



CASMAN Alternative Academy

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Shawn Walbecq, Superintendent

August 24, 2026

Welcome Back to School for the 2026-2027 school year!

We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer vacation and students are energized to return on Monday, August 31st at 8:00 am! We are ready to welcome all returning and new students to CASMAN with open arms and big smiles!

CASMAN has adapted our graduation requirement to the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements of 18 credits, this is down from 22 credits and we hope that more students see graduation in their near future!

We have updated our cell phone policy to more reflect the Michigan Senate Bill 495 and House Bill 4141 and we will not be letting students have or use cell phones at all during the school day. This won't be much of a change from last year and we expect this to be an easy shift for students.

The teaching staff completed professional development this past June with project-based learning (PBL) as we are implementing PBL this school year. What is PBL going to look like at CASMAN?

- Theme based lessons and projects
- Students choosing projects along the theme and subject standards to highlight their learning
- More student autonomy in learning with teacher guided
- Students working with each other
- Projects that can cross subject areas

The theme this year is to get students thinking about: *How will you leave the earth better than you found it?*

Lastly, with the move to PBL, student attendance is even more important and we expect all students to be in attendance all day every day. Please do not check your child out early unless they have an appointment.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to reach out to me.

School year 2026-2027 is going to be a great year at CASMAN Alternative Academy!

Sincerely,

Shawn Walbecq, Superintendent