

September 2021 Issue



FROM THE TOP

Dear Academy Board Members and Leadership Teams,

Welcome back to the 2021-22 academic year. This year we will continue to support you whether student instruction and board meetings are able to be conducted in person, virtually or a mixture of both. As your authorizer, we are positioned to provide a variety of professional development opportunities for academy staff and board members. More information on these opportunities is listed throughout the newsletter.

Additionally, we will roll out our LSSU System of Support. Academies will be tiered based on finance, governance & compliance, academics, or whole child indicators. Academies that fall into Tier 3 for any of the areas will be eligible for support as well as complete a plan of improvement. This early warning system is not meant to be punitive in nature but rather supportive. We are attempting to be proactive rather than reactive and provide the necessary support to improve student outcomes. Reach out to any of our team if we can be of assistance. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Oshelski
Executive Director

Social Emotional Learning Series

We are pleased to offer a three series training on Social Emotional Learning facilitated by Brooke Davis, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Mental Health Services in Kenowa Hills Public Schools. Ms. Davis will offer three training sessions.

It is our stance at LSSU Charter Schools that Social Emotional Health is essential and should be taught just as any other subject. Ms. Davis's presentations will be recorded and available to academy staff and board members during the 2021-22 academic year. Each LSSU academy may send up to teams of three to the training. It is recommended that there is representation from administration, elementary and or middle/high school. If you are a K-8 building or other configuration, adjust accordingly. The table below outlines the dates, times, and topics for each of the three sessions. Only 60 slots available and registration forms will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. SCECH's will also be available. Please click link for registration form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Djf-3oDoWDDsNSha7WRZo4ErYHFC59GPU38juADwO6Q/edit>



DATE	TOPIC
September 21, 4-5 p.m.	Introduction to SEL
October 19, 4-5 p.m.	Unpacking SEL
November 16, 4-5 p.m.	SEL and Equity

IN THE KNOW

- Did you know that LSSU is situated on the site of the former U.S. Army's Fort Brady?
- Did you know that LSSU authorizes twenty-one districts throughout Michigan?
- Did you know about the Charter School Guarantee? Any student that graduates from an LSSU authorized academy is automatically accepted into LSSU.
- Did you know that LSSU was established in 1946 and is celebrating its 75th birthday this year? HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LSSU!

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Top & SEL.....Cover

Public Act 48 & 2020-21 Board WebinarPage 2

Academic Reports & Brooke's CornerPage 3

Early Warning System & Professional Development OpportunitiesPage 4

Authorizer Details...Page 5



PUBLIC ACT 48

Under Public Act 48, academies and schools in Michigan are once again required to assess students in K-8 using one of the state approved benchmark assessments. In addition, goals are also to be set for Pre-K and 9th-12th grade students. Although only K-8 data will be submitted to the state, each academy administrator must report out by the first board meeting in February and again by the end of the year on student progress for all students. The report must also be placed on each academy website to meet transparency requirements. LSSU will create the K-8 mid year and end of year reports as long as academies choose to use the LSSU recommended measure that already aligns with current Educational Goals, “the median Student Conditional Growth Percentile for students in K-8 will be at or above the 50th percentile on NWEA’s Measure of Academic Progress for fall to winter and fall to spring. “ Academies are responsible for creating a report for students outside of the K-8 grades. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Julie Hopper.

NWEA Testing Windows 2021-22

Fall: September 13 - October 4

Winter: January 10 - February 7

Spring: April 25 - June 3

*If you require an extension or modification, please contact Julie Hopper at jhopper@lssu.edu.

“Nine-tenths of education is encouragement.”

-Anatole France-

FINANCE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 30

- 1st Quarter Financial Statements due
- 1st Quarter Budget Revision due

NOVEMBER 1

- Financial Audit due
- Letter to those Charged with Governance due
- FID submission due

Questions? Please contact rclawson@lssu.edu



2021-22 Board Webinar Topics

Theme: The Kitchen Sink of Governance

Goal: *The ultimate goal of this series is to bring more focus to specific challenges that boards face, with solutions to overcome those challenges.*

- September 15, 2021, 6-6:30: Introduction to Becoming a New Board Member
- November 16, 2021, 6-6:30: The Role of the Board
- January 19, 2022, 6-6:30: Understanding the Charter Contract
- February 15, 2022, 6-6:30: Understanding Student Achievement Scores: The Basics
- April 13 2022, 6-6:30: Evaluating Critical Relationships
- Assessing the Transition from Virtual to In-Person Meetings (On Demand)
- The Role of the Officer (On Demand)
- Getting Boards Back on Track to Governance (On Demand)
- The Establishment and Effective Use of Committees (On Demand)
- Managing your Finances (On Demand)
- Board Succession Planning (On Demand)

ACADEMIC REPORTS

After a hiatus from reports in 2019-20, annual academic reports will be published once again this year (2020-21 data) and sent out by the end of September along with a PowerPoint explanation. (accessed through our online learning platform called ON24) As will be explained in the presentation, data collected from 2020-21 should be viewed with caution. Some things to keep in mind when viewing the report include the following: The pandemic greatly influenced the academic year and obviously impacted performance. Although we decided to publish reports, there are a number of factors to consider when viewing data. Instruction fluctuated from in person learning to virtual, or blended, the number of students tested was far below the normal threshold, some students and families dealt with various trauma including loss of loved ones due to COVID, food scarcity, or even parental job loss. It was an extremely stressful year for many. Accountability was waived yet students were still required to be assessed by a state approved benchmark under Public Act 48 as well as the state approved assessments of M-STEP, PSAT, and SAT. Please keep this in mind when reading reports. I am also including a link to Dr. Rice's press release on disrupted learning. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_34785-566928--,00.html

Submitted by Julie Hopper

BROOKE'S CORNER

Leadership Meeting

As the 2021/22 school year begins, we would like to communicate an additional indicator that will be used in evaluating governance and compliance. Just as board member attendance at board meetings is tracked, starting this year so too will district representation at the monthly leadership meetings. These meetings are held virtually via Zoom, and generally fall on the third Thursday of the month from 10:00-11:30 a.m. We ask that if the school leader is not able to attend due to scheduling conflicts that someone from the district be present to serve as the district voice at the meeting as well as communicate information back to the district. Attendance at the August 19th meeting is optional as has been in prior years, however required district attendance will be in effect beginning September 16th.

These meetings serve as an opportunity to communicate and discuss legal, operational, and educational updates, network with other districts in our portfolio, and allow district feedback to the CSO. SCECH's will be available for each meeting attended.

2021/2022 Leadership Meeting Schedule

August 19 *
September 16
October 21
November 18
December 16
January 20
February 17
March 17
April 21
May 19
June 16

COMPLIANCE CORNER

- **Academy Board Member Professional Development Series are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. Board members can also access our website for additional resources to earn their required annual two credits. The link is <https://www.lssu.edu/charter-schools/professional-development/>**
- **The 2020-21 Governance & Compliance reports were sent out to academy leaders and board presidents by Executive Director, Chris Oshelski. Please direct any questions to your field representative.**

FROM THE FIELD

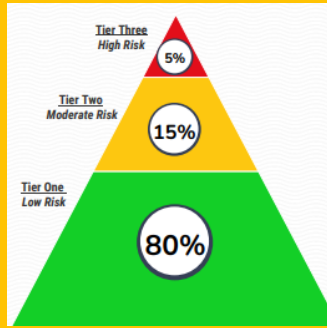
- **Please note. Effective immediately. All new oaths of office documents must be notarized. Please be sure to have proper arrangements made for the notary as oaths without notarization will be returned.**



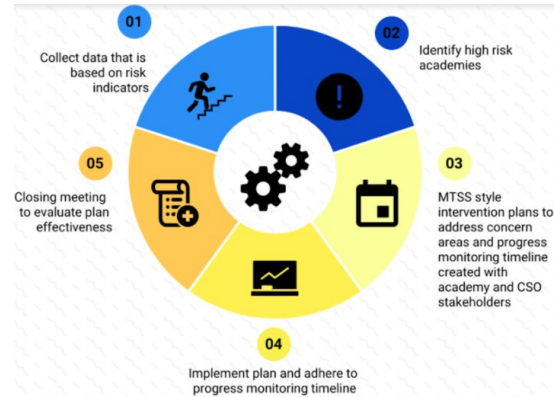
LSSU System of Support (SOS)

by Brooke Maciag

New to LSSU CSO this year is the LSSU System of Support created to better support academies in our portfolio in the areas of Governance & Compliance, Finance, Academics & Instruction, as well as Whole Child Systems. One component of the system is the Multi Tiered System of Support. We acknowledge that targeted support is the best way to improve performance and this system will allow our academies and the CSO office to proactively focus on specific areas that place a school at risk of either low performance scores or landing on a priority list with the State Department of Education. This system will identify and create a plan to address those areas that the individual academy can grow in. Watch for an ON24 webinar to learn more.



The Cycle



“Support to Success.”

“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.”

-Dalai Lama-

FYI

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and Non-violent Crisis Prevention (CPI) training are available to academies per request.

For more information:

ACE training
Julie Hopper
jhopper@lssu.edu
906-635-2118

CPI training
Brooke Maciag
bmaciag@lssu.edu
906-635-2724

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2021-2022

Professional Development Offerings

Continuing to grow our knowledge of how to best serve students.

Board Members

- Introduction to Becoming a New Board Member
- The Role of the Board
- Understanding the Charter Contract
- Understanding Student Achievement Scores: The Basics
- Evaluating Critical Relationships

Educators

- Nurturing Students' Executive Functioning Skills
- Creating a Trauma Informed Classroom
- Delving into High Leverage Instructional Practices:
 - * Implementing Organization Routines
 - * Designing a Lesson
 - * Leading a Discussion
 - * Eliciting & Interpreting
 - * Checking Student Understanding

On Demand or Request

- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention
- Assessing the Transition from Virtual to In-Person Board Meetings
- The Role of the Board Officer
- Getting Boards Back on Track to Governance
- The Establishment and Effective Use of Committees

CHARTER SCHOOLS STAFF

Becky Clawson

Finance & Governance Specialist
rclawson@lssu.edu

John Chandler

Field Representative
jchandler1@lssu.edu

Garnet Green

Field Representative
ggreen3@lssu.edu

Julie Hopper

Academic Assessment
jhopper@lssu.edu

Keith Krahnke

Field Representative
kkrahnke1@lssu.edu

Brooke Maciag

School Support Specialist
bmaciag@lssu.edu

Chris Oshelski

Executive Director
coshelski@lssu.edu

Jenny Peterman

Reauthorization & Compliance Specialist
jpeterman@lssu.edu

Melissa Weisberger

Field Representative
mweisberger@lssu.edu

Lake Superior State University
Charter Schools Office
650 W. Easterday Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI
49783



PHILOSOPHY

We believe in authorizing through the lens of an educator, realizing students are more than academic performance or financial incentives. True authorizing takes into account the whole child, whole academy, and whole community while recognizing the importance of increased performance and sustainability.

MISSION

To ensure quality oversight and support to our authorized charter academies resulting in students who are prepared for the next phase of life whether it be attending college or entering the work force.

VISION

We envision an educational system in Michigan that provides families with diverse educational opportunities that allow each child to flourish and find his/her place in the global community.

P.F. CHANGS COPY CAT LETTUCE WRAPS

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1/4 cup white wine vinegar
- 1 pound ground chicken or turkey
- 1 medium/large sweet Vidalia or yellow onion diced small
- 1/3 cup hoisin sauce
- 2 tablespoons low sodium soy sauce
- 1 red onion diced
- 1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Asian chili garlic sauce
- 3 cloves garlic, finely minced or pressed
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger or 2 teaspoons fresh
- 1 8 ounce can of water chestnuts
- 2-3 green onions, sliced thinly
- 1/2 teaspoon of each- salt and pepper
- Butter lettuce leaves for serving



Directions

In a large skillet, add the oils, chicken or turkey, and cook over medium-high heat until meat is cooked through; stir intermittently to crumbly while cooking. Add the onion, hoisin sauce, soy sauce, rice wine vinegar, chili garlic sauce, stir to combine, and cook for about 5 minutes, or until onion is soft and translucent and most of the liquids had been absorbed; stir intermittently. Add the garlic, ginger, stir to combine, and cook for about 1 minute or until fragrant. Add the water chestnuts, green onions, salt and pepper, and cook for about 2 minutes or until tender. Taste filling and make any necessary flavor adjustments. Spoon about 1/4 cup of the mixture into lettuce leaves to serve.

Serving Size: 1
Calories: 366
Total fat: 20 g
Saturated fat: 5 g
Trans fat: 0 g
Unsaturated fat: 14 g
Cholesterol: 122 mg
Sodium: 1044 mg
Carbs: 19 g
Fiber: 2 g
Sugar: 8 g
Protein: 29 g

Submitted by Julie Hopper