



**2020-2021**

**Sponsor Annual School Performance Report**

**for**

**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**

### **2020-2021 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 2020-2021 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 meetings to disseminate helpful information and to provide technical assistance, as needed.

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

Mid-Ohio ESC has indicated below whether 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 – Meets***

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, the annual Ohio Department of Education's state report card for the 2020-2021 school year did not have grades or ratings per Ohio law. Largely because of the lack of academic data, Mid-Ohio ESC is using the Tomorrow Center's mission goals and the academic data that was available from the state report card to determine the last year's Academic Performance rating (with limited academic data, it is difficult to provide a rating higher than a Meets Standards).

The following mission goals are included in the Performance Framework for the Tomorrow Center (students are surveyed to obtain results):

- Students develop good work habits such as being responsible, on time, and disciplined
- Students develop values of hard work, honesty, and tolerance of others
- Students use technology to find, organize, and present information
- Students establish both personal and career goals and
- Would you recommend your school to others?

In each of the five mission goals, the Tomorrow Center received an Exceeds Standards based on the criteria that 50% or more of the students "agree" or "strongly agree" with

each statement (four categories available: Exceeds Standards, Meets Standards, Approaching Standards, or Falls Far Below Standards).

The Tomorrow Center is a Dropout Prevention and Recovery Community School. One of the measures or components reported on the 2020-2021 state report card that was not completely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic was the graduation rate. The **Graduation Rate** component looks at the percent of students who are successfully finishing high school with a diploma in four, five, six, seven, or eight years. 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 66.7% is better than the combined graduation rate of all Dropout Prevention and Recovery Schools, which is 39.1%. The Tomorrow Center’s 2020-2021 combined average graduation rate of 66.7% is an increase from the previous year’s combined average graduation rate of 58.5%.

<u>Tomorrow Center’s Graduation Rates</u>	<u>All DOPR Program Graduation Rates</u>
4-Year – 74.1%	37.8%
5-Year – 63.4%	39.7%
6-Year – 57.1%	40.6%
7-Year – 76.5%	40.0%
8-Year – 64.3%	37.2%

## 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 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 year were unanimously approved.

### **Financial Performance for the 2020-2021 school year**

- b. Revenue
  - Anticipated: \$816,981
  - Actual: \$934,231
    - Variance: 14%
  
- c. Expenditures
  - Anticipated: \$980,800
  - Actual: \$848,247
    - Variance: 13%
  
- d. Liquidity/Ending Cash Balance:
  - June 30, 2021 = \$446,234
  - Equivalent to 180 days of operation, exceeding 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. The audit report for the 2020-2021 school year is not available yet.

**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.

The Tomorrow Center’s priority is to support students 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. In 2020-2021, 39.3% of students, who, because they moved into or out of the district, did not spend a majority of the year within the district.

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.

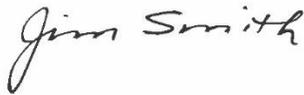
#### **4. Legal Compliance – Meets**

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 has expertise 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 is knowledgeable 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 current Sponsorship Contract with the Tomorrow Center is in effect from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2024. Throughout the term of the contract, adjustments/modifications 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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COLLABORATION, CUSTOMIZATION AND CREATIVITY**

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