



LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

CHARTER SCHOOLS

January 2021 Issue

FROM THE TOP

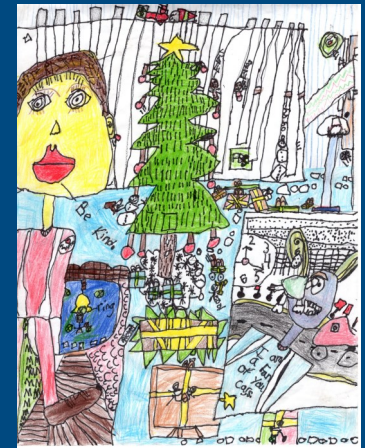
Dear Academy Board Members and Leadership Teams,

Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe that 2021 is already upon us. I'm sure that many of you share the same sentiment and are glad to say goodbye to 2020. What a year! I always look forward to a fresh, new year but this year even more so. I am optimistic, however, that good will come out of the pandemic. We've added skills in our tool belt that will serve us well; the last nine months have forced us all to adapt, hone our technological skills, and find creative ways to engage our students. Speaking of positives in 2020, check out the submissions for our annual holiday card contest. Aren't they incredible? You can view our card below as well as the individual submissions that were chosen as winners and honorable mentions. As always, if either me or my team can be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to reach out to any of us.

Sincerely,

Chris Oshelski
Executive Director



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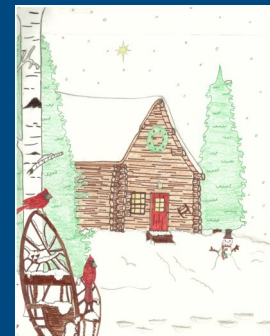
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MID YEAR PROGRESS MONITORING

Public Acts 147, 148, and 149 were signed into law in August 2020. This legislation requires that K-8 students be assessed by a state approved benchmark assessment within the first 9 weeks of school and again by the end of the school year. Although legislation does not specifically state the administration of a winter assessment, academics are required to report out on progress towards plan goals by February; therefore, without being specifically stated, schools must administer the assessment in January in order to have this data. Are you confused yet?! The good news is that LSSU CSO will create the report that meets this requirement as long as winter NWEA testing is completed by January 22, 2021. Remember, legislation requires that student progress towards the mid year goal must be posted on your academy website by February 1, 2021. We understand that this speeds up winter testing and that there may or may not be the recommended minimum of 9-10 weeks between fall and winter test administration but it cannot be helped. Our typical winter test window opens in early January and runs through February, however, this just wasn't possible due to the legislation. You should have all received notification on this long before holiday break via email/memo from our office. Please contact me if you have any questions and thank you so much for being YOU.

Sincerely,
Julie Hopper
Academic Assessment Specialist
jhopper@lssu.edu

“So often in life things that you regard as an impediment turn out to be great good fortune.”

-Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg-

FINANCE UPDATE

January 31, 2021
**2nd Quarter FY2021
Budget Revision
Resolution**

February 13, 2021

**2nd Quarter FY2021
Financial Statement**

March 30, 2021

**FY2021 Financial Audit
Letter of Engagement**



BROOKE'S CORNER

I saw a post on social media by a veteran teacher who was mentoring a first year teacher. The first year teacher asked him during the riots on Capitol Hill something that made him stop in his tracks. He was asked, “How many ‘day after’ days have you had since you started teaching?” The veteran teacher was shook to his core when he stopped and thought about it. Heartbreakingly, I have had a more than I could ever have anticipated, as I am sure all of you have. I have sat in on these conversations both as a student and as an educator. In the past 12 months, we have had our society rocked repeatedly, and the one takeaway I have had is that in the immortal words of Dory from Finding Nemo, we as a people “just keep swimming, just keep swimming.” We are strong. We are resilient, and like Will Smith, we “wake up every morning believing today is going to be better than yesterday.” We know that our jobs are crucial to helping the young leaders of tomorrow build their foundation and find their passions.

As a former social studies teacher, I cannot help but realize that the events that have unfolded and will continue to unfold in the coming days will be written in history books for years to come. We may not know where this is headed, and that uncertainty will add to the anxiousness of your communities. I implore you to remember to give grace; to your communities, to your families, and to yourself. We will get through this together, and be stronger.

Sincerely yours,

Brooke



MEET YOUR CHARTER SCHOOL STAFF

Name: Garnet Green

Position: Field Representative

Hometown: Wixom, Michigan

Family: Wife-Jennifer, Daughters-Kellie, Keira, Sydney, Sons-Garnet and Devin

Pets: Zero

Hobbies: Gardening, golf, cycling



Little Known Fact: A Green-Garnet is a known gemstone that is said to have the power of regeneration and growth. Its beautiful green color is a symbol of Mother Earth, and it is believed that Green-Garnet has the power to accept, care for, and nurture everything!

*“Do the best you can until you know better;
then when you know better, do better.”*

Maya Angelou

MIDATA HUB

Recently, I met with Tim Davis, Relations Manager for the Michigan Data Hub. I learned that all academies and schools in Michigan are encouraged to join the MiDataHub in order to streamline the upload process for required benchmark assessment data. Academies are required to report mid year and end of year progress towards learning goals outlined in the Return to Learn legislation. Data upload may also be performed manually but is a bit more intensive. This data must be uploaded by June 30, 2021. The good news is that this service is FREE. What is MiDataHub?

The Michigan Data Hub is a collaborative statewide effort to address challenges in managing and using school data. The MiDataHub initiative focuses on creating ecosystems where information is exchanged between the large number of disconnected data systems used in schools. Mr. Tim Davis will present at the LSSU academy leader meeting scheduled for January 21st at 10 a.m. The meeting will also be recorded for those of you that are unable to attend the live session.

Here is the link to learn more about the Michigan Data Hub.

<https://www.midatahub.org/>



COMPLIANCE CORNER

Academy boards should begin discussion on board member (s) who are up for reappointment or new appointment. The LSSU Board of Trustee's last meeting before the terms expire will be on May 7, 2021. All board members must be nominated by the Academy board and submit a completed application to their appropriate field representative by March 31, 2021. Background checks, U.S. documentation and interviews will be performed prior to approval by the LSSU Board of Trustees.

BOARD TRAINING

Webinar #4– Feb. 3
Owning Board Culture
During Change

Webinar #5– Apr. 21
Owning the Future
During Change

Look for additional board professional development resources on our website at:

<https://www.lssu.edu/charter-schools/professional-development/>

FROM THE FIELD

- ◆ The continuation of virtual board meetings has been approved by the Governor's Office until March 31, 2021. Please remember to fully comply with the posting requirements for virtual meetings.

CHARTER SCHOOLS STAFF

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PHILOSOPHY

We believe in authorizing through the lens of an educator, realizing students are more than academic performance or financial incentives. True authorizing takes into account the whole child, whole academy, and whole community while recognizing the importance of increased performance and sustainability.

MISSION

To ensure quality oversight and support to our authorized charter academies resulting in students who are prepared for the next phase of life whether it be attending college or entering the work force.

VISION

We envision an educational system in Michigan that provides families with diverse educational opportunities that allow each child to flourish and find his/her place in the global community.

STAFF RECIPE

White Chicken Chili

- 1 Rotisserie Chicken or a couple of chicken breasts cooked and shredded
- 1 Large jar of Randall Great Northern beans
- 1 can of Rotelle tomatoes
- 1 cup or so chicken broth (add as much as you like for desired consistency)
- 1 onion diced
- 1-2 tsp garlic
- 2 tsps. Cumin
- Colby Jack Cheese



DIRECTIONS

Chop onion and sauté in pan with a little olive oil. Add garlic and tomatoes. Dump in beans, shredded chicken, and broth. Add cumin, salt, and pepper. Sometimes I shake in a little curry or red pepper flakes. Simmer for as long as you want.

Top with cheese.

That's it...voila! Enjoy.

Submitted by Julie Hopper

THIS IS ONE OF MY FAMILY'S "GO TO" MEALS WHEN WE WANT SOMETHING HEARTY BUT HAVE LITTLE TIME. QUICK TO MAKE AND TASTES LIKE IT HAS SIMMERED FOR HOURS.

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