



We are less than two years away from monumental change in education locally, throughout Michigan and across the country. I have always enjoyed listening to futurists as they seek to provide a look beyond tomorrow. In our current educational world, technology, funding, globalization, and the need for new school structures are about to collide, and the result will ultimately be exciting and good, after a period of unrest.

I was recently looking at a document entitled, "2020 Forecast: Creating the Future of Learning." The ideas of bottom up developments, changing the top down hierarchy, and collaborating to apply collective intelligence got my attention. The authors were talking about sharing personal and collaborative media, smart networks, and distributed innovation. Flexible educational infrastructures that offer enhanced visibility and accessibility made sense to me. We have the need for open learning systems as we have entered the age of globalization in educational delivery.

Locally, we are going to be challenged to rethink our current systems. Our structures of transportation, athletics, food service, business services, custodial/maintenance, and technology are about to be reshaped. Our leadership structures need to be rethought such that we build system capacity at a

lower cost. We need instructional leadership to focus on improving performance and providing the best possible instruction. And, we need curriculum enhancement, the expansion of student options, and virtual learning system expansion. We also need innovation from teachers with self monitoring and reciprocal accountability.

Reaching The Cliff To Find System Change

Under this new and rapidly changing system, we still need to maintain and enhance local school identity, not eliminate it. Health, environmental vitality, student well being and enhanced connections across communities will be big items. Schools will need to collaborate not only

regionally, but across the country and ultimately across the world. A local school board might have three major goals by which to measure success: 1) student achievement, 2) communication, and 3) collaboration. Interaction and active collaboration with other social services will be key to local success.

Funding often drives how soon change occurs. Right now, it certainly looks like change is coming.

Please call Scott Crosby at (231) 876-2260 or email at scrosby@wmisd.org with thoughts or questions related to our services.

Focus on the Future is a monthly publication of the WMISD. For additional copies, please contact Jennifer Gaffke at 231-876-2210. Please contact any of our Staff if you have any questions.
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The Wexford- Missaukee Career Technical Center Receives Prestigious USAF Recruiting Salutes Plaque

The Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center not only received a visit from the USAF Brigadier General AJ Stewart in May to unveil a 'Chopper Style' Golf Cart called Project Ace, but the USAF had a surprise award to present to the students and school. The Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center received the highest recognition for civilian recruiting by receiving a USAF Recruiting Salutes Plaque.

This past January the WMCTC received a Certificate of Appreciation from the USAF, then during the WMCTC Spring Open House the USAF presented the WMCTC with the Honorary Recruiter Certificate. The USAF has only presented three Recruiting Salutes Plaques in this zone in the past three years or more and two of them have been presented here in Cadillac, to McGuire's in November of 2006 and now to WMCTC.

"This is the highest recognition we can give in our 'Zone' formally," said David W. Kendall, CMSgt. USAF, "It's quite impressive and very well deserved. As General Stewart stated last week, we have over 36,000 recruits throughout the US and we need good partners like the WMCTC to successfully protect America."

"We work hard towards the success of our students and our students deserve the best," said David Cox, Director of the Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center, "Our graduates have many options and we are proud that some of them choose to serve our country, the Air Force has been a great partner."



There are three levels of Air Force awards that can be presented for support of the Air Force recruiting mission. They all are considered prestigious awards for individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions: 1. A Certificate of Appreciation; 2. Honorary Recruiter Certificate; 3. The AF Recruiting Salutes Plaque.



For more information on the Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center, go to <http://ctc.wmisd.org>

Highlights for the Child Study Investigation (CSI) Team Project

Among the many accomplishments for the Child Study Investigation (CSI) Team's accomplishments for the 2008-09 school year are as follows:

- Local School District Special Education Teachers, Reading Specialists and Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District Teacher Consultants received extensive training in Orton-Gillingham approach for teaching learning disabled students to read.
- Five 45 minute presentations were developed which addressed a "Response to Intervention" (RTI) for all stakeholders in school districts.
- Two "Make-And-Take-It" sessions were held to develop supplemental instructional intervention kits.
- Two official math pilot sites were established – McBain Elementary and Lincoln Elementary. Two other elementary buildings benchmarked math calculation in grades 2 through 5. "At Risk" students were progress monitored in all four buildings.
- Two secondary sites were officially added in January – Mackinaw Trail Middle School and Cadillac Jr. High School. McBain Middle School provided an intervention reading class, while Lake City Middle School benchmarked grades 6 – 8 in reading comprehension, written expression and math calculation.
- The "WMISD Parent's Guide to Response to Intervention" was developed.
- Various forms and processes were further refined and improved.
- In collaboration with McBain Elementary School, the CSI project was awarded the Michigan Association of School Boards "Michigan's Best Education Excellence Award."

Julie VanAlst and Michelle Swinson are coordinators of this project.

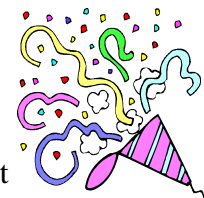
Local Teachers Work Together to Improve Instruction

How do teachers spend the first few days of summer vacation? While images of beaches and baseball games may come to mind, many teachers use the summer as time to plan lessons and fine tune instructional practices. Many local teachers spent the first few weeks of summer focusing on improving their craft by participating in professional development activities at WMISD.

This summer the focus was on math, science, and language arts. Capitalizing on local area expertise the ISD instructional consultants and area teacher leaders facilitated summer institutes to hone teaching skills and develop instructional materials. Teachers from our district attend sessions that feature current educational topics that are aligned with their area of expertise. Professionals from our local districts work collaboratively to review data, work on curriculum development, effective instructional practices and assessment.

All Elementary and Middle School Public Schools within Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Accreditation Standards for the 2008-2009 school year.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Please visit Michigan Department of Education website for more information regarding AYP at:
http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709_22875---,00.html



CTC Summer Camps

June 15-18, 2009



The CTC offered seven summer camps this year for students entering the 6-9 grades within the WMISD area. The camps included: Computer and Technology, Culinary, Diesel Power Mechanics, Electronics, Floral Design, Health Careers and Introduction to Welding / Metal Fabrication. Over 100 students participated in the 2 or 3 day camps.

Substantial Savings for Mesick & Marion Public Schools with WMISD Business Services

In an effort to provide efficient and effective education services, the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District is providing business office services to Mesick Consolidated Schools and Marion Public Schools. The WMISD Business Services Department is providing all of the financial services normally provided by an in-house business office including payroll, accounts receivable, deposits, budgeting, and financial reporting at a lower cost, saving the district money. This new program increases the services the ISD is able to provide to local districts.

While Mesick and Marion may not realize significant savings in the current year, future savings will be substantial. There has been a clear trend in consolidating business services within Intermediate School Districts across Michigan. The agreements with Mesick and Marion have jump started this program at the WMISD. Due to continued budget constraints on the local districts, there is some interest from other local districts to contract financial services in this manner.

For more information, please contact Tom Armstrong, Director of Business Services at 231-876-2312.

WMISD Students Moving On

In a ceremony that resembled a regular high school graduation in some respects but was more personal and emotional in other respects, five (5) students reached the end of their school careers. John Braden, Michael Hughes, Shawn Birgy, Courtney Flynn and Jason Kiser were all recognized by their parents, their peers, their friends and the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District Teachers and Administrators as having completed their school careers. Each was on an individual program that helped them achieve as much as possible in relation to job skills, personal skills, academic skills, etc.



District Collaboration on Software Purchase

As students spend the next few months enjoying summer, staff members in districts across the ISD will be working hard to implement a new student information system (SIS). District Technology Coordinators, secretaries, and teachers from every local school district will all be working hard to ensure that the new SIS is up and running in September when school starts.

Over the course of the last year, district representatives have been meeting together to write a formal request for proposals, review submissions, and select an SIS that met the needs of the entire ISD. After reviewing the features of several SIS systems, PowerSchool was selected as being the best match for our area schools. PowerSchool leverages an internet based solution, providing access to student information anytime, anywhere.

Governor Granholm has been encouraging this type of collaboration since her 2007 State of the State address, stating, “It doesn’t make sense to have ten school districts in a single county buying separate software when they can save dollars and cents buying it together”. In fact, we have identified several areas of cost saving. Through a collaborative bid and volume pricing, districts were able to capitalize on lower price points on both hardware and software. WMISD offer additional support by covering the initial startup cost of the project. Staff training costs were reduced by offering coordinated centralized training hosted at the ISD. Additionally, PowerSchool support will be built into meetings throughout the school year, providing sustainability and ongoing internal support for this collaborative project.

State Superintendent Mike Flanagan has supported this type of collaboration, noting, “Challenges to the budget are driving the need for efficiencies in the non-educational operations in school district so that classroom instruction is not compromised”. The schools within the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District have stepped up to the challenge.

What is a Student Information System?

A SIS is a computer application used in schools to manage student data. In addition to providing required State reporting information, PowerSchool will manage:

- Student enrollment information
- Attendance
- Student demographics
- Grades
- Assignments
- Student schedules
- Graduation requirements
- Transcripts



Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center

Credit, Certification, and Articulation Guide

Agriscience/Nat. Resources	Allied Health Technologies
Senior Math	Senior Math
3rd-year Science	3rd-year Science
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	FSU Dual Enrollment Credit
Career Readiness Certificate	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
	Red Cross CPR, First Aid Certificates
	Certified Nursing Assistant Certification
Automotive Services	Building Trades
Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
University of Northwestern Ohio Articulation	Kirtland Comm College Articulation
Universal Tech Institute Articulation	M.A.I.P. Pre-Apprenticeship Program
State Mechanic Certificate <small>(Brakes, Electrical, Steering Suspension)</small>	Career Readiness Certificate
Career Readiness Certificate	
Business Management Admin.	Computers & Electronics
Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment and Articulation Credit
Kirtland Community College	A+ Certification
MOUS Certification	Network + Certification
Career Readiness Certificate	Digital Home Technology Integration Certification
	Career Readiness Certificate
Cosmetology	Electrical Occupations
Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Kirtland Community College	Career Readiness Certificate
Career Readiness Certificate	
Heavy Equipment Mechanics	Hospitality, Retailing & Entrepreneurship
Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	4th-year English
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Visual Arts
State Mechanic Certificate <small>(Brakes, Electrical, Steering Suspension, Drive Train, PM)</small>	FSU Articulation
Refrigerant Recovery Certification	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Career Readiness Certificate	ServSafe Certificate
	Career Readiness Certificate
Machine Trades	Metal Fabrication
Senior Math	Senior Math
FSU Articulation	FSU Articulation
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit
Kirtland Comm College Articulation	Welder Qualification Test Certification
Career Readiness Certificate	Visual Performing & Applied Arts
	Career Readiness Certificate
Power Sports Equipment	FREE College Credits Available!!
Senior Math	
Baker College Dual Enrollment Credit	
Mercury Marine Certification	
EETC Certification	
Kohler Certification	
State Mechanic Certification - Motorcycle	
Volvo-Penta Certification (pending)	
Career Readiness Certificate	

Project Restoration

The Machine Trades CAD/CAM class recently finished restoring an early 1900s Canedy-Otto Camelback drill press for the Buckley Old Engine Show—a project that has taken nearly two years. This drill press was one of several machines that were driven by a flat belt from an overhead shaft down to a pulley on the machine.

Machine Trades CAD/CAM students volunteered to dismantle, inspect, clean, paint, repair and machine parts that required replacement on the old drill press. One aspect of restoring the drill press was the remanufacturing of a gear. A student figured dimensions, sketched, and produced the gear by turning it on an engine lathe to the correct dimensions. Then the part was set up in an indexing head on a horizontal milling machine where the student cut the gear teeth. The gear was ultimately entered in the Michigan Industrial & Technological Education Society (MITES) 2008 competition, where it won a first-place ribbon at the regional competition and a first-place plaque at the state competition.

The brass name plate attached to the refurbished drill press was engraved on a CNC mill. This replaced an identification tag of the original company who had sold it many years earlier.

The Canedy-Otto Camelback drill press, newly reconditioned, will be on display this summer at the Buckley Old Engine Show in the train engine rail house. The show is annually held the third week-end in August.



Left: Old and new drill press gears



Right: The plaque our Machine Trades student, Josh Coates (Pine River HS) won at MITES 2008 competition in Lansing



Ben MacEachern (Mesick HS) is standing next to the finished drill press.



MIOSHA Training Institute (sponsored by the WMISD)

What: Fundamentals of Safety and Health

When: October 6-8, 2009 (8:30am—4pm)

Where: Wexford-Missaukee CTC
9901 E. 13th Street, Cadillac

Cost: \$210 per person, includes lunch and course materials

Who Should Attend:
Managers, Employees and Business Owners

For more information, please contact Jennifer Gaffke at 231-876-2210 or jgaffke@wmisd.org



CTC Students Earn ServSafe Certification

Seven CTC students from the Hospitality, Retailing & Entrepreneurship (HRE) program earned ServSafe certification on May 27, 2009. HRE students have spent the year preparing for the opportunity to take the ServSafe examination. The students earning a passing score on the exam were: Kaitlyn Bowerman (Manton HS), Betsi Garlets (Cadillac HS), Joshua Lowery (McBain HS), Josh Martin (Cadillac HS), Brandi Petersoli (Cadillac HS), Ariel Williams (Cadillac HS) and Holly Smith (Manton HS).

ServSafe is a national certification that has become the industry standard for food safety in Michigan. On June 30, 2009 all Michigan restaurants will be required to have at least one employee on staff with this, or equivalent, certification. It is hoped that by earning this nationally recognized certification these students will become more marketable in today's job market.

*WMISD Mission Statement
The mission of the Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District is to provide high quality educational and support services requested by its constituent local districts whereby each district can more effectively meet the educational needs of its students and citizens.*

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