



MAISD News

a quarterly publication of the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

November 2010



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Formative Assessment Project Furthers Superintendents' Goal

A letter from the MAISD Superintendent, Susan W. Meston, Ph.D.

This school year Muskegon County Superintendents decided to extend their 2009-10 countywide goal through 2010-11. The goal is to "use student achievement data analysis to change instructional practice to improve student learning." We believe this is an urgent need that requires our continued focus. The work done by local educators and MAISD staff in 2009-10 helped us set sail on a collaborative journey toward success. Local district school improvement teams began this work by learning more about how schools operate as Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). They attended training sessions that focused on how teachers and school leaders can use reports and data generated by IGOR (the MAISD-sponsored data warehouse) to help drive school improvement.

The focus this year is on implementing Michigan's research-based **Formative Assessment Project**. The project will help local educators and school leaders better understand the purpose, nature, and benefits of checking student progress through formative, interim, and summative assessments. The ultimate goal is to create a culture of inquiry around balanced assessment

systems. Most local districts have assembled a team of 6-8 teachers that attended an intensive workshop in September to launch the project. Each team is guided by a school leader or MAISD consultant trained as a Formative Assessment Coach. Their work is now underway and will be ongoing throughout the year. The MAISD will continue to support the assessment teams with added professional development sessions and other resources.

It is important for us as educators to deepen our understanding of how students learn and pour that understanding into teaching strategies. In the end we all improve.



Susan W. Meston, Ph.D.

Susan Meston



Wesley School Welcomes New Principal, Cathy Kropewnicki

Cathy Kropewnicki joined the Wesley School staff this summer as principal, replacing long-time Wesley School Principal Sue Ochs. Coming from the North Service Unit, Ms. Kropewnicki previously served as a Special Education Supervisor, where she worked directly with Whitehall, North Muskegon and Reeths-Puffer school districts. She has a BS in Education with an EI endorsement and an MA in Education with an LD endorsement, both from Central Michigan University.

Prior to coming to the Muskegon area, Ms. Kropewnicki was principal at Highland Pines School, a center-based program for students with impairments at Tuscola Intermediate School District. She has significant experience with MiBLSi (Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative) and Positive Behavior Supports (PBS).

The Wesley School staff have impressed Ms. Kropewnicki with their willingness to try new things to help their students learn. "I am thrilled to be able to serve as a curriculum and educational leader who will help develop other leaders on staff, so we can all impact student performance in positive ways," said Ms. Kropewnicki.

submitted by Kristin Tank, Public Information Officer
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State Board of Education Unanimously Adopts Common Core Standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts

Submitted by June Au, Mathematics Education and School Improvement Consultant
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In June 2010, the State Board of Education adopted the Common Core Standards, a set of rigorous college and career-ready K-12 curriculum standards for Mathematics and English Language Arts.

“Michigan has been a national leader in the development of rigorous academic standards,” said Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. “The adoption of these standards will, for the first time, provide states with clear and consistent educational goals and represent a logical next step in our state’s efforts to embrace higher learning.”

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so they will graduate from high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs.

Michigan implemented new, nationally recognized K-8 grade level content

expectations in 2004 and high school content expectations in 2006 for Mathematics and ELA. Both are closely aligned to the CCSS which will minimize instructional changes and adjustments.

“To help teachers successfully implement the standards, the Michigan Department of Education, Intermediate School Districts, and other partner groups will provide support and training starting in Fall 2010. **Teachers will begin to provide instruction related to the standards by Fall 2012. It is anticipated that students will be assessed on the Common Core Standards beginning in 2014.**”¹

Additionally, MDE will include an alignment of the CCSS with Michigan’s GLCE and HSCE as part of the transition documents available this fall.

More information concerning the CCSS initiative for Mathematics and ELA is available at <http://www.corestandards.org/>.

¹ Dan LaDue, Mathematics Education Consultant, Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation, Michigan Department of Education

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The MAISD News
is a quarterly publication
of the Muskegon Area
Intermediate School District
www.muskegonisd.org

MAISD Mission Statement

The mission of the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD) is to provide the leadership, programs and services which complement and enhance the efforts of constituent school districts in extending educational opportunities to all students.

It is the policy of the MAISD that no staff member, candidate for employment, program participant, or recipient of services shall experience discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, creed or ancestry, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, disability, or genetic information. The MAISD is an equal opportunity employer. Inquiries related to issues of discrimination on the basis of disability should be directed to the Assistant Director for Special Education at (231) 767-7249. All other discrimination inquiries or requests for special accommodations to participate in a program, event, or activity should be directed to the Human Resources Program Director at (231) 767-7213.

On The Cover



Who said
measurement
can't be exciting?

WINGS participants prepare to launch a baseball onto Muskegon Community College's baseball field as part of their Mind Blowing Measurements class.

WINGS, a summer program designed to meet the needs of an intellectually and creatively diverse group of students, celebrated its 30th year this July.



Digitized Media Now Available

Submitted by Jennifer Sleeper, Departmental Administrative Assistant, and Pamela Mahn, Registration Administrative Assistant

The MAISD has made the transition to Medianet for the purpose of booking, shipping and receiving media materials. This transition has been made to maximize the availability of digitized content in collaboration with Kent and Ottawa Area ISDs.

About Our Resources

We hope you will take advantage of our media collections of instructional videotapes, DVDs, software, professional library books, and digitized video for teachers in grades pre-K through 12. There is no charge to

educators within participating REMC 4 districts for use of these materials. A guide has been created to assist you as you become familiar with this new system. You may access it from the MAISD's Medianet home page (www.medianet.muskegonisd.org).

There are two options for making a reservation of our resources:

1. Online at www.medianet.muskegonisd.org

To order media online, log in using your last name and the initial generic password, maisd. You will be directed to change your password the first time you log in to the



system. To obtain an account, please contact Pam Mahn at the number listed below.

2. **Walk-in**, with hours being 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. during the school year and 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. during the summer.

Discovery Education Content

Another benefit of our new Medianet system is the inclusion of Discovery Education Streaming Video content for those buildings that subscribe to Discovery. Streaming content is included in search results and can be accessed with your Discovery Education username and password. If your building does not subscribe to Discovery, please have your building administrator or district technology coordinator contact Andy Mann at 231-767-7242 or amann@muskegonisd.org for more information.

Verify Your Information

To ensure timely delivery of any media you order, please take a moment to verify your school, building and contact information and notify us of any changes.

We Look Forward to Serving You

We hope you enjoy the increased offerings available to you through Medianet. Please let us know if you need any assistance during this transition.

MAISD/REMC 4 Media Center Staff

Pam Mahn (pmahn@muskegonisd.org or 231-767-7243)

Jennifer Sleeper (jsleeper@muskegonisd.org or 231-767-7230)

Password Managers

Submitted by Randy Lindquist, Director of Instructional and Technology Services
231-767-7229 or rlindqui@muskegonisd.org



Keeping multiple and unique passwords for all of your online accounts is certainly the best practice for security, but remembering them all can be a big challenge. One way to keep track of all of these passwords is to write them all down and keep them nearby on a sticky note or notepad, but this is probably not the safest way to maintain them. Password manager programs are available to help keep all passwords safe and secure, and require that only one master password be remembered to access them. Here are a few examples of password manager programs to review and try out:

- > **1Password** - <http://agilewebsolutions.com/products/1Password>
- > **SplashID** - <http://splashdata.com/splashid/>
- > **Keeper** - <http://www.callpod.com/products/keeper>
- > **LastPass** - <https://lastpass.com/>

Not only do these types of programs provide easy, safe and secure access to password information, they also allow this data to sync across multiple platforms like a desktop, laptop and/or smart phone. This allows anytime, anywhere access to private password information when it is needed. Blackberry users already have a password manager built right into their phones. Although this information does not sync back to a computer, it is handy to have the information at your fingertips on the Blackberry device.

Password manager programs can help keep the growing number of passwords that a user must track organized and safely accessible.

Cool Web Sites

for Funding & Donations

Looking for a way to fund that innovative, promising educational concept or to provide supplies for your classroom? Is your district looking for new and creative ways to increase revenues or resources for your school?

Check out these websites to assist in your efforts.

Donation Request Websites:

All of these sites have a similar concept – the teacher registers their “wish list” or project information and lists supplies or cash amount required to participate in the project. Donors visit the website and choose the project/classroom to which they would like to donate. There is typically an option to search for a specific school, classroom and teacher. Donations are sent to the website managers, who, in turn, send the materials to the teacher.

www.digitalwish.com

Digital Wish is a non-profit organization with a unique mission to modernize K-12 classrooms and prepare students for tomorrow’s workforce. Like a gift registry, teachers create wish lists of technology products for their classroom. Donors then connect with their favorite schools and grant classroom wishes through online cash or product donations, thus improving the access to modern technology in classrooms.

www.donorschoose.org

Potential donors read through project proposals and determine which project they would like to support. Some of the requests are for money, while others are for supplies.

www.adoptaclassroom.org/

Adds a local twist where the donor first picks the classroom then contributes money, which the teacher can spend at the website’s preferred partners. 100% of donation amounts go toward supplies with no overhead or administrative costs.

<http://www.iloveschools.com/>

Teachers post wish lists, and donors review those lists and meet those needs. This site also has a section where potential donors post excess items they have that they would like to donate, and teachers can request those free items for their classrooms.



submitted by Jennifer Sleeper
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Grant Websites:

MiGAL (Michigan Grants Available Listing)

<http://megs.mde.state.mi.us/megsweb/grantsAvailable.aspx>

MiGAL is the State of Michigan Department of Education’s listing of federal, state, private and other funding grant sources compiled by MDE. The site has a variety of search and sort capabilities.

Library of Michigan Grant Resources

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-5236_18875--,00.html

Includes grants focused on reading, cultural and literary events.

SchoolGrants.org

<http://www.k12grants.org/Grants/grant-index.htm>

SchoolGrants.org has a number of resources to assist the beginning grant writer, including helpful tips on grant writing and sample proposals to review. The site offers free searches for grant opportunities and includes complete lists by category: federal, state, foundation and/or nationwide.

Grant Wrangler

www.grantwrangler.com/

Grant Wrangler offers a free bi-weekly email on the latest K-12 school and teacher grants. The website also lists available grants and is updated regularly.

Opportunities *DO* Exist to Secure Additional Funding or Donations!

**SUBS
NEEDED**

The Muskegon Area ISD is looking for new substitute teachers and substitute instructional assistants for Wesley School. Wesley School is a centralized Special Education Facility operated by the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District which provides programs for students 0-26 years of age with a cognitive impairment, severe multiple impairments, or autism.

If you are interested in becoming a substitute for Wesley School, please contact Janet Valliere at 231-767-7271 or jvallier@muskegonisd.org.

Bringing PBIS to the You Turn Program: Creating a Preventative Culture for Expelled Youth

Steve Vitto, M.A., Behavioral Support Consultant, 231-767-7279 or svitto@muskegonisd.org
Adrienne Langlois, Mercy Health Partners Life Counseling

Muskegon's You Turn Program is a voluntary program for expelled students living in Muskegon County. You Turn is a collaborative program between Mercy Health Partners Life Counseling (MHPLC) and the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD). It is housed in the MHPLC Building. You Turn is embarking on a new journey with the expelled youth they serve.

Many of the students who participate in the You Turn Program have had a long history of punishment (lack of privilege, loss of credits, suspensions, detention or expulsion). By adopting a program-wide Positive Behavior Initiative Support (PBIS), the You Turn Program is making an effort to replace punitive and reactive approaches with such evidence-based proactive approaches as teaching expectations, establishing relationships that focus on mutual respect, establishing pre-arranged consequences that are restorative and meaningful, acknowledging student accomplishments through a systematic incentive system, having one-on-one goal setting and progress monitoring meetings, and using the data collection tool School-Wide Information System (SWIS) to determine the effectiveness of interventions. Under the direction of Susan Cook and Adrienne Langlois, and with the support of MAISD Consultants Tina Harmon (Instruction) and Steve Vitto (Behavioral Support), You Turn has established a team approach based on the PBIS school-wide model.

With the careful planning by the You Turn administration and classroom staff, Develyn Howard and Marshea Couch, along with MAISD coaches, You Turn has begun to implement PBIS in the classroom.

The team has established behavior expectations, an expectation matrix and a referral form process, and is working on visual supports and training the students. The goal is that, after their experience at You Turn, students will:

- Have a positive relationship-based view of authority figures.
- Learn how to resolve school and interpersonal conflicts in a successful manner.
- Recognize how varied staff approaches affect their behavior.
- Become accountable for behavior and understand that every action has a consequence.
- Recognize the benefit of creating/maintaining a constructive home/school relationship.
- Successfully transition back to the school from which they were expelled, ultimately reducing office referrals, detention, suspension, and retain zero recidivism to the You Turn Program.

It is our hope that the students will come back to the You Turn Program, not due to expulsion, but rather to share their success stories upon returning to their school.

Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System

submitted by Michael Bausano, School Social Worker/TCI Trainer
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TCI was first introduced to Wesley School in 2007 in response to the need for comprehensive training for school staff who could be called upon to respond to an emergency safety situation. Developed by Cornell University, TCI is a crisis prevention and intervention model that assists organizations in preventing crises from occurring, de-escalating potential crises, managing acute physical behavior, and reducing the potential for, and actual injury to, children and staff.

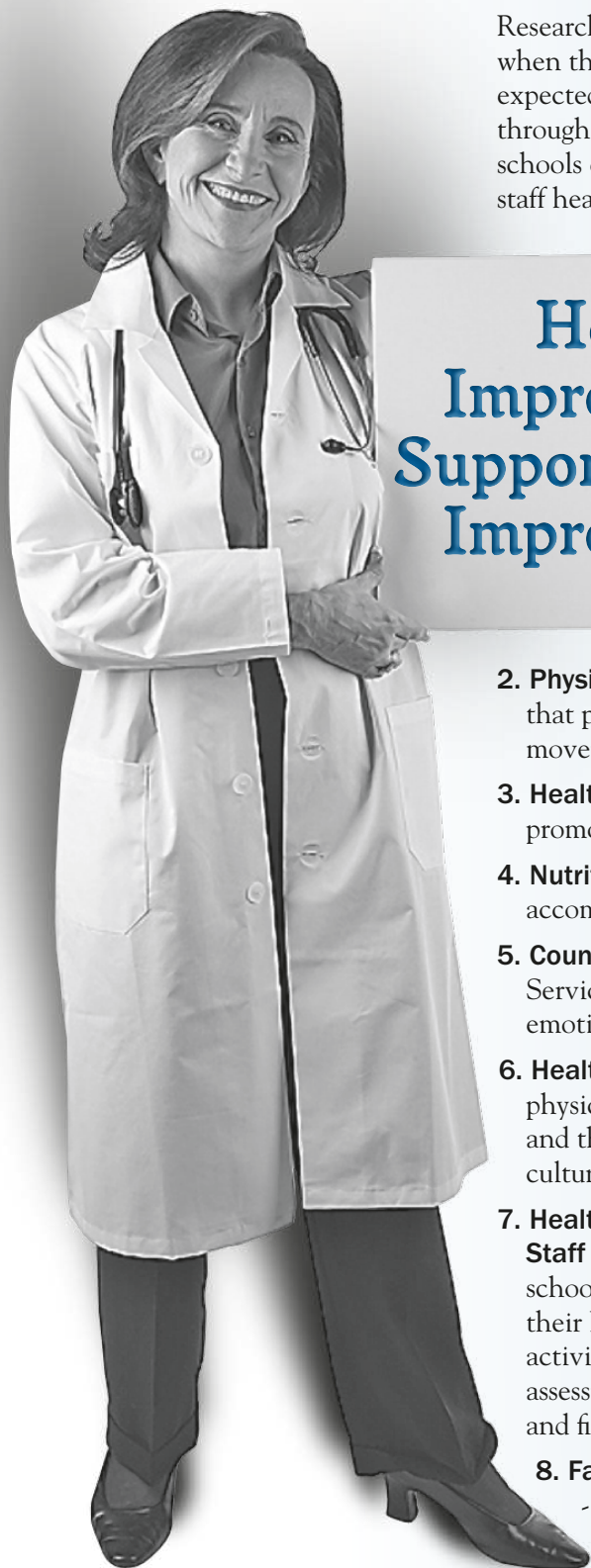
Over the past three years, all Wesley School staff members have received 18-24 hours of initial training in TCI and participate in annual refresher training each summer. TCI aligns very

well with the School-Wide Positive Behavior Initiative Support (PBIS), which was formally initiated at Wesley School in 2009. PBIS is a proactive, team-based framework for creating and sustaining safe and effective schools. Emphasis is placed on prevention of problem behavior, development of pro-social skills, and the use of data-based problem solving to address existing behavior concerns.

Over 40 teachers and instructional assistants from SXI and SCI classrooms attended this summer's day-long training. Catherine Kropewnicki, Wesley School Principal, launched the training session by introducing key concepts related to

team building, student safety and the significance of the TCI initiative at Wesley School. Steve Vitto, MAISD Behavioral Consultant, Michael Bausano, Wesley School Social Worker, and Stephanie Lathrop, Wesley School Behavioral Support Specialist, provided instruction in TCI principles and behavioral recording and reporting procedures. A second refresher training session was offered at the beginning of the school year for Wesley School staff assigned to MoCI and ASD classrooms.

For more information on TCI, please contact Steve Vitto, MAISD Behavioral Consultant, at 231-767-7279 or svitto@muskegonisd.org.

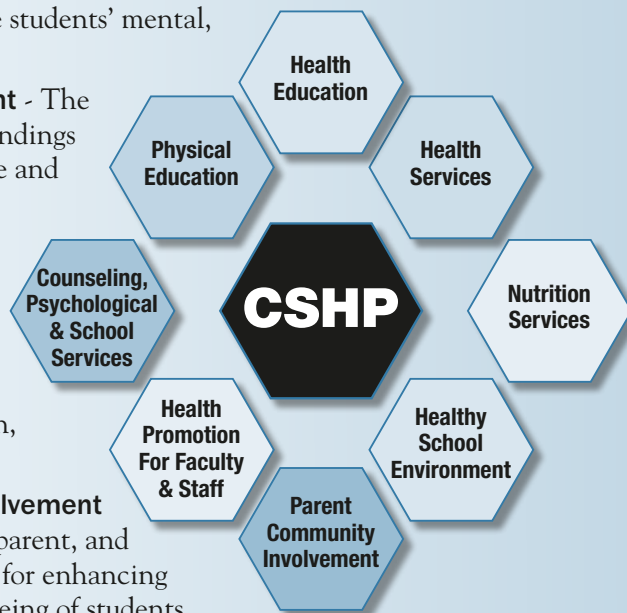


Health Improvement Supports School Improvement

Research and common sense tell us that students and teachers perform better when they are healthy and feel safe. Yet schools are not able, and should not be expected, to address the many health concerns that impact society. However, through the establishment of Coordinated School Health Programs (CSHP), schools can facilitate a community-wide, coordinated effort to keep students and staff healthy and ready to do their best work.

The Muskegon Area ISD now has funds available to support the development of CSHP teams. Our focus this year will be to assist districts in establishing teams and in developing CSHP plans. Teams will consist of representatives from the eight interactive CSHP components:

- 1. Health Education** - A planned, sequential, K-12 curriculum that addresses knowledge and skills related to the physical, mental, emotional and social dimensions of health
- 2. Physical Education** - A planned, sequential, K-12 curriculum that provides cognitive content and learning experiences in a variety of movement, sport, and rhythm areas
- 3. Health Services** - Services provided for students to appraise, protect, and promote health
- 4. Nutrition Services** - Access to a variety of nutritious and appealing meals that accommodate the health and nutrition needs of all students
- 5. Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services** - Services provided to improve students' mental, emotional, and social health
- 6. Healthy School Environment** - The physical and aesthetic surroundings and the psycho-social climate and culture of the school
- 7. Health Promotion for Staff** - Opportunities for school staff to improve their health status through activities such as health assessments, health education, and fitness activities
- 8. Family/Community Involvement** - An integrated school, parent, and community approach for enhancing the health and well-being of students



Future federal funds will be devoted to a broader view of prevention. Schools with Coordinated School Health Programs in place will be in a stronger position to access these funds. The MAISD will host training sessions this fall titled *Increasing Achievement Using a Coordinated School Health Program Model*, to prepare teams for writing their plans.

Learn more about Coordinated School Health Programs at www.michigan.gov/cshsp; start by clicking on "CSHP Brochure."

submitted by Sharon Zajac
Prevention and Health
Education Consultant
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Creative Commons... **GOOD FOR EDUCATION**

by Andy Mann, Instructional Technology Consultant
231-767-7242 or amann@muskegonisd.org

People often utilize material such as texts, images, music and movies from the Internet without considering copyright. By default, this information is copyrighted to the creator. Most often users overlook the step of asking permission to use what they copy. Creative Commons licensing makes this easier. A Creative Commons license identifies work as being available to freely use, and, based on the license selected, to freely modify or repurpose without the need for approval from the creator. It is good for educators and students to use material identified with the Creative Commons (CC) license and use a Creative Commons license on materials they create. A useful video about the value of Creative Commons in education may be found at <http://blip.tv/file/285260>.

I recommend three ways to get started with Creative Commons:

1. **Promote** Creative Commons within your district and encourage users to search on the Internet for material identified with the Creative Commons license. In Google and in Flickr, users can indicate in their search that they want to search for only items licensed with Creative Commons use rights.

2. **Add** Creative Commons license identifiers to items you create. You can select the CC license identifier which supports the rights you want to provide from <http://creativecommons.org/license>.
3. **Add** an MS Office Add-on to allow the easy insertion of this code into the footer of documents you create. http://wiki.creativecommons.org/Microsoft_Office_Addin

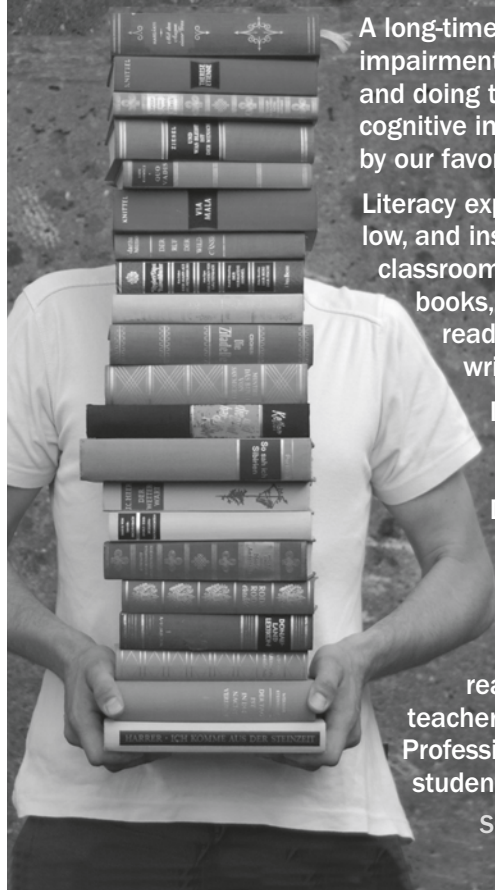
Creative Commons is good for education. When educators or students become part of the community of sharing, they help to build capacity, which benefits everyone.

For assistance in helping your district utilize Creative Commons content and licensing, contact Andy Mann, MAISD Instructional Technology Consultant, at 231-767-7242 or amann@muskegonisd.org.



Example of Creative Commons license icons which may be added to a document or website.

Literacy Success For ALL Students!



A long-time substitute teacher told a classroom teacher for students with cognitive impairments, "I can't tell I am in a special education classroom! Your students are reading and doing the same things as all the other kids." A group of elementary students with cognitive impairments advised a school librarian, as she began to read a book, "That book's by our favorite author!"

Literacy expectations for children with significant cognitive disabilities have historically been low, and instruction has focused on learning functional sight words. However, students in classrooms for cognitively impaired students in Muskegon County are reading "just right" books, participating in author studies, and talking about characters. They are increasing reading skills, independence and comprehension as they engage daily in reading and writing workshop and small group instruction.

Improvements in the literacy learning of students with significant disabilities have been documented by teachers and support staff as they participated in the 2009-10 MAISD Reading Workshop and Writing Workshop Professional Development Series. Additional sessions were provided by MAISD special education consultants to adapt the workshop model to meet the needs of students with significant disabilities.

During the 2010-11 school year, a new group of elementary, middle, and high school teachers of students with cognitive disabilities will implement reading and writing workshop and differentiated small group instruction. As these teachers participate in the MAISD Reading Workshop and Writing Workshop Adaptations Professional Development Series, opportunities for literacy success will continue for all students - even those with the most significant disabilities.

Submitted by Mary Purtee, Augmentative Communication & Curriculum Consultant
231-767-7222 or mpurtee@muskegonisd.org



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

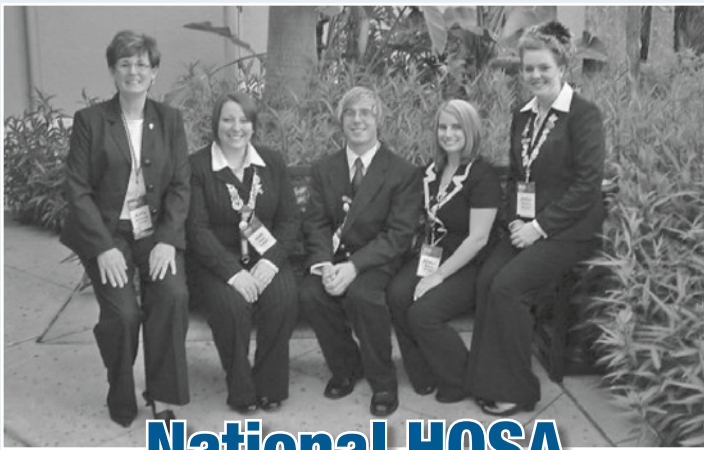
The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD) strongly believes that education should be a continuing process of learning, sharing, and growth. Professional development workshops have been designed to offer teachers, administrators, and support staff the opportunity to broaden their educational horizons.

Our online Professional Development catalog offers a wide array of search options: by title, category, date range, location, and month. Visit us at: muskegonisd.org/development to see what is currently being offered, in addition to full course descriptions, costs, locations, etc. Online registration is also accessible from this site.

For questions on any of the course offerings listed and/or help in registering online, please contact Pam Mahn at 231-767-7243 or pmahn@muskegonisd.org.

Start Date	Course Title	Target Audience	Cost
November 5, 2010	Common Core State Standards - ELA	K - 2	\$10
November 9, 2010	Getting Started with RtI	6 - 12	Free
November 11, 2010	Reading Workshop Professional Development Series	K - 12	\$200/\$100
November 12, 2010	Common Core State Standards - ELA	3 - 5	\$10
November 13, 2010	Infant Massage	Early Childhood	Free
November 15, 2010	Art Avenues for Visual and Applied Arts Educators	K - 12	\$20
November 16, 2010	Common Core State Standards - Math	3 - 5	\$10
	Interactive Read Alouds, the Basics	K - 2	\$100/\$150
	SB-CEUs: Policy, Requirements, and Procedures	K - 12	Free
	Introduction to MP3 Players	6 - 12	Free
	Word Processors & Portable Word Processors	6 - 12	Free
November 20, 2010	Infant Massage	Early Childhood	Free
November 30, 2010	Common Core State Standards - ELA	6 - 8	\$10
	Tier 2 Literacy Interventions	6 - 12	Free
December 1-3, 2010	Education Through Music	Pre-K - K	\$365
December 1, 2010	Creating Materials Using Text to Audio	6 - 12	Free
	Word Processors & Portable Word Processors	6 - 12	Free
December 7, 2010	Place-Based Education 101	4 - 12	Free
December 8, 2010	Common Core State Standards - Math	6 - 8	\$10
December 9, 2010	Common Core State Standards - Math	9 - 12	\$10
	Wikis for Collaboration with Wiki Spaces	K - 12	\$10
	SB-CEUs: Policy, Requirements, and Procedures	K - 12	Free
December 10, 2010	Writing Units of Study - Year 1	K - 6	\$100/\$150
	CPI - Crisis Prevention Intervention	K - 12	\$25
December 13, 2010	Lunch & Learn - Google Docs and Forms - Support Staff Series III	K - 12	\$10/\$25
December 14, 2010	Interactive Read Alouds as a Foundation	K - 2	\$100/\$150
December 15, 2010	Reading Workshop Professional Development Series	K - 12	\$200/\$100
	Creating Materials Using Text to Audio	6 - 12	Free
	Spell Checkers & Word Prediction	6 - 12	Free

Register Online: muskegonisd.org/development



National HOSA Leadership Conference

submitted by **Kathy Andrews, Rehab Tech Instructor**
231-767-3675 or kandrews@muskegonisd.org

Four students from the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (CTC) competed at the National HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) Leadership Conference. Over 8,000 secondary and post-secondary students from the nation participated in medical seminars, leadership activities, and competitive events.

Qualifying top three in their Michigan HOSA events were Rehab Tech Students Holly Klein and Joslyn Bluhm and Health Occupations Students Chad Townsend and Kirsten Burke. They competed in the medical categories of Physical Therapy, Medical Photography, and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), respectively. Holly Klein, Chad Townsend and Kirsten Burke, who are second-year students at the CTC, finished in the top 25 nationally. All four students are now attending college, pursuing careers in the medical field.

Photo left to right: MACTC HOSA National Participants Kathy Andrews, Advisor; Holly Klein, Ravenna High School; Chad Townsend, Ravenna High School; Kirsten Burke, Oakridge High School; Joslyn Bluhm, Western Michigan Christian High School.

Muskegon Area Career Tech Center Programs Offered

Each year the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC) offers Career and Technical Education programs. This year the MACTC will offer programs for high school students in Muskegon County at MACTC, Muskegon Community College, Booker Institute of Cosmetology, and the LEED Home worksites. These programs are designed to prepare youth for a broad range of employment and training services and are offered under the guidance of certified teachers and support personnel. The following 20 programs are being offered this year:

- Auto Body Technology
- Auto Service Technology
- Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood Development
- Electrical/Electronics Technologies
- Financial Management/Accounting
- Graphic Production Technologies
- Health Occupations
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Internet, Network & Security Technologies
- Landscaping and Greenhouse Management
- Machine Tool Technologies
- Marketing/E-Commerce
- Public Safety/Protective Services
- Rehab Tech
- Restaurant, Catering & Culinary Management
- Visual Design
- Welding Technologies

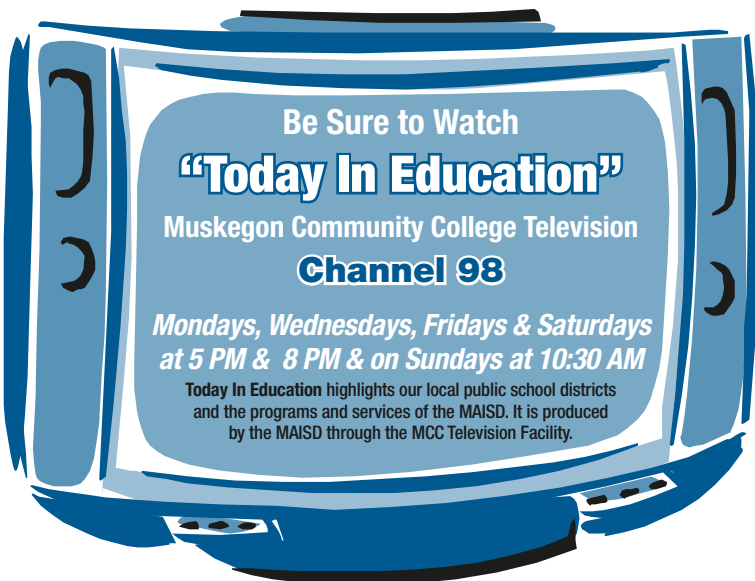
All career and technical education programs follow the district's policies of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, creed or ancestry, gender, age, height, weight, marital status or disability in all programs, activities, and employment. In addition, arrangements can be made to ensure that the lack of English language skills is not a barrier to admission or participation.

For information about these programs, contact:
Principal
Muskegon Area Career Tech Center
200 Harvey Street • Muskegon, MI 49442
231-767-3605

Inquiries relating to issues of discrimination should be directed as follows:

Discrimination on the basis of a disability:
Assistant Director of Special Education
Muskegon Area Intermediate School District
630 Harvey Street • Muskegon, MI 49442
231-767-7249

All other discrimination inquiries:
Program Director – Human Resources
Muskegon Area Intermediate School District
630 Harvey Street • Muskegon, MI 49442
231-767-7213





Muskegon's First-Ever, Student-Built LEED CERTIFIED HOME

This fall the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center Construction Trades' newly built home at 2543 Chestnut Street in Muskegon was awarded LEED Silver certification by the US Green Building Council (USGBC) for achievement in green homebuilding and design. LEED for Homes is a green home certification system for assuring homes are designed and built to be energy- and resource-efficient and healthy for occupants. LEED certified homes complete a technically rigorous process that includes a home energy (HERS) rating and onsite inspections to verify that the home is built to be energy- and water-efficient, environmentally sound, and a healthier place to live. This home is one of the first local homes, and the first ever student-built home, to be certified using LEED.

This is quite an accomplishment for the MACTC staff and students! The home features 1,617 square feet on the main floor, including three bedrooms, two full bathrooms, and a half bathroom. Green qualities include a high-efficiency furnace with heat recovery vent system, low-VOC carpeting and paint, low-flow toilet, on-demand hot water heater, Anderson 400 series windows and ICF basement walls.

In addition to the work of the Construction Trades - LEED program, students in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC/R) program installed the heating and cooling system; Electrical/Electronics Technologies students assisted with the wiring; Visual Design students handled the interior design; and the Landscaping and Greenhouse Management students completed the landscaping. "We include students from throughout the MACTC in our LEED projects," commented Brian Peets, Construction Trades – LEED instructor. "It is truly remarkable what these students have accomplished during the course of a school year. The house and its LEED certification are a true testament to all of the hard work they put in."

Green homes have substantially lower utility bills and may qualify for advantageous financing, lower insurance rates and government incentives. Developed and administered by USGBC, LEED for Homes awards points to projects in eight categories of environmental performance: Innovation & Design Process, Location & Linkages, Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality, Energy & Atmosphere, Materials & Resources, and Awareness & Education.



FREE New College Access Tool

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This fall high school principals, counselors, and other community members were introduced to a new online tool called *The Michigan College Access Portal* or *MichiganCAP*. Representatives from the Michigan Department of Education provided an overview of MichiganCAP at a workshop held at the MACTC. Participants were able to go online and interact with the many different features of the new tool. Those attending also learned how to use the tool to create and update Educational Development Plans (EDPs).

The website, www.michigancap.org, will provide free support for all students and families in Michigan to simplify the process of transitioning from high school to college and career. Eventually MichiganCAP will replace the Career Cruising software currently used for EDPs and other career exploration activities.

Students, parents, counselors, and adult learners will now have an easy-to-use, web-based, personalized

tool to ensure that each step in the process of choosing and applying to college is completed successfully. The portal will also offer information regarding career choices, and students will be able to map a plan of action to achieve their aspirations. With MichiganCAP students can organize their academic information, test scores, activities, and personal information; access free test-prep tutorials; research schools to find the best fit; track and submit applications online; research and apply for financial aid; and plan for their career. School counselors will be able to create portfolios for communicating with students and parents, manage students by a variety of profile elements, and store information for the purpose of assisting students and parents with college planning.

"The Michigan College Access Network will mobilize the assets of every community in our state to give both our young people and adults the support and information they need to get a college education." – Governor Jennifer Granholm

WWW.MICHIGANCAP.ORG