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Serving Baraga, Houghton & Keweenaw Counties

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Career & Technical Education

Career and Technical Education (CTE) are educational programs that specialize in the skilled trades, applied sciences, modern technologies, and career preparation. It was formerly (and is still commonly) called vocational education.

Career and technical programs offer both academic and career-oriented courses, and many provide students with the opportunity to gain work experience through internships, job shadowing, on-the-job training, and industry-certification opportunities.

The Copper Country ISD currently runs three programs in Houghton County. They are Automotive Technology, Health Careers and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). These classes are available to all Copper Country schools. There are also CTE courses offered in Baraga County by the local schools with help from the CCISD. Those classes are Construction Trades, Health Careers, Accounting/Finance and new this year, Machine Tool.

CTE opportunities are a valuable resource for our students. We know that long-term projections show all Skilled Trades jobs will be expanding at nearly 14% through 2022. We also know that the Skilled Trades occupations have a median hourly wage of \$20.66, which is well above the \$16.70 for the all-occupation median hourly wage.

There are many requirements for CTE programs. CTE teachers are required to have at least 4,000 hours of work experience during

the last six years. CTE programs are required to provide work-based experiences. The programs are required to follow state mandated objectives that are created by experts in industry and education. The programs must also have a post-secondary connection. All of the CCISD programs have Articulation Agreements with post-secondary partners. This means our students can earn college credit for work done in our CTE programs. Finally, all of our CTE programs have Advisory Committees. This is a group of local business and industry leaders who provide suggestions for improvement in the CTE class.



The CCISD has provided opportunities for students to explore CTE possibilities. Last year, the CCISD hosted an industrial career fair. This was made possible with help from the Upper Peninsula Construction Council and Michigan WORKS. Students were given the opportunity to

operate backhoes, weld, lay brick, and use a spray paint simulator, just to name a few. Overall, 600 students took part in the day. This year, the CCISD had a non-traditional career day, in which 25 local high school girls spent a day in the Auto Tech classroom. The girls were given demonstrations and then had an opportunity to try the hands on activities for themselves.

Unfortunately, the CCISD cannot afford to run these classes without charging the local districts. Currently, local schools are charged

Career & Technical Education,

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a \$1,500 per student tuition for the CTE classes. Many schools have had to limit the number of students they can send to the CTE classes. This past year, the CCISD applied for a grant with the Portage Health Foundation and received \$50,000 to be used to cut the tuition by \$500 for every student enrolled in the Health Careers and CNA classes. This essentially allowed schools to send three students for the price of two. This generous grant helped local schools give many more students the opportunity to attend CTE classes. In fact, the overall enrollment is up 28% this year. I am happy to announce that the Portage Health Foundation has again pledged another \$50,000 to help lower the tuition for next year. The CCISD and local schools are truly grateful for what their grants provide to our students.

CTE is an important educational opportunity, and the CCISD is working hard to continue providing these valuable services. During the next several months, we will be seeking input from our local business and industry leaders on what they believe are the needs of our communities, and how they feel the CCISD can best help our students receive the necessary skills to meet those needs and opportunities.

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

Project UP SMILE

Michigan's Upper Peninsula Science and Mathematics Integrated through Literacy and Engineering (UP SMILE), is a professional learning program for middle and high school mathematics and science teachers across the Upper Peninsula to incorporate cross-curricular Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) learning in their classrooms.

Locally at the Western UP Center for Science, Math and Environmental Education site, UP SMILE will immerse 26 participating teachers from schools in the Copper Country and Gogebic-Ontonagon ISDs in:

- developing an understanding of the cutting edge technologies present in the 21st Century work place, such as 3D printing, computer coding, robotics, Global Information Systems (GIS), and data collection and analysis during the Summer of 2016.
- the engineering design process through the use of these technologies.
- explore how these technologies can be used to teach the engineering, science and mathematics content and practices in the Michigan Standards during the 2016-17 school year.

UP SMILE is a collaborative effort of the five Upper Peninsula Mathematics and Science Centers of the Michigan Math and Science Center Network (Dickinson-Iron-Menominee, Eastern Upper Peninsula, Northwoods, Seaborg, and Western Upper Peninsula) and the faculty from Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, Lake Superior State University, and Bay de Noc Community College. The project is funded by a Math/Science Partnership Grant to Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD.

Article by Shawn Oppliger, Director
Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics
& Environmental Education

Lake Superior Celebration

The Lake Superior Celebration was held on April 26, 2016, at Michigan Tech's Great Lakes Research Center and open to the community. The purpose was to celebrate the stewardship work happening in local communities located in the Lake Superior watershed.

Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI) School-Community Teams, along with local agencies and organizations, presented their stewardship work. LSSI School-Community Teams that presented were CLK Elementary, TR Davis Elementary, EB Holman School, Houghton Middle School, Washington Middle School, Dollar Bay High School, Jeffers High School and Baraga High School.



The Copper Country Recycling Initiative provided an update on recycling in the Keweenaw. Hands-on activities included Ride the HEET bike and Lift the Bridge; Paper-making, Garbage Pizza, No-Waste Lunch, SMOG City, and Create Your Own North Woods Kids Art.

The event is sponsored by the Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative, Michigan STEM Partnership, Western U.P. Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education, Michigan Tech Center for Science and Environmental Outreach, Michigan Tech Center for Water and Society and the Copper Country Recycling Initiative.

Article by Shawn Oppliger, Director
Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics
& Environmental Education

2015-16 PAC Spring Awards Reception

The 14th annual Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Awards Reception was held on May 3rd at the CCISD. The 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 Sarah Hampton, Autism Consultant, who received the Ancillary Staff Award; and three retired or retiring staff who received special recognition: Kim Tunstall, Instructional Aide, who retired in February; and Linda Reynolds, Special Education Coordinator/Autism Coordinator, and Jane Shanahan, Teacher Consultant for the Learning Disabled/Assistive Technology Coordinator, who are retiring at the end of the school year.

Local district award recipients included: Administrator Award: Christina Norland, Principal, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City Area Schools; General Education Teachers: Ken

Klein, Houghton High School, Jennifer Pera and Lisa Raffaelli, Jeffers High School, and Kristen Zimmerman, Houghton Elementary School; Special Education Teacher: Joann Feeley, South Range Elementary School; Support Staff: Mike Datto, Houghton High School, and Tammy Mattila, Baraga High School.

This year's Make a Difference Awards were given to BHK Child Development Board and Hancock High School student Reid Hamar. A Make a Difference "Spirit of Inclusion" award was presented to the third grade class at Dollar Bay-Tamarack City. Student Salutes went to Erica Aho, Special Education Teacher at Dollar Bay-TC, and Ryan Watt, General Education Teacher at Hancock Middle School/High School.



Congratulations to the award recipients!

Article by Christine Salo,
CCISD Director of Special Education

CCASB Awards 2016

Students, school employees and community members were recognized at the Copper Country Association of School Boards annual awards dinner at Michigan Tech on April 20th. CCISD award recipients were as follows:

Lynnette Borree, School Psychologist, and Kelly Tuomikoski, MiBLSi Technical Assistance Parter, received the School Service Award for their work in the area of Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), assisting local schools in supporting students at all levels; especially those most at risk for school failure.

Maren Rouleau, Teacher of the Mild Cognitive Impairment Program at Hancock High School, received the Outstanding Educational Employee Award for her leadership in

the Peer to Peer Program, where nondisabled students work with and mentor their peers with disabilities. This effort has also recently been recognized by WLUC TV6 on a segment of, "The UPSide."

Reece Anderson, a Hancock High School Auto Technology student, received the Student Leadership Award. Reece has been an outstanding student who is involved in a work study placement at Northern Auto in Hancock, has volunteered with the Career Tech Center's non-traditional career day and is helpful to his peers in class.

CCISD Board President Robert Tuomi received the Michigan Association of School Boards Award of Distinction in conjunction

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Pies for SKY

On April 27th, WOLV 97.7 Radio hosted a Pie Auction for Simple Kindness for Youth (SKY). Local administrators, teachers, ISD staff, businesses, and community leaders made pies and other baked goods for the auction and bake sale. Over 60 pies were auctioned off live on the radio, and over \$2,200 was raised for our local students.

Several CCISD and local school staff, as well as community members, are on the SKY Board of Directors. This all volunteer organization provides grants to help local students in accessing basic needs, enable them to feel accepted with their peers, and enable access to educational activities and community participation. SKY has given out over \$70,000 in grants since it began in 2010. Over \$22,000 was given out last year alone. Grants must come from local professionals, including teachers, that work directly with students. Grants have been used for things like graduation gowns, sports fees, clothing, books, and much more.

Future events include a can drive and grocery bagging by SKY volunteers at Econo Foods on June 25th, and the Chassell Strawberry Festival 5K/2K Run to benefit SKY on July 9th on the Chassell Trail System. For more information on SKY, visit www.simplekindnessforyouth.org, or see the SKY Facebook page.

Article by Lynnette Borree,
SKY Board Member &
CCISD School Psychologist

REMC 1 Provides Technology PD

Steve Kass works as an Educational Technologist and is responsible for leading the technology professional development component for REMC1. Custom created programs, along with REMC Association content, is frequently offered via sessions at the CCISD, onsite at schools and online.

Steve is also the Agency Coordinator for the 21 Things programs (21things4students.net, 21things4teachers.net, 21things4ipads.net) and frequently assists teachers with integrating this free content into their classrooms. Please view <http://www.remc1.org/professionaldevelopment> or contact Steve to see how REMC1 can help your school with its technology implementation!

Article by Billie Steenport, REMC 1 Secretary/Conference Coordinator

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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CCASB Awards 2016, Continued from Page 3

with MASB's Certified Board Awards program. To reach this milestone, Bob had to complete two levels of MASB Certified Board Member courses, with a total of four advanced level classes and minimum of 208 education credits. Bob previously received the Certified Board Member Award and Award of Merit.



Pictured above: Robert Tuomi, CCISD Board President; Robert Loukus, CCISD Board Trustee; Kelly Tuomikoski; Maren Rouleau; Lynnette Borree; Reece Anderson; and Nels Christopherson, CCISD Board Vice-President

This year, the CCASB presented two Copper Country Education Leadership Awards. These awards are chosen by the CCASB from various nominations made by local districts. Recipients were Jack Dueweke, Houghton County Emergency Measures Director, and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community.

Jack was recognized for his tireless efforts to ensure safety in the schools in Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. Accomplishments included facilitating Emergency Response Drills, setting up and providing Active Shooter Trainings, obtaining 800 MHz radios for schools, weekly radio checks, and working on the "U.P. Classroom Door Security Project," which provided schools with extra door locking devices.



Pictured above: Chris Swartz and Joan Bugni, L'Anse Area School Board Trustee



Pictured above: Jack Dueweke and Dallas Bond, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City Area Schools Board President & 2015-16 CCASB President

KBIC was recognized for its generous long term financial support of Baraga County schools and the community, as well as providing instruction, remediation and personnel resources. Because of KBIC's involvement, the schools have received Impact Aid money, and are also able to educate students about cultural diversity through classes in Ojibwa Language, Tribal culture and history. Accepting the award was KBIC President, Warren "Chris" Swartz.

Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

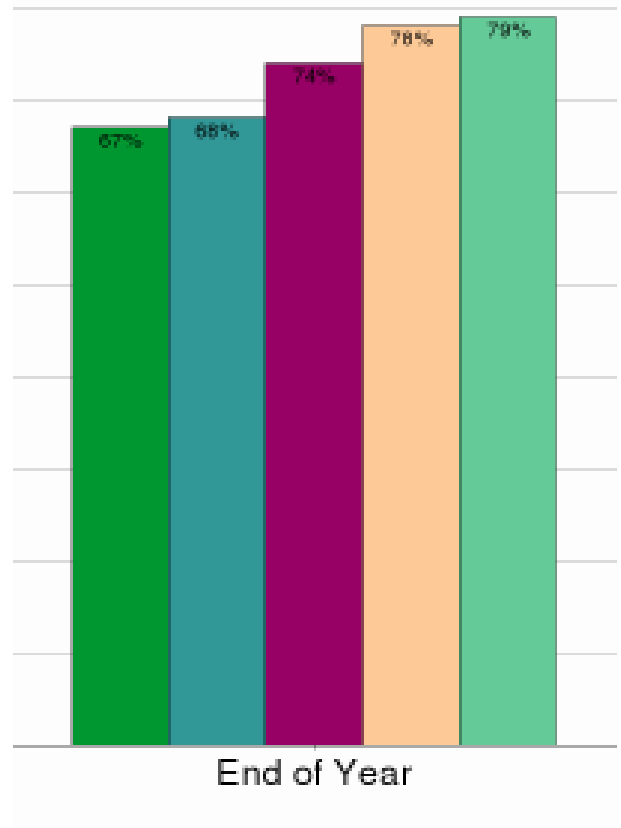
Article by Peggy Myllyoja, Executive Secretary to the CCISD Superintendent

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Update

The CCISD has been partnering with MIBLSI (Michigan’s Behavior and Learning Support Initiative) and several local district teams in an effort to build supports for all students in reading and behavior. Houghton and Baraga first became involved during the 2012-13 school year. During the 2015-16 school year, Dollar Bay-Tamarack City and Lake Linden-Hubbell joined in. This summer, L’Anse Area Schools and the CCISD Social Skills program are considering partnering as well. Upcoming trainings for the 2015-16 school year include:

- Tier 1 Reading Systems
- DIBELS Next Data Interpretation
- Grade Level Problem Solving (for Elementary Schools)
- Data Based Problem Solving (for Secondary Schools)
- Tier 2/3 Reading Supports
- School Climate
- Schoolwide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- Tier 2 Behavior Supports
- Tier 3 Behavior Supports
- Check-In/Check Out
- Data Reviews 3-5 times a year

As our state focuses on 3rd grade reading proficiency, we have seen growth over the years ISD wide on Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessments. At right is a graph of the percentage of 3rd grade students who are meeting benchmark goals for reading difficulties according to DIBELS assessments at the end of each school year for the past 5 years. Our most current data suggests that we have 79% of our 3rd grade students who are meeting benchmark goals, which is a 5 year high.



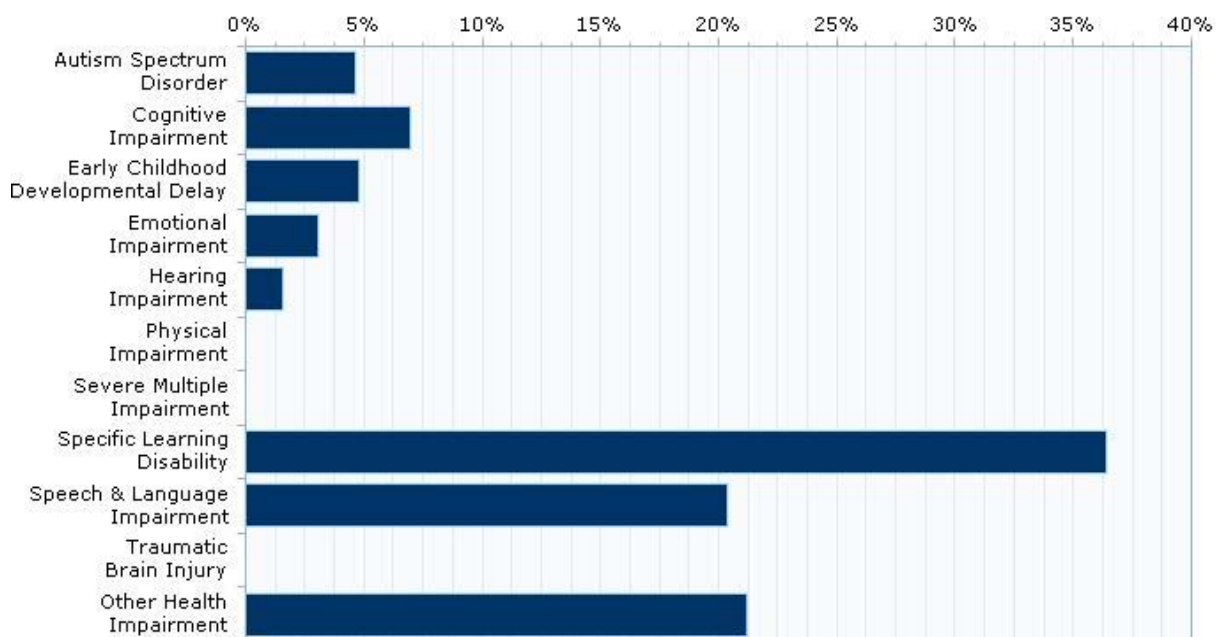
Special Education Data Portraits

This is a snapshot of special education data for the CCISD. Review of our local and state special education trend data shows a slow steady increase in the eligibility areas of Other Health Impairment (OHI) and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). In addition, trend data demonstrates a steady decline in the area of Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD). A few disability area numbers are so low that they do not show up on the graph even though we do have students eligible in those categories. Overall, the percentage of students eligible for special education in the CCISD remains relatively low, at 11.1 % compared to the state average of 12.9%. We continue to review procedures for evaluation and identification to determine whether we are accurately and consistently identifying students in all areas of special education.

2015-16 Special Education Data Portraits : Disability Snapshot

Copper Country ISD: All Disabilities

Snapshot Trend



| Student Counts | State | ISD | LEA |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total K-12 Head Count | 1,595,885 | 6,776 | none defined |
| Special Ed Count | 205,456 (12.9%) | 750 (11.1%) | none defined |