



Lansing Eastern High School

The Heart of the East Side Since 1928

Final Draft, March 27, 2015

A Proud Tradition of Academic Achievement on Lansing's East Side

- Lansing Eastern High School, since its debut in 1928, has a long history of high quality education and graduates who serve in many honorable positions. Among LEHS graduates are doctors, attorneys, educators, an Olympic Gold Medalist, a College President and many leaders in business and public service.
- Eastern has an active and engaged Alumni Association that invests heavily in the School.
Through its endowed fund at the Capital Area Community Foundation, Eastern Alumni fund approximately \$50,000 annually in grants to support students, teachers and special projects at Eastern. During the 2013-2014 school year, these grant totaled \$52,338. The Alumni Association Endowment is unique in Lansing.
The Alumni Association started Lansing Eastern High School Hall of Fame in 2005 to honor the special achievements of students.

Eastern High School Today

Contributing to the Lansing Community and Supporting High Educational Standards

- In 2014, 179 Lansing Eastern Graduates received nearly \$2 million in scholarships to 2-year Community Colleges and 4-year Colleges, including Harvard University, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and others.
- Eastern High School offers Mid-Michigan's only International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme. Eastern Students have the unique opportunity to participate both in the Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) and Diploma Programme (IBDP). The IB Program exposes students to a world class curriculum, challenges them to excel in their studies, and encourages both personal and academic achievement.
- The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme is designed for middle and early high school students in preparation for the Diploma Program (IB DP). The IB MYP at Eastern continues the Chinese Immersion language program from Post Oak Elementary School. The program offers comprehensive Mandarin Chinese language learning, including classes taught in Chinese. These Eastern High School programs are unique in the Lansing Area.
 - The IB Program offers academic depth and breadth. IB Diploma students are 21% more likely to be admitted into 10 of the most prestigious universities.
 - The IB Diploma Program is internationally benchmarked, allowing graduates to continue their studies anywhere in the world.
 - IB encourages critical thinking; stressing analyzing, connecting, reflecting, synthesizing, assessing, questioning, and reasoning.
 - The IB Program includes high standards classes and a degree program for highly motivated students. IB classes have requirements and standards that are

considered by many universities to be more rigorous than Advanced Placement classes.

- Because of its high-quality academic programming Eastern High School draws many families and students from surrounding districts. **18 School of Choice students in 2014-2015 brought over \$135,000 in additional School Aid funds to the Lansing School District.**

Why is Lansing Eastern a “Priority School”?

The State Department of Education defines priority schools.

Within each tested subject, schools are held accountable for three aspects of performance:

- Achievement (50%)
- Improvement (25%)
- Achievement Gap between highest and lowest performing students (25%)
- Lansing Eastern students perform better on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) than Lansing School District averages for high schools in each of the tested subject areas, including math, reading, science, social studies and writing.
- Lansing Eastern students score higher on American College Test (ACT) exams than Lansing School District averages for High School students taking the test. Subjects tested in the ACT include math, reading social studies and science.
- **While Lansing Eastern is the overall highest achieving high school in the district, Eastern has not seen enough improvement in student scores to meet the state’s goals.**
- Eastern also does not meet state standards for eliminating the Achievement Gap, the gap between the highest and lowest performing students.
- Eastern is proud to serve a richly diverse body of students who come from widely varied backgrounds and speak about 25 different home languages. Oddly, schools where all of the students are performing badly or at mediocre levels would score better under state criteria than Eastern because there is a lower percentage gap between highest and lowest performing students.

Focus on School Reform and Student Success

In the spring of 2014, Eastern submitted an application and was awarded a School Improvement Grant (SIG) from the Michigan Department of Education. The grant provides \$1.7 million to Eastern for each of three years.

The SIG funds provide

- Additional support in core academic areas targeted to struggling students
- Professional development and high quality professional learning for staff.
- Extra testing time and support for English Language Learners
- Holistic support for students and families