



# Connections

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*Serving Baraga, Houghton  
 & Keweenaw Counties*

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## Portage Health Foundation Supports Career & Technical Education (CTE) in the Copper Country

In April the Portage Health Foundation pledged \$50,000 to be used toward scholarships for local students to take a Health related CTE course through the ISD. Approximately 60% of ISDs in Michigan have a dedicated millage that helps pay for CTE classes. The Copper Country does not have such a millage. In addition, the federal grants that the CCISD receives to help with CTE classes have been cut in half over the last ten years. To be able to run CTE classes in the Copper Country, local schools must pay tuition for the classes. With tight budgets, some schools have had to cap the number of students who can take these classes. Through the generosity of the Portage Health Foundation, local schools will now receive a \$500 scholarship toward the tuition for any student taking the Health Careers or the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class. Essentially, schools will now be able to send three students for the price of two, creating opportunities for more students.

So what do the CTE Health related classes offer to students? They provide students with opportunities to explore careers in the Health Care profession. Stu-

dents learn emergency first aid, medical terminology, basic anatomy and physiology, and communication skills necessary for success in the Health Care field. Once these skills are learned, students work with local agencies twice a week to gain a wide variety of experiences. Students have worked with EMTs, physical therapists, dental hygienists, surgical technicians, veterinarians, opticians, in medical labs, and much more. There is also a specific class for nursing, in which students receive training and obtain the necessary skills to take the State of Michigan's competency evaluation exam and become a Certified Nurse Assistant. Once completed, the student is qualified to work as a nursing assistant in hospitals, nursing homes and with home health care.

As you can see, the ISD provides great opportunities to our local students, but there is a cost. I would like to personally thank the Portage Health Foundation for supporting scholarships to our local youth in an effort to provide these opportunities to more students.



From Left to Right: Bernadette Yeoman-Ouellette, PHF Board Secretary & Chair of Fund Development Committee; Kevin Store, PHF Executive Director; Lorie Maki, CCISD Nurse Aide Instructor; George Stockero, CCISD Superintendent; Lennon Mattila-Hughes, PHF Board Chair; and Chelsea Goodreau, PHF Fund Development Assistant.

Article by  
 George G. Stockero, Jr.,  
 CCISD Superintendent

## Substitute Teachers Needed

The Copper Country ISD is continually seeking applicants for substitute teachers in Baraga, Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. The ISD processes the applications year-round, conducts the necessary background checks and provides a list of eligible subs to all of its constituent districts, BHK Child Development Board and the Keweenaw Bay Tribal Center.

Applicants must either have a valid or expired Michigan teaching certificate, or have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours of satisfactory college credit (GPA 2.0 or higher) consolidated at one four year college or university which is accredited by either a regional accrediting agency or by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). They must also be able to pass a criminal history records check and unprofessional conduct check from a previous employer. Applicants are responsible for the fees related to their application, including the costs of having fingerprints taken, criminal history records checks performed, and their annual sub permit fee, if applicable. Subs who are not certified in Michigan must have a permit in order to work.

Substitutes may work at all area schools, or can choose

*Continued on Page 3*

## What's Trending in Educational Technology?

Most people have probably figured out that the only thing that remains constant in educational technology is that it is constantly changing! Unfortunately, the timing of these new technologies does not always neatly coincide with the beginning of the school year. Educators find themselves continuously having to stay abreast of the new technology. To assist local schools, REMC1 is sponsoring several professional development programs to better equip our teachers for the new school year.

**June 19—21Things4Teachers: Blending Instruction (30 SCECHs):** This program explores the 21 "must have" technology resources that all teachers should be proficient in. To better accommodate the busy schedules of our local educators, REMC1 has split this program up into three, independent, 30 SCECH courses. The "things" will be grouped into three central themes: *Teacher Development and Productivity*, *Blending Instruction*, and *Differentiating Instruction and Assessment*. *21Things4Teachers: Blending Instruction* will kick-off with a face-to-face session at the CCISD on Friday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will continue online through August 20. *Fee: \$100 (includes book and SCECH fee)*

**June 30—Blended Instruction with Moodle (10 SCECHs):** Learn how to get started with using Moodle for blended instruction. Start with a discussion of best practices, explore sample courses and then begin to develop the framework for a course in Moodle which will support face-to-face instruction. This session will be conducted at the CCISD on Tuesday, June 30, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be the second time the CCISD Moodlers will be meeting this year! *Fee: Free\**

**July 14—Everything Google--Chrome (9 SCECHs)\*\*:** Interested in "turbocharging" your online browsing experience? We will teach you how to take a "stock" Chrome browser and build it into an online performance machine with apps, extensions and customized features! *Everything Google--Chrome* will meet on Tuesday, July 14, at the CCISD from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you attend three of the four, *Everything Google* sessions, you will be eligible for 9 SCECHs. *Fee: Free\**

**July 21—Everything Google--Gmail & Security (9 SCECHs)\*\*:** UP summers should be spent swimming in Lake Superior, not e-mail! This session will teach you how to better manage your e-mail inflow so more time can be spent on the important things! You will also learn about e-mail threats and safety precautions that might be as shocking as a "dip in da Big Lake!" *Everything Google--Gmail and Security* will meet on Tuesday, July 21, at the CCISD from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you attend three of the four, *Everything Google* sessions, you will be eligible for 9 SCECHs. *Fee: Free\**

**July 30—Everything Google--Drive (9 SCECHs)\*\*:** Save Brockway Mountain Drive for the fall; let's take a ride up Google Drive instead! We will explore Google Drive and its integrated programs commonly known as Google Apps. This ride up the Drive will be no sightseeing trip, but rather a hands-on adventure through Docs, Spreadsheets, Slides and Forms. *Everything Google--Drive* will meet on Thursday, July 30, at the CCISD from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you attend three of the four, *Everything Google* sessions, you will be eligible for 9 SCECHs. *Fee: Free\**

**August 7—Everything Google--Google Classroom (9 SCECHs)\*\*:** Interested in getting started with Google Classroom? We will walk you through the planning phase of selecting Google Classroom as your Learning Management System. This session will meet on Friday, August 7, at the CCISD from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you attend three of the four, *Everything Google* sessions, you will be eligible for 9 SCECHs. *Fee: Free\**

*\*Session is free for employees of schools within the CCISD and GOISD. CCISD charges a nominal fee for SCECH processing, which is not included.*



**\*\*You must attend three of the four *Everything Google* sessions in order to be eligible for the 9 SCECHs.**

Article by Steve Kass,  
REMC1 Educational  
Technologist

## Student Leadership Committee

The Student Leadership Committee began in the early 1990's as a group of student leaders across the CCISD area schools of Houghton, Keweenaw and Baraga Counties. The focus initially was to eliminate pre-gang activity and dangerous school rivalries that existed through focused leadership activities in an effort to support youth leaders. Over the past 15 years, the purpose of SLC has changed to focus on opportunities for student leaders to meet and address school issues collaboratively, community service and leadership skill building. For a brief time in 2007 to 2010, SLC combined with the Keweenaw Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) in order to jumpstart YAC. The two groups separated again in 2010 and have since worked together on two Student Leadership Conferences. YAC has continued to provide funding for different SLC events through the KCF granting program. Although formed for different purposes, there is overlap of student leaders who serve on both groups and it has been a nice collaboration between the two organizations.

During 2014-15, SLC hosted the Student Senate Forum, which brings student council presidents and representatives together from across the districts to exchange ideas. SLC also organizes the Student Exchange which allows high school students to exchange high

schools for a day and provide feedback to the host high school. The big project for SLC this year was an area youth talent show fundraiser held at the Calumet Theater in February. Sixteen acts performed, with the winner awarded a \$200 cash prize. Over \$1,300 was raised for the local charity S.K.Y. (Simple Kindness for Youth), which provides grants for local K-12 children in need. Also this year, co-presidents Cassie Feeley and Drew Stockero presented to the Houghton Rotary about SLC in May.

High schools within the CCISD are eligible to participate and the number of representatives is determined by the number of 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students enrolled in the district. Each school is guaranteed at least two representatives. When asked recently what SLC students learn while a part of the group, students offered the following skills: responsibility, fundraising, grant writing, coordination of schedules and events, communication skills, event planning, etc. SLC has provided an exciting leadership opportunity for hundreds of students across the span of over 25 years and we look forward to their many future projects!

Article by Carla Strome,  
CCISD Curriculum Coordinator



## Sub Teachers Needed, *continued from page 2*

specific schools, grade levels or subject areas.

Once registered with the CCISD, substitute teachers become employees of a third party contractor, Good Marks for Schools (GMS), based in Marshall, Michigan. Payroll is processed through GMS, but the sub list is maintained by the ISD and the booking of work dates is handled by the local schools.

For more details concerning registration, qualifications, fees and pay rates, or to download application materials, go to [http://www.copperisd.org/sub\\_info.html](http://www.copperisd.org/sub_info.html). When downloading, be sure to include the application packet, LiveScan Fingerprint Request Form and GMS employment forms. Packets may also be picked up at the ISD office or requested via mail or email. There is an informational brochure posted on the site which explains how everything works from registration to payroll, lists pay by school district and criminal offenses that would prevent an individual from working in a school. A flyer announcing an available training session on September 9th is posted, as well as an extensive FAQ section.

If you have questions, contact Peggy Myllyoja at (906)482-4250, ext. 182, or [peggym@copperisd.org](mailto:peggym@copperisd.org).

Article by Peggy Myllyoja,  
Executive Secretary to the CCISD  
Superintendent

## 2014-15 PAC Spring Awards Reception

The 13th annual Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Awards Dinner was held on May 5th at the CCISD, with approximately 80 people in attendance. The PAC awards recognize people who have made outstanding contributions in the area of special education during the current school year. Awards were given in a number of categories, including general education teachers, special education teachers, ancillary staff, support staff and students.

CCISD staff who were recognized included Lynnette Borree, School Psychologist, who received the Ancillary Staff Award; Sandra Johnson, Paraprofessional/Driver for the Program for Students with Severe Disabilities at the Learning Center, who received the Support Staff Award; and retiring Social Skills Behavior Outreach Coordinator Peg Hertel, who received a special recognition at the event. One very touching award was the Make a Difference Award given to a group of students from Barkell Elementary School in Hancock who initiated an effort to prevent bullying and support those students who are being bullied.

Congratulations to the award recipients!

Article by Christine Salo,  
CCISD Director of Special Education

## Nearly 70 CCISD High School Students Participate in 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Lake Superior Youth Symposium in Thunder Bay, Ontario ~ May 14-17, 2015



Fort William Group Picture

The Western UP Center for Science, Math and Environmental Education coordinated the trip for local students and teachers to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Lake Superior Youth Symposium at Lakehead University and Confederation College from May 14-17 in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Eighty local students and teachers in grades 7-12 from Houghton High School, Jeffers High School, and Lake Linden-Hubbell Middle/High Schools participated. More than 150 students from schools in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ontario participated.

The symposium provided an opportunity for participants to explore the science, history, culture, challenges and accomplishments of managing and protecting Lake Superior — the largest body of fresh water by surface area on the

planet. Students attended presentations by scientists and participated in field trips to a variety of local sites:

- Fort William Historical Park
- Arctic microclimate at Ouimet Canyon
- Amethyst Mine
- Waterfalls and Canada's longest pedestrian suspension bridge



Houghton Middle School students practice teamwork.

Continued on Page 5 at Right

## Lake Superior Youth Symposium (LSYS), *Continued from Page 2*



Teacher Cindy McCormick, Jeffers High School, and students complete a 12 mile round trip hike to the top of the Sleeping Giant.

### • Sleeping Giant Provincial Park

The Lake Superior Youth Symposium is a unique event. Started in 1995, it is held every two years and its location changes as it circles Lake Superior, alternating between Wisconsin, Ontario, Minnesota, and Michigan.

Copper Country schools have participated in the biennial Lake Superior Youth Symposiums since 1999. Jeffers High School Science/English Teacher, Cindy McCormick, first came to the 2001 symposium at Michigan Tech as a Chassell High School student. She has now brought her own students to the past three symposiums!

The Western UP Center for Science, Math, and Environmental Education and

Michigan Tech have hosted the symposium at Michigan Tech in 2001 (400 participants) and 2013 (200 participants).



Students work together to move a marble 100 feet without touching.

The Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI), Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education, Keweenaw Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee, and Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition provided funding for student and teacher participation in the symposium.

To find out more about past symposiums, visit: <http://lakesuperioryouth.org/>.

Article by Joan Chadde, Program Director, Michigan Tech Office of the Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics & Environmental Education

## Local High Schools Among the Best

Two local school districts, Houghton-Portage Township School District and the Public Schools of Calumet, Laurium and Keweenaw, received *US News and World Report's* silver medal in the magazine's annual ranking of best high schools in the country. In a pool of over 29,070 public high schools in the US, and 860 in the State of Michigan, Houghton-Portage came in at number 1,511 nationally and 54th in the state, while CLK is at 1,808 nationally and 59th in the state. Several additional Copper Country schools received the bronze award: Chassell, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City, Hancock, Jeffers and Lake Linden-Hubbell High Schools.

Schools were awarded gold, silver or bronze medals based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college. The magazine used a research firm to analyze performance data from state proficiency tests and advanced placement information to formulate their rankings. 28% of Michigan high schools received an award, with 40% of them from the U.P. and 27% from the L.P.

To read more about the rankings and the methodology used, visit the magazine's website at: <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools>.

Article by Peggy Myllyoja, Executive Secretary to the CCISD Superintendent

### Camp Nesbit 2015

The 2015 Camp Nesbit school season is almost completed. Sixth graders in the Western U.P. and cognitively impaired students from throughout the U.P. camp there annually. Participating schools:

<b>DATES</b>	<b>SCHOOLS (# Campers)</b>
5/4-8	Ontonagon, Ewen-Trout Creek, Watersmeet & White Pine (44)
5/12-15	Lake Linden & Dollar Bay (66)
5/18-20	Adams, Stanton & Chassell (75)
5/20-22	Hancock (52)
5/26-29	Baraga (33)
6/8-12	CCISD Cognitive Impairments Summer Camp (40)
9/23-25	Houghton-Portage (TBD)
9/28-10/2	Calumet (TBD)

For more information, call Ken Maki at (906)482-4250, ext. 187, or 1-800-562-7618.

Copper Country Connections is published twice per year by the Copper Country Intermediate School District as a means of informing the educational community and the public of programs and services offered by the district. This publication is provided free of charge and is available for download in the "About Us" section of our website. To be added to our mailing list to receive printed copies of this newsletter, please contact:

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**We're On The Web!**  
<http://www.copperisd.org>

### 2014-15 CCASB Awards

Students, school employees and community members were recognized at the Copper Country Association of School Boards annual awards dinner at Michigan Tech on April 22nd. CCISD award recipients were as follows: Cathy Benda, Copper Country Great Start Collaborative Director, received the School Service Award; Sue Mewbourn, Executive Secretary for Special Education, received the Outstanding Educational Employee Award; and the CCISD Student Leadership Committee received the Student Leadership Award. CCISD Board Secretary Karen Johnson received the Michigan Association of School Boards Advocacy Skills Award, in conjunction with MASB's Certified Board Awards program.

This year's recipient of the Copper Country Education Leadership Award, which is chosen by the CCASB from various nominations made by local districts, was 31 Backpacks. 31 Backpacks distributes backpacks filled with easy to prepare food to send home on Fridays with students who may otherwise go hungry on the weekends. With the help of donors and volunteers, they currently provide nourish-

ment to 183 children in the Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw, Lake Linden-Hubbell, Chassell, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City, Hancock and Houghton schools, as well as the CCISD.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

Article by Peggy Myllyoja,  
Executive Secretary to the CCISD Superintendent



Pictured above: Melissa Maki, Laurel Maki and Amy Zawada, 31 Backpacks Board Members



Pictured above: Robert Tuomi, CCISD Board President; Sue Mewbourn; Cathy Benda; SLC Members Drew Stockero (Hancock High School), Cassie Feeley (Calumet High School), Trey Beauchamp (Lake Linden-Hubbell High School), Bella Maki (Houghton High School), Paris Puuri (Jeffers High School) and Megan Kangas (Dollar Bay-TC High School); and Gale Eilola, CCISD Board Trustee