

**Agendum  
Oakland University  
Board of Trustees Formal Session  
December 4, 2023**

**RENEWAL OF CHARTER FOR CANIFF LIBERTY ACADEMY**

**A Recommendation**

- 1. Division and Department:** Academic Affairs - Public School Academies, School of Education and Human Services.
- 2. Introduction:** In 2019, The Oakland University (“University”) Board of Trustees (“Board”) authorized the charter of Caniff Liberty Academy (“Academy”) as a public school academy under the Michigan Revised School Code, for a 5-year term expiring on June 30, 2024 (“Agreement”).

The Academy has submitted an application to the University to renew its charter, and the University’s Office of Public School Academies (“PSA Office”) supports the renewal. The PSA Office reviewed the application, and found it to be consistent with the Michigan Department of Education (“MDE”) requirements and the University’s educational mission. During the 5 year term of the Agreement, the Academy has established a strong academic program and maintained strong leadership and governance. The PSA Office recommends and seeks the Board’s approval to renew the Academy’s charter for a term of 5 years, through June 30, 2029.

If approved by the Board a new charter agreement will be prepared for the Academy that incorporates standardized MDE requirements. That agreement will be reviewed and approved by the Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel prior to execution, and will be in compliance with the law and University policies and regulations and conform to the legal standards and policies of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel. The University will be able to terminate that agreement upon any breach, the Academy’s failure to fulfill any of the statutory requirements applicable to public school academies, or without cause at the discretion of the University at the end of the Academy’s current academic school year.

- 3. Previous Board Action:** On October 5, 1995, the Board approved Oakland University’s Policy on Public School Academies and Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications. On March 12, 2012, the Board approved the Academy’s application. On May 2, 2007, the Board approved the amendment of the Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications. On August 6, 2012, the Board approved a second amendment of the Criteria for the Evaluation of Applications.

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4. **Budget Implications:** Oakland University receives three percent (3%) of the state school funding received by the Caniff Liberty Academy as an administrative fee for performing oversight.

5. **Educational Implications:** The philosophy of Caniff Liberty Academy is aligned with that of Oakland University's School of Education and Human Services ("School") and will be able to strengthen the mission of the School. Furthermore, Caniff Liberty Academy will educate a well rounded and high achieving student body which in turn may become future Oakland University students.

6. **Personnel Implications:** There are no personnel implications associated with this resolution.

7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** The Academy's request for renewal of its charter was reviewed and recommended by the PSA Office. The recommendation was approved by the Dean of the School of Education and Human Services and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

8. **Recommendation:**

WHEREAS, the University has received the Caniff Liberty Academy's application requesting that the Board renew its charter and authorize the Academy to continue as a public school academy; and

WHEREAS, the University has determined it is in the best interest of the University and the State of Michigan to continue to authorize the Academy as a public school academy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the application submitted by Caniff Liberty Academy meets the requirements of the Board and of applicable law; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board approves the Academy's application to renew its charter authorizing the Academy to continue as a public school academy; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the University administration shall negotiate and finalize an Agreement with the Academy in a form that incorporates the standardized requirements of the Michigan Department of Education and with such provisions as shall be required or authorized by the Michigan Revised School Code of 1976 as amended; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, that the term of the Agreement with the Academy shall expire no later than June 30, 2029; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreement shall be reviewed and approved by the Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel prior to execution, and shall be in compliance with the law and University policies and regulations and shall conform to the legal standards and policies of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the President, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and their respective designees, to perform all acts and deeds and to execute and deliver all contracts, instruments and documents that are necessary, expedient and proper in connection with the Academy and the ongoing administration of Oakland University's oversight function.

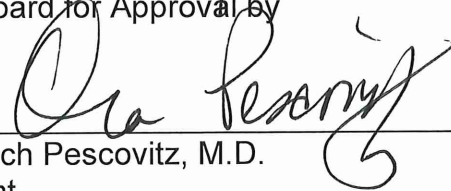
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President  
on 11/10/23, 2023 by



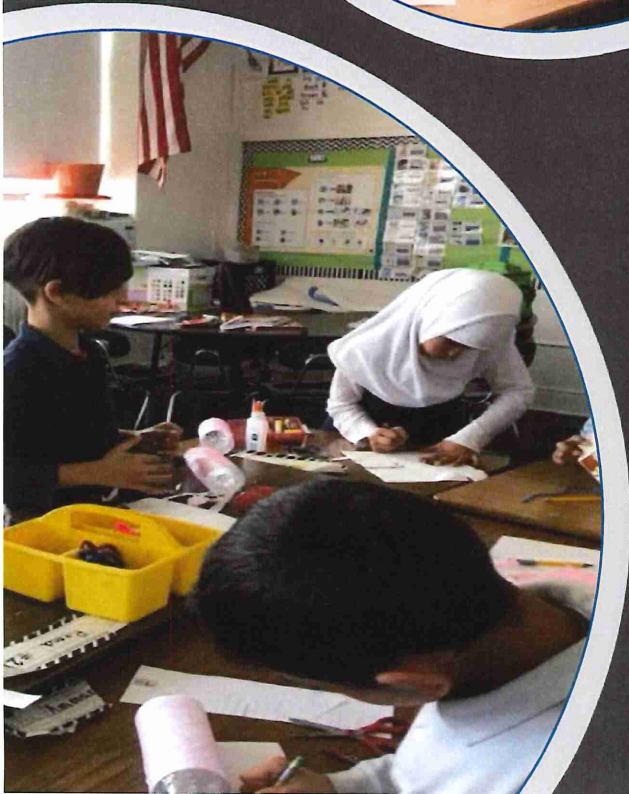
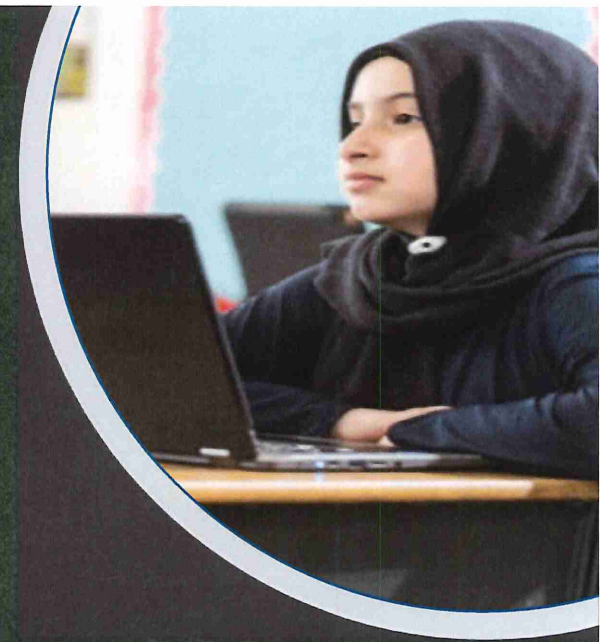
Britt Rios-Ellis, M.S., Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President for  
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 11/12, 2023  
to the Board for Approval by

  
Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.  
President

Reviewed by 

Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.  
Chief of Staff and  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees



Office of Public School Academies  
Contract Reauthorization  
Presentation

# Academy Reauthorization

- Caniff Liberty Academy is up for reauthorization in 2024
- BOT must approve reauthorization of the charter contract
- Recommendation is to renew for a five year term





## OU Charter History

- Charters at OU since 1995
- First Charter School – 1996
- Limited to Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties
- Today – Seven academies in Oakland and Wayne counties serving approximately 4500 students

# Reauthorization Process

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- Begins year before contract term expiration
- Academic, fiscal and organizational areas evaluated
- PSA Office makes recommendation to Provost's Office
- Recommendation is brought to BOT
- Contract development

# OU Authorized Charter Schools

## Contract Reauthorization

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### Caniff Liberty Academy

- Grades PK-8, located in Hamtramck
- Authorized since 2012 (*contract until 2024*)
- Enrollment: 542 (Pre-K: 16)

## Ongoing Contracts

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### Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences

- Grades PK-8, located in Detroit
- Authorized since 2003 (Previously with CMU)
- Enrollment: 1006 (Pre-K: 48)
- Contract - 2027

### Detroit Edison Public School Academy

- Grades PK-12, located in Detroit
- Authorized since 1998
- Enrollment: 1283 (Pre-K: 97)
- Contract - 2027

### Dove Academy of Detroit

- Grades PK-8, located in Detroit
- Authorized since 1997
- Enrollment: 452 (Pre-K: 32)
- Contract - 2027

### Four Corners Montessori Academy

- Grades PK-8, located in Madison Heights
- Authorized since 2009
- Enrollment: 271 (Pre-K: 14)
- Contract - 2028

### Universal Academy

- Grades PK-12, located in Detroit
- Authorized since 1998 (Previously with DPS)
- Enrollment: 684 (Pre-K: 32)
- Contract – 2028

### Weston Preparatory Academy

- Grades K-8, located in Detroit
- Authorized since 1998
- Enrollment: 251
- Contract - 2028



Economically Disadvantaged Students 2022-2023	
School	Percentage
<b>Caniff Liberty Academy</b>	100
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	98
Detroit Edison Public School Academy	71
Dove Academy of Detroit	92
Four Corners Montessori Academy	44
Universal Academy	99
Weston Preparatory Academy	96
OU Average	86
State Average	54

Special Education Students 2022-2023	
School	Percentage
<b>Caniff Liberty Academy</b>	3.0
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	7.0
Detroit Edison Public School Academy	4.0
Dove Academy of Detroit	9.0
Four Corners Montessori Academy	10.0
Universal Academy	6.0
Weston Preparatory Academy	15.0
OU Average	8.0
State Average	14.0

## Portfolio Overview



# MCCSA

Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers





## Demographics and Enrollment

Enrollment: 501

Pre-K Fall Enrollment: 16

Free and Reduced Lunch 2023: 100%

Special Education: 3%

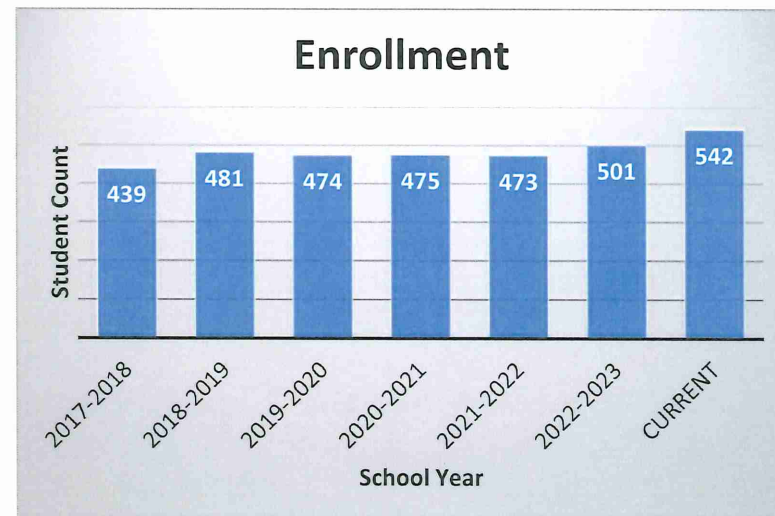
English Language Learners: 60%

African American: 13%

Asian: 35%

White: 52%

\* 2022-2023 mischooldata.org

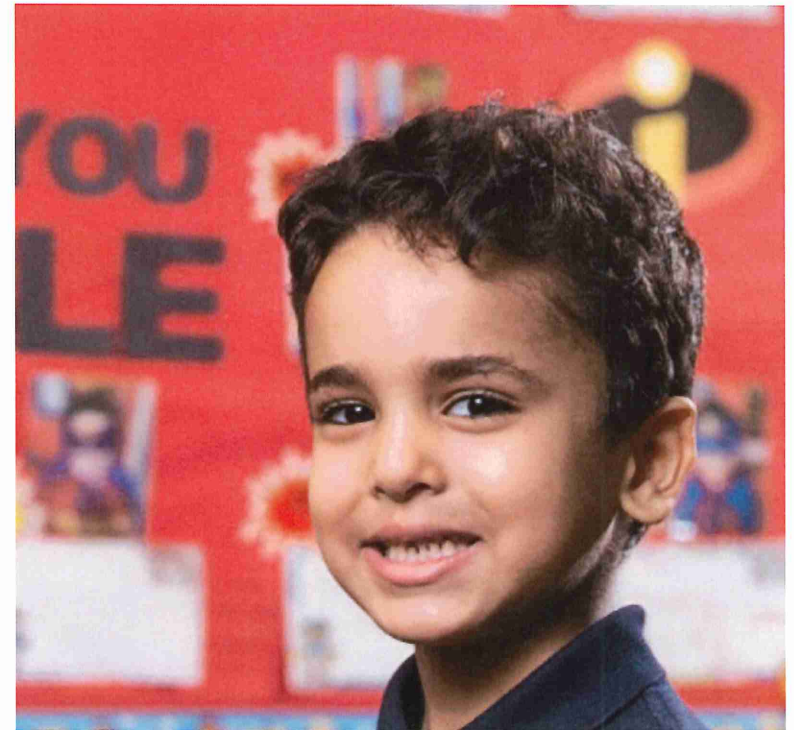


## More Demographics

**33** students new to United States

**80** students of Ukrainian ethnic origin

High percentages of students of Yemeni and Bengali ethnic origin



# Community Engagement



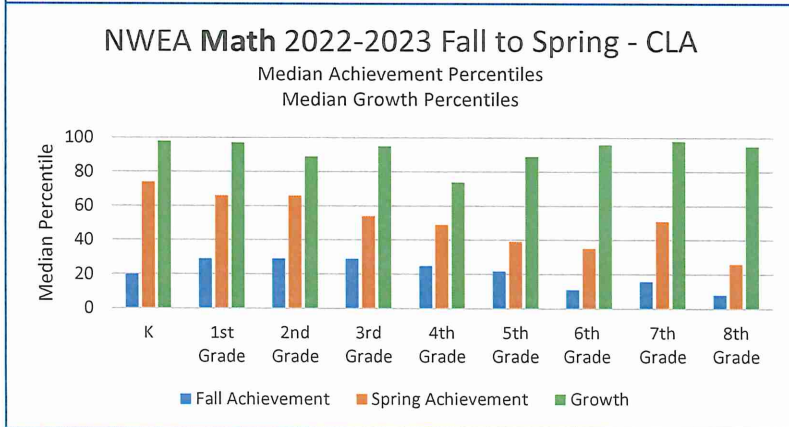
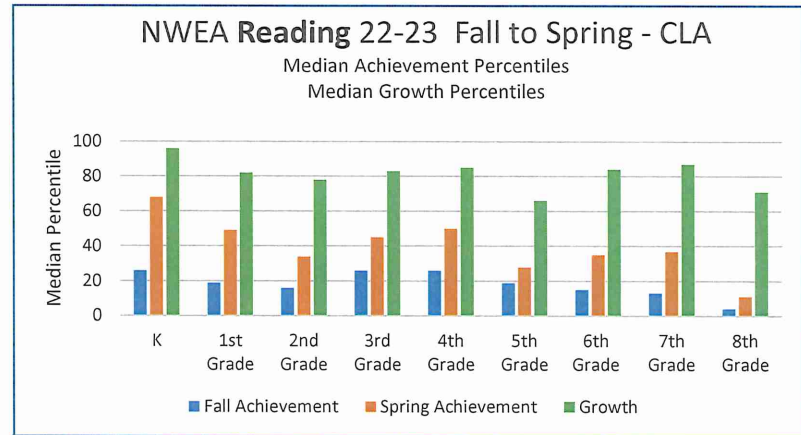
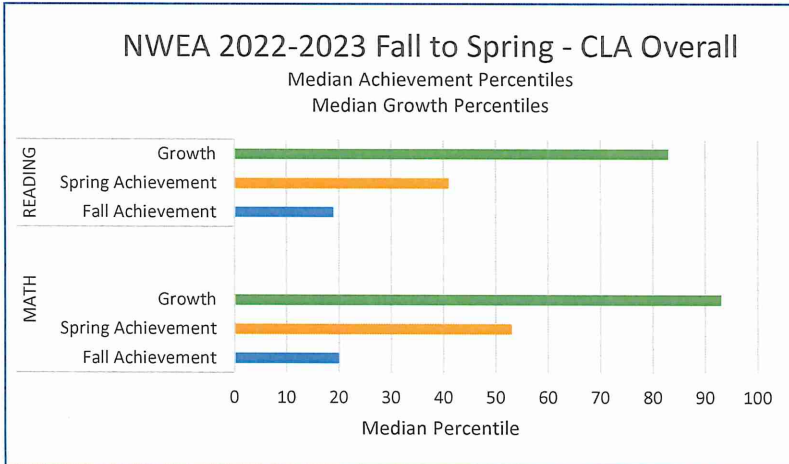
- Earth Day Activities- tree planting
- Community Food Drives
- Holiday Celebrations
- Community Dinners

# Highlights

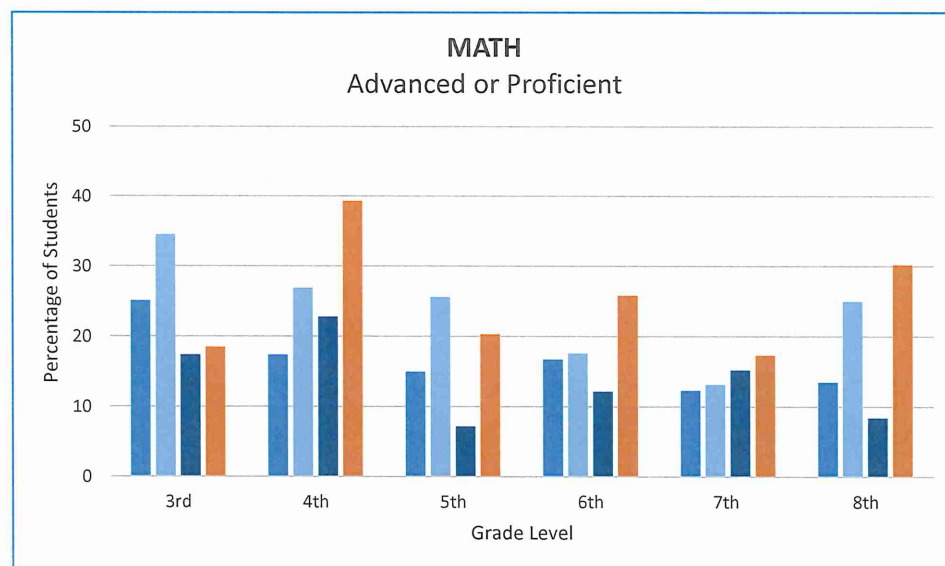
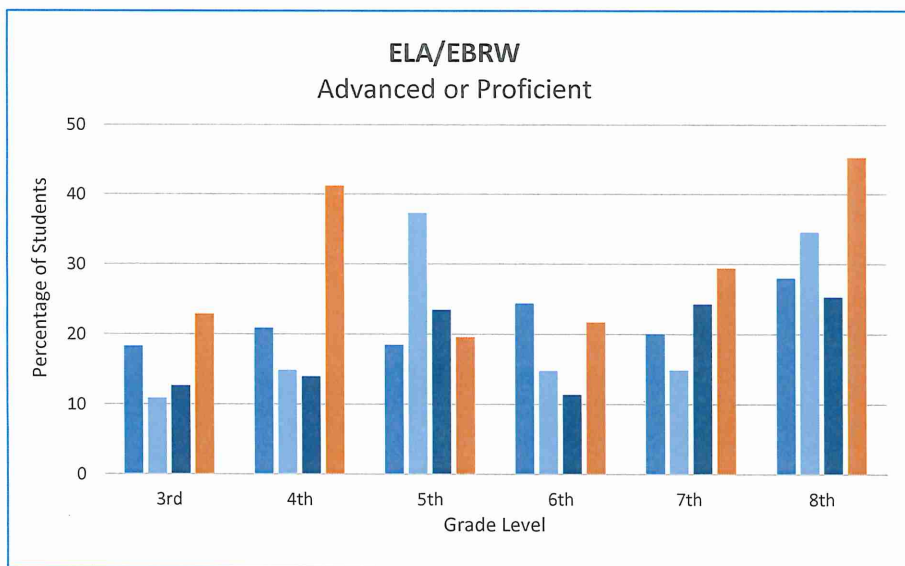
- Leader in Me
- Class VR
- Detroit PAL Soccer Champs
- VEX Robotics
- Chess Club



# Academics NWEA Benchmark Assessment



# Comparison Districts M-STEP & PSAT 2022-2023

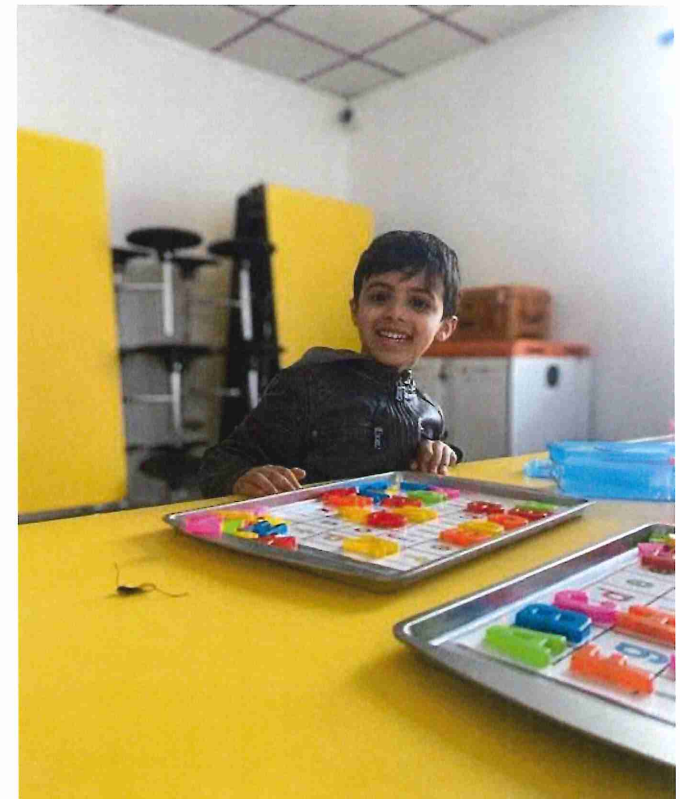


- Hamtramck District
- Oakland International Academy
- Davison Elementary-Middle School (DPSCD)
- Caniff Liberty Academy



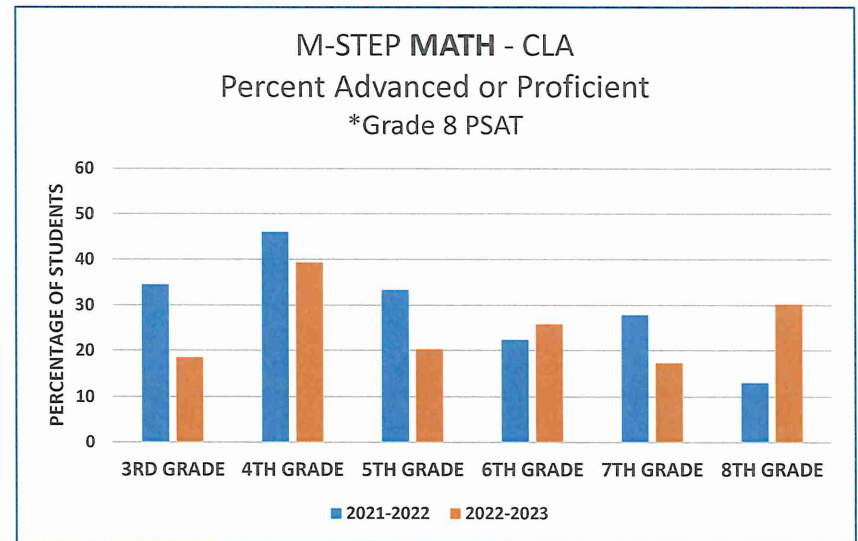
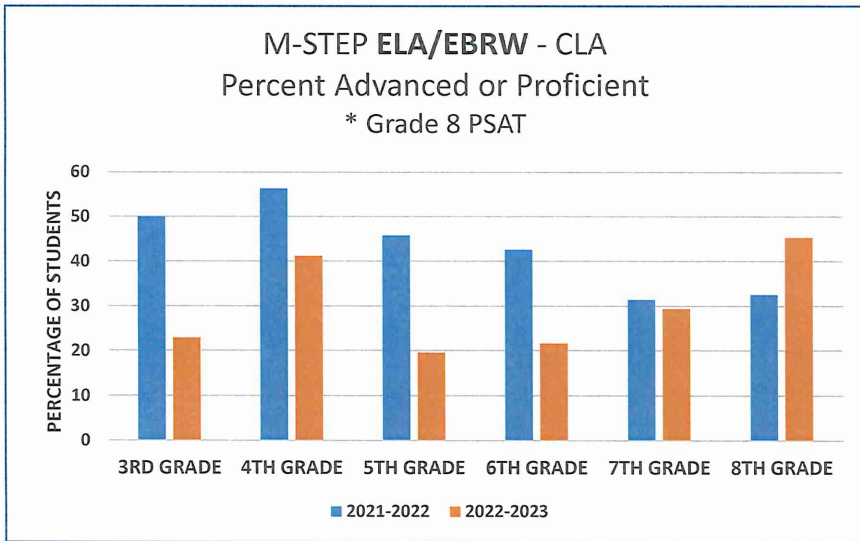
## Comparison Districts – EL Students 2021-2022

School	WIDA Performance (Percentage)	Student Growth (Mean Growth Percentile)	Length of Time in EL services (in years)
Caniff Liberty Academy	17.6	71.4	4
Hamtramck Public School District	5.1	55.7	5
Oakland International Academy	14.1	72.6	6
Davison-Elementary Middle School	8.5	57.4	6



# Academics M-STEP

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# MDE School Index – Overall

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**75.81**

(2021-22)

Component	Index Value	Percent Weight	Weighted Index
Summative Growth	86.95	37.78	32.85
Summative Proficiency	64.46	32.22	20.77
EL Progress	100.00	11.11	11.11
School Quality/Student Success	50.15	15.56	7.80
Assessment Participation	99.87	2.22	2.22
English Learner Participation	95.24	1.11	1.06
			<b>School Index: 75.81</b>

# MDE School Index - Growth

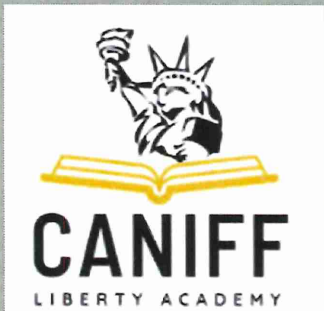
ELA Target 57.92  
 Math Target 50.70



**86.95**

(2021-22)

Student Group	ELA Growth % Target Met	Math Growth % Target Met	All Subjects Growth % Target Met
All Students	96.75	76.49	86.25
Asian***	90.07	77.50	--
Black or African American***	43.16	49.31	--
Bottom 30%** ***	19.18	0.00	--
Economically Disadvantaged	96.75	76.49	86.25
English Learners	88.95	78.90	83.44
White	100.00	84.00	91.85
			<b>Growth Index 86.95</b>



Caniff Liberty Academy's contract is slated for reauthorization in 2024

BOT must approve reauthorization of charter contracts

Recommendation is for the contract to be renewed for a five year term

# RECAP

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Contract Reauthorization

# Office of Public School Academies

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Executive Director



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Office Assistant II



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