



## July 2019 ISSUE

## FROM THE TOP

Dear Academy Board Members and Leaders,

Just a reminder that our Academy Board and Leadership Retreat is less than three weeks away. We hope to see you on campus on July 26-27. The Retreat will include a tour of campus, a Soo Lock's dinner cruise, as well as breakout sessions on a variety of topics. Moving forward, we plan on offering these retreats in a three year cycle. It is a beautiful time to visit Sault Ste. Marie and well worth the drive!

While here, we encourage you to take a stroll down Portage Avenue, affectionately known as "Fudgie Lane." What is a "fudgie" you ask? According to the Urban Dictionary, a tourist to the northern lower or eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The name *fudgie* comes from the fact that many of these tourists like to spend lots of time in the many fudge shops in northern Michigan. We're not judging, it is delicious! While you're at it, you may also want to indulge in a crepe and why not check out the world famous Soo Locks, enjoy a round of golf at Wild Bluff Golf Course overlooking Lake Superior, or drive to the breathtaking Tahquamenon Falls near Paradise? No matter what you choose, we're glad we get to spend time with you at our retreat.

See you soon.

Chris Oshelski

LSSU Charter Schools Director

## ATTENTION

### 2018-19 ACADEMIC REPORTS

I AM EXCITED TO ROLL OUT THE NEW 2018-19 ACADEMIC REPORTS THIS FALL AND PRESENT AT ONE OF YOUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACADEMY BOARD MEETINGS. I WILL BE PLANNING MY SCHEDULE WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR SO AND NOTIFY EACH OF YOU AS TO WHICH BOARD MEETING AGENDA I'D LIKE TO BE PLACED ON. LEADERS, I WILL SHARE THE REPORT WITH YOU ELECTRONICALLY PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS BEFORE PRESENTING.

IN JANUARY 2020, THE 2018-19 LSSU COMPREHENSIVE PORTFOLIO REPORT WILL BE PUBLISHED. THIS REPORT WILL PROVIDE DATA ON HOW LSSU ACADEMIES PERFORMED AS A WHOLE AS WELL AS ACADEMY SPECIFIC ACADEMIC, FINANCIAL, AND COMPLIANCE INFORMATION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR FEEDBACK AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL FIND THE NEW FORMAT INFORMATIVE AND EASY TO READ.

THANK YOU.

JULIE HOPPER  
ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT SPECIALIST

## THANK YOU

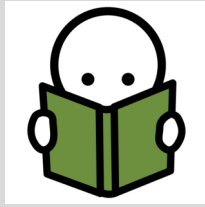


Our beloved Larry Kubovchick, field representative for our northern academies, will be retiring at the end of summer/early fall. Larry joined the LSSU Charter School's Team in July of 2012. Prior to that, Larry had been in the field of education for many years. Karen and Larry Kubovchick were founding administrators at Concord Boyne Academy from 1995-2012.

The Kubovchick's have one daughter named Kristen who lives in Indiana with her family. Larry and Karen are moving to Indiana to be closer to family and be able to attend the various events their grandson, Will, is involved in.

We will certainly miss the Kubovchick's and wish them all of the best. Thank you for all of your years of service to Lake Superior State University Charter Schools and the students/families of Michigan.

## IN THE KNOW– 3rd Grade Reading



Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports sent out a memo on May 16th with an update on the Read by Third Grade Retention Guidelines. In 2016, the Michigan legislature passed the “Read by Grade 3 Law.” This law requires that students who are more than one year behind grade level in reading are subject to retention and additional support to improve their reading level. This component of the law goes into effect for the 2020-2021 school year. English Language Arts performance is measured by the M-STEP, however, the scores associated with M-STEP performance levels are *Not Proficient*, *Partially Proficient*, *Proficient*, and *Advanced* and do not correlate to a grade level equivalency score meaning a level of “**Not Proficient**” does not necessarily tell if a student is a grade level behind. Because of this, the MDE worked with educators to establish a reading cut score. The cut score was determined through laborious committee work and review and is outlined in the table below.

RBG3 Category	Cut Score	Response
1	1252 or lower	*Subject to retention policy and will be given the resources and supports below
2	1253-1271	Additional reading supports are recommended, not required
3	1272 or higher	Meets requirement

**NOTE: If a student is in Category 1, the law requires the following:**

- ◆ Assigned to a highly effective teacher or highest rated or specialist
- ◆ Provided evidenced based reading program with proven results
- ◆ Receive daily targeted small group of 1-to-1 reading instruction
- ◆ Receive ongoing progress monitoring
- ◆ Receive supplemental reading instruction



## COMPLIANCE CORNER

- ◆ Don't miss out on a chance for FREE professional development this summer on July 26-27 at our Leadership and Board Retreat with over twenty breakout sessions offered.
- ◆ Please look for a new Master Calendar sent out in July to help plan for submissions to the CSO (Epicenter), MDE, and CEPI for 2019-2020.
- ◆ Look for some changes in Epicenter tasks for 2019-2020. Insurance policies will now be uploaded through Epicenter with the Hylant Group accessing them for review. More information to come in September.
- ◆ LSSU will be partnering with NMU and FSU to offer a five part governance webinar series for the 2019-20 school year.
  - Monday, Oct. 14, 2019
  - Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020
  - Monday, Feb. 10, 2020
  - Monday, Apr. 27, 2020
  - Wednesday, May 13, 2020

## FINANCE UPDATE

HAPPY NEW FISCAL YEAR!

\*Upcoming Important Dates\*

- ◆ July 15– MFA Public School Academy State Aid application deadline
- ◆ August 15– 4th Quarter Financial Statements

## IN THE FIELD

**With the retirement of Larry Kubovchick, our very own Keith Krahnke will act as the new field representative for our northern schools. Keith, our former LSSU Charter School College and Career Readiness Coordinator, has had plenty of experience in the field of education. He is a former educator as well as superintendent and brings a wealth of expertise and experience to his role as field representative. Welcome, Keith. We are thrilled you accepted the position.**