



Career & Technical Education

Director Mike Miller Reports on CTE News:

Career Expo - On Thursday, February 20, the MOCC hosted its third annual Career Expo, which entails a job fair along with breakout sessions on career planning best practices. Nearly 50 employers were present and shared career opportunities with not only MOCC students, but also several non-MOCC seniors. Kudos to Jill Ray, Career Services Coordinator, for her continued success with making this an invaluable event for both our students and regional employers.



The Career Expo is the pinnacle of CTE Month. MOCC teachers and paraeducators have been working with students all year on career readiness skills and these become paramount during the month of February. Their tireless effort devoted to “Dress for Success” days, mock interviews, and countless resume revision sessions paid invaluable dividends at the Career Expo. The feedback we’ve received from the employers who attended was overwhelmingly positive.

Thanks to the hard work of the MOCC staff members and our business and industry partners, MOCC students are well on their way to successful careers!

Construction Technology Class Building Bridges - Students in the Construction Technology class spent several days learning the fundamentals of bridge construction and put their own skills to the test. Students worked in teams to design, build, and test their bridges. The designs were as varied as the amounts of weight each bridge could sustain, but it was the truss bridge in the picture below that proved too stalwart for over 1,000 lbs.! After using all the weight they had on hand, along with other “heavy” objects in the Construction Technology Lab, Mr. Battle declared the bridge, “unbreakable” and the team humbly celebrated their victory. It looks like we may have a couple future engineers in the making!



Meceola Tech - Meceola Tech is creating educational opportunities for the community by offering the following courses for the next term:

Certified Nurse Aide (CNA):

Meceola Tech has passed the State CNA inspection and can now offer post-secondary CNA instruction! The first class will begin

March 20, 2018. This course provides clinical experience in a long-term care facility, and is an excellent introduction to basic nursing skills. This course requires 120 hours of instruction, including 36 clinical hours within a long-term care facility. Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn a CNA Certificate from Meceola Tech and have the opportunity to take the Michigan CNA examination.

ServSafe®:

This class will be offered March 28, 2018. The ServSafe® program provides food safety training, exams and educational materials to foodservice managers. Students can earn the ServSafe® Food Protection Manager Certification, accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-Conference for Food Protection (CFP). At the end of the course, each student will complete and pass the exam with a score of 75% or higher in order to receive the ServSafe® Manager Certification.

Advanced Welding:

This class will be offered April 9, 2018. Advanced Welding is a 71-hour course where students receive more in-depth instruction and plenty of hands-on practice with Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW), Flux Core Welding (FCAW), Metal Core Arc Welding (MCAW), and Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW). Upon successful completion of the program, students will have the opportunity to earn a Meceola Tech Certificate and earn industry certifications from the American Welding Society. (AWS).

Introduction to Manufacturing:

Introduction to Manufacturing will be offered on April 9, 2018 and provides an introduction to nine disciplines of manufacturing: hydraulics, pneumatics, robotics, electronics, injection molding, precision measurement,

print reading, designing, and an introduction to CNC programming. The course consists of 56 hours of both classroom and lab instruction. Upon successful completion, students will have the opportunity to receive a Meceola Tech Certificate and earn three credit hours from Meceola Tech.

Corrections:

This class will be offered June 4, 2018. The Meceola Tech Corrections Academy, in conjunction with the Michigan Sheriffs' Coordinating and Training Council (MSCTC), offers practical and technical instruction designed to comprehensively equip participants with the necessary skills and required credentials to qualify for employment as a Corrections Officer. The Corrections Academy consists of 160 hours of classroom and lab instruction. Upon successful completion of the program, students will have the opportunity to earn a Meceola Tech Certificate and take the Corrections Officer State Certification exam.

Emergency Medical Technician – Specialist:

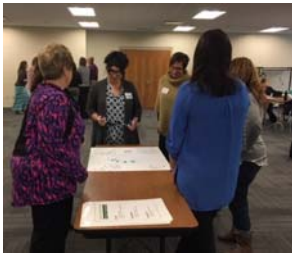
The EMT-Specialist course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge to become a licensed Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) within the state of Michigan. This course is based on the U.S. Department of Transportation National Standard Curriculum for an AEMT training program. This course is approved by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services-Bureau of EMS, Trauma and Preparedness and is sponsored by Meceola Tech. The course requires a total of 140 hours consisting of 90 in the classroom and 50 clinical hours.

Written by Linda Ward, Supervisor of CTE Extension Services

General Education

Director of General Education Tonya Harrison Reports:

The Gen Ed Team - Our team continues to work with our Special Education team as we support the Chippewa Hills team in their efforts to implement MiBLSI in their elementary schools. The next cohort will add more ISD coaches and the Secondary buildings for the 2018-19 school year.



MiBLSI Work-Amy and Weidman Teachers

The General Education department has recently become the facilitating group for Project Outreach. Project Outreach is a forum for local students to collaborate and learn together as mentors and leaders. A group of 4-6 students from each high school plan the event, from team t-shirts to lunch and the guest speaker. There are break-out sessions led by student facilitators and adults from their high school.



This year the event was held on February 6, and our theme was "Inclusivity for ALL Kids." Lunch was served by our Career Center team--excellent food! We are already making plans for next year, with a theme of "The Improvement Movement." The students have elected two new student moderators, and we are working on scheduling our guest speaker. The students are making some significant changes to the program and are searching for new ways to bring their learning back to their home schools. The intent is to impact all students rather than just those who attend the main event. Our last meeting was exciting for the advisors and the students involved.



Planning for 2018-19 Event

Early Literacy - Our coaches are busy working in the schools of several of our locals including Big Rapids, Reed City, Morley-Stanwood, and Evart, doing a variety of things to support teachers. We are helping in areas ranging from helping to build and organize classroom libraries, modeling lessons, classroom learning labs, and teaching about the Essential Practices in Early Literacy. The team is also supporting the Hill Project, a Reading Now-Western Michigan University grant project with goals of promoting best practices in literacy. Both coaches and I are participating in Instructional Rounds in elementary schools throughout MAISA Regions 3 and 7. We have three districts that

are participating in the grant project but are a part of Cohort B, which begins in three years.

Math and Science - Both Larry and Justin will soon be trained in how to facilitate learning for the Next Generation Science Standards that have been adopted by the state of Michigan. It will be a valuable asset to our general education team, as the standards are more process thinking, rather than subject content for teachers. The new standards are being piloted on the Spring 2018 M-Step, with 25% of the questions coming from these standards. By Spring 2020, all questions will come from the new standards.

We also have exciting news in the area of Math Recovery: Crossroads Charter is investigating having all their elementary teachers trained in Math Recovery! Larry and Chris White, principal/superintendent, have met to talk about dates for the training to take place. This is an exciting opportunity for the teachers at CCA, and we are excited to facilitate this learning.

Behavioral Specialist: Michael Bausano has been offering a wide variety of learning onsite at the ISD and in our Local schools. The local principals and teachers have been providing positive feedback about the trainings and resources offered by Michael.



Michael and Local Teachers

Additional Learning in General Education - All trainings are provided free of charge to the local schools.

5-D Educator Evaluation:

- February 7 (Observable Best Practice)
- April 30 (Student Engagement)



5-D training with local and ISD administration

Early Release Days:

- Early Literacy: Mar 16
 - These trainings have been taking place at Morley-Stanwood Elementary, as the entire staff is participating. All ISD schools are welcome.
- Math/Science: May 18

Director of Technology Fred Sharpsteen Reports:

Website Refresh - We will be working on a new website refresh of the Main MOISD site before school starts in the fall. Many schools in the state have been cited for violation of the ADA and OCR compliance. We will be looking to see what resources will be needed after we do a short inventory of the work needed. We have contacted Foxbright, our website provider, to start to look at what options we have for look and feel of the site and how we organize the content.

We have also partnered with Linda Ward and Meceola Tech for a refresh of their website. The Website for Meceola Tech is integrated into the MOISD Foxbright Content Management System.

We have also been working with Trinity Lutheran School to help them with their website hosting domain name and the email. We completed this over the last month.

As we get further into this process, there will be an opportunity for stakeholder feedback to make sure the website meets the needs of the users.

Collaborative Purchasing - The Motech group of technology leaders has been working collaboratively to get E-rate bids out and evaluated. At the March board meeting, we will have some recommendation for the purchases of network equipment under the E-rate program. We completed the RFPs for a proposal to increase the amount of Internet bandwidth to keep up with the growing usage of the Internet. In last month's board notes, I mentioned that we have used a 30% growth model to keep up with Internet demand historically. We have two RFPs out for this service--one for statewide bid and one within the MOISD and the LEAs. The first is a new collaborative effort by the Michigan Educational Technology leaders (METL) and the State Education Network (SEN) The second is how we have traditionally done this working with the LEAs on a consortium purchase.

- Firewalls - Consortium Purchase
- WAN Core switch
- LAN Core switch

Skyward Training for staff - We are working with the General Ed Department on setting up Skyward data entry training. As

we move toward the State DataHubs project, you will start to hear the term Data Governance as we move forward on this project. What is Data Governance? This simply means that you need to have accurate data entered into the system in a particular way so that you can integrate this data into other systems. After this point, you will then be able to run reports that have fidelity and accuracy for making student-based decisions. Each organization enters data slightly differently as in the naming of data fields. We must work with all the LEAs and the state to normalize this data so that we can report it and use it for student achievement growth.

Technology Department Started a Satisfaction Survey - The surveys of the Technology Department are going well, and we have gathered actionable data on the technology support for the staff and students. How this works is that after a help ticket has been completed, the user is automatically sent a satisfaction survey. At the Technology Board Showcase, we will be sharing the results of this survey.

MOP Co-Op - Technology Team Support Service Metrics for the Month of October

The Technology Department helped provide support numbers

- There were **316** support request tickets created
- The average response time for first contact for a help request was **4 hours, 28 minutes**
- The average resolution time was **6 hours, 58 minutes**
- Technology support setup for **23+** Professional development meetings for the month

Director of Special Projects Karen Roy Reports:

March is Reading Month - Here we are in March is Reading Month. We would love to have you read in any of our 10 classrooms! Please email me or catch me after the Board meeting if you are interested, and I can get you hooked up!

At Eastwood we are partnering with our Parent Coalition and SLD Read to have a Story Walk/Family Fun Night using the book Going on a Bear Hunt. Should be great fun for all!

Enrollment for the 2018-19 year is under way and ramping up! I am in the process of meeting with all the local elementary principals to discuss transitions from GSRP to kindergarten and to build relationships between our programs and kindergarten teachers. So far the individualized meetings have gone great and have led to some additional actions that will strengthen our bonds. We are working to increase the understanding of our curriculum and assessment and how they align to their curriculum.

Professional Development - We have been working with itinerant staff to provide specialized professional development for our staff in a lunch and learn format and are looking at how we can continue this next year, as it is providing to be very beneficial for staff and we see them implementing the strategies and asking more questions to better serve the kiddos in their classrooms and help address any delays without having to move to an IEP.

Our Poverty Simulations were very successful last month at Ferris, having over 100 people in each event. Ferris is now going to write a grant to the foundation to get

an additional kit and create a system on their campus for ensuring students have an opportunity to experience the simulation at some point during their educational time at the campus. Additionally, I submitted a proposal for the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Conference to provide a simulation as part of pre-conference offerings.

We are helping out Montcalm ISD and fielding some homeless issues for their districts and helping facilitate meetings for their liaisons due to their McKinney-Vento Grant Coordinator being involved in a severe traffic accident. The coordinator is doing well and is in a rehabilitation facility but is unable to return to work for this school year. So far it has been a smooth process working with those liaisons and the ISD Superintendent to ensure folks have the support they need.

Thanks for your continued support! It is appreciated! Have a great March toward spring!!

Special Education

Director of Special Education Kim Tufnell Reports:

Eleven parents and community members were in attendance at the second **Building Positive Relationships: Your Child's Success in School** held at the Big Rapids Public Library on February 14 with Michigan Alliance for Families. Once again the evaluations were extremely positive. Unfortunately we did not have enough registrants for the Transition to High School and Beyond workshops scheduled for Reed City on February 20 and MOISD on February 21 so those had to be canceled. We will continue to collaborate with Michigan Alliance and look to reschedule those two

workshops for April. Michael Bausano will present one more workshop on Building Positive Relationships on March 13 at Mecosta Elementary School.

Caught Making Good Things Happen for Other People--Last year the ISD supervisors and I started a little operation aimed to spotlight staff who went above and beyond for students and our local districts. We decided to make it less covert starting in January, and are using the early release days when we're together to recognize those staff who were "Caught." The staff member receives a certificate and a gift card to an area business to have lunch or a specialty coffee on us. February staff who were CAUGHT were Bonnie Clark, MOEC Teacher, Julie Plummer, Occupational Therapist, and Kara Lake, School Social Worker. Past winners include Alyssa Csernai, Wendy Endres, Mary Corder, Angela Moore, Cortney Clay, Tina Luce, Stacy Langworthy, Erin Blashill, Kim Bowen, Marie Chapman, John Kelly, Keely Kadig, DeAnn Snyder, Jamie Robertson, Summer Deline, Chelsea Bancroft, and others that I may have forgotten! We already have some ready to go for March!



The Michigan Council for Exceptional Children conference was held in Grand Rapids on February 28-March 2, and MOISD was well represented by both ISD and local staff in attendance. I attended the full day workshop Trauma Informed Schools conducted by Dr. Stephanie Grant, together with break out sessions on Michigan's Third Grade Reading Law, Effective Leadership Collaboration to Support MTSS & PBIS, Social Emotional Learning, Self Care for Educators, and Pre

Employment Training Services. Actress, author and mother of a child with autism Holly Robinson Peete was the keynote speaker.

Our training with Chippewa Hills and MIBLSI is in full swing as they prepare to implement School Wide Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports in the fall. Teams from Mecosta, Barryton, and Weidman Elementary Schools joined the teams from Lakeview as they worked through a jam packed agenda for their Day 2 PBIS boot camp. The day offered opportunities for collaboration and varying activities, so it was far from a "sit n' git" type of day.



Mecosta Elementary teacher, Tiffany Tice and MIBLSI Implementation Specialist, Tawny Smith lead their teams through a Graffiti Wall activity to show their knowledge of MTSS and PBIS.

As a requirement of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), states are only allowed to have 1% of their students assessed with alternative assessments. This would mean for Michigan, only 1% of the special education population may take the Mi-Access rather than the M-Step. Due to Michigan exceeding the 1% in previous years, each district who contributed to the +2.3% statewide needed to provide an EXCEEDING 1% CAP JUSTIFICATION FORM to the ISD by February 15. The ISDs were required to collect the forms, complete the ISD Justification Form and submit to MDE by March 9. All districts

within the ISD area have exceeded the cap and all forms as required have been submitted. MDE hopes to use the data to apply for a waiver allowing greater than 1%. As required by law, the IEP Team makes the determination as to which assessment would be appropriate for the student.

Special Education Supervisor Christy Miller Reports:

MOISD Middle School EI Program Grades 5-8 - February is Bully Buster month at Big Rapids Middle School with a "Service - How Can I Help?" theme. Students have spent the month finding ways to help others at school and home. They have completed random acts of kindness, written thank you notes to family members and staff, and participated in grade level community service days. Our 6th grade students spent a morning at the Aris Farm helping to feed calves, provide calves with clean bedding, and cleaning the bulk tank where milk is stored. Other community service projects included volunteering at area nursing homes, Habitat for Humanity, ArtWorks, Project Starburst, MOISD Education Center, and the Big Rapids elementary schools.

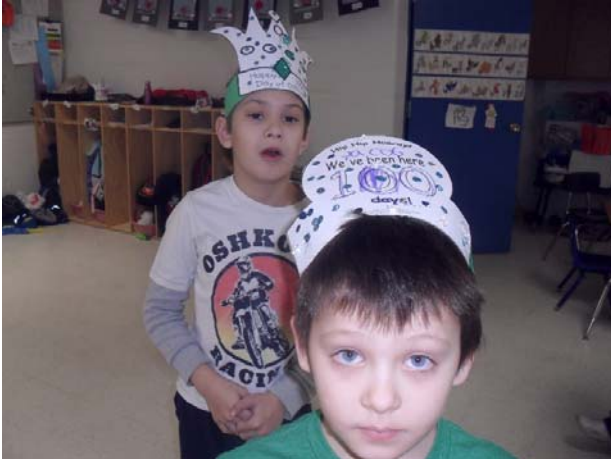


Occupational Therapy - The MOISD occupational therapy staff has over 100 years of experience helping students reach their goals. Occupational therapy focuses on skills for independence in the school setting—specifically, we look at how deficit areas impact a student and whether that inhibits them from completing their curriculum. We work in a variety of capacities—in Early On, in preschool classrooms, on evaluation teams and providing direct and consult services to students of all ages at all of the ISD-run programs as well as the local schools. It's safe to say that no two days are the same as an occupational therapist as we work to problem solve and break down barriers that our students face as well as develop the skills needed for a student to be complete their day as independently as possible.

Special Education Supervisor Beth Bond Reports:

Staff and students at the Education Center celebrated 100 days of school on 2/9/18. Students participated in activities such as 100 exercises in the gym, making headbands, and decorating cards for the elderly.





On February 27, 2018 we kicked off March is Reading Month with an all school assembly. The theme this year is Super Heroes! It was only fitting that Superman/Superwoman, Batman, Wonder Women, and even the Queen of Recycling Hero were a few of the super heroes to show up and get the students excited about the following activities/events.

Door Decorating: Superhero Theme - all classrooms, whole school

March 2- 8:30-9:15 - Dr. Seuss Birthday-Green Eggs and Ham breakfast

Super Readers – ISD and community members are welcome to come in and read.

Contact Patience at the MOEC office (pnemeth@moisd.org)

Spirit Week - March 19 to March 23:

Monday--Dress like a Leprechaun--wear green!

Tuesday--Dress like a Superhero

Wednesday--Dress like a Superhero

Thursday--Dress like a local hero (dress like your favorite police officer, firefighter, teacher, mom, dad, anyone you think of as a hero)

Friday--Hedgehog Day (wear your Hedgehog gear)

