



1. This is not a cash bonanza for schools.

The stimulus funding for education comes with many strings attached. Schools are restricted as to how the money can be spent and will also have maintenance of effort along with supplement vs. supplant issues. It can not be used to simply fill a funding need without the addition of activities, which is how stimulus funding is to be used – for new services.

2. There are these three big pots of money, all either spoken for, or come with restrictions:

- State stabilization funding has been used by the state to keep education funding whole. That is, without this stimulus funding, schools would get less money from the state. With stabilization money, schools will get the same funding per student as the previous school year.
- Additional money is allocated by formula for federally defined “Title” services. This means additional money must be spent on eligible populations, and only for additional services for these specific populations. Most schools limit Title expenditures to their elementary schools and use money for classroom aides and additional instructional support such as reading teachers. Again, schools must provide more of these services. Typically none of these Title services occur at either middle or high schools.

- Money is also allocated by formula based on students with disabilities. This “IDEA” money must be used only for services to assist students with disabilities and again, it must be spent on new services or staff.

3. Neither state or local funding issues are solved with stimulus funding.

The State of Michigan has a structural funding problem. The taxation structure in place can not support existing state systems as they currently exist. The projected state revenue hole filled by federal funds in the state stabilization category is appropriately \$247 million, just in K-12 education. This is the projected hole for the 2009-10 school year. We can expect that hole to be at least that large

in 2010-11 based on state revenue trends. There is no state plan to address this hole when the stimulus funding ends in two years. Even with this federal funding help, the state is planning to provide flat funding and \$0 increases during this period.

Clearly, we would be worse off without the federal stimulus funding. Unless we use this period as an opportunity to reexamine what we do and how we can improve local education, we will not have benefited from it.

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

The Three Things You Need to Know About The Economic Stimulus Package

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.
WMISD Superintendent—Scott Crosby, 231.876.2260
Director of Business Services—Tom Armstrong, 231.876.2260
Director of General Education—Karen Mlcek, 231.876.2265
Director of Career Technical Education—Dave Cox, 231.876.2200
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Summer Event

Professional Development for Preschool Teachers

Preschool Summer Institute- August 24-26

August 24 (9:00-12:00) Handwriting Without Tears for Preschool & Kindergarten

August 25 Dramatic Retellings with Dr. Lea McGee

August 26 Teacher Talk- Oral Language Development

For more information and registration go to www.wmisd.org under professional development.

PRESCHOOL INCLUSION

Integrating typical children with those with special needs at the early childhood level doesn't have to be overwhelming. Providing opportunities within a child's own community provides a chance to develop lasting friendships and to gain realistic life experiences.



Research tells us that providing a variety of frequent opportunities to interact with typically developing children will promote and sustain language and social competence in a child with disabilities. Because we know that children with and without disabilities learn from each other we are moving a section of our Early Childhood Special Education program into Manton Elementary in the fall of 2009. This move will provide the chance for students to be involved in typical preschool and kindergarten classroom experiences with the support of special education staff members.



Providing preschool services closer to home will decrease student travel time, local district transportation costs, and help families of children with special needs feel less isolated from their communities. If you'd like to learn more about the Wexford Missaukee Intermediate School District preschool programs please contact Maria Reynolds, Special Education Supervisor at 876-2300.

Two New CTC Programs Will Be Offered Next Year

On April 20, the WMISD Board of Education approved the addition of two new CTC programs, totaling 15 career readiness programs available at the WMCTC starting this fall.

The new programs are **Public Safety**, and a partnership with Cadillac Area Public Schools to offer **Television & Media Production**. If you would like more information on these two new programs and other programs at the WMCTC, please call 231-876-2207.



CTC Scholarship Recipients

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the CTC Scholarships: **Jeff Harnish** (Mesick HS, Machine Trades), **Amanda Marcotte** (Cadillac HS, Allied Health), **Jacob VanderVlucht** (McBain HS, Metal Fabrication) and **Kelsi Baron** (Mesick HS, Allied Health).

Each recipient will receive a \$500 scholarship which may be used for college tuition at a community college, university, or vocational training institution or tools/clothing for employment within their trade. The criteria for selection was based on community service, extra curricular activities, leadership, and instructor endorsement.

Congratulations!



Jamie Geeseman (McBain HS, Agriscience) and **Rebecca Meyers** (McBain HS, Building Trades) will be presented with a *Breaking Traditions Award* on May 15, 2009 at an award ceremony in Lansing. The State of Michigan recognizes outstanding students who have been successful in a Career and Technical Education program area that is non-traditional for their gender for this prestigious award.



Rachel Motto (Cadillac HS, Electrical Occupations) received a 2009 Breaking Traditions Merit Award. She was recognized for her accomplishments in a nontraditional Career and Technical Education program.

37th Annual CTC Co-op Banquet

April 28, 2009

Kari Jonas (Manton HS, Allied Health) and **Gordon Sherburne** (Mesick HS, Business Management Administration)



Career Day for CTC Building Trades Students

April 23, 2009

Students attended a career day at the Mason County Fairgrounds, which was sponsored by the Capital Area Construction Council and held at the Mason County Fairgrounds.



Focus on the Future

Michigan Merit Curriculum High School Graduation Requirements	
MATHEMATICS - 4 Credits http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-38924---,00.html	
Algebra I Algebra II	Geometry One math course in final year of high school
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS - 4 Credits	
English Language Arts 9 English Language Arts 10	English Language Arts 11 English Language Arts 12
SCIENCE - 3 Credits	
Biology Physics or Chemistry	One additional science credit
SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 Credits	
.5 credit in Civics U.S. History and Geography	.5 credit in Economics World History and Geography
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH - 1 Credit	
VISUAL, PERFORMING AND APPLIED ARTS - 1 Credit	
ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE Course, Learning or Integrated Learning Experience	
LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH - 2 Credits In grades 9-12; OR an equivalent learning experience in grades K-12 effective for students entering third grade in 2006 (Class 2016)	



Michigan Department of Education website <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>

Using the left column of blue buttons click on:

- “Curriculum & Instruction” for content expectations and curriculum resources
- “Assessment & Accountability” for MEAP, MME, MEAP Access, MI Access, NAEP, and Secondary Credit Assessments



An alignment match with ACT and Michigan’s state standards and content expectations can be found on <http://www.act.org/education/statematch>



MEAP is scheduled for *October 13-29, 2009*. Daily schedule details are accessible through the following Michigan Department of Education Web link, http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/meap-sched18_274414_7.pdf

Starting Fall 2009

- MEAP ELA Writing will be tested in 4th and 7th grades only.

Allowable Personal Curriculum Modifications

- Algebra II to be taken over two years earning two credits
- ½ credit of Algebra II in Career Tech or stop with a ½ credit of Algebra II
- Reduced credit of social studies, physical education, health, and visual performing and applied arts credits in order to take more Math, Science, English Language Arts, or World Languages
- For a student with a disability, a district may consider modification to any MMC content expectation made necessary by the student's disability (modifications must be consistent with the student's learning ability)
- Except for students with a disability, the legislation does not allow for modifications in the following areas: Science, Civics, English Language Arts, World Languages, and On-line experience



CTC Agriscience students installed wood duck houses on Waldeck Island.

Summer Events

Curriculum Development / Professional Development Opportunities For K-12 Teachers:

- K-7 science teachers – Second Summer Science Institute
- 6-8 math teachers – Applying Inquiry and Technology into Mathematics
- 4th and 5th Grade Reading Instruction
- HS ELA Assessment Alignment and Implementation Plan

\$125/day stipend will be given to WMISD participants contingent upon full participation and product development for curriculum development work listed above only. Stipends will be mailed after completion of the session.

For more information and registration go to www.wmisd.org under professional development.

Michigan Promise Grant

http://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/0,1607,7-128-38193_44522---,00.html

Public Act 479 of 2006 signed into law by Governor Granholm on December 21, 2006, provides up to \$4,000 to high school graduates for successfully completing two years of postsecondary education beginning with the high school graduating class of 2007.



Summer Camp

Summer Camp for Middle School Students *Advanced and Accelerated*

- LEGO Robotics Workshop – June 15-19th
- Young Writers Workshop – June 22-26th

For more information and applications go to www.wmisd.org under advanced and accelerated.



Marion 3rd Graders Visit the CTC

Ms. Bennett and her class of third graders from Marion Schools came to the Wexford Missaukee Career Technical Center to visit the Business Management Administration

(BMA) class where they participated in a technology lesson. The students participated in a technology lesson by creating their own personalized Mothers' Day cards on the computer. They used digital photography and did their own keyboarding and graphics on the computer (with the help of their BMA student helpers). Afterwards, they were treated to cookies and juice and a short tour of CTC.



CTC Career Expo at Manton Consolidated Schools

May 13, 2009

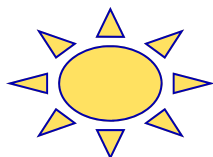


Summer Camps

June 15-17, 2009 (10am—1pm)

Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center
Grades 6-9

- Computer & Technology Camp
- Diesel Power Mechanics Camp
- Drafting Camp
- Electronics Camp
- Floral Design Camp
- Health Careers Camp
- Intro to Welding/Metal Fabrication Camp



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Hurry, Space is Limited. Sign-up today!

For more information - contact Jennifer Gaffke 876-2210 at the Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center or visit <http://ctc.wmisd.org>



The CTC Hospitality, Retailing and Entrepreneurship program held a pancake breakfast and brunch on May 12, 2009 as a service project by Jessica Flesher. After expenses, Jessica was able to earn \$184.25 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association summer camp toward her goal of \$1600, which will send two local children to the MDA summer camp in 2010.

Great Opportunity!

Teachers do not get a lot of chances for change, unless it is moving to a different grade, a different subject, a different building and let's not forget becoming an administrator. "We have all heard change is hard but good for us. This is a great opportunity. Just try it. It's only for a semester." This was some of the advice we were given when deciding whether or not to take the jobs as lead teachers for a math and science grant through the Manistee Wexford-Missaukee Math Science Center at the ISD. The jobs required us to take a sabbatical from our teaching positions, to be gone a whole semester from our students, which was the difficult part.

Well, here we are coming to the end of our sabbatical which truly has been a learning journey in more ways than one. We had the opportunity to go to trainings, meet other teachers from all over the country, have time to create and practice lessons, find resources to be shared and used in our classrooms, work with some amazing people and complete a few projects.

The first thing we came to realize was how knowledgeable and hard working the staff is at the Wexford Missaukee ISD. We have come to rely on their expertise and wonder why we haven't used the ISD's services before. Here are some of the things the ISD staff does for all of their seven districts: 1) work with the surrounding districts and their staff (just ask); 2) bring different and innovative teaching strategies to teachers; 3) stay current with technology and how it can be used in our classrooms; 4) compile and analyze data that helps drive our curriculum; 5) REMC is an awesome resource and very helpful (call and they will help you find what you are looking for, even supplies at great prices.) Most importantly the staff at the ISD always has in mind, "what is best for students".

One of the other fun things we found happening was our "AH HA" moments, of which there were plenty. "AH HA" moments came when we would discover something new and think "why don't we do that?" Looking at data and research also lead to a lot of "AH HA" moments as well. Opening our eyes to the importance of data and why it helps us to be better educators.

Finally, on our sabbatical we were given the chance to work on projects to be used by teachers not just in our ISD but hopefully the state. Teachers do not get time like this and we feel fortunate to have had this time. The projects we are working on include designing lesson templates for math and science, incorporating more inquiry based lessons, creating science units to go along with the new K-7 science expectations, aligning assessment questions with GLCES, making student centered math lessons that involve using technology, and training on Smart Boards. Though our projects will continue to be works in progress, our sabbatical has inspired us to go back to our classrooms and schools to share what we have learned.

Though we missed our students and our school staff in the end, we have decided that if the opportunity comes your way to take a sabbatical – Go For It! You will come away with a wealth of knowledge to share with colleagues, a long list of things you want to try in your classroom and new friends.

For more information, please contact Renee Gussert rgussert@wmisd.org or Brandon Oberhaus boberhaus@wmisd.org.



Project ACE

The unofficial unveiling of the WMCTC Power Sports Program 'Project ACE' packed the room with over 100 students, parents and residents. The group watched on intensely as David Mackey, Power Sports Equipment instructor, Tom "Doc" Kiser, paraprofessional, Chief Master Sergeant David Kendall, and Mike McGuire explained the partnership between the WMCTC, the Air Force and McGuire's Resort that has created an unforgettable project for this year's students. Project Ace will debut to the public and released officially to the Air Force on May 28 with the keys of 'Project ACE' to be turned over to an Air Force Brigadier General. Project Ace is to be used as a recruiting tool for the Air Force at nationwide events. Look for more information to come on Project Ace.





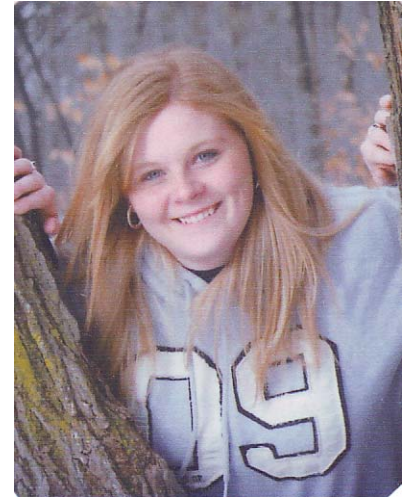
Parting thoughts of a CTC graduating senior...

Ever since I was an eighth grader I knew I wanted to come to the Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center. Both of my older sisters came to CTC and I saw how much it helped them realize their career goals. CTC is a place where they provide you with real life skills. The Center gives you a head start in your field of interest. There is a class here for almost everything, from Business to Heavy Equipment to Allied Health.

All of the classes at CTC also prepare you for college. Teachers here guide you down your career pathway. Not only do they prepare you by showing you what it is like in college, but you can get some type of college credit in all of the classes. This is a big help when you get into your college because it is one less class you have to take.

The CTC also gives you a chance to practice hands-on skills, not just read about them in a book. After a year of training you can be placed in a co-op job in your field of interest. Once again, you're ahead of others because now you have work experience.

CTC is a great opportunity for almost everyone. So if you like to learn by doing, look into the Career Tech Center. I must say that my experience there was amazing and it changed my life for the better.



Written by: **Kari Jonas**
(Manton High School
Class of 2009, Allied
Health Technologies
program)

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.

WMISD Mission Statement

- William Sparks—President
- Dr. Garold Koester—Vice-President
- Chris McCrimumon—Treasurer
- Dean Smallegan—Secretary
- Harold Kibbe—Trustee
- Daryl Morr—Trustee
- Jackie Ruppel—Trustee

WMISD Board of Education

**Wexford-Missaukee
Intermediate School District**
9907 E. 13th Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

