

Lighthouse Academy

Funding Presentation

March 9, 2020



Introductions

- Staff
 - Heidi Cate – Superintendent
 - Leslie Cummings – Exec. Director of Business Office

Impact of the Governor's Recommended Budget Reductions

- Lighthouse Academy Funding:
 - Section 23a funding for dropout recovery programs - \$430,000
 - Section 25e funding for services provided to students between count days - \$333,000
 - Section 25f funding for strict discipline academies - \$663,000
 - Section 25g funding provided for alternative schools that offer year round schedules – approximately \$100,000
 - **Total reductions - \$1,526,000**

Impact of the Governor's Recommended Budget Reductions

- Impact on Lighthouse's academic program if not restored:
 - Unable to pay for behavioral specialists in residential settings who also satisfy the legal student to adult ratios in the classrooms.
 - Further reduction in core staff by 8-10 full time employees (15% of current staff).
 - Partially eliminates supplemental services to bring students up to functional reading and math levels.
 - Impacts our ability to offer supplemental life and job skill opportunities for our students, including the implementation of CTE programs.

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 six locations, including the Wedgwood campus, the St. John's campus, the Eagle Village campus, Lighthouse North campus, the Waalkes Detention Center and the Kent County jail.
- Lighthouse served 1,195 students in the 18-19 school year.

Why is Lighthouse Academy Successful?

- Whole child approach:
 - Life skills
 - Social skills
 - Job skills
- Individualized learning plans
- Differentiated instruction is the norm
- Standards-based report card addresses transiency and credit accrual needs
- Integration with agency partners and other supports for student
- Year round (balanced calendar) school schedule

The Case for Lighthouse Academy

- Adequate funding for the resources needed to run a highly effective program for students who, if not educated, are at high risk to enter the prison pipeline as adults: “Pay less now or pay more later”
- Average cost per student served in all LA sites:
\$11-14,000
- Average cost to house a youth in detention:
\$70,000-100,000/year

\$88-89,000 annual cost savings



The Case for Lighthouse Academy

Cost saved if the number of Lighthouse Academy has had since opening in 2008 as a Strict Discipline Academy continued on a destructive path and were incarcerated instead of headed to college and/or career:

305 students x \$100,000* per year to place or incarcerate a youth = \$30,500,000 – (305 x \$7,871 per year of education) = \$28,099,345.

*Snead, T. (2014). What youth incarceration costs taxpayers. Retrieved from <https://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/data-mine/2014/12/09/what-youth-incarceration-costs-taxpayers#targetText=Locking%20up%20a%20juvenile%20costs,by%20the%20Justice%20Institute>.



Funding Request

- We are respectfully requesting the following:
 - Approve the section 23a and 25e funding that provides funding for the schools taking students after the count days
 - For the past three years, the State of Michigan appropriated \$1,600,000 for Section 25f funding. Approve the Section 25f funding for strict discipline academies at the same level as the prior years.
 - Approve the Section 25g funding provided for alternative schools that offer year round schedules.

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.

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.

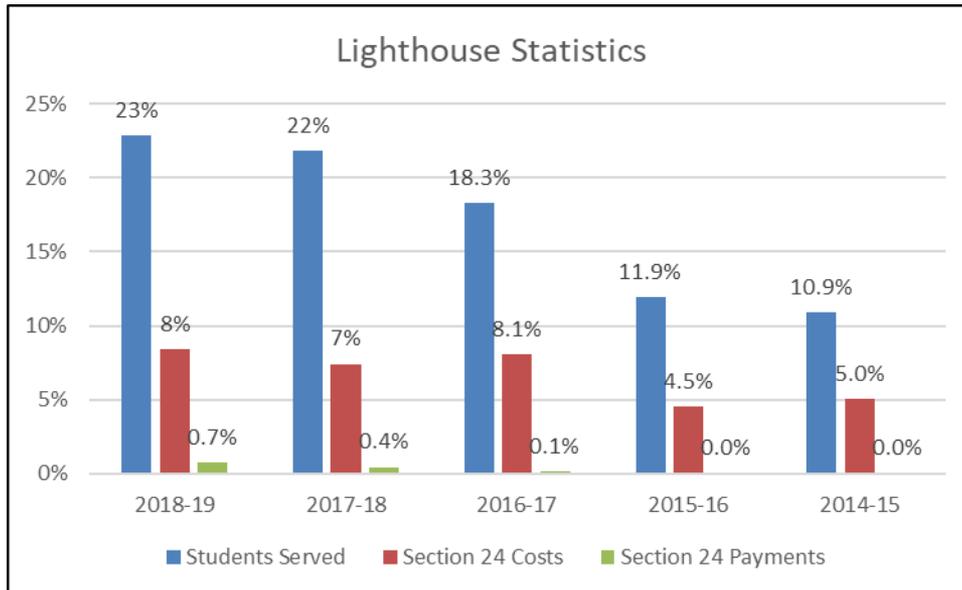
	Section 24 Payments				
	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Lighthouse Academy	\$ 52,382	\$ 31,442	\$ 22,309	\$ -	\$ -
Ingham ISD	\$ 327,843	\$ 308,378	\$ 236,141	\$ 205,371	\$ 321,831
Mecosta-Osceola ISD	\$ 367,859	\$ 326,979	\$ 374,277	\$ 540,273	\$ 444,611
Blanche Kelso	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 582,931	\$ 938,238	\$ 1,457,912
KVISD	\$ 853,539	\$ 661,070	\$ 705,189	\$ 804,326	\$ 750,779
Calhoun	\$ 284,513	\$ 759,594	\$ 857,984	\$ 683,000	\$ 824,320
Waterford	\$ 1,160,456	\$ 949,756	\$ 985,118	\$ 1,203,047	\$ 1,035,971

	Section 24 Costs/Blended Student Count				
	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Lighthouse Academy	\$ 6,345	\$ 5,506	\$ 5,657	\$ 5,348	\$ 5,546
Blanche Kelso	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,392	\$ 20,542	\$ 16,725
Waterford	\$ 16,513	\$ 14,183	\$ 13,384	\$ 14,973	\$ 13,182
Mecosta-Osceola ISD	\$ 29,119	\$ 24,275	\$ 14,845	\$ 15,147	\$ 12,722
Calhoun	\$ 21,318	\$ 23,178	\$ 15,273	\$ 19,088	\$ 16,106
Ingham ISD	\$ 23,695	\$ 20,424	\$ 15,304	\$ 14,675	\$ 16,897
KVISD	\$ 21,255	\$ 20,429	\$ 17,107	\$ 17,840	\$ 16,740

	Section 24 Payment/Blended Student Count				
	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Lighthouse Academy	\$ 213	\$ 117	\$ 93	\$ -	\$ -
Calhoun	\$ 12,799	\$ 7,490	\$ 5,273	\$ 8,892	\$ 8,910
Waterford	\$ 8,183	\$ 6,051	\$ 5,843	\$ 7,551	\$ 5,900
Blanche Kelso	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,184	\$ 9,449	\$ 9,508
Mecosta-Osceola ISD	\$ 7,622	\$ 5,844	\$ 7,334	\$ 7,636	\$ 5,596
Ingham ISD	\$ 8,938	\$ 8,008	\$ 7,386	\$ 6,885	\$ 9,291
KVISD	\$ 12,799	\$ 11,645	\$ 9,369	\$ 9,904	\$ 9,239

Section 24 Funding

In 2018-19, Lighthouse Academy served 23% of the students in child caring institutions and juvenile detention. While \$7.15 million of the Section 24 appropriation was distributed, Lighthouse received just .7% of the funds or \$52,382.



If Lighthouse had received Section 24 payments in proportion to the students served, the Academy would have received \$1,644,500 in 2018-19.

Thank you for your time today.

