



**2019-2020**

**Sponsor Annual School Performance Report**

**Tomorrow Center**

Prepared by: Jim Smith, Sponsor Liaison

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center

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Phone: 419-774-5520



## **Tomorrow Center**

**School Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center**

### **2019-2020 Sponsor Annual Report**

#### **Description of the School**

The Tomorrow Center is a trauma-sensitive school. The Tomorrow Center offers students an environment that is understanding of traumatic events that students have experienced by providing staff support who have been trained in and who understand the trauma-informed practice.

The staff at the Tomorrow Center includes licensed teachers, a community civic engagement coordinator who is a licensed social worker, intervention specialists, Title I reading instructor, a success coach, an office manager, and teacher aides.

The Tomorrow Center recognizes the importance of family in helping students graduate. Parents Club meets monthly and these meetings are designed to promote academics and build trust with families. At the annual Open House, a community fair is held that aligns parents with 50 different community agencies. The Tomorrow Center also recognizes the importance of community partnerships and has had a community liaison for the past decade who will host quarterly community advisory committee meetings comprised of influential members of the community and business leaders who help create and sustain programming and provide needed resources for students and their families. When schools, parents, families, and communities work together to support learning, students earn higher grades, attend school more regularly, stay in school longer, and enroll in higher level programs

#### **Vision Statement**

The Tomorrow Center prepares individualized career and pathways plans that meet the academic, emotional, and social needs of students and prepares them for a successful transition to a better tomorrow.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Tomorrow Center responds to each student's individual needs and prepares academic and career pathways to ensure every student has a strong academic and social foundation for their post-secondary plans.

Please consider this letter the fulfillment of the requirement of sponsors for community schools to submit the Sponsor Annual Report for the 2019-2020 school year.

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center provides oversight to the Tomorrow Center as its sponsor.

Mid-Ohio ESC has completed file reviews of the school operations and school compliance relating to statutory and contractual requirements, including the continual updating of information through Epicenter. A representative of Mid-Ohio ESC attends the Tomorrow Center Governing Board of Directors meetings to disseminate helpful information and to provide technical assistance, as needed.

### **Tomorrow Center (IRN-148981)**

Mid-Ohio ESC has indicated below whether or not the Tomorrow Center exceeds, meets, or did not meet the expected performance in the areas of Academic Performance, Fiscal Performance, and Organization and Operation. In the area of Legal Compliance, Mid-Ohio ESC is required to provide a rating of meets or did not meet.

Mid-Ohio ESC rates the Tomorrow Center in these areas as follows:

#### ***1. Academic Performance – Not Rated***

As an Ohio community school sponsor, Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center has a duty to monitor and provide oversight and technical assistance to all sponsored schools, which includes an assessment of each sponsored school's academic performance on an annual basis. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohio ordered the closure of all schools, effective March 17, 2020, and canceled all in-person academic assessments and the release of report card ratings for the 2019-2020 school year. Largely because of the state-ordered closure and lack of academic data, Mid-Ohio ESC is unable to fully complete its assessment of the academic performance of its sponsored schools for the 2019-2020 school year.

Tomorrow Center is a Dropout Prevention and Recovery Community School. One of the measures or components reported on the 2019-2020 state report card that was not completely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic was the graduation rate. While a rating (Exceeds Standards, Meets Standards, Does Not Meet Standards) was not given for the overall graduation rate, nor the 4-year through 8-year or combined rates, the **Graduation Rate** component did look at the percent of students who are successfully finishing high school with a diploma in four, five, six, seven, or eight years.

When comparing the Tomorrow Center to all other Dropout Prevention and Recovery Programs in Ohio, the Tomorrow Center's combined graduation rate (weighted average of 4- through 8-year graduation rates) of 58.5% is better than the combined graduation rate of all Dropout Prevention and Recovery Programs, which is 33.5%. The Tomorrow

Center's 2019-2020 combined average graduation rate of 58.5% is an increase from the previous year's combined average graduation rate of 52.8%.

<u>Tomorrow Center's Graduation Rates</u>	<u>All DOPR Program Graduation Rates</u>
4-Year – 54.8%	29.8%
5-Year – 52.6%	35.2%
6-Year – 76.5%	34.7%
7-Year – 64.3%	33.3%
8-Year – 50.0%	34.6%

## 2. *Fiscal Performance – Meets*

The fiscal office of the Mid-Ohio ESC prides itself on being a critical component of the organization in support of the ESC's mission: "to lead education through collaboration, customization and creativity." High standards of performance are set on all services provided by Mid-Ohio ESC.

Fiscal performance is measured by solid work practices, accurate and timely financial reporting, sound internal controls and accountability. As a sponsor of the Tomorrow Center, Mid-Ohio ESC expects this same level of excellence in financial reporting and compliance from the school.

For the 2019-2020 school year, the Tomorrow Center met performance level for fiscal performance as follows:

**Tomorrow Center's Governing Board approved financial reports** – The Tomorrow Center's Governing Board of Directors approve all monthly financial reports.

- a. At each official meeting of the Board, the Tomorrow Center's treasurer provides current financial statements (budget vs. actual), a detailed check payment report and an updated 5-year forecast (when appropriate) for approval. All financial reports presented for the 2019-2020 year were unanimously approved.

### **Financial Performance for the 2019-2020 school year**

- b. Revenue
  - Anticipated: \$1,226,745
  - Actual: \$1,113,519
    - Variance: 10%
- c. Expenditures
  - Anticipated: \$1,148,500
  - Actual: \$1,107,561
    - Variance: 3.5%
- d. Liquidity/Ending Cash Balance:
  - June 30, 2020 = \$360,250

- Equivalent to 60 days of operation, meeting the state’s standard of acceptable reserve of 60 to 90 days.

**Auditor of State audits** – Tomorrow Center has a history of receiving excellent audit reports, which illustrates strong evidence of sound internal controls and accountability. An unqualified opinion was issued for 2018-2019, including no citations or findings for recovery. Tomorrow Center has a biennial State Audit schedule.

**Financial Oversight and Review** – A critical component of the Tomorrow Center’s financial stability and success can be attributed to its strong leadership. Their knowledge and understanding of community school law and finance is thorough and current.

### ***3. Organization and Operation – Meets***

Tomorrow Center is a Dropout Prevention and Recovery Community School. As such, the Tomorrow Center works with local and regional districts to enroll students who are behind normal matriculation and academic progress and who are considering leaving their home school district. Tomorrow Center’s priority is to support each student with an educational plan designed to allow them to progress toward their educational goals and potential re-enrollment in their home school district. Thus, there is significant movement of students who enroll and leave the program to return to their home school district or to other educational settings.

Tomorrow Center in partnership with the sponsor follows the community school contract and “Meets” compliance in all areas. Tomorrow Center’s Governing Board of Directors have attended the Auditor of State training on Sunshine Laws, have completed paperwork for disclosure of conflicts of interest, and all have been fingerprinted. The Code of Regulations is followed in detail by the Governing Board of Directors for the Tomorrow Center.

### ***4. Legal Compliance – Meets***

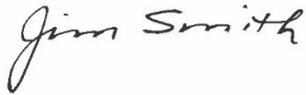
The Governing Board of Directors for the Tomorrow Center meets regularly in oversight of the policies and procedures as implemented through the delivery of the educational services to students. The Board employs a treasurer who is knowledgeable of community school rules and responsibilities and provides appropriate reports to the Board for analysis and review. The Board also employs a school director who has expertise in the community school rules and regulations and monitors the delivery of service of the educational plan. As laws are enacted, the Tomorrow Center and Mid-Ohio ESC monitor and implement all legal changes.

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center’s Sponsorship Contract with the Tomorrow Center that expired on June 30, 2020, was renewed by both the Mid-Ohio ESC and the Tomorrow Center’s Governing Board of Directors during the 2019-2020 school year. The current Sponsorship Contract with the Tomorrow Center is in effect from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2024.

Adjustments to the contract for the Tomorrow Center will be made to reflect any major compliance changes that are enacted by the Board or to reflect any changes in law and rules in the state of Ohio that pertain to Community Schools.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this report, please contact me at 419-774-5520, ext. 2600.

Sincerely,



Jim Smith, Sponsor Liaison  
Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center  
890 West Fourth Street  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906

cc: Kevin Kimmel, Superintendent, Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center  
cc: Jamie Byrne, School Director, Tomorrow Center and Administrative Team  
cc: Tomorrow Center's Governing Board of Directors



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