

Zenith Academy

The Future of Our Children

Community School Annual Report

2020-2021

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SYNOPSIS

Zenith Academy started operation on April 1st 2005 with 35 students in Kindergarten. The enrollment has steadily grown from 220 in October 2006 to 539 by June 2021. The school has currently 477 students from KG to 12th grade. The floor space was expanded from 30,000 sq. ft. to 80,000 sq. ft to accommodate extra classrooms, computer labs, a library and a teacher's lounge. Zenith was originally sponsored by Lucas County Educational Services. ERCO (Educational Resources of Central Ohio) is the current sponsor and has been since April 2006. Zenith Academy was rated as 'Excellent' in FY12. The Progress Component for FY20 is currently not available.

Educational Resource Consultants of Ohio, Inc., (ERCO) sponsor of the school, is legally mandated to provide oversight, monitoring and technical assistance. All community school sponsors are required to submit a written report of the evaluation results of the school's academic, financial, and organizational performance as well as the school's legal compliance to the Ohio Department of Education. This report must be made available to parents of students enrolled in the community school by November 30th of each year (OAC3301-102-05 (A) (3)). An annual report regarding the performance of this school and other schools under the sponsorship of ERCO will be posted on our website www.ercoinc.org no later than November 30th of the current school year. Parents are urged to review this report, as well as other monitoring and evaluation reports concerning the school. These reports are available at the school, or the sponsor's office. The reports are generated to provide you with a full comprehensive understanding of the school's performance.

Zenith Curriculum and Goals

Curriculum

Zenith Academy uses Houghton Mifflin's 'Journeys' curriculum and McGraw Hill's 'MyMath' curriculum for ELA and Math respectively. Both are aligned to the Common Core Standards (CCS). The CCS serves as the curriculum for all other subject areas. Zenith focuses on promoting our LEP students to grade level performance. In this regard, the curriculum is supplemented by online training modules for use by students including but not limited to Learning A-Z. Zenith also has a Foreign Language Instruction component. In regards to character building, Zenith trains its staff on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This model encourages students to self-regulate. It also promotes positive reinforcement for their peers. Besides the core academic subjects, Zenith offers Art, Physical Education, Health, and Library/Media classes. All of these are taught by highly qualified teachers licensed by ODE.

Goals

Based upon the yearly Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) percentile improvement rate (required for gap closure in ELA and math as identified by the Ohio Department of Education for each measurable subgroup), Zenith will meet or exceed the specified percentage goal target for each subgroup as well as the all student group and meet or exceed the 93.0% participation rate for those required to test resulting in a grade of C or better on the Gap Closing Component of District Report Card.

By June 2021, 90% of all students (including those in identified subgroups) in grades K-12 will utilize appropriate classroom and hallway behaviors that increase time on task and contribute to a positive learning environment as measured by decreased office referrals, suspension, and expulsions as compared to August 2020.

Our goals are to graduate students who are successful lifelong learners and responsible citizens of their school, community, neighborhoods, and world.

Our school goals are continually striving for excellence. State assessment data indicate that our students at least 1 years' worth of growth per academic year.

Instructional Strategies

Zenith Instructional Strategies are largely based on assessment data. Monthly, standards aligned assessments, are incorporated into schoolwide instructional planning. This promotes rigorous instructional practices, which in turn supports student high standards for growth and achievement. This ensures that all Zenith Students are learning.

Based upon the assessment data, teachers determine student’s needs and determine appropriate instructional strategies. Some of these strategies include: hands on activities, representative manipulatives, read-alouds, choral reading, pictorial learning, alternative assessments, small group instruction, word to picture correspondence, and real life perspectives.

Classroom Management

Zenith Classroom Management is developed by the classroom teachers through positive based instructional supports. A teacher-led committee designs and oversees the implementation of district-wise strategies. Our goal is to apply the same expectations in and outside of the classroom environment.

Staff Development

The Zenith staff undergo curriculum training for writing, math and science directly by the curriculum publishers. They have also engage in blood borne pathogens and child abuse recognition training among other in-house professional development seminars. In addition to in-house professional development, Zenith also procures vendors for targeted staff training focusing on ELL strategies, the ETR process, PBIS, administration, and technology. For example, the Beacon Educational Services of Franklin County provided in-service in Adaptive Behavior Strategies and ESL related problems.

Zenith reimburses 75% of the tuition cost up to a maximum of \$2000 per year for each full time staff member who desires to enhance his/her skills in a relevant subject area.

Managing Behavior Problems

Zenith enforces a set discipline policy. Playground and classroom rules and expectations are clearly stated and, for the most part, regularly followed. Students having difficulty obeying school rules are involved in a character education and/or incentive program. Zenith has parent liaisons that help students on making the right choices for their behavior. The following is the number of expulsions, suspensions and detentions during 2019-20 academic year:

# of students expelled	0
#of students who served in-school suspension/Peak Room	0
#of students who served out of school suspension	3

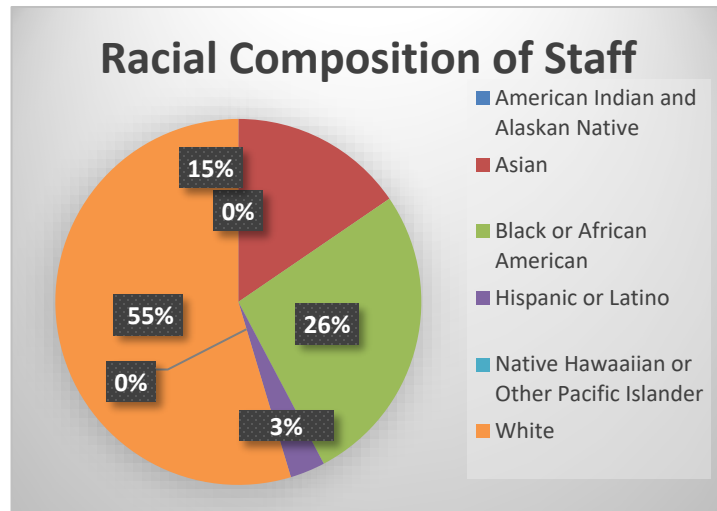
Staff Demographics

Zenith staff is diverse in background, education and experience. The following reflects the number of administrators, teaching staff and support personnel as well as their racial composition:

Composition of Staff	
Classroom Teachers	26
Instructional Assistants	7
Clerical Staff	8
ESL Teacher	3
Administrative	4
Administrative Support	2
Parents' Liaison	3
Physical Education	1
Special Education	2
Food Service	4
Art Teacher	2
CTE Teacher	1
Custodian	2
Library/Media Specialist	1
Total	66

Racial Composition of Staff:

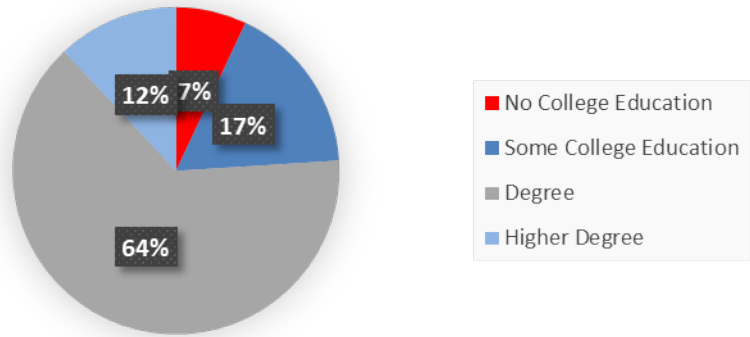
American Indian and Alaskan Native	0%
Asian	15%
Black or African American	26%
Hispanic or Latino	3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%
White	53%



Staff with Specialties:

Reading Endorsement	2
Physical Education	3
Special Education	2
Master's Degree	18
ESL	2
SLP	2

Staff Education



FINANCIAL REPORT

Following shows the income and expenditures for 2020-2021 Academic year:

Income:

Income	Amount
State Foundation	4,873,869
Fed Grants	1,649,167
Other Funds	551
Misc.	
Total	\$6,523,587

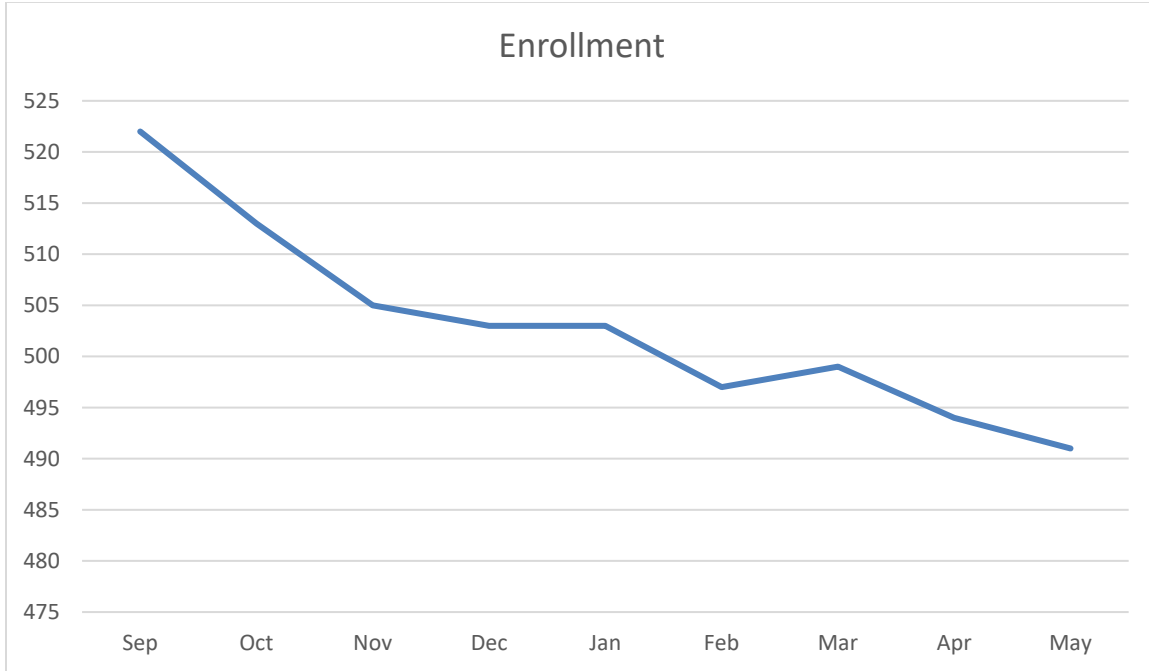
Expenditure:

Expense	Amount
Salaries and Wages	2,663,187
Retirement and Benefits	524,441
Purchased Services	1,138,906
Supplies	272,271
Professional Fees	1,177,970
Capital Outlay	0
Misc	35,891
Total	\$5,712,666

ATTENDANCE

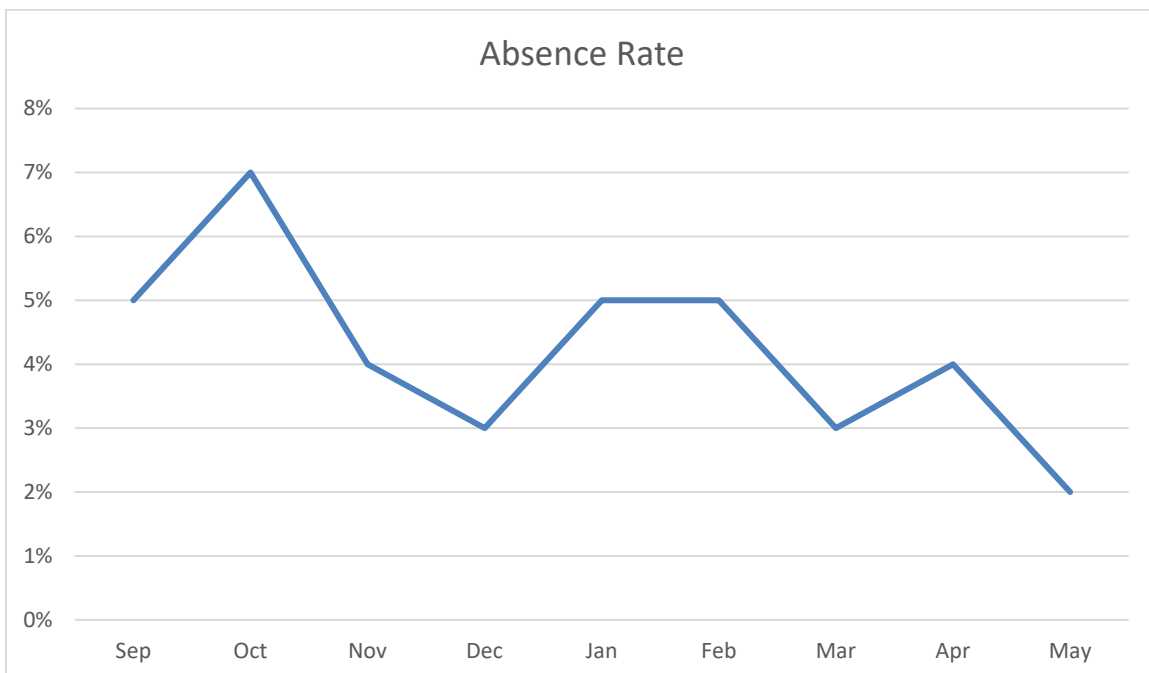
Student Enrollment

The enrollment has steadily increased from 220 in FY05 to 523 in FY21. On the average, each classroom has 18 to 24 students.



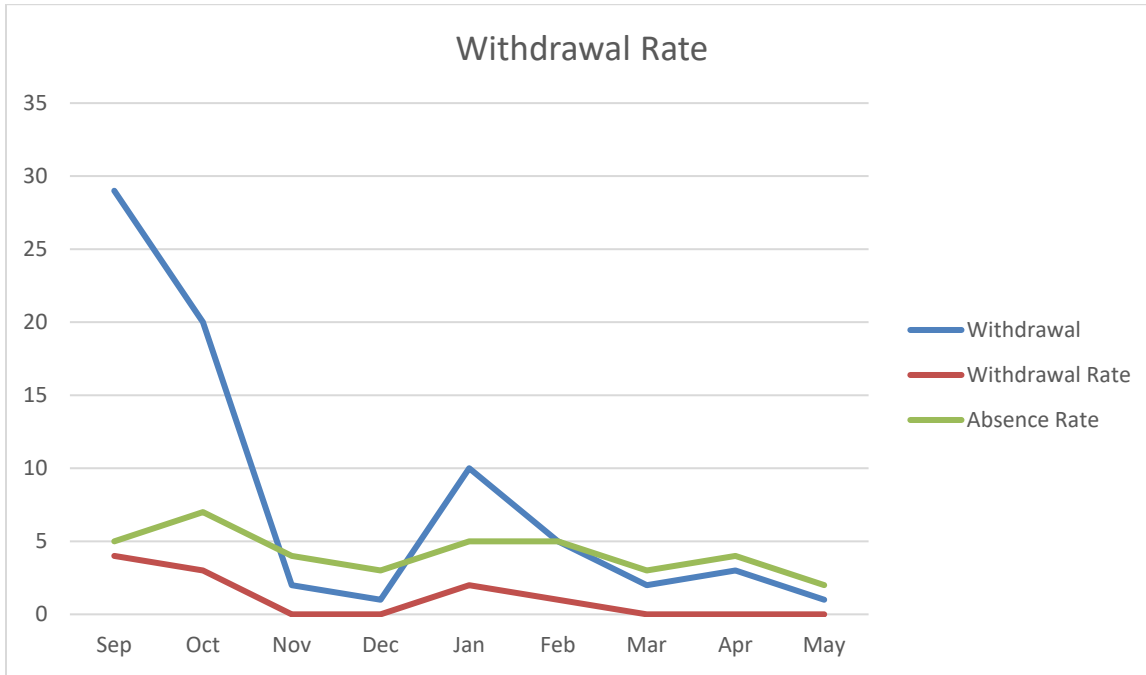
Absence Rate:

2020-2021 was our 16th full Academic year. The average absence rate was 4% of the total enrollment.

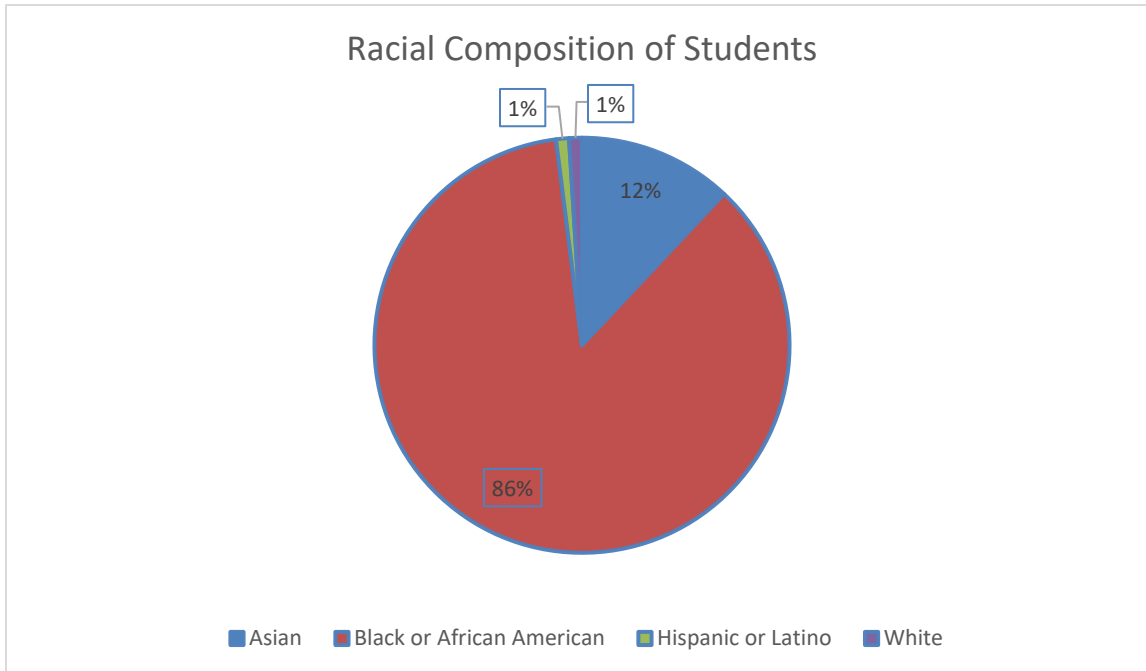


Student Withdrawal Rate:

The withdrawal rate ranged from 0 to 4 %. The graph below shows the trend.



Student Demographics



ASSESSMENT RESULTS

All students at Zenith Academy were assessed for their English Proficiency through the OELPS Screener. Those who qualified were evaluated through administration of OELPA in early 2021. In addition, AIR tests were administered in March to grades 3 through 10 as required by the State Department. As to assist in understanding our student's goals and their grade level proficiency, Zenith also administered NWEA's MAP test for grades K-12. This test was used throughout the year to set goals for student learning, track progress, and as a factor for promotion to the next grade. Students at Zenith are also assessed by state tests and are administered ODE's math, and writing diagnostic tests.

Sponsors Role

As the sponsor of Zenith Academy, Educational Resource Consultants of Ohio provides guidance, technical assistance, compliance monitoring, and oversight of statutory and contractual requirements. Through this ongoing analysis, the Zenith administration affirms that students are being educated consistent with the school's mission. The administration is pleased to report that the school was substantially compliant in its operational and academic requirements for the FY21.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Zenith Academy Board Goals

The goal at Zenith Academy is to remove barriers to equal access to education.

Zenith's goal is to meet the academic and character development needs of a diverse group of students. The students' needs will be met through the well-developed academic and character education plan.

Zenith's current educational plan encourages participation of parents and the community. The plan has helped the school to integrate with the community and agencies.

Administrative Goals

Zenith Administrative Goals are to provide procedures, curriculum, and materials to staff and students.

Zenith Administrative team will work to enhance and promote student activities and parent participation in school activities and parent information. Their focus is to help cultivate the best possible environment conducive to learning and the character development of our students.

Educator Goals

Zenith aspires for all of our educators to strive for:

- Instructional excellence, aligned to standards, and supported by the Zenith Curriculum
- Professional advancement in collaboration with the Professional Development Committee to document individual goals for professional growth
- Efficient integration of classroom technology to individualize and increase progress in student learning
- An improvement mindset to measure the effectiveness of instructional strategies on student progress
- Enhancing skills and updating licensure credentials by attending workshops, in-services and classes.

Student Goals

Zenith aspires for all students to:

- Gain proficiency in English as a second language
- Comprehend and apply content knowledge of:
 - English/ Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Health/ Physical Education
 - Social Studies

- Citizenship
- Technology

Support Staff Goals

Zenith aspires for our support staff to engage in lifelong learning by:

- Increasing job knowledge (to seek, enhance and develop skills in working with students)
- Developing skills and strategies to work with students, teachers, colleagues and parents
- Building a repertoire of effective student behavior management techniques
- Pursuing personal and professional advancement by engaging in opportunities for continuing education

Parent Goals

Zenith aspires for our parents' to engage in:

- Developing an active partnership with the school, staff and administration to support their student's success in learning.
- Improve two-way communication with the school by attending classes on English as a Second Language and Behavior Interventions. Zenith holds parent teacher conferences on a quarterly basis. Parents are regularly informed about their child's behavior, homework completion, and academic progress.

Conclusion

Our hard work has laid the solid foundation for a stable community school. Considering the milestone we set in our first year, we are committed to strive to be in a continuous improvement trend. We are committed to nurture our diverse student body and to meet all the goals articulated in our contract with our current sponsor ERCO.

SPONSOR' STATEMENT

ERCO, as the sponsor of this school, is legally mandated to provide oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance. As part of the monitoring process, the performance of the school on each of the required Ohio School Report Card components is assessed and evaluated. Additionally, ERCO has a regular presence at school board meetings where student performance indicators such as attendance, behavior, and academic achievement are tracked and financial and organizational issues that impact student success are reviewed and discussed. Key to the oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance is ERCO's review of the school's Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) plan development and implementation. As a result of our thorough oversight and monitoring, ERCO has determined that this school is substantially compliant with the rules and regulations governing community schools.

All community school sponsors are required to submit a written report of the evaluation results of the school's academic (State prescribed academic data is not available for SY2020-2021), financial, and organizational performance, as well as the school's legal compliance to the Ohio Department of Education. This report must be made available to parents of students enrolled in the community school by November 30th of each year under OAC 3301-102-05 (A) (3). An Annual Report regarding the performance of this school and other schools under the sponsorship of ERCO will be posted on our website at www.ercoinc.com no later than November 30, 2021. Parents are urged to review this report, in addition to other monitoring and evaluation reports available through the school or the sponsor, for a full understanding of the school's performance.

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