



Dear Academy Board Members and Leaders,

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday and were able to spend time with family and loved ones. I always enjoy a new year that seems to serve as a catalyst for implementing positive change. We all seem to make our New Year's resolutions to exercise more, lose weight, or better ourselves in some way. The LSSU CSO has been consistent in our resolution each year; to continually improve the support services we provide to our board members and academies. This targeted support will hopefully pay off in the number of students that are prepared for the next phase of their life upon leaving our academies. We will continue to offer pertinent webinars and training opportunities in 2019.

There have also been some exciting additions to the number of opportunities available to charter schools students. Beth Christiansen, our new Great Lakes Education and Outreach Specialist for the Center for Freshwater Research and Education (CFRE), has been visiting academies teaching students about the prehistoric sturgeon. This hands on learning opportunity has been well received and we are happy to have Beth on board! If you are interested in an academy visit by Beth, please contact her at echristiansen@lssu.edu.

Sincerely,

Chris Oshelski

LSSU Charter Schools Director

SPOTLIGHT

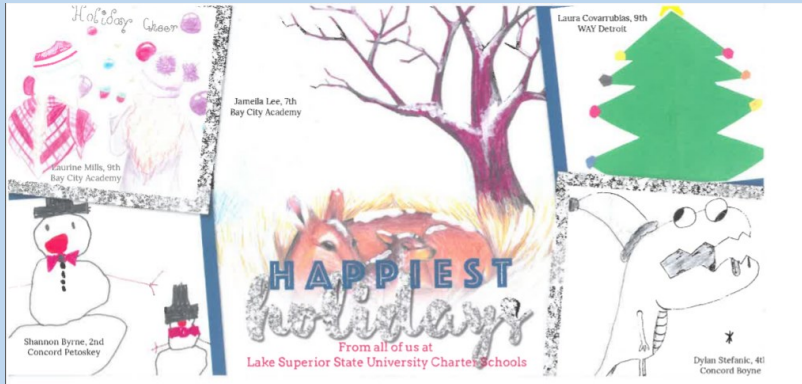


Barbara Bates, board president at Regent Park Scholar's Academy, participated this summer in the Senior Olympics and won the Bronze medals in both the 50 m and 100 m sprints. She also competed in the doubles tennis taking 4th place. She is looking to compete in the National Senior Olympics in Albuquerque, NM later this year. Way to go, Barbara! (submitted by Regent Park's LSSU field representative, Melissa Weisberger)

Janiya Gross was featured on Channel 4 Detroit on November 8, 2018 as part of Rhonda's Brag Book which recognizes outstanding area youth. Miss Gross is an eleventh grader at Advanced Technology Academy (ATA) in Dearborn, MI. She is dual enrolled at ATA and Henry Ford Community College and has completed her first year on the Dean's List. Gross also completed her second semester of Wolverine Pathway's program through University of Michigan. Janiya is also talented in poetry and art and is active in the community and her church. Keep up the great work, Janiya!

IN THE KNOW

LSSU CSO was pleased to hold our second annual Holiday Card contest. Once again, we were impressed with the number and quality of submissions received from our twenty one academies throughout Michigan. Winners were chosen with the assistance of Sara Hanley. Thank you, Sara, for helping us with this difficult decision. Each winner received an LSSU sweatshirt and “swag bag” as well as had their artwork featured on our 2018-19 LSSU Charter School Office holiday card.



Congratulations to the following winners:

Shannon Byrne, 2nd grade, Concord Petoskey Academy

Dylan Stefanic, 4th grade, Concord Boyne Academy

Jameila Lee, 7th grade, Bay City Academy

Laurine Mills, 9th grade, Bay City Academy

Laura Covarrubias, 9th grade, WAY Detroit



A "FISHY" STORY



Beth Christiansen, CFRE's Great Lakes Education and Outreach Specialist, in the field telling a fish story to students at Bay City Academy. Students learned about the life cycle of sturgeon.

COMPLIANCE CORNER

- ◆ A reminder that all boards need to review board members with terms expiring June 2019. The board will need to nominate member(s) for re-appointment or appointment. All applications for July 1st terms are due to the CSO no later than April 15th. Please check with your field representative if you have any questions.
- ◆ Epicenter Compliance Tasks are under review for FY 2018-19. We will be adding, deleting, and revising some tasks. Look for a memo outlining changes in the coming months.

FINANCE UPDATE

Tasks & Due Dates

- ◆ Budget Revision (FY2019) due Mar.29
- ◆ Budget Timeline (FY2020) due Mar.29
- ◆ Financial Audit Letter of Engagement due Mar.29

HAMLET

Five British actors from the London stage performed, Hamlet on October 30, 2018 on the campus of Lake Superior State University's Art Center.

Students from DeTour Arts & Technology Academy, Concord Boyne Academy, and Charlton Heston Academy, had the opportunity to watch this unique version of this Shakespearean classic. Each actor played multiple characters and seemed to do so almost effortlessly. We are pleased that our charter school students had the opportunity to view this play and were exposed to this caliber of performance.



A Rising Star

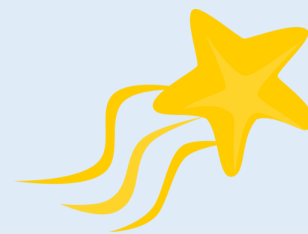


Photo featured on Sophie Dupin's single "Just a Girl."

Sophie Dupin, a.k.a. singer/songwriter, **Brix**, is a prime example of why charter schools are necessary. Dupin's story showcases the positive difference that charter schools make in student lives. Dupin is a 2004 graduate of Concord Academy of Petoskey. Ms. Dupin has given credit to her time at Concord Petoskey for inspiring the artistic side of her and allowing her to explore various art forms. "This is where I had the freedom to explore all aspects of art, and where I built my confidence, I learned that I loved all aspects of art and now I couldn't imagine having a job where I don't create something new each day." (PetoskeyNews.com, Nov. 2012)

Dupin's version of "Just a Girl" by Gwen Stefani, is featured in the official trailer #2 for Disney's "The Nutcracker and the Four Realms" and can be viewed at the address below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2vmAttpgrg>

Her EP or Extended Play record titled "Broken Vessel" released in November 2018 consists of five tracks with one being her version of "Just a Girl." You may stream Brix's music at:

<http://geni.us/BrixBrokenVessel>

ALERT

EDUCATIONAL GOALS UPDATE

Please look for an email from Jenny Peterman outlining the process for adopting the new mandatory Educational Goals for 2018-19. The memo explains why we are moving to adopt new goals. Your academy board will need to approve the changes with a resolution. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this in further detail, please contact, Julie Hopper, at jhopper@Issu.edu or 906-635-2118. Please submit the following three documents to Jenny Peterman no later than June 3, 2019.

- ◆ Educational Goals w/ Mission added and Measure 4 if applicable
- ◆ Contract Amendment/Resolution
- ◆ Board Minutes showing approval