



2021-22

School Annual Education Report (AER)

January 12, 2023

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2021-22 educational progress for Uplift Michigan Online School. 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 Tonya Lowry, Superintendent, at tonya.lowry@uplift-mi.org for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website <http://bit.ly/2TbMlt5>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2021-22 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 2021-22. 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 was identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement school because Uplift's graduation rate fell below 67% in 2021-2022.

In 2021-22 Uplift was in its fourth year of operations. This school year saw the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to increased enrollment and interest in Uplift. The pandemic also created mental and social health strains for many students, which impacted their academic and assessment performance.

Uplift's data, like all schools across the nation, showed a decline in student achievement and overall performance in multiple areas of the school in the 2021-22 school year. The devastation and restrictions placed on educational institutions due to the Coronavirus pandemic greatly impacted Uplift's academic performance. Students new to Uplift in the 2021-22 school year showed significant deficits in math and reading proficiency. Students returning to Uplift in the 2021-22 school year showed more growth but there were still noticeable challenges for them as the pandemic continued to impact their daily lives.

The 2021-2022 school year was one of stability and consistency. Uplift held its third Graduation ceremony in June 2022, celebrating 34 graduates. The ceremony was held at Lansing Community College in Lansing, MI.

Uplift will continue to offer career counseling, graduation planning, and credit recovery options for our high school students. Uplift Michigan Online School expanded our course offerings and supports for



students who were credit deficient. We will continue to improve our practices to increase our student proficiency and credit achievement in all core academic subject areas.

Uplift Michigan Online School continues to promote best practices within Professional Development sessions that are held throughout the year. Professional Development sessions focus on improving Math and English proficiency across all grades, as well as utilization of student data, support for English language learners, and improving school-wide engagement. Additionally, Uplift Michigan Online School continues to have Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to improve teaching skills and academic performance for all students. Through PLCs staff work collaboratively to increase student success using recurring cycles of collective inquiry and research. The findings of the inquiry and research are used to increase student learning and close achievement gaps. Further, PLCs allow teacher teams to become disciplined and deliberate with data as they design and implement program improvements to enhance student learning. PLC achievement evidence suggests that when constant, high-quality collaborative inquiry becomes the norm, students will prosper and the school culture will become enriched. We are confident that our progression of PLCs will focus collaborative efforts on student learning to continue improving achievement results.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Enrollment Process and Student Selection

Uplift Michigan Online School does not discriminate against students on the basis of any class protected by law. In addition, Uplift Michigan Online School does not discriminate based on academic ability. Uplift conducts open enrollment throughout the school year as required by law until the applicable student enrollment cap has been met. If the applicable cap is reached, students will be placed on a waitlist. Waitlist preference is given to siblings of currently enrolled students.

5-Year School Improvement Plan

Uplift Michigan Online School's School Improvement Plan has been approved by the State as of September 2019. In the 2021-22 school year Uplift underwent a comprehensive needs assessment to review, adjust and re-develop the school improvement plan, utilizing the new MICIP program. Additional supports and staffing needs to provide those supports were added to Uplift's School Improvement Plan as a result of this review. The updated School Improvement Plan will be in place until the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

School Description

Uplift Michigan Online School is a public school academy (charter school) that opened in September of 2018 and whose educational platform is solely virtual (cyber). Stephenson Public Schools has been the chartering institution since the school's inception. Uplift Michigan Online School serves students in grades K-12 and is dedicated to providing individualized supports for every student. Each of our teachers and support staff have built strong relationships with families by providing a robust orientation and 1:1 support. Additionally, all educators are certified and highly-qualified.

Certified teachers and instructional support staff provide one to one and small group instruction for students displaying the greatest need for specialized academic assistance. Additionally, through the use of the Response to Intervention approach staff work to identify students with additional academic or behavioral needs and provide additional intervention support. Uplift uses the results of the Northwest



Education Association (NWEA) MAP assessments, M-STEP scores, authentic assessments and informal assessments in coursework and live lessons to identify and assist these students.

Uplift Michigan Online School pairs every student with an advisor, from the start of their enrollment, that provides them with an additional layer of support. Advisors at Uplift meet weekly with students to check on their mental well-being and academic progress. Advisors also promote our school community by offering social hours, homework help, 1:1 support, clubs and more. The advisory position at Uplift is an integral part of our goals and mission for student success.

Core Curriculum

Uplift Michigan Online School's curriculum, powered by Accelerate Education, meets the Michigan Department of Education requirements and maintains our school's Mission of providing a caring environment where students are engaged and feel empowered to be successful learners. If you are interested in seeing a demo of the district's core curriculum, please contact Superintendent Lowry at tonya.lowry@uplift-mi.org.

The Accelerate curriculum is implemented and supplemented in every classroom by our highly qualified teachers and support personnel. To learn more about our curriculum please review the web links below. Please note that not all courses listed, on the links below, are offered at Uplift Michigan Online School. Please review the family handbook and course offerings guide on the Uplift website for a complete list of courses offered at Uplift Michigan Online School.

- K-5 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/k-5-courses/>
- 6-8 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/6-8-courses/>
- 9-12 Online Courses: <https://accelerate.education/9-12-courses/>

Student Achievement Results for NWEA

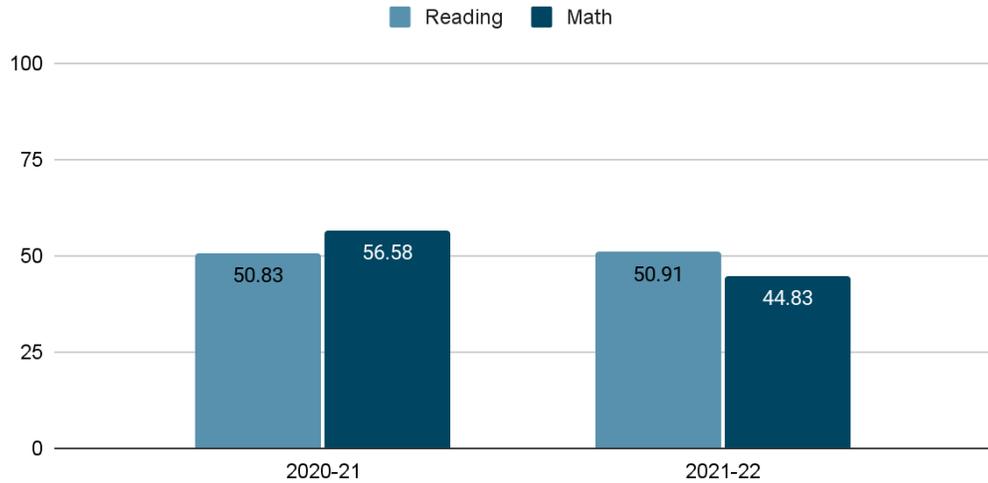
For 2021-22, Uplift Michigan Online School was able to test, on average across all three testing cycles, 94% of students in grades K-11. In the 2020-21 school year, Uplift tested an average of 97% of students.

The graphs below depict the percentage of students who were considered grade-level proficient on the NWEA reading and math assessments, at the end of the 2021-22 school year. These graphs also include the data from the 2020-21 school year.

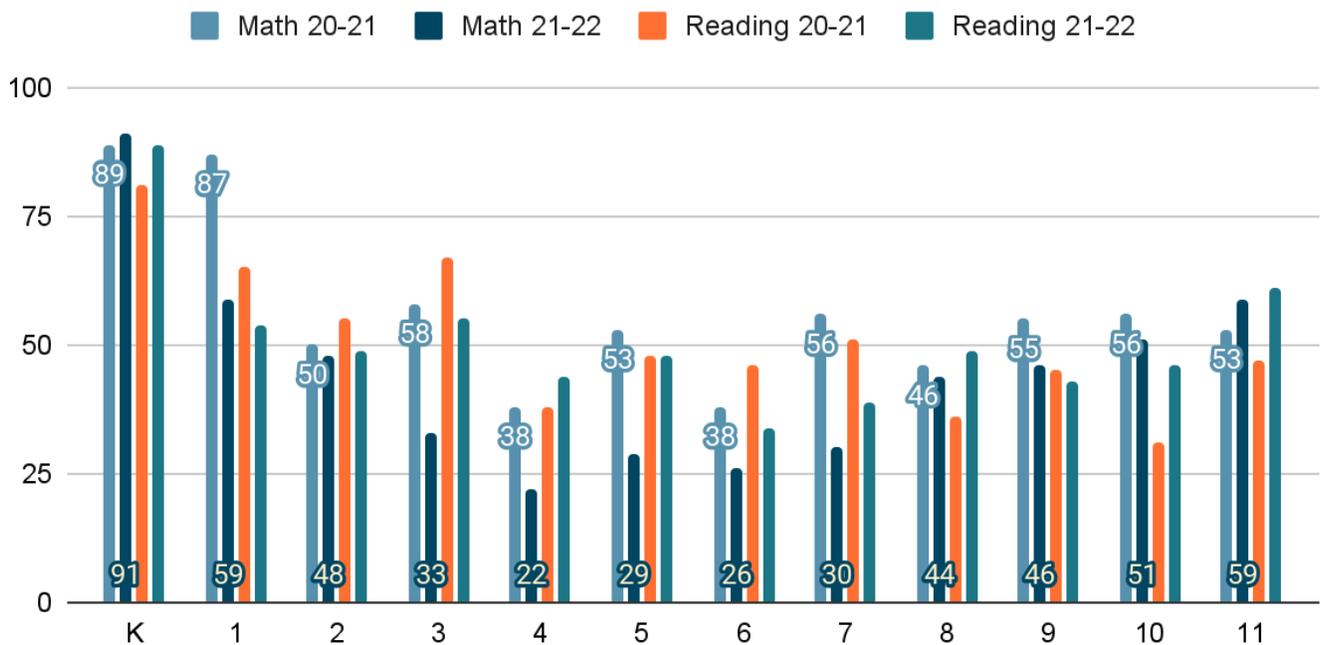
There were many challenges with administering the NWEA assessments and subsequent data collection during the 2021-22 school year. Substantial enrollment growth brought many new students to Uplift, skewing the data. The fluctuation in student membership and transience of the student population between school years contributed to a reduction in grade-level proficiency scores. Future and stable years of NWEA assessment data will show an upward growth in grade-level proficiency, as would be expected of a school with more years in operation.



NWEA Data - Percentage of Students Achieving Grade-Level Proficiency in 2020-21 and 2021-22



NWEA Data - Percent of Students in 2020-21 and 2021-22, Per Grade-Level, Achieving Proficiency





Parent-Teacher Conferences

For 2021-22 Uplift Michigan Online School worked hard to engage parents in attending virtual parent-teacher conferences. Conferences were hosted through our virtual portal where webcams and microphones could be utilized. On average 72% of students were represented by parents at parent-teacher conferences. In 2020-21 the average was 71%.

High School Specific Data

Dual Enrollment -

During the 2021-22 school year, Uplift had 3 students participating in dual-enrollment. Uplift had no students enrolled in dual-enrollment in the 2020-21 school year.

College Equivalent Course Offerings -

Uplift offered five Advanced Placement (AP) courses and ensured CollegeBoard rules and expectations for AP examinations were followed. The Advanced Placement courses offered by Uplift during the 2021-22 school year were:

- AP Calculus AB
- AP Biology
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP United States History
- AP World History
- AP U.S. Government and Politics

Number of Students Enrolled in College Equivalent Course Offerings -

3 students took Advanced Placement courses with Uplift during the 2021-22 school year. No students took Advanced Placement courses with Uplift during the 2020-21 school year.

Number and Percentage of Students Receiving a Score Leading to College Credit -

2 students took Advanced Placement courses with Uplift and were awarded college equivalency credits through the College Board, in the 2021-22 school year. No students took Advanced Placement courses with Uplift during the 2020-21 school year. Therefore, no college equivalency credits were awarded in 2020-21.

Uplift has a world-class team of educators who are dedicated to our students' success, not just academically, but emotionally and socially, as well. We always put the rounded needs of our students above all else. We will continue to encourage students to pursue their passions and to make positive contributions to their communities. As our school has grown and continues to thrive we are focusing on improving engagement and proficiency across all subject areas and grade levels.

We continue to look forward to increased parent and community involvement in our school. Our students have immense potential and working together we can help them see it.



UPLIFT MICHIGAN ONLINE



Thank you for choosing to be a part of our exciting journey. Uplift Michigan Online School continues to be a leader in virtual education because of the commitment our students and parents have made. To that end, we continue to be proud of the school community we have built.

Together, we are creating an UProar!

Sincerely,

Tonya Lowry

Superintendent