



**“Raising the Standards of Education”**  
Nate Seiferlein, Principal  
Tracy Cohrs, Assistant Principal  
Rob Girvin, Dean of Students/Athletic Director



### **Merritt Academy Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan**

Address of School District: 59900 Havenridge New Haven, MI 48048

District Code Number: 50906

Building Code Number(s): 09077

District Contact Person: Tracy Cohrs

District Contact Person Email Address: [tcohrs@merritt-academy.org](mailto:tcohrs@merritt-academy.org)

Local Public Health Department: Bill Ridella

Local Public Health Department Contact Person Email Address: [bill.ridella@macombgov.org](mailto:bill.ridella@macombgov.org)

Name of Intermediate School District: Macomb Intermediate School District

Name of Authorizing Body: Saginaw Valley State Univeristy

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors: 8/24/2020

**59900 Havenridge Road  
New Haven, MI 48048  
(586) 749-6000**

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### **Assurances**

- The Academy will administer an approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Within thirty days after the approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter, the Academy, at a meeting of its board of directors, will re-confirm how instruction is delivered during the 2020-2021 school year and will solicit public comment, at a public meeting, from the parents or legal guardians enrolled in the Academy.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil’s grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the Academy had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.
- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.
- The Academy will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.
- The Academy, in consultation with a local health department, and district employees, will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the Academy Board’s discretion. Key metrics that the Academy will consider shall include at least all of the following:
  - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
  - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
  - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
  - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals

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- The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
  - Health capacity strength
  - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19
- 
- If the Academy determines that it is safe to provide in-person pupil instruction to pupils, the Academy will prioritize providing in-person pupil instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the Academy.
  - The Academy will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the Academy and the pupil’s teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil’s teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the Academy. The Academy will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each Academy Board meeting where it re-confirm how instruction is being delivered , beginning 30 days after approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter. The Academy will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the Academy website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.
  - The Academy will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy’s website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the Academy expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.

Karen Bochatyn-COVID Virtual Meeting  
President of the Board of Directors

8/24/2020

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## **Introduction and Overview**

Due to the continuing pandemic Merritt Academy is extending its COVID-19 learning plan. We have about 40% of students that are not comfortable returning to face-to-face learning. This led us to develop an alternative method of instruction to keep students engaged and progressing towards the appropriate grade level standards.

## **Educational Goals**

Goals:

Student growth will be measured through the administration of the NWEA test in the fall and spring testing windows. Depending on the current situation NWEA may also be administered in the winter right after Christmas break to allow for a mid-year check on student progress toward meeting their goals.

The goal will be 50% of students in K-12 meet their growth target goal in math by mid-year.

The goal will be 50% of students in K-12 meet their growth target goal in reading by mid-year.

The goal is that at least 70% of students in K-12 meet their growth target goal in math by the end of the school year.

The goal is that at least 70% of students in K-12 meet their growth target goal in reading by the end of the school year.

NWEA was the selected state approved assessment as our students have taken that for the past several years so we have previous data points.

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## **Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content**

Merritt Academy is offering two different options to our families.

Option 1- students will return to face-to-face schooling five days a week. Students will have to adhere to all the safety precautions put into place under the original return to school safe plan. Students will participate in direct instruction in all core subject areas and elective classes. Teachers will be conducting regular unit based assessments to monitor student mastery. Grades will be posted in PowerSchool where parents can see at anytime.

Option 2- students will return to school in a virtual setting. Students will be required to sign into each core class or subject everyday. They will have to complete the attendance form and then any assignments for the day. All students will be strongly encouraged to log into live teaching. This will allow for them to be a part of the class with the face-to-face students as lessons are being taught. If students are unable to log into live learning these lessons are recorded and posted in Google classroom. Teachers will also have designated office hours for students to log into and have individual questions answered. Student progress towards mastery of concepts will be tracked through assignments and projects. Parents and students will be provided feedback in Google classroom and grades will be entered into PowerSchool.

Teachers will follow the district-pacing guides for students in face-to-face and virtual learning to ensure students are being taught grade level content. They are also able to reference the pacing guides for the previous grade level to expose students to content that they may have missed last year due to the shut down.

## **Equitable Access**

Merritt Academy ensured all students has the option to select face-to-face or virtual learning. Any family selecting virtual learning completed a technology survey to determine technology needs. Merritt Academy provided a 1-1 handout of Chrome books for any student that indicated they needed one. This was to ensure no student would have to share and possible miss out on

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any live learning options. In addition, all virtual students had a materials pick up where they picked up textbooks that would be used in the classroom.

Individualized Education Plans will be reviewed, and a Contingency Learning Plan will be created with \ all IEP Team member involvement, including Parent, for any students whose IEP will not be able to be fully implemented if the student were being educated remotely. In addition, while in phase 4 or higher **and the school is open for face to face instruction**, if a family has opted for a remote education, they have the option to still bring their student to school for special education programs or services.

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