (10 or fewer students tested).

N/A = Data not provided by MDE

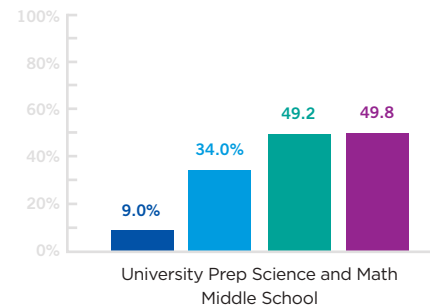
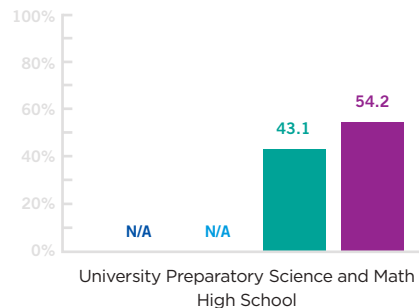
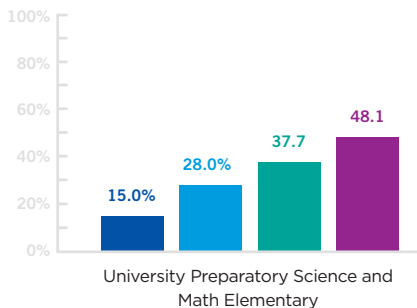
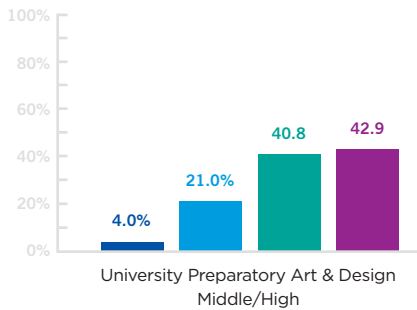
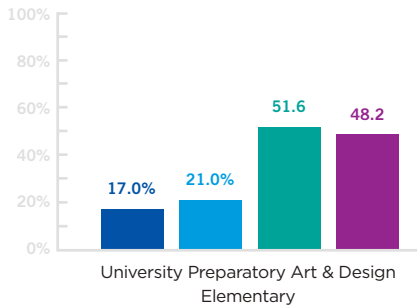
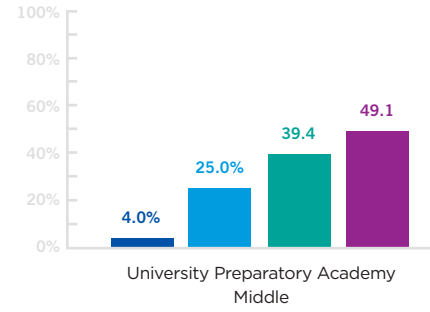
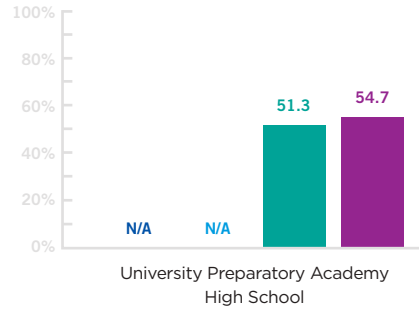
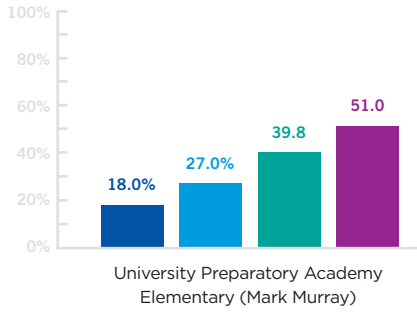
2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement

ELA Achievement

Math Mean Student Growth Percentile

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2023-2024 M-STEP

Math Achievement



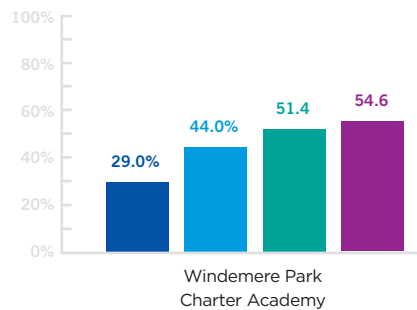
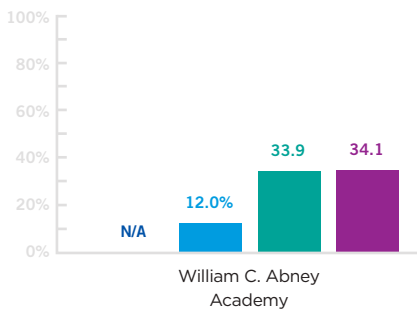
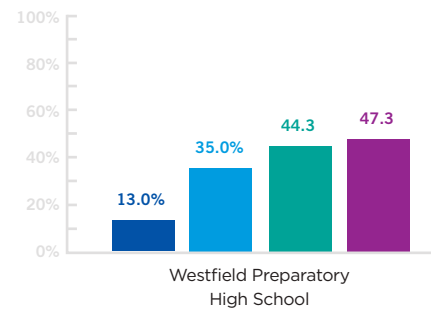
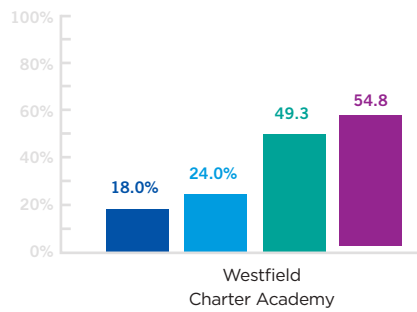
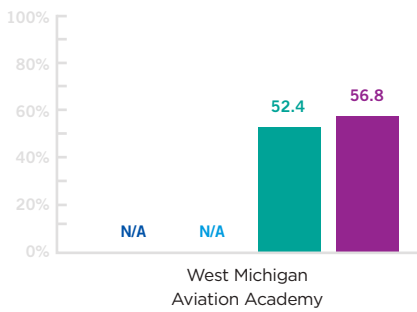
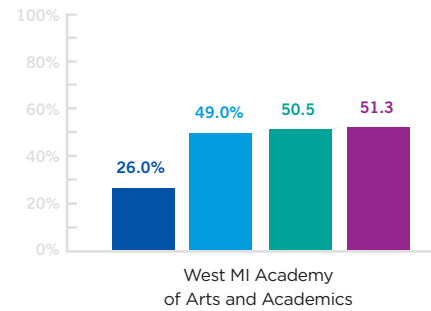
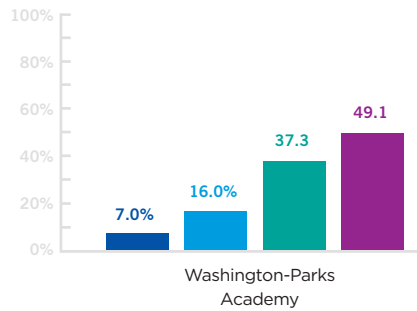
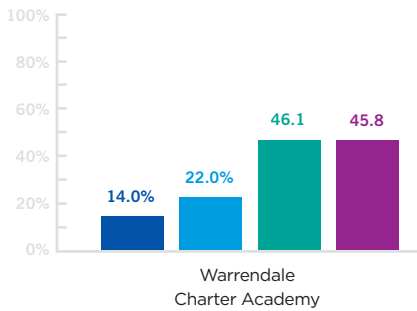
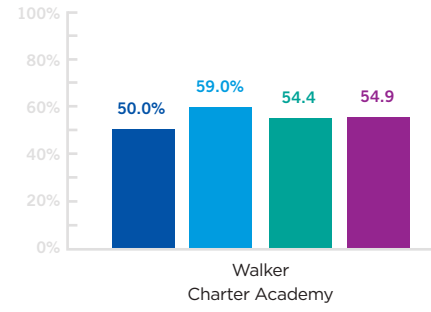
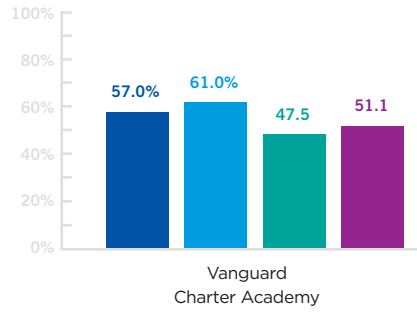
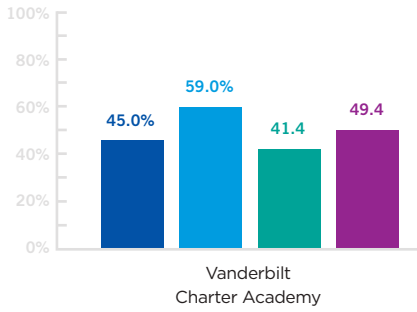
ELA Achievement



Math Mean Student Growth Percentile



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SAT Results and the Class of 2024

GVSU and its charter public schools are dedicated to preparing all learners to excel to and through their high school graduation. To ensure graduates have the appropriate skills to succeed, GVSU's charter schools hold students to rigorous standards. Some high schools require students to pass a certain number of Advanced Placement courses before they graduate, offering these college-level courses in all four high school grades. Other schools have students complete semester-long research projects with a company or organization related to their desired professions.



	COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED	AVERAGE SAT SCORES
Black River Public School	\$1,235,440	1,078.8
Byron Center Charter School	\$16,000	1,033.3
Canton Preparatory High School	\$1,694,326	959
Crossroads Charter Academy	\$3,630	968.8
GEE Compass Academy	-	736
Grand River Preparatory High School	\$3,226,464	932.6
Lincoln-King Adams-Young Academy High School	\$1,000,000	741.1
Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy Dequindre	\$2,094,405	853.8
PrepNet Virtual Academy	\$279,996	882.7
Taylor Preparatory High School	\$2,292,839	881.2
The Greenspire High School	-	997.7
University Preparatory High School	\$9,999,224	815.1
University Prep Science and Math High School	\$7,260,084	797.7
University Preparatory Art + Design Middle/High	\$6,885,100	787
Westfield Preparatory High School	\$1,496,024	779.3
West Michigan Aviation Academy	\$4,608,400	1,149.0
Total Amount of Scholarships* Awarded	\$42,091,932	900

*Scholarship data is self-reported by schools to GVSU CSO.

2024 SAT Average Total Score

Providing Learners Earlier Access to College

Charter public schools are designed to rapidly adjust to meet ever-changing community needs. One of the benefits of this design is that adaptations often lead to reduced barriers and increased opportunities for learners.

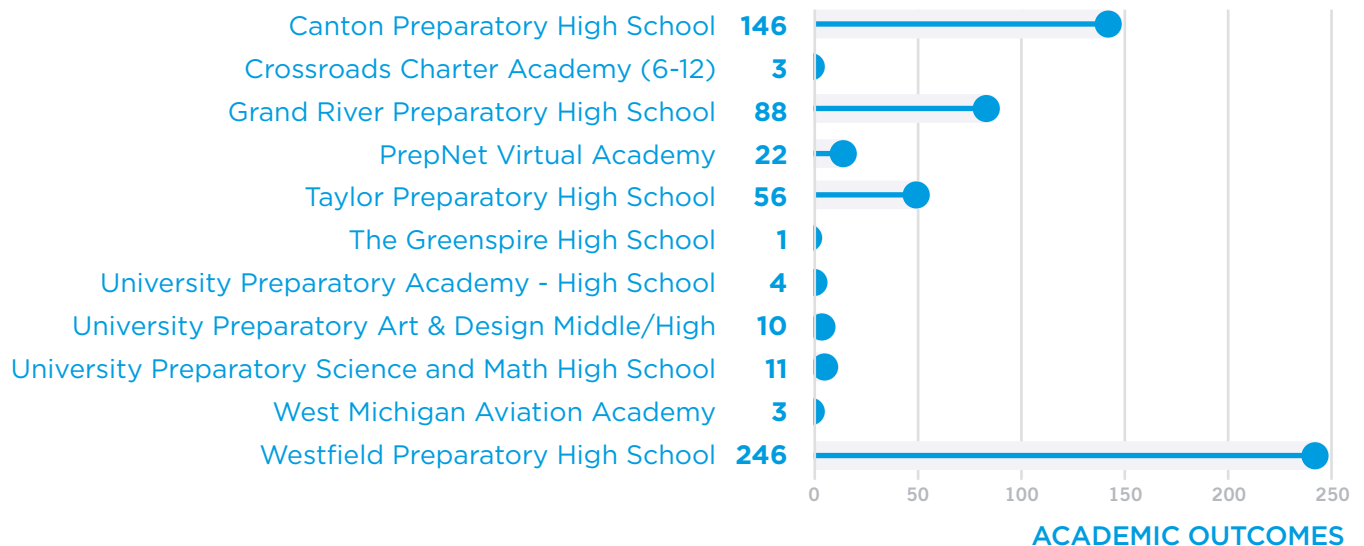
In recent years, more and more high school learners have sought new ways to engage in college pathways earlier in their learning journey. To meet this demand, many of GVSU's charter schools have launched early college programs that make higher education more accessible and affordable.

Early college programs are designed to help learners earn an associate degree or certificate for free while still enrolled in high school. Learners enrolled in an early college program are typically on a five-year plan, with the first three years dedicated to high school curriculum, and the final two years focused on earning their college credits. Learners in the programs often continue to receive support from high school counselors, staff, and academic coaches well after they transition to their college coursework.

Early college programs offered in GVSU's charter public schools saw a 7% increase in enrollment from the 2022-2023 school year to the 2023-2024 school year as learners from three additional high schools joined programs for the first time.



EARLY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT





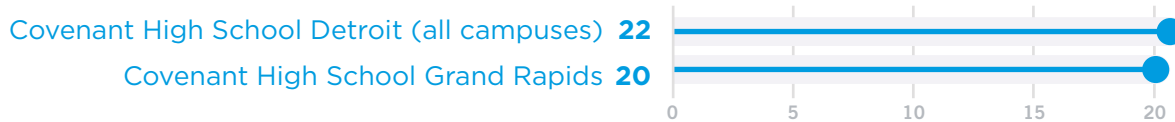
Helping Unique Student Populations Succeed

GVSU's portfolio has nine schools specifically designed to support learners who need extra wrap-around resources and care.

One school, Fostering Leadership Academy, serves a high population of K-8 students in the foster care system through a trauma-informed curriculum. The other eight are high schools supporting students who face hurdles like homelessness and expulsion.

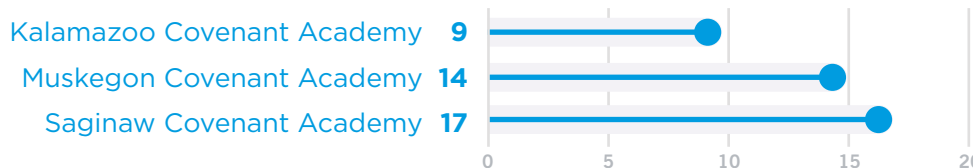
Success at these schools is measured differently than it is at other GVSU charter schools, and students are applauded for achieving unique academic goals. Five high schools are operated in partnership with Youth Vision Solutions, serving students in Wayne County and Grand Rapids. GVSU first authorized schools in this network in 2013.

2023-2024 COVENANT SCHOOLS GRADUATES



The other three schools partner with Covenant Academies Foundation and are located in Muskegon, Kalamazoo, and Saginaw.

2023-2024 COVENANT ACADEMIES FOUNDATION GRADUATES

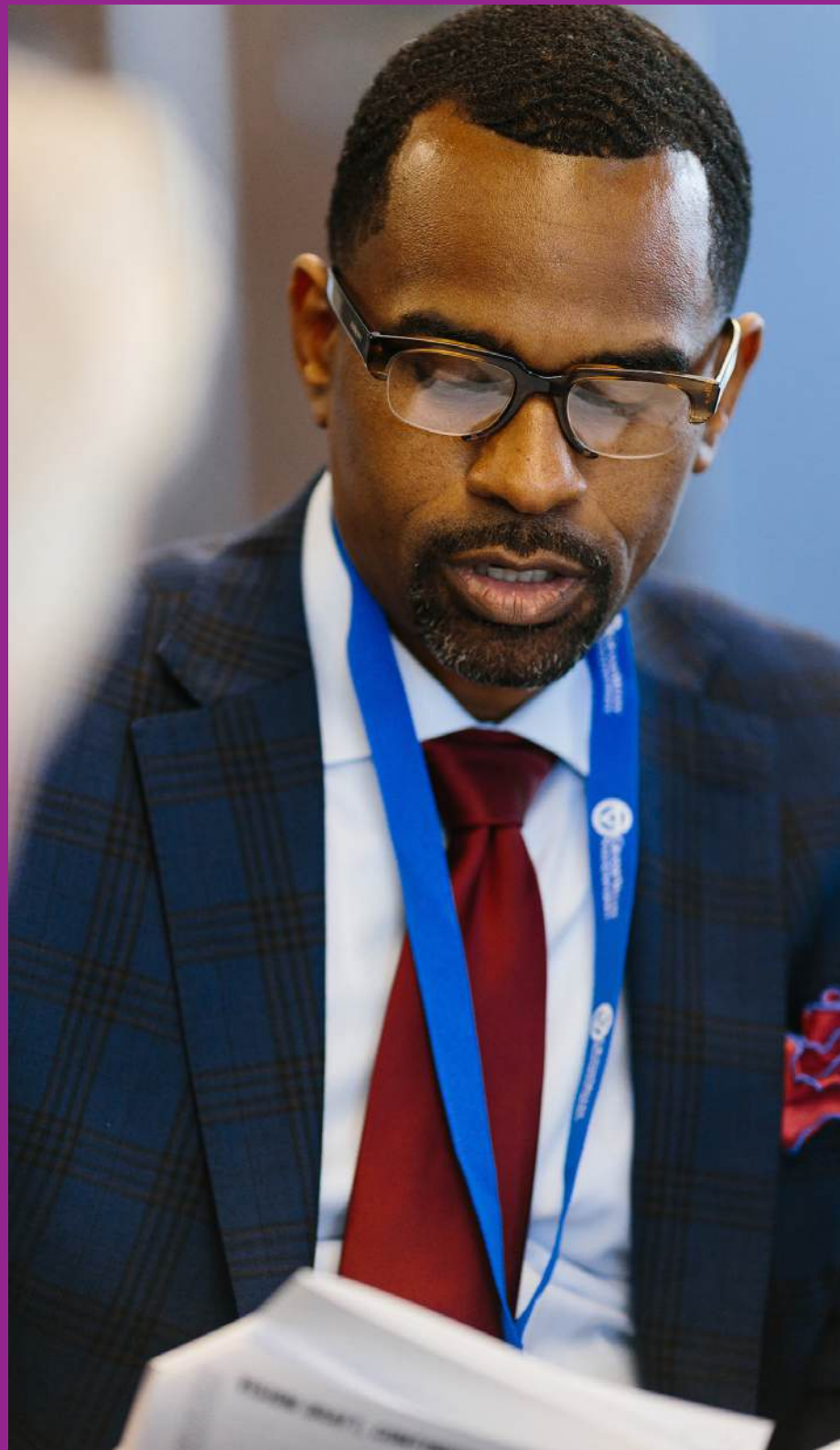


GVSU is proud to authorize these unique schools that help specific learner populations access the support they need to find stability in their educational journeys.

SUSTAINING INQUIRY

Schools that make wise governance decisions create a sustainable academic environment that leads to better outcomes for kids. Such stability and quality are what communities expect when it comes to public education.

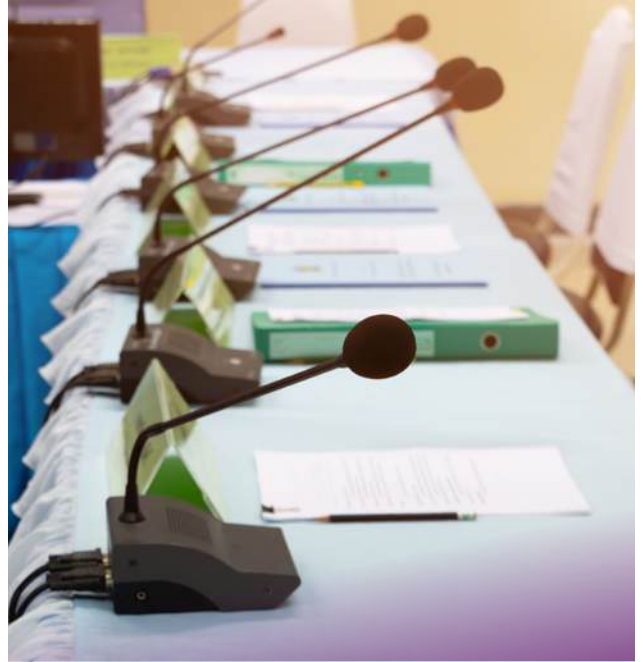
In this section, you'll learn about the governing boards at our schools that lead such decisions. You'll also learn about additional opportunities that GVSU makes available to schools and educators to help them enhance their stability while furthering inquiry.



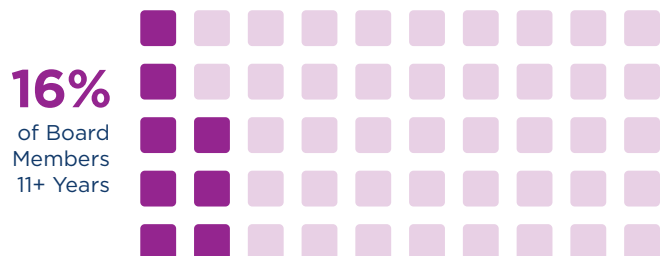
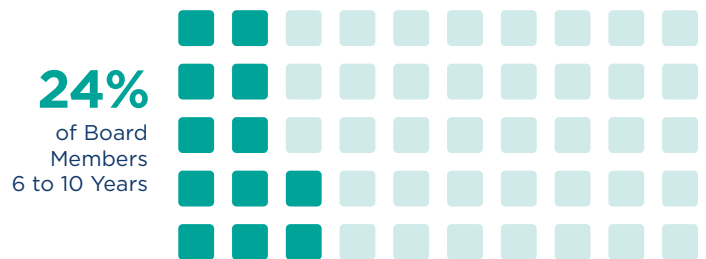
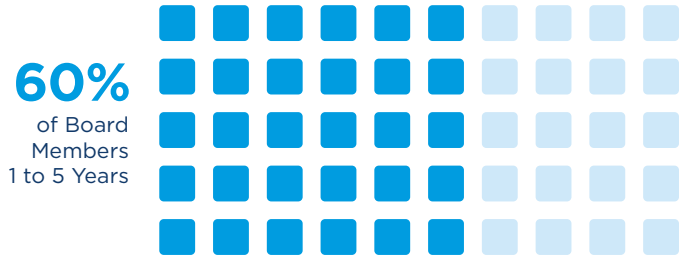
Our School Boards

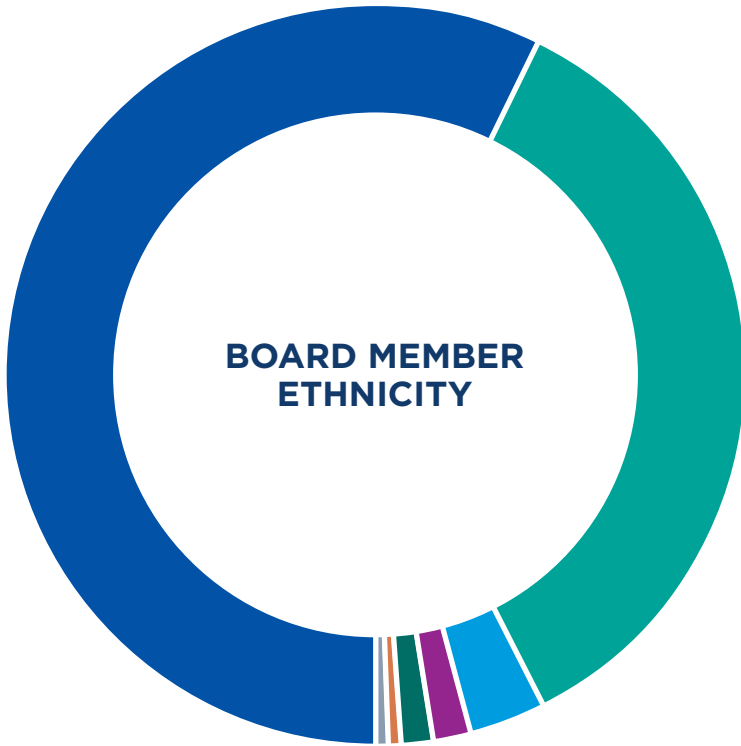
Effective school boards are visionary bodies that work collaboratively to ensure academic, operational, and fiscal achievement. Each GVSU-authorized charter public school is governed by a group of publicly appointed officials dedicated to furthering education at the local level.

These boards are composed of passionate individuals from diverse backgrounds who understand what the students, families, and educators in their community specifically need for the school to fulfill its mission today and for future generations.

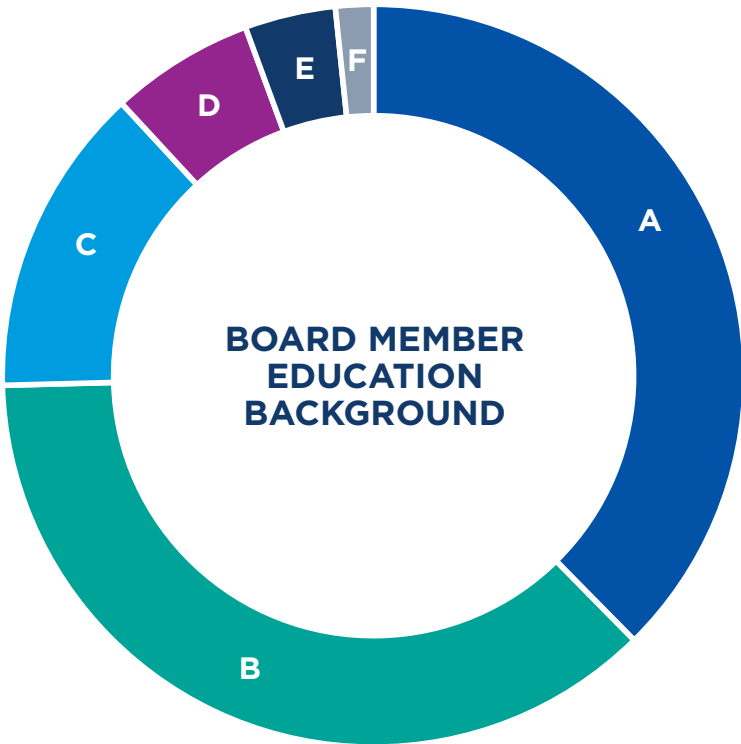


LENGTH OF SERVICE





- 57.43%** White
- 35.31%** Black or African American
- 3.30%** Hispanic or Latino
- 1.65%** Asian
- 1.32%** Two or More Races
- 0.66%** Unspecified
- 0.33%** American Indian or Native Alaskan



- A** Bachelor's Degree **37.62%**
- B** Master's Degree **36.96%**
- C** Doctorate/Doctoral Degree **13.53%**
- D** High School diploma/GED **6.27%**
- E** Trade School/Unspecified **3.96%**
- F** Associate Degree **1.65%**



DEDICATION TO EDUCATION: DETROIT ACHIEVEMENT ACADEMY

If you were to walk into one Detroit Achievement Academy's buildings, you would find elementary learners who are eager to tell you their strongest character strengths as well as the character habits they are working on at that moment.

That expectation of students stems from the school's Habits of Character standards, which are designed to make students active participants in their own growth and assessment of how they treat themselves and others. DAA's unique intentionality within its standards is what led to the school winning a 2024 Core Value Award for exemplifying the GVSU value of Integrity.

"Habits of Character are core to the foundation of DAA," wrote the school board in their award application. "Integrity is particularly important because it is a trait that extends beyond the classroom and helps build trust between individuals and within communities."

The school breaks character traits into observable, communicable and kid-friendly standards that hold students and staff accountable in weekly

student reflections, student-led conferences, grading systems, and behavior management practices. Students reflect weekly on their progress towards these traits. They submit self-reflections to their teacher, who provides real-time feedback and action steps on their scores. The data for these can be viewed by administrators, support staff, parents, and families as applicable. The final scores are agreed upon between students and their teachers and entered into the gradebook as Character scores. Students report on their Habits of Character growth and performance scores to their families during bi-annual student-led conferences.

Students who show outstanding performance in their character habits are nominated as "Light Leaders." Light Leaders consistently role model appropriate behavior, honesty in their interactions with others, respect the rules, and promote fairness. The Light Leaders meet once a week to help coordinate school community activities, practice facilitating tours, brainstorm ideas to keep school space beautiful, and plan for Better World Day.



Board member Gregory DeMars receives DAA's 2024 Core Value Award from GVSU's Gretchen LaHaie.

DEDICATION TO EDUCATION: THE GREENSPIRE SCHOOL

GVSU sees the charter public schools that it authorizes as extensions of the university community, which comes with the expectation that each school environment reflects GVSU's five core values. The GVSU CSO annually recognizes schools that meet this expectation by presenting a Core Values Award to a school whose program, project, practice, or other initiative best demonstrates advancement of a particular value.

One of the two Core Values Awards that were presented in 2024 for the value of Integrity went to The Greenspire School for their student ambassador program.

According to Greenspire's board, the program is an outward expression and advertisement of serving with integrity. "Our ambassadors want all to know that the ethics, education and interpersonal relationships we offer exemplify educational professionals and fellow students living by our openly stated school values and principles," wrote the board in its award application.

At Greenspire, student ambassadors are selected each year based on academic standing and consistent positive behavior. Those who are selected to be ambassadors promote a positive and accurate image of the school to the greater community and assist in helping the school achieve its vision.

Student ambassadors are responsible for providing tours to families and guests, acting as a guide for prospective students who sit in on school classes during "Fake a Day" afternoons, and assist with key community promotion events. Student ambassadors are also tasked with supporting fellow students by encouraging others to show respect in all aspects of school life, to listen with intentionality rather than just waiting to respond, and to honor each other's thoughts, wishes and words.

"This program is the essence of who we are as a school," the board said, "and we are so proud of each individual who is a part of it."



Board member Luis Pardo receives The Greenspire School's 2024 Core Value Award from GVSU's Gretchen LaHaie, Matt Missias, and Leah Breen.

Additional Annual Support from GVSU

According to Michigan charter school law, charter authorizers may retain up to 3% of the per-pupil funds its charter schools receive. At GVSU, some of these funds are used to cover operational costs; however, a significant portion is returned to the schools either directly or through supplemental support opportunities.

One of the direct ways that schools receive financial support comes from the GVSU CSO's Academic Grant opportunity. Every school can be awarded the grant by accomplishing specific education and compliance goals throughout the course of the school year. The goals are aligned with their charter contract and are designed to be inclusive of all schools. The amount each school receives for each grant criteria it meets is determined by the number of students in each building.

GVSU also provides financial assistance for the educators working in its schools who want to continue their lifelong learning. Certified teachers can apply for the Continuing Education Scholarship, which gives recipients a 50% tuition discount when they enroll in certain graduate courses at Grand Valley. The discount increases to 80% for teachers who have worked five or more consecutive years in a GVSU charter school.

Finally, the GVSU CSO supports undergraduate education learners through the GVSU Charter Public Schools Clinical Field Experience Scholarship. The scholarship covers one semester of tuition for a select number of Grand Valley learners who complete their student-teaching requirements in a GVSU charter school.



\$710,382

Awarded to schools via Academic Grant



\$658,601

Awarded to educators via Continuing Education Scholarship



\$133,983

Awarded to GVSU learners via the Clinical Field Experience Scholarship

GVSU CSO Grand Rapids

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GVSU Detroit Center

163 Madison Street
Detroit, MI 48226

*Empowering learners in their pursuits,
professions, and purpose.*



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**
CHARTER SCHOOLS
OFFICE

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