

Lighthouse Academy

House Appropriations
Subcommittee on School Aid
April 10, 2019



Introductions

- **Students**
 - Isaac Ogg - Lighthouse Academy Main campus
- **Staff**
 - Heidi Cate – Superintendent
 - Leslie Cummings – Exec. Director of Business Office
 - Casey Kroll – Lighthouse Academy Main campus

What is Lighthouse Academy?

- **Lighthouse Academy is a strict discipline academy serving students who have been long-term suspended, expelled or court-placed.**
- **Lighthouse Academy serves students in seven locations, including the Wedgwood campus, the St. John's campus, the Eagle Village campus, Lighthouse North campus, the Waalkes Detention Center, the Kent County jail, and the Charlevoix County SHARP (Safe Haven Adolescent Recovery Program).**
- **Lighthouse serves over 1,200 students annually.**

Student Background – Isaac:

- What school did you attend before Lighthouse?
- When did you come to Lighthouse Academy?
- What is different about your time attending school at Lighthouse vs. your prior district?
- Key Highlights from your time with Lighthouse Academy
- Future Goals

Funding Request

- As a strict discipline academy, Lighthouse must provide a number of wrap around services to help our students make better choices so that they can complete their high school education.
- Section 25f funding was appropriated to assist with these additional costs.
- In the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years, the State of Michigan appropriated \$1,600,000 for Section 25f funding.

Funding Request

- **We are respectfully requesting that the legislators approve an appropriation of \$1.6 million to cover the actual expenses incurred by the strict discipline academies.**

Overview of Section 24

- The following slides are included for reference to show the inequitable distribution of the Section 24 funding and the reason why Section 25f funding was appropriated.

Section 24 Funding

Funding for Districts Operating Child Caring Institutions and Juvenile Detention

While the State of Michigan has appropriated \$7.15 million to Section 24 Funding, the actual distribution has been inequitable based on the number of students served.

| | Section 24 Costs/Blended Student Count | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2017-18 | 2016-17 | 2015-16 | 2014-15 |
| Lighthouse Academy | \$ 5,506 | \$ 5,657 | \$ 5,348 | \$ 5,546 |
| Blanche Kelso | \$ - | \$ 12,392 | \$ 20,542 | \$ 16,725 |
| Waterford | \$ 14,183 | \$ 13,384 | \$ 14,973 | \$ 13,182 |
| Mecosta-Osceola ISD | \$ 24,275 | \$ 14,845 | \$ 15,147 | \$ 12,722 |
| Calhoun | \$ 23,178 | \$ 15,273 | \$ 19,088 | \$ 16,106 |
| Ingham ISD | \$ 20,424 | \$ 15,304 | \$ 14,675 | \$ 16,897 |
| KVISD | \$ 20,429 | \$ 17,107 | \$ 17,840 | \$ 16,740 |

Public school academies are limited from including certain costs from the Section 24 eligible costs. As balanced budgets are required, this forces the PSA's to trim costs in other areas and not receive Section 24 payments.

| | Section 24 Payments | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2017-18 | 2016-17 | 2015-16 | 2014-15 |
| Lighthouse Academy | \$ 31,442 | \$ 22,309 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Ingham ISD | \$ 308,378 | \$ 236,141 | \$ 205,371 | \$ 321,831 |
| Mecosta-Osceola ISD | \$ 326,979 | \$ 374,277 | \$ 540,273 | \$ 444,611 |
| Blanche Kelso | \$ - | \$ 582,931 | \$ 938,238 | \$ 1,457,912 |
| KVISD | \$ 661,070 | \$ 705,189 | \$ 804,326 | \$ 750,779 |
| Calhoun | \$ 759,594 | \$ 857,984 | \$ 683,000 | \$ 824,320 |
| Waterford | \$ 949,756 | \$ 985,118 | \$ 1,203,047 | \$ 1,035,971 |

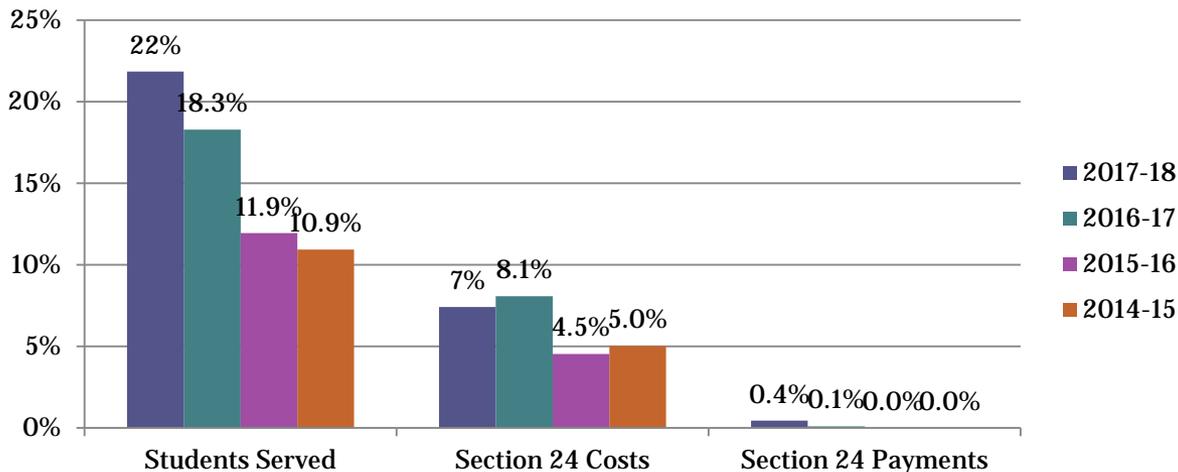
| | Section 24 Payment/Blended Student Count | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 2017-18 | 2016-17 | 2015-16 | 2014-15 |
| Lighthouse Academy | \$ 117 | \$ 93 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Calhoun | \$ 7,490 | \$ 5,273 | \$ 8,892 | \$ 8,910 |
| Waterford | \$ 6,051 | \$ 5,843 | \$ 7,551 | \$ 5,900 |
| Blanche Kelso | \$ - | \$ 7,184 | \$ 9,449 | \$ 9,508 |
| Mecosta-Osceola ISD | \$ 5,844 | \$ 7,334 | \$ 7,636 | \$ 5,596 |
| Ingham ISD | \$ 8,008 | \$ 7,386 | \$ 6,885 | \$ 9,291 |
| KVISD | \$ 11,645 | \$ 9,369 | \$ 9,904 | \$ 9,239 |

Section 24 Funding

In 2017-18, Lighthouse Academy served 22% of the students in child caring institutions and juvenile detention. While \$7.15 million of the Section 24 appropriation was distributed, Lighthouse received just .4% of the funds or \$31,442.



Lighthouse Statistics



If Lighthouse had received Section 24 payments in proportion to the students served, the Academy would have received \$1,562,943 in 2017-18.

Thank you for your time today.

