



Career & Technical Education

Director Steve Locke Reports on CTE News:

Goals

1. 75% of all MOCC students will earn Completer status.
2. 65% of students will earn an industry-recognized credential.
3. 75% of all MOCC Program Completers will be identified as Career Ready.
4. 100% of all Completers will have a completed MAP.
5. 85% of MOCC Programs will have an industry connection that results in:
 - a. Work-Based Learning Activities
 - b. Established Apprenticeships or Internships

Five-Year Goals

1. From the follow-up survey process, 90% of all Completers will be:
 - a. Participating in additional technical training, or, participating in post-secondary training, or, participating in a job-career earning a “living” wage.
2. 100% of MOCC Programs will have a Completer rate of 85% or higher.

3. 85% of students will earn an industry-recognized credential, college credits, or participate in an internship.
4. 90% of program Completers will be career ready.

Enrollment - As of Aug 30, there are 613 students participating in career and technical education at the Mecosta-Osceola Career Center. Students and staff alike were equally excited for the MOCC to start back up for the fall! Many fun and engaging activities were planned as the MOCC staff welcomed the newest cohort of first year students and reconnected with experienced and eager second year students.

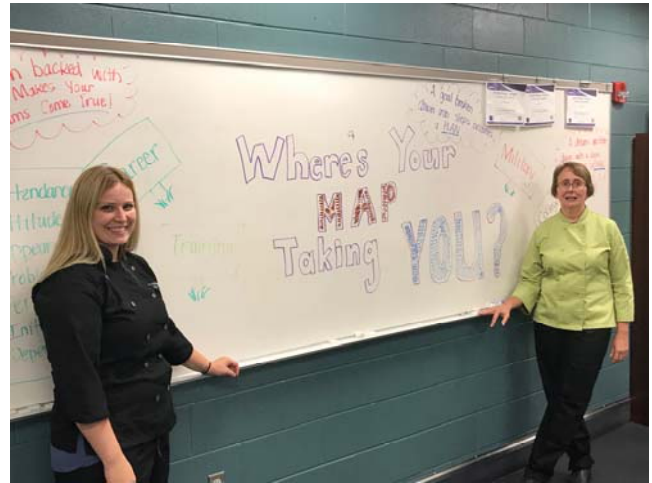


Over the first few days, the main office was busy with activity, as new students were being added and some students were requesting other MOCC programs. Students that request a program change are first required to update their Educational Development Plan (EDP) and then meet with Wendy Iltis, the Student Services Coordinator, to ensure that the new requested program is a good fit. Connecting students Educational Development Plans (EDPs) to their MOCC program has contributed to fewer program changes and a more intentional approach to program participation.

Historically, enrollment stabilizes after the second full week of school. The MOCC's practice is to accommodate and add as many students as possible through this time.

My Action Plan (MAP) - The MAP is a main focus area of the MOCC for the upcoming school year. A student's MAP is their plan for how they will transition from High School to the next chapter in the future careers. This process started in the 2015-2016 school year and was designed to address the challenge of students not understanding the importance of planning and preparation for a successful transition from high school. There were too many examples of students leaving a successful experience with the MOCC and then not having a plan for what they were to do next. The MAP requires that every student have a career plan. Details and planning are not left to chance, students research and plan and then are supported as they "map" out their future. Regardless of what the students intend on doing for their respective careers, a MAP will assist them all in the transition from high school to beyond. Students were reminded of this over the first week of school as Mr. Miller charged them with "Where is your MAP taking you" during his daily dismissal.

As 2017-2018 is our third year, we are looking to continuously improve the MAP tool and collect data on the validity and impact of this practice.



MERC (My Education Readiness Certificate) - As the second primary initiative of 2017-2018, MOCC will continue to develop the MERC as a means to communicate students' career readiness. The MERC was instituted during the 2016-2017 school year and was designed to provide an achievement incentive to students, equip students with a career credential that is recognized locally, and as a performance data point for the MOCC. This certificate represents the employability skills that each student has learned and demonstrated over the course of the year. Variables such as a student's career and employability grade, attendance, communication, etc. are used to determine where each student is in their career readiness practices. Students can earn either a Gold, Ruby, Emerald, or Sapphire certificate. The MOCC staff and administration are working with regional business and industry representatives to communicate what each designation represents and how it would benefit them to consider the MERC in making hiring decisions.

Accreditation - As a part of the accreditation process, Linda Ward, Jodie Nunn, and the Cosmetology staff have been working diligently on preparing the MOCC's Self Study Report. This task has been a huge undertaking! The report describes and outlines policies, procedures and institutional behaviors that demonstrate compliance with the conditions and standards from COE. This report is required prior to both the Preliminary Visit and then from the actual Accreditation Team Visit from COE representatives. Ideally, the MOCC will go before the Council's Commission in Mid-November for a vote for full accreditation as a Post-Secondary institution.

Meceola Tech

Goals for 2017-18

1. Establish a Meceola Tech Advisory Committee comprised of the following:
 - a. Business and Industry Representatives
 - b. Education Administration and Faculty
 - c. Other key stakeholders
2. Establish Career Pathway Advisory Committees.
 - a. Manufacturing/Production
 - b. Public Safety
 - c. Allied Health
 - d. Transportation/Logistics
 - e. Information Technology
3. 80% of Meceola Tech students will earn an industry-recognized credential.
4. Develop and offer a minimum of five new courses and two new programs.

Five-Year Goals

1. The Meceola Tech will offer a minimum of six viable Career Pathway Programs that are aligned to regional business and industry employment needs.
2. The Meceola Tech will be a Title IV eligible institution.
3. All Meceola Tech Programs will result in a student success rate of 90%.
4. 70% of all Meceola Tech graduates will be employed in a career related to their program.

Emergency Medical Technician - The first Meceola Tech EMT cohort is starting down the backstretch towards completion. The course started with 16 students, and all but one are still working toward completion. Successful completers of the course will be able to test for their National Emergency Medical Technician certification. This certification is used to obtain a license in the State of Michigan to practice as an EMT. Students will be starting their clinical rotations the week of September 4. Mecosta County EMS and Spectrum Health Reed City and Big Rapids are the sites for the rotations. Students are required to complete 24 hours in an Ambulance and eight hours in an Emergency Room.

Section 107 Grant - In the 2018 State Budget, the MOISD was identified as one of four eligible ISDs for a \$400,000 grant-funded pilot program that connects Career and Technical Education with Adult Education. The MOISD's involvement stemmed from a visit this past spring from Senator Hansen and a connection with the Linked Muskegon program from Muskegon ISD. Senator Hansen was impressed with the

MOCC and with the direction and mission of Meceola Tech.

Currently we are in the process of establishing partnerships with Evart Public Schools and Fremont Public Schools for the Adult Education components. Additionally, we are collaborating with Michigan Works! West Central for support services, classroom spaces for Adult Education and Career Services. The Career and Technical Education will be offered at the MOCC through Meceola Tech, as students will participate in a quasi dual enrollment function. Expect to see a lot of excitement about this program and much more information is to come!

General Education

Director of Special Projects Karen Roy Reports:

Wow! It feels like a lifetime ago when I last shared updates through this medium! It feels good to be back at it! Much has transpired both personally and professionally and let's just say there are only positives to report! Let me begin...

Evart Reads is gearing up for the new school year. Jenny will host a kick-off meeting on September 18 for all new and returning volunteers. They are planning training dates and refresher courses for folks, and mentors will begin meeting with students on October 2. The program has been getting local press in the *Wildcat Chronicle* and *Talk of the Town* (coming out in September). Now to back-fill a bit of data from last year!

- For the 2016-17 school year we had 25 reading mentors and 15 guest readers (40 volunteers) in the school—impressive!
- Folks invested 396 hours volunteering—thank you to them and to the businesses that allowed them release time to support the local elementary school.
- 50 guest reader sessions were held
- 1250 students were read to
- During March is reading month, students read for 3000 minutes
- 50+ students were mentored our pilot year

During the end-of-the-year meeting/celebration with the mentors/volunteers, the following words, phrases stood out as they were talking about the program and their experience:

Loved, nervous, helpful, impact, adaptable, momentum, community involvement, precious, nota a one-size-fits all, looked forward to these days, confidence, involved, excited, blessed, passionate, enjoyed, worked hard, focused, proud, progress, motivated, practice, challenging, joy, positive, relationships, privileged, blossomed, beautiful times....makes my heart sing!

Evart used the NWEA assessment for identifying students to be involved in the program. They were able to document increases in “realized growth” from “expected growth” with a 13 point difference being shown at the third grade level.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library - More children were added to the program over the summer. As of August, 140 children in the birth-5th birthday age group are receiving books mailed monthly to their homes. Twenty-five children have

graduated (aged out) of the program. Since inception in December of 2016, 1153 books have been mailed to children in the Evert area.

Little Free Libraries - At the beginning of the summer, the last three Little Free Libraries built by the Evert Middle School students were opened, bringing our total to 10 libraries open around town. The flow of books has continued throughout the summer, as families bring books to donate to the libraries, or drop off books at collection buckets at area banks. The free lunch/summer reading program at the Evert Elementary School has also incorporated the Little Free Libraries into their program by placing lollipops in the libraries on Monday as an added incentive for kids to visit the boxes.

StoryWalk - So far, three monthly StoryWalks based on the theme "Things that grow" have been placed in Main Street business windows, and have been a big hit for families to visit in the downtown area.

Great Start Readiness Program - craziness abounds! On Sunday, August 27, at 7 p.m., I received a call from the Evert Superintendent requesting that MOISD take over their GSRP program. And so we are! We are working fast and furious to change over the state child care license, hire staff, meet with families, and outfit a classroom with all the cool stuff teacher and kids need to do what they do best together. Enrollment continues in all areas--still working to fill a handful of slots in all districts. We partnered with Ferris State University to offer GSRP in their Early Learning Center, so that represents another expansion of programming in our region along with adding an additional classroom at Weidman Elementary.

Back to Basics - In late August we hosted a community training focusing on safe sleep. Mecosta/Osceola counties are second in the state for the rate of deaths related to safe sleep. We need to make sure we are connecting with families and anyone who cares for our youngest children about the importance of having a crib that is empty when you place babies in them on their backs to sleep. People need to use sleep sacks and not blankets when putting babies to sleep. Bumper pads, stuffed animals or draped blankets on the cribs are huge no-no's as is sleeping with your child in a chair or in your bed.

The Back to Basics training was a collaborative effort of several agencies, and here is what transpired:

- **Back to the BASICS** was attended by parents, grandparents, unlicensed and licensed child care providers, teen babysitters, and community members.
- **Back to the BASICS** was created to clear up the confusion concerning safe sleep for those caring for children (newborn to 12 months).
- The evening was a collaborative event: Mecosta Children's Council, Mecosta-Osceola Great Start Collaborative, and Great Start to Quality - Western Resource Center.
- Sandy [mother of Hattie who passed away due to unsafe sleep at a child care home] shared her story. At the end of her time, Sandy addressed each individual 'group' of people with a plea to embrace safe sleep - parents, grandparents, caregivers, and child care providers.
- Holly Alway, Mercy Prevention Advocate, shared **BASIC** fact-based

safe sleep practices. She shared the alarming fact that Mecosta County is #2 in the state for unsafe sleep deaths (beating the city of Detroit). She shared how situations have changed (mattresses are pillowtop) therefore we cannot continue to do things as we did “years ago.”

- Meceola Child’s Council and the Great Start to Quality - Western Resource Center gave away two baskets valued at over \$100.00.
- Everyone who attended received Halo Sleep Sacks (donated by Meceola Child's Council). More are already being requested!!! WIN!



The Salvation Army used our gym in August to pack 2,464 backpacks full of school supplies for each of the elementary schools in our area. Many community partners came together to make this a reality—Cargill, the Community Foundations, Staples, Wolverine Worldwide, Big Rapids Products, MOISD, and United Way. Thirty-five volunteers packed them all in five hours! It was quite a sight!

It is wonderful to hear and see the halls full of bright, shining faces ready to learn and play with their new friends. In spite of all the news stories being broadcast about the darker side of politics, international affairs and natural disasters, these kids are why we do what we do each and every year, day in and day out. They are proof of hope, happiness and innocence in a chaotic world—they add value to my life every day and I strive to do the same for them in my own way.

Big Rapids Rock Hunt - Staff had the opportunity to contribute to Big Rapids Rock Hunt on their first day back. Everyone chose their rock and had to paint something on it

that represented their work at the MOISD. They shared their creations, and now they are out in the community for folks to find and share their finds on Facebook. The whole project was started by one of the parents on our parent coalition. It has been a great family activity. Now MOISD has a presence in the project! Go looking! See what you find and post on Facebook!



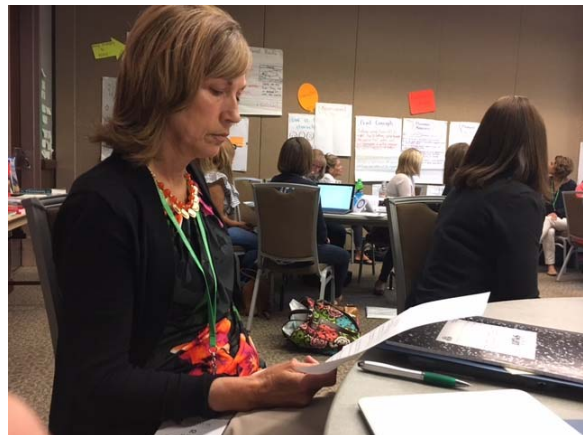
Thanks for your continued support!

Director of General Education Tonya Harrison Reports:

New General Education Team Members - Our team has grown over the summer! The MOISD has added a Behavioral Specialist to our team. Michael Bausano will be housed in the Resource Building, but he is being split funded between the Special Education and General Education Departments, as we strive to meet the needs of all students. Research shows a strong link between behaviors and literacy, which we know

impacts students at all levels of their academic success. Michael will serve all districts, and he will also be acting as a MiBlsi consultant to Chippewa Hills, as we support this grant-funded state initiative for their district. Our other new team member is also split funded. Justin Fox, currently a teacher in our Career Center, will be joining our team as a Math-Science Consultant. He will continue to provide services to our Career Center teachers, but will expand into the locals as a consultant. His new office is in the Resource Center, next to Larry Wyn. We are excited about the growth in our team and how it will continue to impact our services for the local districts.

Early Literacy - Our literacy coaches have had a busy summer of learning. They attended numerous trainings, including MiELA, Literacy Instruction and Coaching, and Explicit Instruction with Anita Archer.



RC Teacher, Jo Knack, at MiELA

Jo Knack, a Kindergarten teacher from Reed City, was invited to attend the MiELA learning with Cathy Wirth. Cathy worked with Jo last year, as Jo reworked her instructional practice, to align with the Essential Practices in Early Literacy, and saw huge growth with her students. The two

have been invited to present at next summer's conference.



Amy posey @Acposey · 6d
Great learning around Explicit Instruction taking place this week with Anita Archer!



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Cathy and Amy with Anita Archer

Part of our commitment to the Chippewa Hills School District is to attend learning that supports the MiBIsi initiative. Cathy and Amy spent four days learning about explicit instruction and coaching in Grand Rapids. Anita Archer is a worldwide facilitator and author for education.

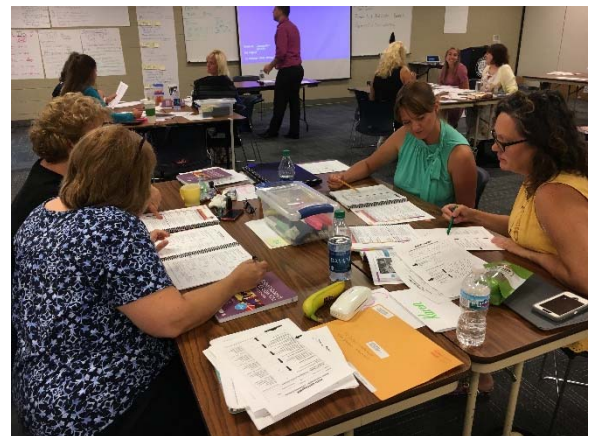
Our Literacy Coaches continue to learn and support the needs of our locals as it relates to the 3rd Grade Reading Legislation. We are currently working with teachers in Big Rapids, Reed City, Mecosta, Barryton, and Morley-Stanwood. We hope to add to that throughout the school year. We have a common ISD-wide Individual Reading Improvement Plan for all elementary schools. It was created with teachers, principals, and our literacy coaches last spring.

Math and Science - Larry Wyn traveled for much of his learning this summer. He is one step closer to being a full Math Recovery Interventionist Facilitator after spending a week in Minnesota. Currently he is a facilitator for Tier I Math Recovery but should be complete with all of his training at

the end of the school year. He also spent time in Philadelphia for Code.Org. This training supports our middle school robotics initiative. Both of these trainings were covered by grants from the Math Science Network.

In June, Larry facilitated the end of the Intel Math learning for our local elementary and middle school math teachers. During the second week of August, Larry facilitated four days of Math Recovery for classroom teachers. Teachers from Morley-Stanwood, Reed City, and Crossroads attended the training.

The response was overwhelmingly positive, with some teachers asking how their entire elementary teams can be trained. We will continue to have this conversation with our teachers throughout the year and into June, as they are required to get an additional 32 hours of learning and another week of training.



Morley-Stanwood Teachers at Math Recovery

Ongoing Activities:

TRIG/Michigan Collaboration Hub - I continue to be involved with the TRIG project, now called the Michigan Collaboration Hub. We will continue to work on and pursue teaching and learning as it

relates to integrating technology into the classroom and instructional practice. The MOISD Gen Ed and Tech teams are collaborating on the State Data Hubs project and the State SEN project. Our goal is two-fold: 1. All LEA's be connected to the State Network, when the system is ready for connection 2. LEA data crossing into the Hubs for use by the local buildings. One of our locals has active data being sent to Data Hubs. In addition to our participation on the Hub, I am a member of the Data Hubs Advisory Team and the Revision Team for MDE of the Michigan Technology Standards/Competencies.

Reading Now Network – I am currently on both the RNN Field Study Team and the new Leadership Planning Committee for the future of RNN. We continue to meet monthly to plan for future learning, promoting the goals of RNN to Region 3 and beyond, lab school progress, principal coaching, and classroom libraries. Our next big learning event will be on October 3, where national presenter and educator, Doug Reeves, will be our keynote speaker. Work with the RNN has expanded to include MAISA Region 7, opening more opportunities to learn and share about literacy in the classroom.

Professional Learning at the MOISD - The upcoming school year is already showing to be a busy year of learning. On August 1, the Special Education and General Ed teams brought a facilitator in from the Bureau of Education to share strategies and instructional practices for Reading Interventions. Teachers and principals from our locals attended the learning.

On August 8, we brought in Aric Foster, from Stem and Flower Learning, to share

learning on Standards Based Grading and Learning with our local principals, teachers, and superintendents. Our local superintendents requested a learning opportunity about standards-based grading. Aric and his partner, Megan, are classroom teachers who have created the presentations to show that standards-based grading can be effective and beneficial for all students. One of our locals is moving ahead and has scheduled Aric and Megan to provide learning in their high school. After the next local superintendent meeting, we will know if we should schedule more ISD-wide learning events.



Locals learning about Standards-Based Grading

The MOISD has several more opportunities for learning coming up this year:

5-D Educator Evaluation:

September 22 and November 30

Early Release Days:

Early Literacy:

Sept. 15, Nov. 17, Jan. 19, March 16

Math/Science:

Oct. 20, Dec. 15, Feb. 16, May 18

Math Recovery:

Over 30 hours of learning at onsite schools during the school year and one full week of learning in June (date not finalized)

Director of Technology Fred Sharpsteen Reports:

Certification - Chad Marshal has passed his CompTIA A+ certification and Mike Schonert passed his CompTIA Network+. Please take a moment to congratulate Chad and Mike on their achievements. This is a world recognized certification test. These skills will help the ISD with its mission by helping to further protect our students' data and network services. The skills they have worked on will help further the security of our computer systems and the security of the network and help to keep the network functioning at a high level.

Wide Area Network (WAN) - The WAN traffic has been moved up in speed from Charter going from 500 mbps connection to a 1000 mbps connection. We will also be looking into what role the State Education Network will play in getting us more internet bandwidth, as there has traditionally been a need to increase speeds by no less than 30% annually.

Erate Program - The MOISD has received notification that the Erate program has accepted our application for category two hardware and network wiring. This will help to add new computer network drops to locations that don't have them and to update some older computer network drops. We will be modernizing some of the network closet switching and also adding UPS that provided electricity to the switches that the phones are hooked. This will

increase safety of staff and students when the power goes out.

Document Imaging Project - This project has been completed, and the Finance department is training and starting to use this for archiving their business records. This project is set up in a way that this could be shared within the organization and with others.

Community Broadband Network meeting - The Community Broadband Network has continued to meet. They have written a mission statement and will be working on consensus agreement at a near future meeting. There is some movement at the FCC and the state to do TV White Space (TVWS) to the homes for educational purposes. We will be visiting a model project as soon as it is completed in Alpena, Michigan. We have also been invited to present at a state conference on an equity in student learning panel and the Gap being created with students of poverty not having the same access to these services as their peers.

MoTech News - The county-wide technology directors group met in mid-June. At this meeting there was discussion about collaboration opportunities for the group.

- AntiVirus software collaborative purchase--purchase for this was completed with 100% participation in the program.
- The group is investigating the joint purchase of School Messenger, a call alert system for the LEAs to help in snow day parent calls and other school communications.

MOP Co-Op - We are in the process of bringing on a parochial school here in Big Rapids to the support partnership. We plan to have them fully on board when school starts. We will be offering them Level 2 and Level 3 support and possibly some Level 1 support as needed.

We have helped some of the local schools with their projects to get ready for the start of the new school year. With construction running long, they reached out to us to see if we could help support them, and with a team effort we helped them to get the system installed and operational.

MOTA - We have completed the bus repeater system and have run a system test. We are helping the local bus radio company to expand their coverage by partnering with the Mecosta County Road Commission.

Technology Team Support Service Metrics for the Month of July - The Technology Department helped provide the following support:

- There were **196** support request tickets created
- The average response time for first contact for a help request was **5 hours, 16 minutes**.
- Technology support for **12** Professional development meetings for the month including the staff back- to-school meetings.
- Major MOP projects for the month:
 - Muskegon River Youth Home - network reorganization
 - Bus Radio System - This was completed in collaboration with Crouch

- Document Imaging - This project has been completed
- Set up hardware and software for the new school year
- Installed new projection units in the MOCC
- Reset staff and student password as needed
- Currently working on the new video security system with the vendor
- Replaced Switching
- New inventory system
- Imported all local students into the MOISD Skyward
- Worked on Data Hub Project and local schools

Special Education

Director of Special Education Kim Tufnell Reports:

New Staff - Welcome to the new staff members who joined our incredible special education team: Madison Herbart (School Psychologist), Dana Boglarsky (US-10/MOEC Secretary), Jesse Lang (Dean of Students at Pineview), Craig Bartholomew (Teacher at Pineview), Michael Bausano (Behavior Specialist), and Annelise Folkema (Speech Pathologist). We also welcome back to MRYH Kathleen Carson Rau. Krista Tiedt will also be joining our US10 teaching staff in a few short weeks.

Community Outreach - The Special Education Department will be focusing on community outreach as part of the ISD's Vision 20/20 goal #1 of becoming "a rural leader in aligning and supporting a

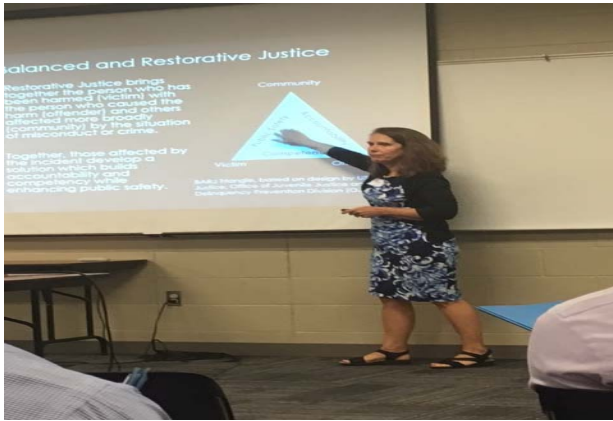
preschool to post-secondary system of excellence for all MOISD students and districts.” We have many different plans in the works with all supervisors focusing on specific areas that address the needs of their area of the department. For example, with Christy being our Northern Autism Network Representative, she is working on Community Conversations and support groups/events for parents of students with special needs. Pat is focusing on job skill opportunities in Evart for students on US10; Beth has increased the TCLE sites to include Walgreen’s, Country Inn and Suites, and is firming up plans with Meijer next. Carol has become part of several service organizations in the community and has invited incredible speakers to attend Transition Council as part of our efforts to gain valuable resources for our students and families. I am working with Michigan Alliance for Families on the Parent Engagement Pilot, and have met with Michelle Chisolm, our Area 5 Representative for Special Olympics, in hopes of increasing student and parent involvement in activities outside the school day.

Professional Learning - In doing our part to work toward excellence on the ISD goal #2 Professional Learning, on August 1, 40+ educators from the ISD and surrounding ISDs attended the General Education/Special Education collaborative **Response to Intervention: Targeted Interventions that Work K-6 Workshop** from the Bureau of Education and Research. National presenter Kristen Large provided the group with engaging conversation and incredible resources that will improve and enhance their practices in their classrooms. The evaluations showed an extremely positive response to the workshop, with comments like: “Very worthwhile! I highly recommend this

seminar:” “Excellent workshop! I got SO many helpful tools to use with ALL my students and best of all, everything is done in order--So easy to implement! I can’t wait to share with my other staff members;” and “AMAZING!”



Zero Tolerance - In response to the new Zero Tolerance legislation, we hosted Nancy Schertzing, from Schertzing Communications, to facilitate the Introduction to Restorative Justice training on August 15. Thirty-six administrators from our local schools and surrounding ISDs attended the all-day workshop focusing on the new law which requires schools to consider Restorative Justice before suspending or expelling a student. The second training component is Circles, which MOISD will gladly host should our local administrators want to delve further into the concept of Restorative Justice.



Conference - Carol, Christy, Beth and I attended the annual MAASE Summer Institute in Traverse City August 6-9. This conference is always packed with a wealth of incredible break-out sessions, and this year proved to be no different with topics like: Town Hall Meeting w/ Teri Chapman and MDE, Zero Tolerance and Special Education, Update on Emergency Seclusion & Restraint, Trauma Informed Practices, and more. The keynote speaker was Todd Whitaker, author of over 40 publications, including What Good Teachers Do Differently, Motivating and Inspiring Teachers, and his latest book (of which all in attendance received a copy) Shifting the Monkey: The Art of Protecting Good People from Liars, Criers and other Slackers.

MIBSLI - As a precursor to MIBSLI starting in Chippewa Hills this fall, Tonya and I together with five other general education and special education staff members attended the PBIS Summit in July in Mt. Pleasant. It was nice to be able to connect with other schools who are starting on their partnership with MIBSLI and to learn more about evidence-based practices in school-wide PBIS.

Pilot Program - I met with Michigan Alliance for Families in August to solidify plans for our Parent Engagement Pilot this year. We mapped out and scheduled mini and major events for parents in each district through November, with the first being a mini event on September 20 from 1-2:30 at the Evert Public Library and 7-8:30 at GT Norman where trainer Kelly Orginski will discuss Positive Behavior Supports. On September 21, Kelly will present Positive Behavior Support and the IEP from 6:30 - 8:30 at Mecosta Elementary School. McNeal's Pizza will be providing pizza for the event, so we hope to have many parents in attendance. In October MAF will take their show on the road to Morley Stanwood, Big Rapids and Chippewa Hills; and in November events will take place in Reed City, Big Rapids and Barryton Elementary School. Other topics that are planned for the year include a session with Kelly Dunlop from START, Restorative Justice and Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Families. We are very excited to be partnering with Michigan Alliance for Families and to be able to bring such great resources to our local families.

**Special Education Supervisor
Carol Phelps Reports:**

Community Outreach - The Community Resource Group I attend held a mini-supply

drive to assist the Salvation Army's area-wide school supply drive that will be given away at back to school events. The MOISD Administration and Early On staff pitched in and donated 15 backpacks, 2 boxes of three ring binders, 1 box of assorted folders, 1 box of spiral ruled paper and a bag full of assorted crayons, folders, pencils and erasers. In addition to this, Mr. Miller added to the donation with a box loaded with awesome school supplies that were dropped off to the Salvation Army at a later date.



Attending this group is a part of expanding the MOISD special education footprint and building community relationships to provide opportunities for our students and their families at the birth to preschool and transition levels. Another group I attend with this same purpose in mind is Children's Council. Along with that purpose, the idea is to participate and contribute to the community as well.

Through these groups, I have booked speakers for Transition Council for the upcoming school year and learned of opportunities to benefit both students and their parents that I was able to pass along to staff to share with them.

One opportunity was to both serve and do child find at the same time via a carnival held at Big Rapids Middle School during their last Meet Up and Eat Up lunch. Andi Strickler (Early On Coordinator) and Alyssa Csernai (Speech Pathologist) and I worked the carnival where students and their families came around playing games to win school supplies. We were able to also give away sleep sacks, onesies, t-shirts and most importantly information to parents of younger children and talk about the Early On program.



Alyssa Csernai working the bag toss game



Andi Strickler working the sucker tree game

Summer Institute - I had the opportunity to attend Summer Institute put on by MAASE this August. I attended sessions with

keynote Todd Whitaker, What Great Leaders Do Differently, Early Intervention, Birth to Three, What You Need to Know, Data-Driven Decisions about LRE in Preschool Settings, Using DEC Recommended Practices to Support High Quality ECSE services and Programs, Indicator B13: What Do You Mean It's Not Compliant?, Determining Dosage in Birth to 3 Programming, A Sneak Peak at Catamaran, Early On and Preschool Special Education Updates and a meeting with PCG. This professional learning is a wonderful opportunity to gather information and bring it back to the teams I serve both here at the ISD and locally.

First Day of School!



Students in Mrs. Clay's Early Childhood Special Education Preschool (ECSEP) classroom enjoy time outside at the end of their first day of school

Christy Miller Reports:

Itinerant Report - This 2017-2018 saw the return of the majority of our itinerant staff. The speech department has added a new staff member to its ranks this year. Annelise Folkema has joined the Hedgehog Nation and will be providing speech services to students in Ewart and along the US-10 corridor. She is a recent Calvin College graduate, completing her clinical fellowship year with us. We are looking forward to having Annelise as part of our team. Welcome Annelise!

Satellite Report - All classes are now back up and running with smiling faces. Walking into each room you can see the excitement students and staff have at being back to school.

With the start of this school year, the emotionally impaired satellite classrooms are implementing a new positive behavior support system based upon a levels system. Classroom teams, led by teachers Micky Payton and Erin Blashill, have worked hard over the summer to modify and shape this program to best meet the needs of their students. The level program provides clear guidelines for students regarding expected behavior and the consequences, both positive and negative, of decisions. Also incorporated into the program are community service outings to teach additional life skills such as responsibility and community involvement.



Special Education Supervisor Beth Bond Reports:

I am thrilled to be starting my 3rd year as Special Education Supervisor at the Education Center. I'm anxious to use my knowledge/experience to a higher level this year in regard to staff and students.

As usual, the Ed Center is already hopping with enthusiastic teachers and students. The hallways are starting to come alive as examples of student academic work and art

projects are displayed. Of course the first order of business is to explain and practice classroom and building procedures. We are very fortunate to have all our classroom and itinerant staff members back from last year, so even if students are in a new room/program, they are seeing familiar faces. With the exception of a couple of late starts to lunch, the year is starting off smoothly.

New Staff - Speaking of running smoothly... we have a new Administrative Assistant, Dana Boglarsky. Dana will be joining Patience Nemeth in the office, and her duties include arriving at 6 a.m. to assist with busing and attendance questions/issues. She will also be assisting the staff at US-10 with IEP paperwork, etc. Another addition is a half-time para, Ashley Thompson. Ashley is currently assisting with our elementary resource students, some of whom she is familiar from her other role as ECSEP para.

TCLE - Other new additions! In alignment with Special Ed Department's goal of reaching out to the community, our Transition Community Living Experience (TCLE) for our older students has gained additional sites this year. We welcome aboard Walgreen and Country Inn and Suites. We hope to add a few more to the list in the new future.

Playground - Phase I and II of the playground equipment has been installed, and the students are loving it! Like they say...a picture is worth a thousand words.



Elementary SCI staff and students-- Even Mr. Klumpp is in on the action.



All our friends can get to the "Pirate Ship."



Gavin is enjoying the spinner while Chris is singing along with the piano panel.



Middle school students enjoy spinning around.

US-10 Supervisor Pat Craven Reports:

The US 10 Corridor Schools welcome everyone back to the 2017-2018 school year! Our schools at Pineview Homes and Muskegon River Youth Home have been officially back in session since July 10, and we have been as busy as ever. Our team was able to secure three new teachers over the summer, as well as a new Dean of Students for Pineview Homes. We have been actively engaged in the quest to reduce school suspension and expulsion numbers by the study and use of Restorative Justice practices. The Corridor Schools have also been very busy building community partnerships through a collaborative transition program. Our new school year is providing us with tremendous opportunities to positively impact our students.

New Staff - We would like to acknowledge and welcome our three new teachers and Dean of Students. Craig Bartholomew has accepted a teaching position with our Pineview Homes School. Kathleen Rau has accepted a teaching position with our

Muskegon River Youth Home School. Krista Tiedt has accepted a teaching position with our Muskegon River Youth Home School. Jesse Lang has accepted the position of Dean of Students at Pineview Homes. All four of these individuals are tremendous additions to our team and we welcome them. We are excited to see where their energy and ideas can take our students.

Restorative Justice - Early in the spring, our US-10 team began the journey in Restorative Justice. One of the teachers and I attended a two-day training in Lansing where we were able to learn and practice the principles of restorative justice circles. The ancient concept of restorative justice circles attempts to surround victims and offenders with community so that everyone's needs can be met, the victim's harm can be healed, accountability can be taken, and the appropriate restitution can be made. All of these strategies are employed to reduce suspensions and expulsions and surround our students with a strong and supportive community that can provide them with the help and tools they need to be successful in school and life. With Michigan's Zero Tolerance laws changing this summer, Restorative Justice was identified as an option to consider in the place of suspensions and expulsions beyond ten school days. Our US-10 Corridor Schools look to be on the leading edge of this practice within the MOISD.

Community Outreach/Collaboration - The MOISD Special Education Department leadership identified a goal in the spring that would improve our community outreach and community collaboration. The US-10 Corridor Schools have put together a plan with facility leadership and community business owners that would provide job shadowing opportunities during regularly

scheduled school breaks. At this time, three local business in Ewart have committed to participate in our program. Students will be identified as transition ready by our transition coordinators and facility leadership. Their job shadowing experience will be closely linked to the student's individual career interests. This plan will provide our students with tremendous experience and allow them to learn from outstanding community mentors. Our goal is to have had students gain this first experience during our October break.

Things are really taking shape on the US-10 Corridor Schools. We are proud to serve the students and communities we work in. Our new employees bring new energy and experiences that will impact our students. Our team is so excited to build positive relationships with our students through Restorative Justice practices. Finally, we hope to have a truly positive impact on our students and community through our new transition partnerships. Welcome back and have a great school year!