LSSU CHARTER SCHOOLS

news

SEPTEMBER 2026

“Be the teacher you would want your very own child to have.”
-J. Kim



From the Top

Dear Board Members and Academy Leaders,

We are excited to welcome everyone to the 2026–27 school year! The LSSU Charter Schools Office looks forward to another successful year and to continuing our partnership with each of our academies. We appreciate all that you do to support your students, staff, and school communities, and we are here to support you throughout the year.

We look forward to Great Lake State Week, October 22–24, 2026. We hope many of our charter school students and families will join us for this great opportunity to experience LSSU and be part of the campus community.

We would also like to wish Joe Thienes the very best as he retires from the Charter Schools Office. Joe has been a valued member of our team for the past three years, and we sincerely appreciate his dedication and contributions to the CSO and the schools we serve. We wish Joe all the best in his retirement and in this next chapter.

Finally, we want to wish all of our academy board members and school leaders a great school year! Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to your students and school communities. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Chris Oshelski
Executive Director

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lssu.edu/charters/schools

Board Member Spotlight

While many of us have fond memories of our school experiences, Brittan DeYoung who serves as the Board President for Grand Traverse Academy has a unique story of "giving back" to the school he previously attended. Brittan and his wife are GTA alumni and proud parents of children who attend Grand Traverse Academy. We celebrate Brittan's story below and value those who serve on one of the LSSU Charter School authorized Board of Directors.



What are some of your favorite memories from when you attended GTA?
I started attending GTA in 6th grade when my family moved to Traverse City. I have a lot of great memories ranging from the daily time with classmates as part of home room hours, team games during gym class, and getting the opportunity to take a newly (at the time) added ecology class. The smaller class sizes allowed you to know everyone that you graduated with.

What did you do following graduation and did your experience at GTA have an influence?
Right out of high school, I started a partnership program through N.M.C and Ferris to get my bachelor's degree in Information Technology – Systems Administration and Security. I was also fortunate to find a job early in the technology field through NMC's internship program while working toward my degree. I have been working in the technology field for 16 years and currently work as an Infrastructure Architect II for Hagerty. My experiences at GTA helped give me a jumpstart on life in a number of ways. Having GTAwork with the Career Tech Center allowed me to test out of both Construction Trades and Informational Technology before starting college. This helped me choose a career path early. I also was able to get 4 college credits from obtaining an IT certificate while attending the Career Tech Center before starting college. Additionally, I was required to take a personal finance class giving me the knowledge required to start making financial decisions on my own.

What do your children share about their experiences at GTA?
My wife and I met while we were in High School. We currently have four children, three of whom are old enough to attend GTA. We chose GTA because of the smaller class sizes and wanted our kids to have the same great school experience we had. Our kids have had great teachers who genuinely care for them. They enjoy the current looping practice where they keep the same teacher for two years. They also enjoy that during recess they are able to interact with kids of other classrooms and grades.

What made you decide to serve on the GTA Board of Directors?
My experience from attending GTA and hearing others' experiences at the other schools made me realize how unique GTA really is. I wanted to help the school succeed with its mission and vision, and ensure this opportunity remains available.

What hobbies do you enjoy in your free time?
My wife and I have four young children, ranging in age from 2 to 11 years old. Most of our hobbies involve spending quality family time at the park, on a walk, riding bikes, or playing board games. My wife and I recently have gotten into playing Pickleball. I also am passionate about open source projects, and I make an effort to contribute back to the community on open source projects that I use professionally.

by Lynn Methner, Field Representative

Leadership Summit






The 2026 LSSU/FSU Leadership Summit was a wonderful success! This year, we had a great turnout, with charter school leaders joining us for two days of learning, networking, and connecting with one another.

The Summit kicked off Tuesday evening with appetizers and an inspiring keynote from Tiki Davis, “Total Commitment.” On Wednesday, attendees started the day with breakfast before hearing from Larry Bell, who delivered his engaging keynote, “The Unstoppable Administrator.” The day continued with morning and afternoon breakout sessions that gave attendees the opportunity to learn, share ideas, and connect with others throughout the charter school community.

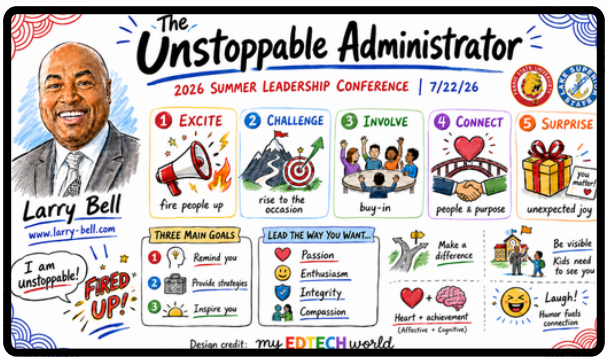
One of the best parts of the Summit each year is simply having everyone together! There was plenty of laughter, great conversations, new connections, and opportunities to catch up with colleagues from across our schools. We are so thankful to everyone who joined us and helped make this year's event such a fun and memorable experience.

Thank you to all of our attendees, presenters, and partners for another great LSSU/FSU Leadership Summit. We are already looking forward to doing it all again next year!

“A valuable leadership retreat filled with reflection, connection, and fresh perspectives. I left feeling inspired, energized, and ready for what’s ahead.”



You can be the change.



LAUGH. Humor fuels connection.

by Melissa St. John

Charter Guarantee



Our Charter School Guarantee

This year, the LSSU Charter Schools Office is excited to provide each of our academy buildings with a beautifully framed Charter Schools Guarantee to proudly display in their school! These framed pieces serve as a visible reminder of LSSU's commitment to our charter school students, families, staff, and communities. Academies are encouraged to display them in a prominent location, such as the main office or a well-traveled hallway, where students, families, staff, and visitors can see them.

Once your Charter Schools Guarantee is hung at your Academy, we would love to see it! Please take a picture and email it to Melissa St. John, LSSU Charter Schools Connections Coordinator, or share your photo on social media and tag the LSSU Charter School Office so we can celebrate and share it too!

We can't wait to see our Charter Schools Guarantee proudly displayed throughout our academies!

-Mystery Spot-

Can you identify this academy? LSSU Charter Schools authorizes 19 public school academy districts across Michigan, with twenty-six school sites throughout the state. Now it's time to put your academy knowledge to the test! Can you figure out which LSSU-authorized academy is featured in this mystery photo? Take a close look at the clues and see if you can identify the school!

Email answers to **jbuchholtz@lssu.edu** by October 30th, 2026 to be in the drawing for a $25 Visa gift card. Good luck!



Professional Development

Building Connections: A New Networking Opportunity for Alternative Education Leaders
Leaders from alternative education academies across GVSU, FSU, and LSSU connect to share ideas, address challenges, and collaborate on promising practices. Dates: September 18th, October 16th, January 15th, February 19th, April 16th, and May 21st from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Agenda
Contact Tammy Bell @ tbell@lssu.edu to join the group.

I Love U Guys: Standard Reunification Method (SRM) Training
Building on 2025–26 Crisis Response Training, this half-day session provides a comprehensive overview of the SRP, how to implement it within your organization and how to train your students and staff on using the Standard Reunification Protocol to respond to any crisis. Date: September 30th, from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. **Agenda**, **Registration**

Leading for Instructional Impact
Dr. Jenn Shaver will facilitate three sessions focused on equipping leaders with clarity and actionable strategies to support staff instructional growth during the 2026–27 school year. Sessions will be held October 14th, November 4th, December 2nd from 10:00 - 11:30 AM.
Agenda, **Registration**

NWEA Standards Report
This one hour session will introduce the new Standards Report that will available by NWEA in Fall 2026. Date: October 13th from 4-5 p.m. **Registration**

NWEA Instructional Responsive Planning
An introduction to responsive planning, supporting educators in using MAP Growth data to inform instruction, differentiate learning, and improve student outcomes. Date: October 20th from 4-5 p.m. **Registration**

NWEA: Responsive Planning Implementation Series: Planning Keys (5 sessions)
This five-session follow-up series supports educators as they apply the Responsive Planning process in their classrooms using the five planning keys. Date: October 27th, November 3rd, November 10th , November 17th , November 24th from 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Registration

"I am always doing that which I cannot do, in order that I may learn how to do it."

-Pablo Picasso



Professional Development Continued

NWEA Office Hours
NWEA Office Hours are drop-in virtual sessions open to participants in the Fall 2026 Responsive Planning training, providing real-time support for using MAP data effectively. These sessions offer a space to ask questions, refine instructional decisions, and troubleshoot data or technical issues with guidance from specialists. Date: January 12th, February 16th from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
No registration required. Zoom link.

Math Intervention Model
This three part virtual series is designed to deepen understanding of the math intervention model and support effective implementation. Participants will build on key concepts from the initial training, explore what Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction look like in practice, and engage in collaborative discussions. The series will also focus on strategies for building staff buy-in, planning implementation, and identifying key first steps, including what to look for during classroom observations. Dates: September 30th , October 21st , November 18th from 4-5 p.m.
Agenda, **Registration**

Special Education Leadership Learning Sessions
Sarah VanderBaan will lead focused sessions on key special education legislation and implementation, offering learning and discussion for special education administrators. Sessions will be held September 9th , October 28th , January 13th , March 10th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM. **Agenda**, **Registration**

Winter Book Study
Lynn Methner will lead a winter 2027 book study (texts provided; selection announced Fall 2026) open to LSSU authorized academy staff, with attendance required for SCECH credit. Dates: January 19th , January 26th , February 2nd, February 9th , February 16th, February 23rd from 4:00 - 5:00 PM. **Agenda**, **Registration**

***All professional development sessions will be presented in a virtual format**

"The expert in anything was once a beginner." -Helen Hayes

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible." - Saint Francis of Assisi

"Sometimes the greatest professional development is the teacher down the hall." – Brian Aspinall

Board Member Professional Development

We are pleased to congratulate the following academy Board of Directors and individual board member winners for completing their required professional development (PD) during the 2025–2026 school year.

Board of Directors Winners
The following boards were randomly selected from among those that successfully completed all required professional development for the year:

- DSLA
- iCademy Global
- Innocademy Allegan

Individual Board Member Winners

- **Josh Jacobson** (Grand Traverse Academy) – Awarded for attending the most professional development sessions.
- **Patrick Alpers** (Grand Traverse Academy) – Recognized for earning the highest number of professional development credits.
- **Jennifer Johnson** (iCademy Global) – Selected as the wildcard winner for completing her required professional development.

Congratulations to all of our winners! Thank you for your commitment to continuous learning and effective governance. Your dedication to professional development strengthens your boards and supports the success of the students and communities you serve.



"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people that prepare for it today." - Malcolm X



"*The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.*" -Aristotle



Board Member Professional Development



Angie Irwin
Airwin Educational Services LLC

AirWin Educational Services, in partnership with Lake Superior State University Charter Schools, is pleased to offer the **Best of Governance Series: Back by Popular Demand** for the 2026–2027 school year.

Designed specifically for charter school board members, this professional learning series provides practical strategies, proven governance practices, and actionable tools to strengthen board effectiveness, enhance oversight, and support mission-driven leadership.

Whether you are a new or experienced board member, this series offers valuable opportunities to deepen your understanding of effective governance, strengthen your leadership skills, and enhance your service to your school and community. All sessions begin at 7:00 p.m.

As a friendly reminder, board members are required to earn 2 credits of professional development each year.

Date and Time	Delivery Platform	Subject
September 14, 2026	Zoom	Navigating your Role as a New Board Member
October 6, 2026	Zoom	Effective Board Leadership: President and Vice President Essentials
November 3, 2026	GoTo Webinar	Governing Through Policy
December 7, 2026	GoTo Webinar	Strategic Oversight vs Micromanagement
January 5, 2027	GoTo Webinar	Leading w/ Purpose: Mission-Driven Decision-Making
February 3, 2027	Zoom	High-Impact Board Meetings
March 1, 2027	GoTo Webinar	Protecting your School's Future
April 6, 2027	GoTo Webinar	Board Advocacy and Community Leadership
May 5, 2027	Zoom	The High-Performing Charter School Board

What is Great Lake State Week?

Great Lake State Week brings together students, alumni, families, and the Sault Ste. Marie community each fall. The 2026 celebration, taking place in October on the campus of LSSU, will feature a full lineup of Laker traditions, activities, and opportunities to reconnect and celebrate. We hope to see you there. Fall time in the Upper Peninsula is one of the most beautiful times of the year.





Finance Corner

NOVEMBER 3

- **2025-2026 Financial Audit**
- **Financial Audit Letter to those charged with Governance**
- **Financial Information Database (FID)**

NOVEMBER 14

- **Quarterly Financial Statement**

DECEMBER 12

- **Financial Audit Reponse letter to those charged with governance**

NWEA Testing Windows

FALL

September 14- October 2

WINTER

January 11-February 5

SPRING

May 3- May 21

MDE Literacy Links

ASSESSMENT AND TIER 1 CURRICULA LISTS

THESE LISTS PROVIDE DISTRICTS WITH VETTED TOOLS AND RESOURCES FOR SUPPORTING HIGH-QUALITY SCREENING, PROGRESS MONITORING, INTERVENTION, AND INSTRUCTIONAL DECISION-MAKING. ONGOING VENDOR SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS WILL CONTINUE THROUGH DECEMBER 2026.

- **K-3 SCREENING AND PROGRESS MONITORING ASSESSMENT LIST**
- **4-12 SCREENING AND PROGRESS MONITORING ASSESSMENT LIST**
- **K-5 TIER 1 LITERACY MATERIALS AND SERIES**

"Imagine a world where people with dyslexia are educated in a way that supports them. It means that anything is possible."
- Orlando Bloom

K-12 LITERACY AND DYSLEXIA LAW PRESENTATION

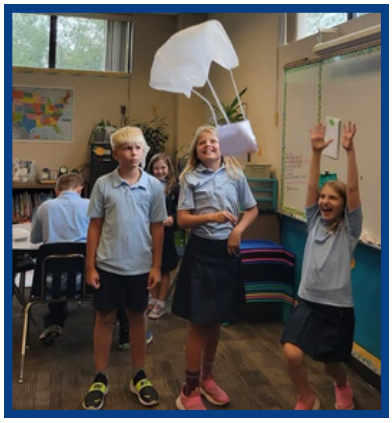
MDE LITERACY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WEBPAGE

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE FIVE COMPONENTS OF THE MTSS FRAMEWORK WITH ALIGNMENT BETWEEN THE MICHIGAN DYSLEXIA HANDBOOK AND THE K-12 LITERACY AND DYSLEXIA LAW.

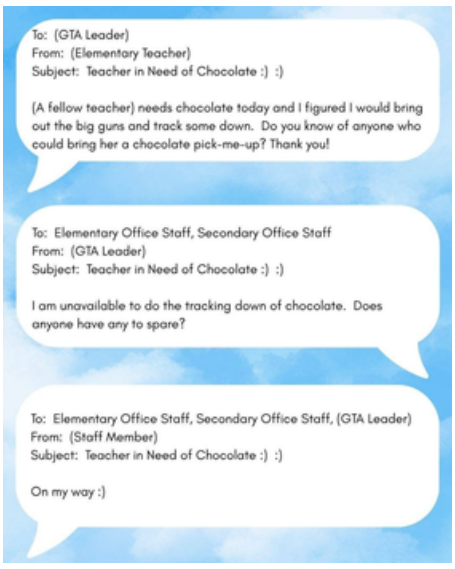
UPDATES2026: K-12 LITDYSLAW-HANDBOOK/MTSS (FULL 3 HRS WORKSHOP)

Grand Traverse Academy









LIFT: Building a Culture Where We Rise Together

At Grand Traverse Academy, we chose one word to begin this school year: Lift. Our staff came together for our annual professional development week with this simple idea in mind. The way we treat and support one another has a tremendous impact on the students we serve. We talked about geese flying in formation and the way birds create lift for one another. The bird in front does the hard work of breaking the resistance, while those behind can use less energy. Then they change positions. No one stays in front forever, and no one stays behind forever. That became our message for the year: We move together. We adapt together. We lift one another.

What I didn't expect was how quickly our staff would make the idea their own. Throughout the week, I heard people using the word & quote in conversations and saw staff members stepping in to help one another. New teachers were welcomed by those who have been at GTA for many years. Teachers shared ideas, resources, and helped our new staff set up their rooms and establish procedures. Office staff, paraprofessionals, custodians, administrators and teachers all found ways to make someone elses day a little easier. And positive notes started circulating the building! I had simply mentioned that if each staff member wrote one note to someone, we would have 95 notes circulating the building. I believe we had two times that amount! We even began receiving from our students and families during our annual Open House. Our teachers were amazed at the kindness and joy that our families had and recognized the "lift" that they experienced as families brought them supplies, gifts, and so much appreciation for teaching their children. We work hard for our families, but they also give US encouragement and purpose.

Lift is more than a theme for the first week of school. It connects closely to the culture we have worked to build at Grand Traverse Academy for more than 25 years. As a Glasser Quality School, Choice Theory is part of our foundation. We believe people are motivated from within, relationships are the most important, and students do their best when they feel safe, loved and connected. That begins with the adults. When teachers feel supported, they are better able to support students. When families feel welcomed, they are more likely to partner with our school. When students know that the adults around them care about them and about one another, they experience a school that feels like a community.

So as we welcomed our students back, I asked our staff to focus on one question this year: Who will experience more lift because they worked beside you? We are looking forward to another year of moving together, growing, and most importantly, lifting one another along the way!

Submitted by Michelle Floering, Superintendent

Bay City Academy

At Bay City Academy, we have many growing opportunities for students and families. Three amazing programs we would like to highlight are our “Don't Wish For It, Work For It” program, our brand new athletic program, and our award winning drama program.





Don’t Wish For It, Work For It

Don’t Wish For It, Work For It begins in kindergarten, with college and career readiness lessons at least four times each year in every grade. We hold parent meetings in 8th, 10th and 12th grades to help families understand the choices and decisions ahead. Our 10th graders take a required College and Career Readiness course utilizing Michigan College Access Network’s Your Future Matters curriculum. Juniors and seniors participate in hands-on skilled trades presentations, and all of our juniors and seniors attend our local career center or participate in dual enrollment.

By graduation, our goal is for students to have much more than an answer to the question, “What are you doing after high school?” We want them to have a resume, job-shadow experience, multiple college visits and mock interviews, and exposure to careers, skilled trades and the military. Most importantly, we want them to have experienced enough possibilities to make an informed decision about what comes next. Sometimes, simply seeing a possibility makes all the difference.

One BCA student wasn't particularly interested in continuing school after graduation and wasn't sure what he wanted to do. Then he joined us on a visit to Lake State Superior University, where we take our 10th graders for an overnight trip every year. Walking around campus, hearing from people there, seeing student life, even eating the food, allowed him to picture himself in college in a way he hadn't before. He didn't ultimately choose LSSU but he graduated last spring and enrolled full time at our local community college. That is a measurement of success for us at BCA.

Our mantra at Bay City Academy,

“Don’t wish for it. Work for it.”







Athletics

Bay City Academy is proud to offer a growing athletic program that provides opportunities for students from first grade through high school. BCA is one of the few elementary schools in the area offering organized sports beginning in first grade, with programs continuing through middle school and into varsity competition. Students can participate in sports including basketball, football, volleyball, soccer, bowling, poms, dance, softball, flag football, and running club. Bay City Academy is a proud member of the Big Thumb Conference.

This fall alone, we showed tremendous growth in numbers for our varsity sports having 14 girls participating in HS volleyball, 18 boys participating in HS football. Our middle school sports continue to grow as well as 13 girls in volleyball and 18 boys in football.

While winning games are important, Bay City Academy athletics focuses on:

- Developing teamwork
- Leadership
- Sportsmanship
- Personal values
- Confidence

We have hired dedicated coaches who serve as mentors, supporting students both on and off the field and helping them grow as athletes and individuals.

Our Lumberjacks Athletics motto is - **No Obstacles; No Excuses**.



BCA Theatre

The Bay City Academy Theatre Department, led by Sara Messbarger, has become an important part of the BCA experience, giving students from kindergarten through 12th grade opportunities to discover their talents, build confidence, and develop a love for the performing arts. One of the unique aspects of BCA's theatre program is that Music Theatre is offered as part of the daily school schedule. Students are able to develop their skills in acting, singing, dancing, and performance while also exploring areas behind the scenes. During competition season, students can take on additional leadership and creative roles through student directing, assistant directing, choreography, and set design.

But theatre at BCA is about much more than learning how to put on a show. Through rehearsals, performances, and competitions, students strengthen communication, critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. They learn to express themselves, support one another, take creative risks, and become more confident both on and off the stage. Theatre also gives students an opportunity to develop empathy by stepping into the lives and perspectives of characters different from themselves. BCA students have found continued success in regional and state theatre and forensics competitions, earning numerous awards and recognitions over the years. These experiences allow students to challenge themselves, receive feedback, and represent their school while sharing their talents with audiences beyond the BCA community.

Students also have several opportunities throughout the year to participate in full productions. Bay City Academy typically produces three to four musicals and theatrical productions each year, including fall and spring musicals, and middle and high school competition one-act productions.
Beginning as early as kindergarten, students are encouraged to explore the performing arts and continue developing their abilities as they grow. Some discover a passion for performing, while others find their place directing, choreographing, designing, or working behind the scenes.

No matter where they find their place, the goal remains the same: to give students a space where they can create, collaborate, challenge themselves, and discover just how much they are capable of accomplishing.



Awards and Recognition:



2019- 1st Place Middle School Forensics Competition
2020- 1st Place Middle-Level One-Act Competition
2020- 1st Place Middle School Forensics competition in Storytelling and Pros
2020- 2nd Place Middle School Forensics competition in Storytelling and Pros
2021- 1st Place Middle-Level One Act Virtual Competition
2022- 1st Place Middle-Level One-Act Competition
2022- 1st Place Middle School Forensics Competition for Storytelling and Duo
2022- 2nd Place Middle School Forensics Competition for Duo
2022- Michigan Thespians Conference several Superior and Excellence performance awards
2023- 2nd Place State MIFA One Act Theatre Competition
2023- Showcased at the "Michigan Charter Day At the Capitol" conference in Lansing, MI
2023- Michigan Thespians Conference: several Superior and Excellence performance awards
2024- Participated in the "Sutton Foster Award Nomination" program.
2024- Performed as the leading showcase for the MI Charter Schools Symposium Conference.

North Central Academy

Growing Greatness in a Small Community.







In northern Michigan, where the landscape is beautiful, the communities are close-knit, and winter snow can sometimes be measured in feet, something special is taking shape at North Central Academy. With just over 180 students in grades K–12, North Central Academy may be small in size, but it is big in spirit, opportunity, and vision. The school is building a culture of educational excellence while creating an environment where students feel valued, included, and excited to come to school each day. At NCA, students are known as “Champions,” a word that represents far more than a title. It gives students a sense of belonging and reminds them that they are part of a team, with a responsibility to contribute to the success of their school and one another. That culture of ownership, combined with a positive and energetic atmosphere, is helping NCA become a unique educational experience for students and families throughout the community.

NCA’s commitment to students extends far beyond traditional academics. The school believes in educating the whole student and making learning engaging, active, and connected to the world around them. The 25-acre campus provides an incredible outdoor classroom where students can explore mountain bike trails, play disc golf, build forts, sled during the winter, and participate in hands-on science projects such as removing invasive species. The school also works hard to connect families with community resources, recognizing that students are more successful when their needs are supported both inside and outside the classroom. One of the most meaningful examples is “Grandma’s Place,” a resource center created and operated by volunteer Crystal Williams. Students and families can receive clothing, school uniforms, food, toothpaste, shampoo, school supplies, and many other necessities at no cost. It is one more way NCA demonstrates that caring for students means caring for the entire community.

The school day itself reflects NCA’s desire to make education something students enjoy rather than simply something they attend. Music plays as students arrive in the morning, and Fridays now feature “Friday Jam Session,” when music teacher Mr. Loomis and Principal Mr. Atteberry play instruments as students enter the building. Students dance through the doors while staff members greet them at their cars, open doors, and join in the fun. Sunrise Exercise gives early-arriving students an opportunity to get outside, move, and spend time with friends before classes begin. Even the school uniform—forest green or black polos with pants—supports a sense of equality and belonging while taking some of the pressure out of deciding what to wear. These small traditions help create a school culture that feels welcoming, energetic, and distinctly NCA.

North Central Academy

That energy continues through the growing opportunities available to students. NCA is building momentum in the arts with music, theater, and a developing choir program, while its athletic department continues to expand with football, cross country, cheerleading, basketball, and other activities. Students can also participate in e-sports, ski club, and a TikTok club that combines creativity, technology, and school spirit. NCA's growing social media presence provides another way to showcase student accomplishments and share the excitement happening throughout the building. At the heart of it all is a staff committed to putting students first. NCA educators are not only professionals in their fields; they are community members who routinely give their time, energy, and personal investment to help students succeed.

Perhaps nothing captures NCA's connection to its community better than the school's celebration of Veteran's Day. Veterans are welcomed into the building, and students prepare projects and presentations to share with them as a way of expressing gratitude for their service. For students who may consider military service after graduation, these experiences can provide meaningful connections to those who have served before them. In every aspect of school life, NCA strives to show students that education is about more than grades and test scores. It is about developing confidence, character, creativity, responsibility, and a sense of purpose. North Central Academy is a small school in a small northern Michigan community, but its students and educators are making an increasingly significant impact. Surrounded by forests, trails, snow, and a community that continues to invest in its young people, NCA is proving that greatness does not require a large population or a large building. Sometimes, it simply requires people who believe in their students and are willing to build something special together.









Submitted by
Chris Atteberry
NCA Principal



Innocademy

FALL '26 LEARNING SHOWCASE

Grades K-8th
learning across grades and disciplines







A WINDOW INTO OUR CLASSROOMS

Students build knowledge through global inquiry, Spanish language, creative expression, and authentic scientific investigation.





GLOBAL LEARNING

Culture builds connection

Second graders studied the Philippine holiday Masskara and how it reflects community resilience after tragedy.





SPANISH LANGUAGE

Language opens the world

Fourth graders created country passports, while seventh graders explored soccer vocabulary and music from the Spanish-speaking world.

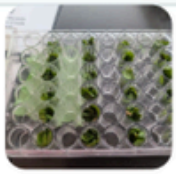


CREATIVE ARTS

Music and visual art

Middle school students read ukulele chord progressions and strengthen observational drawing through graphite shading.





SCIENCE INQUIRY

Authentic science data

Eighth graders identify cyanogenesis allele frequency in clover and compare results across similar climates.

MISSION IN ACTION Global mindset • Whole-child learning • Spanish Language • Nature rich

Submitted by Jessenia Olmeda, School Lead

MOMENTUM ACADEMY



We were so excited to open our doors at Momentum Academy on August 31st! The past two weeks of school have been a great example of what makes our school community so special. From special morning trivia announcements celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month to our first ROADRUNNER assembly of the school year, staff were actively connecting with students, reinforcing expectations, and creating a welcoming environment where learning can thrive.

- by Katie Alexander, Principal

Trivia Question

Which is faster, a roadrunner or a coyote?
Answer: *In the iconic Looney Tunes cartoons, Wile E. Coyote is always left in the dust by the Road Runner, but in reality, coyotes can run more than twice as fast as roadrunners.*

Ways to Celebrate Fall



- Carve a pumpkin
- Visit an apple orchard
- Make chili
- Take a road trip to view fall foliage
- Cheer on your favorite football team
- Drink hot cocoa or warm apple cider
- Go on a nature walk
- Pick out your Halloween costume
- Watch a scary movie
- Go to a pumpkin patch
- Jump into a pile of leaves
- Bake something with pumpkin
- Roast pumpkin seeds
- Go to a fall festival
- Begin holiday shopping (What?!)
- Plan your Thanksgiving meal
- Visit a haunted house
- Go on a hayride
- Bake an apple pie
- Make fall themed crafts

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 phaseof life whether it be attending college, joining the military, or entering the workforce.

Vision

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

LSSU CSO Team

TAMMY BELL
SCHOOL SUPPORT SPECIALIST
TBELL@LSSU.EDU

JULIE BUCHHOLTZ
ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT SPECIALIST
JBUCHHOLTZ@LSSU.EDU

REBECCA CLAWSON
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