Charter Schools Office

**JANUARY 2018 ISSUE FROM THE TOP**

Dear Academy Board Members and Leaders,

Wishing you all the best as we embark on a new year! I hope you all had a restful and joyous holiday season. My family and I were able to enjoy some quality family time. I hope that you were able to do the same.

The Charter School Office is kicking off the new year with some new and exciting opportunities and support services for our academies. We will offer our first Master’s level course for teachers that work in an academy authorized by LSSU. The first cohort of EDUC 624 Reading Research and Methodology will begin on January 15, 2018 followed by two more cohorts offered (and already full) during summer 2018 and fall 2018. LSSU CSO will cover the cost of this course with the exception of a one time $100.00 online processing fee. We are happy to support our hard working teachers!

We are also pleased to announce a new data management tool that should save you time by providing pertinent academic and financial information at your finger tips. Eidex is a data management system that will allow you to compare your academy's performance with “like” academies. Please read the “Eidex Update” below for more information.

We look forward to continuing to support you in 2018. As always, do not hesitate to reach out to any of us if you have a question, concern, suggestion, or just want to chat.

*Chris Oshelski,* Executive Director

# Brooke’s Blurb

Happy New Year! I hope each of you were able to recharge your batteries and are ready to take on the second half of the school year. Now that I’m well settled in here at LSSU, I wanted to take the time to thank all of you for welcoming me into your buildings. Everyday, I am amazed by the remarkable jobs each of you do in your districts. It’s been great to get to see you all in action as I stop and visit your academy. One thing I’m super excited about is the Detroit Area Leadership Meetings that we have started. The first meeting was held on November 21, 2017. Thank you so much to Tipton Academy for being such great hosts. Feedback on the first meeting has been great and school leaders were able to network, brainstorm, and problem solve with other educational professionals who are currently facing similar issues. The next meeting is planned for January 25th, 2018 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and will feature a couple of great guest speakers. Redford Service Learning Academy has offered to host the January meeting. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at bmaciag@lssu.edu or 906-635-2724.



# Eidex Update

LSSU Charter Schools is pleased to begin the new year with offering a new data management system for your academy called Eidex.

What is Eidex?

Eidex offers a customized online software that enables academies to evaluate academic and financial data compared to like-kind peer districts and schools, quickly and comprehensively. This capability will save time, reduce and reallocate limited school resources, and facilitate communication with the board, teachers, and other stakeholders.

Each academy will receive one license. If you would like additional licenses, they can be purchased through Eidex directly.

* **December**– Eidex training for authorizers
* **January**– LSSU CSO will upload NWEA/PST, MSTEP, MME, PSAT/SAT files to Eidex– You **DO NOT** have to upload any files. I’ll do it for you.
* **Feb.12-Mar. 2**– Local District Training for

Academic Data

* **Apr.-May–** Local District Training for

Financial Data

Julie Hopper jhopper@lssu.edu

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

**2017-2018 Testing Windows**

* **Fall: Sept. 5– Sept. 29, 2017**
* **Winter: Jan. 15-Feb.9, 2018**
* **Spring: Apr. 2-Jun. 1, 2018**

**NOTE: If you are in need of a testing window modification, please send your requests to:**

**Julie Hopper at jhopper@lssu.edu . Please make your request at least 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the designated testing window start date.**

**Academies are required by contract to assess students three times per year during the given testing cycles. This allows us to track important growth data.**

LSSU Charter Schools

650 W. Easterday Avenue

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

## 906-635-2121

**COMPLIANCE CORNER**

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**Just a Reminder**

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**Academy Boards**

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we should begin discus-

sions on board members for reappointment

or new appointments. LSSU board of Trustees

last meeting before terms expire will be in

May. All board members must be nominated

by the academy board and submit a complet-

ed application to the Charter School Office no

later than April 10, 2017. Background checks,

U.S. documentation, and interviews will be

performed prior to approval by the LSSU

Board.

**Webinars**

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Mark you calendars

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February 7,

April 11, and June 6. Invitations to register for

them will be sent via email as the date gets

closer. All take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Insurance Policies**

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If you have not sent them

to the Hylant Group please send ASAP.

**FINANCE UPDATE**

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**FROM THE FIELD**

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LSSU Charter Schools was

pleased to hold our first annual Holiday Card contest.

We assumed there were some amazing artists out there in our academies and our

assumption was correct! Check out the talent! Winners were selected from four

categories; K

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nd, 3rd

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th, 6th

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th, and high school. Thank you to all that submit

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ted entries. Each winner received an LSSU sweatshirt and “Swag Bag.”

Congratulations to the following amazing artists.

The National Charters School

stitute sponsored a Midwest Char-

In

ter Schools Art Contest. Over 1,000

students from Illinois, Indiana, Michi-

gan, Ohio, and Wisconsin submitted

drawings based on the theme, “Up,

Up, and Away.” Congratulations to

Kameron Hubbard, a first grader from

Charlton Heston Academy, for

winning the Judge’s Choice Award for

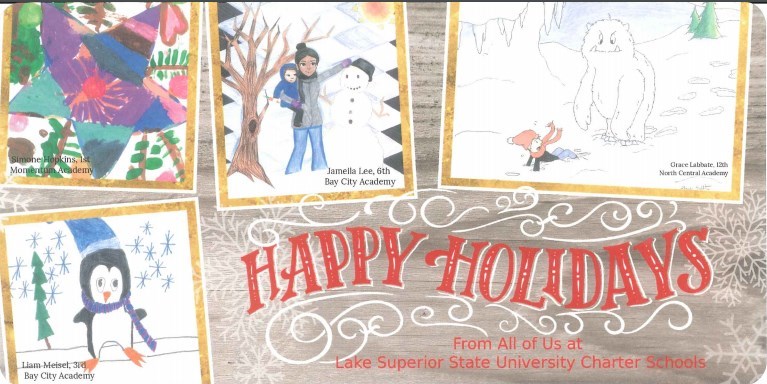
**Most Unique.**

**A Shout Out...**

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Newsworthy

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**Simone Hopkins, Momentum Academy, 1st**

**Jameila Lee, Bay City Academy, 6th**

**Grace Labbate, North Central Academy, 12th**

**Liam Meisel, Bay City Academy, 3rd**

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rd Quarter Due Dates

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**Jan. 14, 2018**

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Budget Revision

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Jan. 29, 2018

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nd Quarter Financial

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Statements

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March 30, 2018

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Budget Revision

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March 30, 2018

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Financial Audit Letter

of Engagement

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March 30, 2018

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Budget Timeline

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The Annual Financial Reports went out

in Mid December , please review them

and call Becky with any questions.



The following board training by Angie Irwin

will be offered via webinar from 6:30

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7:30

p.m.

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**Feb. 7**

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Building an Effective Team

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**Apr.11**

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Becoming a Leadership Board

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**June 6**

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Managing Your Board

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The

What, When, Why, & How of an

Effective Board

**Kameron Hubbard, Charlton Heston Academy, 1st**

Judge’s

Choice