

November 12, 2018

  LivingstonESA.org



From Dr. Michael Hubert, Livingston ESA Superintendent

In recognition of **Veterans Day** (November 11th) I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of those within the Agency who served in the United States Military. When Veterans Day falls on a Sunday, like it did this year, the Federal Holiday is recognized on the following Monday, which provides a little bit extra time to think of and honor those who served. I love to see the tributes on display throughout the Agency, just like the one shown above that is on display in the employee lounge at the Hartland Regional Transportation Collaborative.

One week ago today the Agency suddenly lost **Debbie Beare**, a member of our transportation team in Hartland. Debbie was just about to leave the bus garage for her afternoon run on bus #37 when she started to experience a medical emergency. She was able to safely park her bus and seek help inside the dispatch office where staff at Hartland and emergency medical professionals did everything possible to help her. To honor Debbie, **I am asking that everyone in the Agency join me during an Agency-wide moment of silence next Monday, November 19th, at 3:25pm** (radio frequencies will be held open and silent during that time).

Finally, there was great fun enjoyed by staff, students, and families at the Pathway Thanksgiving dinner last week. I loved seeing all the happy people shown below and tasting the great food!



SPECIAL EDUCATION

START Project and Merger with GISD

From Doug Haseley, Executive Director of Special Education



Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the Agency forged a new partnership with [Grand Valley State University](#) and Genesee ISD to further advance our work with the START project.

The Statewide Autism Resources and Training project ([START](#)) has been a long standing resource for the Agency. The purpose of START is to, "develop a training and resource model for educators serving students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) that increases local capacity, promotes collaboration across the state, and creates a comprehensive model for serving these students."

Examples of professional learning opportunities offered by the Agency through STARTT have included: Looking at ASD Differently, Educational Strategies (Differentiated Output), and [Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports](#) (PBIS).

In her first year as the Special Education Director in Pinckney, Carie Cowger serves as the administrative representative for this project. Carie has worked diligently with Agency ASD Program Consultants as well as the Genesee ISD to ensure a smooth transition.

In the spirit of collective efficacy, these unions should further enhance opportunities and success for the staff, students, and families supported by this work.

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WELLNESS CORNER

"So it's true, when all is said and done, grief is the price we pay for love." — E.A. Buchianeri, [Brushstrokes of a Gadfly](#)

The quote truly speaks to the commitment and collaboration exhibited by both Hartland and LESA staff in supporting staff grieving and adjusting to the death of a fellow co-worker within the transportation department. When a crisis strikes within the county, it is amazing to see the staff's willingness to respond and support those in need. We are particularly appreciative of the following individuals who provided support this past week: Megan Hickman, Sue Pearson, Andrew Schwab, Patrick McElyea, Malissa Patrick, Sara Leggett, Olena Mandeville, Eric Leaf, Kim Ford, Leslie Leemgraven, Kristen Goble, Breahn Post, Jill Leutze, Jessica Steen and Doug Haseley.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Essential Practices in Early Literacy, Pre-K



From Sean LaRosa, Executive Director for Early Childhood

In early November four members of the Agency's early childhood instructional leadership team completed the first session to become trainers in the [Essential Practices in Early Literacy, Pre-K](#). This is a statewide training sponsored by The Early Literacy Task Force, the [Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators](#), [Clinton County Regional Educational Services Agency](#) and the [Michigan Department of Education](#).

The training was made available to a wide-range of prekindergarten professionals across Michigan. More than 200 trainers representing Head Start/GSRP, Early Childhood Special Education, Great Start Collaboratives, Intermediate School Districts, Great Start to Quality Regional Resource Centers, and institutes of higher education were selected to participate. These trainers are at the top of their field and hold advanced degrees in early childhood and/or literacy instruction. These researchers will be facilitating all of the train the trainer sessions across the state.

The training modules were developed by researchers in the early literacy field from [Wayne State](#), [Michigan State](#), [Central Michigan](#) and [University of Michigan](#). An advisory board provided feedback for the researchers. Each trainer will be registered through <http://www.miregistry.org> and has committed to provide three complete training sessions to three different groups outside of their organization during 2019.

Our early childhood instructional leadership team will be developing a plan to train instructional staff at all 77 private early childhood providers in the county, creating a foundation for early literacy success for all children.

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SECONDARY OPTIONS

The Path to Success Includes CTE



From Michelle Radcliffe, Executive Director of Secondary Options

Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in Livingston County provide students the opportunity to explore a career pathway, develop leadership skills, apply academic skills to real world scenarios, earn college credits and gain industry skills and credentials while in high school.

There are over 40 CTE programs available to high school students as part of the Livingston County Consortium. Over 6,000 students participate in a CTE program and over 250 students take advantage of our consortium and enroll in programs outside of their home high school.

Programs such as marketing, cyber security and auto technology are located at local high schools, while others such as EMT and Aviation are located at local industry facilities.

Students in CTE programs solve industry problems through simulations and hands on projects. Projects may be part of student competitions or are assigned by industry partners directly! By working with industry partners through work based learning opportunities such as; field trips, guest speakers, job shadows and internships, students apply their technical and academic skills in the field. Students also demonstrate their employability skills and learn how these skills lead to a successful career.

CTE programs give students direction for life after high school and tools to be successful. MI School Data shows that students who complete a CTE program are more likely to complete a post-secondary degree! CTE students develop a plan while in their CTE program and know how and why they are choosing a career path.

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COLLABORATION

Working Together

From Teresa Zigman, Executive Director of Administrative Services

The Agency hosts a number of meetings throughout the year that provide for collaboration amongst Agency staff and our local administrative staff to discuss current issues facing education. We often think of those collaborative engagements for the instructional aspects of education, but they also occur in many non-instructional areas.

The School Business Officials in Livingston County meet on a monthly basis. We tackle new State requirements and initiatives along with local process and procedures to ensure the fiduciary integrity of our funding and property.

On a quarterly basis, the Livingston County Human Resource Administrators meet to refine best practices in servicing our staff members. From onboarding all the way through

retirement, we work to identify those areas that ensure a positive experience for our employees. In addition, we use this time to ensure that everyone is up-to-date on the ever changing legal aspects of employment law. In addition, the Livingston County Tech Directors also meet quarterly to focus on the infrastructure of our districts along with security protocols.

The administrators that make up these groups are the unsung heroes of a district – you will not hear from them often, nor do they want you to. They are behind the scenes making sure that our schools, staff and student needs are addressed to ensure a great experience by all.

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PARENTS & COMMUNITY

Linking Technology and Student Achievement



TURN DATA YOU HAVE INTO INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

From Teresa Zigman, Executive Director of Administrative Services

For over a decade, the Agency along with the Fowlerville, Hartland and Brighton School Districts have operated within a technology consortium. Over the years many initiatives have been put in place on a county-wide basis to address both technical and curricular needs in our schools. One of those current initiatives is the [Data Hub](#).

The Data Hub is a Statewide initiative for the collection and sharing of information between different student assessment tools systems. This initiative supports instruction by providing more relevant and timely data to educators working with our students, helps to define additional differentiated instructional models and provides up-to-date information to parents about their child.

The Data Hub initiative addresses the challenges that schools face of being able to pull data from multiple sources and then provide this information on a timely basis to instructional staff and parents so that it is most beneficial to the success of the student.

The additional data we have on a students' performance allows classroom teachers to gain a better picture of where we may need to differentiate learning or provide additional supports to students..

As a parent, the Data Hub will provide access to a greater amount of data regarding the academics of their child in real time. Logging into one website, parents will be able to see up-to-date information on their child and then be able to work with instructional staff members to formulate a plan to support the overall academic success of their child.

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LEADERSHIP

Working with Counselors K-12

From Michelle Radcliffe, Executive Director of Secondary Options

The Secondary Options team at the Livingston Educational Service Agency works with parents, students, post-secondary partners, industry and community leaders and educators across the county. We provide a variety of services to our districts including working with all school counselors. With the coordination of our career and college readiness coordinator, Laura Hoehn, several counselors from our local districts have formed a financial readiness team that is working to educate students and families on saving for education after high school. They also work on initiatives around our Livingston County Career and College Access Network ([LCCAN](#)) such as the new job shadow toolkit that will help both employers develop job shadows and students prepare for them.

The Secondary Options team also provides professional development opportunities for counselors including; social emotional training, connecting with community services and resources, connecting with industry partners and career pathways, sharing opportunities in Livingston Career and Technical Education ([CTE](#)) programs, Livingston County Early College ([LCEC](#)) programs and several other areas that help students in Livingston County succeed.

Recent legislation in our state has a focus on career education and preparation. Public Acts [PA151](#), [PA229](#), [PA230](#), and [PA231](#) include laws for career development in school improvement plans, talent portfolios as part of a student's educational development plan (EDP) and 50 hours of professional development dedicated to career and college exploration including military specifically for counselors. Since counselors work with students on these EDP plans and career planning, we have laid the groundwork for counselors to meet these specific requirements as well as translate it into student growth.

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