School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter

Mr. John Denney-Principal

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2012-2013 educational progress for the Hanover-Horton Virtual School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact John Denney for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.hanoverhorton.org and select Annual Education Report under the *District* tab or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Our school has not been given one of these labels.

It is difficult to truly analyze student achievement data for our students. We just completed our second year and had many new students in the program this year. The turnover of students makes it nearly impossible to evaluate the effectiveness of this program. We are continually looking for new methods to assist our students in order to help them be more successful. Our goal is to increase the number of students returning to our program in order to gain a better picture of student achievement over time

State law requires that we also report additional information.

- 1. Students are able to attend Hanover-Horton Virtual School through the school of choice program.
- 2. Our School Improvement Plan (SIP) focuses on the areas of math, reading and writing. The ultimate goal is to have all of our students achieve proficiency on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).
- 3. Our students are offered an opportunity to participate in classes and/or receive services from other specialized schools. Those schools are:

Jackson Area Career Center: The Jackson Area Career Center provided vocational classes to one of our students for the 2012-2013 school year. JACC offers technical education in 28 programs, academic classes, and selected classes at the community college. An extensive support program is available for JACC students.

4. Anyone interested in the curriculum we offer to students may stop into the Office and request a copy of the Hanover-Horton Virtual School Curriculum Guide. This guide provides a brief synopsis of

- each class offered. Information related to the state standards is also available for your viewing or can be viewed on the Michigan Department of Education's website, www.michigan.gov/mde.
- 5. Each year, our 11th grade students are given the Michigan Merit Exam. During the 2012-2013 school year, we did not have enough students to produce a valid average to compare to the state average for scores.
- 6. We do not hold formal Parent/Teacher Conferences. This is in part due to the fact our students do not necessarily live in the local area. Within our program, parents and teachers communicate often through email and phone conversations.
- 7. Students at Hanover-Horton Virtual School have the opportunity to take college classes for both high school credit and college credit through a program call Dual Enrollment. During the 2012-2013 school year, we did not have any students take advantage of this opportunity.

The staff of Hanover-Horton Virtual School thanks you for your continued support of our efforts to provide your students with the best education possible. If you have a desire for additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

John T. Denney, Principal Hanover-Horton Virtual School