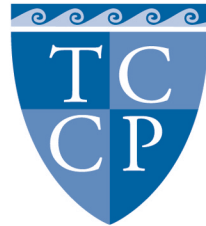


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Your  
child  
is our  
CUS



Traverse City  
College  
Preparatory

A C A D E M Y

2007-08 ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT



THE LEONA GROUP, L.L.C. • *A new kind of public school*® • Chartered by Bay Mills Community College

# Traverse City College Preparatory Academy

## 2007-08 Annual Education Report

### Current school information

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#### Contact information

1402 Carlisle Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
231.929.4539  
[www.leonagroup.com/trcprep](http://www.leonagroup.com/trcprep)

#### Year opened

2007

#### Grades

9-12

#### School leadership

Cameron B. Owens, *school leader*

#### Board of directors

Andrea Novarro, *president*  
Edwin Porter, *vice president*  
Donald Fedrigo, Jr., *treasurer*  
Sheri Wallace, *secretary*

Chartered by Bay Mills  
Community College

Dr. Patrick Shannon, *director*

Managed by

The Leona Group, L.L.C.

#### Mission

TCCPA will provide a safe, nurturing and structured environment, encouraging learning in preparation for success in a diverse, dynamic and global era, while promoting rigor, competence and leadership for the new millennium.

#### Local school district

Traverse City Public Schools

#### Intermediate school district

Traverse Bay Area ISD

#### Accreditation

The academy meets the state's standards for accreditation.

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#### On the cover

Grade 10 student Jamie Mendenhall.

At Traverse City College Preparatory Academy, our focus is on every student's individual needs. Every student deserves the opportunity to pursue his or her education in a nurturing, small-school environment where quality academics is a primary focus. The academy successfully completed its first year of operation, implementing a strong curriculum that provides a solid foundation for learning and the first steps toward a lifetime of success. Our students love the nurturing, one-on-one attention – and our families love the results!

### Highlights of the 2007-08 school year include:

- As cited in the Traverse City Record-Eagle, "A Class of Her Own," senior Ashley Hoffman was the first and only graduate in the class of 2008. A hallmark of the school year, Ashley expressed, "I feel like I'm getting special treatment," during her graduation ceremony on Monday, June 16, 2008, which epitomes the mission of the school.
- The Rotary Club publicly recognized Traverse City Prep students Kyle Bramer and Emily Lardie as Grand Traverse-area students of the week.
- Ms. Jill Beauchamp (English, language arts, leadership and drama instructor) facilitated three performing arts productions, creating a stage-like setting in the school's common area.
- Mr. and Mrs. James Ducharme directed Pangea Day, a world-wide event in cooperation with the Traverse City Film Festival and the State Theater in Traverse City. The event drew nearly 500 people.
- The first-annual Traverse City Prep Academic Awards Assembly highlighted the best of the best. A select few students were honored in front of the entire Traverse City Prep learning community for hard work, commitment and dedication during the school year.

### Enrollment process

- As a free public school, Traverse City College Preparatory Academy adheres to all requirements outlined by its charter authorizer and federal and state law regarding enrollments.
- Current students are given the opportunity to re-enroll in late winter, with preference given to them and their siblings.
- The school holds an advertised open enrollment period in the spring, during which any Michigan resident may apply.
- In the event that any grade is over-subscribed, a public lottery is held to determine enrollment and a waiting list.
- The academy does not charge tuition nor discriminate in admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, religion, creed, race, sex, color or national origin.
- The academy identifies, evaluates and services all children in the school who may have disabilities. For more information regarding assistance for students with disabilities or if you suspect your child may have a disability, please contact the school leader.



## School Snap Shots



Physics and chemistry teacher Mr. James Ducharme and grade 11 student Daniel Arman review the Periodic Table of Elements.



Students Paddraic Lord and Kaitlyn Shaffer implement a communication rubric with Mrs. Jill Beauchamp, English language arts and team leadership instructor.



Mr. Michael Rutledge, history teacher, explains architecture design in World History class to students Krissa Gibbs, Katrina Shonk, Geoffrey Wallace, Walter Hoover and Seth VanDyken.



Mr. Michael Rutledge critiques a class project for elective Military History as students Ben VanDyken, Jacob Shonk, Walter Hoover and Samantha Walton look on.

## School safety

The safety of students, families, staff and visitors at Traverse City College Preparatory Academy is paramount. The school has instituted a comprehensive and proactive school safety and emergency management program that was thoroughly communicated to staff, students and parents/guardians. This program includes, but is not limited to:

- Student code of conduct
- Emergency action plan
- School behavior and school safety policies and procedures

The school adhered to all state and federal laws regarding safety and safety drills and holds a current certificate of occupancy for school use. Additional 2007-08 safety initiatives included:

- Mr. Kile Charnes, teacher, has been trained in Crisis Intervention Prevention Training (CPI) on responding to crisis situations and maintaining a safe and orderly school environment. Charnes has begun to train the entire Traverse City Prep staff.

## Professional development

- All teachers are certified and all teachers and classroom assistants are highly qualified per Michigan and federal standards.
- The school's management company, The Leona Group, offered extensive professional development to curriculum coaches, school leaders and faculty through its company-wide Quality Schools Initiative. Topics included: Using Data for School Improvement, Deb Wahlstrom; unpacking the standards; special education law; training on the new school improvement initiatives from the state template; Response to Intervention (RTI), brain-based best practices for comprehension, writing workshops; Positive Behavior Support (PBS); High School Summit; formative and summative assessment; Universal Design for Learning (UDL); rigor and relevance; improving the relationship gap between staff and students; technology; keeping schools safe; professional learning communities and perception surveys.
- Also as part of the Quality Schools Initiative, extensive school and teacher observations are conducted to assess each school's individual professional development needs.
- All staff completed professional development in specific areas of individual need. On average, staff received 65 hours of professional development during the 2007-08 school year. All staff garnered four major areas of training as to meet both the school's mission and up-to-date research based best practices. They were:
  - School Improvement Plan Leadership
  - School Improvement Plan Completion
  - Rigor, Relevance and Relation
  - TLG High School Summit

## A quality education

At Traverse City College Preparatory Academy, students benefit from rigorous college preparation and leadership education. The school focused on a challenging college preparatory curriculum integrating characteristics and examples of leadership. An innovative and proven curriculum, challenging educational program and a rich variety of extra-curricular activities that combine to develop, nurture and produce nascent leaders for the community, state and country.

For its academic component, the academy featured the MKJ Educational Consulting Curriculum Framework developed by Dr. Ellen Vorenkamp. This curriculum provides a rigorous educational framework in language arts, math, science and social studies, as well as numerous elective classes. It is mapped and aligned to state standards. The academy is in full compliance with the newly developed, state-approved high school graduation requirements; course requirements are consistent with the new Michigan Merit Curriculum Guidelines and include two leadership credits as well as up to 10 elective credits. A course selection guide is available to students each semester, providing up-to-date course descriptions.

100% of core academic subjects and secondary school classes were taught by highly qualified teachers.

## Extracurricular activities

A well-rounded learning experience was provided to students at Traverse City College Preparatory Academy. In addition to its academically challenging and balanced curriculum, the academy offered extracurricular activities, events and sports throughout the year. Among them:

- Boys and girls cross country
- Volleyball
- Boys and girls basketball
- Boys hockey
- Skiing
- Track
- Drama

## School improvement planning

The school improvement plan is a living, breathing document that guides academy staff in developing strategies to improve instruction, learning and performance on standardized tests. The academy's first school improvement plan was developed throughout the school year by the school improvement team, which met weekly to assess progress based on standards and objectives set forth by the state of Michigan and those outlined in the academy's charter contract. The plan is reviewed on an ongoing basis along with continuous review of the curriculum. Faculty and staff members were encouraged to submit feedback to the school improvement team for formal discussion.

### School improvement team:

- School leader
- Board member
- Parent
- Teachers
- Support staff

## School Report Card

Education Yes! Grade	Adequate Yearly Progress Status	School Phase 2007-08
No grade	--	--

*A school report card is not generated until a school's second year of operation.*

## Parent involvement

Traverse City College Preparatory Academy values parent participation as an essential component of the education experience and encourages participation at many levels. Through the Parent Leader Group, headed by Mrs. Sheri Wallace, parents met bi-weekly during the school year to discuss current concerns, problems and solutions to all facets of the school's mission. Parents have been very involved in both daily operational issues as well as long-range development of the school. From barbecues to graduation ceremonies, Traverse City Prep parents advocate and support the vision of the school to become the premiere choice for college preparation in the Traverse City area.

## By the numbers

**Enrollment** ..... 50

**Returning students** ..... N/A

**Waiting list** ..... None

**Free & reduced lunch** ..... 27%

### Students with disabilities

9% of student population, served within an inclusive environment

### Student demographics

Caucasian ..... 100%

Male ..... 60%

Female ..... 40%

**Student-teacher ratio** ..... 9:1

**Hours of instruction** ..... 1134

**Graduation rate** ..... 100%

**Students in dual enrollment** .None

**College-equivalent courses** ...None

### Students enrolled

**in these courses** ..... None

### Students who took

**college equivalency exams** ...None

### Students who received

**college credit from**

**the exams** ..... None

**School administrators** ..... 1

### Teaching staff

6, with 100% highly qualified, which is defined by No Child Left Behind Act as being certified and teaching in their area of college study or successful completion of a state test

### Classroom assistants

1, with 100% highly qualified, which is defined by No Child Left Behind Act as having at least two years of higher education or successful completion of a state test

### Support staff

5, including office staff, custodian, food service, substitute teachers and additional services contracted as needed

Parents can request information on the professional qualifications and certifications of their children's teachers from the school office.

### Parent-teacher

**conference attendance** ..... 50%

## Parent survey results

**Respondents:** 10, representing 20% of the student body

<b>Overall, I rate this academy as a good school</b> .....	100%
<b>My child is getting a good education at this academy</b> .....	100%
<b>My child is safe and secure at this academy</b> .....	100%

## Parent comments

"A higher level of education can be obtained with the teaching style and methods used here than with any other public school in the area."

"This is a school that offers everything a student could want, including love and concern for the students. They work hard to get my child over any hurdles she can't scale alone and they truly understand her, both her emotional and shy sides. I am so grateful you are here."

"I feel the leader and staff care. When was the last honest time we could say this of our children's teachers, school leader and fellow parents?"

## Community involvement

Quality partnerships with local businesses and community organizations connect the academy with the Traverse City community and broaden experiences for its students. As an aspect of the school's mission and leadership theme, there is a desire to have strong collaboration and partnerships within the community. In its first year of operation, the school has created nascent foundations with many organizations in the community.

- Northwestern Michigan College
- Old Town Playhouse
- Traverse City Chamber of Commerce
- Kiwanis Club
- Traverse City Record-Eagle
- Munson Medical Center
- Traverse City Beach Bums baseball team
- Meals on Wheels
- TC Downtown Development Authority
- The University Center
- Centre ICE
- Rotary of Traverse City
- Emmanuel Baptist Church
- National Cherry Festival
- Traverse City Film Festival
- American Red Cross
- The Father Fred Foundation

## Assessment information

Traverse City College Preparatory Academy began its first year of operation in September 2007. Students participated in both the fall 2007 MEAP and spring 2008 MME assessments.

For federal reporting purposes under the No Child Left Behind Act, students were considered to be "Less Than A Full Academic Year" status. This particular status under the No Child Left Behind Act, precludes the reporting of results for such students until they complete a Full Academic Year of Instruction. In simple terms, if the student did not participate in a Full Academic Year and was not in the school long enough to receive the school's complete curriculum for the period being tested, their results are not reportable.

Additionally, there were less than 30 students who participated in MEAP and MME tests. In this case, because this number falls below the minimum number of students required to report to begin with, test scores are not reported. This applies to the state accreditation process known as ED Yes! Public Law 25 in Michigan requires two years of comparative data to be reported. Since TCCPA has been in operation for one year, two years of reporting is not available.

Furthermore, because of the small numbers tested, particularly in the area of sub-groups as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act and Michigan privacy policies, reporting is not possible. In the case of small numbers, the state of Michigan averages the results over three years of testing. As the Traverse City College Preparatory Academy student population grows above 30 in grades 9 and 11, future annual reporting will be made in accordance with both state and federal laws.

## Financial report

A statement of revenues and expenses for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 was not yet available at the time of this report. The auditor's report is being conducted at this time.

### Revenues

School foundation .....	\$356,670
Food services .....	10,258
Grants-federal .....	0
Grants-state .....	110
Other .....	790,830
<b>Total revenues</b> .....	<b>\$1,157,868</b>

### Expenses

Salaries and fringe benefits .....	\$473,984
Purchased services .....	487,754
Materials and supplies .....	114,333
Other .....	6,995
<b>Total expenses</b> .....	<b>\$1,083,066</b>

### Retained earnings

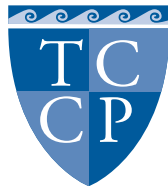
<b>at beginning of year</b> .....	<b>\$0</b>
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### Balance as of

<b>June 30, 2008</b> .....	<b>\$74,802</b>
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Traverse City  
College  
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A C A D E M Y

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