

January 2022 Issue



FROM THE TOP

Dear Academy Board Members and Leadership Teams,

Welcome to 2022 and to Board Appreciation month! We look forward to continuing to serve you in the new year. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the students and families that you serve. We appreciate you.

The Charter Schools Office will be kicking off the new year by undergoing accreditation through Cognia. The power of accreditation really lies within the process allowing us to identify not only our strengths as your authorizer but also identify our opportunities for improvement. Part of accreditation involves holding interviews with our stakeholders via ZOOM. These formal interviews will take place on February 14th and 15th. We have requested that some of you participate in one of the focus groups. Thank you in advance for making the time to do so as your feedback is incredibly important to the accreditation process. Note that we will not be present at the interview. We welcome and encourage your honest feedback.

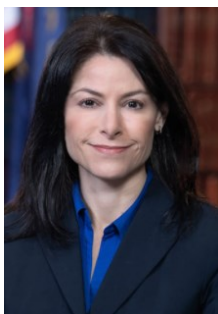
Sincerely,

Chris Oshelski
Executive Director

Dana Nessel on School Threats

Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nessel, issued a new video that addresses the seriousness of making threats against schools. The video explains the potential grim consequences that may result from making threats, real or pranks, against any Michigan school or academy. Michigan law allows for multiple types of charges when a person makes a threat of violence against a school, school employee, or students.

Obviously when threats are made, student/staff safety are the number one concern as it should be, however this results in students missing out on valuable learning instruction. Whether the threats are real or a prank from a student who is trying to get a day off, these are considered real crimes with real consequences.



Attorney General
Dana Nessel

Please take a moment to follow the link and watch the short video (2 minutes and 40 seconds) regarding this topic. You may also wish to share this with your students.

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

*Picture taken from
<https://www.naag.org/attorney-general/dana-nessel/>

IN THE KNOW

- Did you know that Sault Ste. Marie, home to LSSU, was founded in 1668?
- Each year, since 1976, LSSU publishes an annual list of words in attempt to uphold, protect, and support excellence in language.

2022 LSSU Banished Word List

1. Wait, what?
 2. No worries
 3. At the end of the day
 4. That being said
 5. Asking for a friend
 6. Circle back
 7. Deep dive
 8. New normal
 9. You're on mute
 10. Supply chain
- LSSU is Michigan's smallest university with just over 2,000 students providing a personal, small town educational experience

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HOLIDAY CARD WINNERS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS



Matilda Gardner, Kindergarten
Concord Academy Petoskey

Each year, the Charter Schools Office holds a holiday card contest. Students from academies authorized by Lake Superior State University are encouraged to submit a piece of artwork that exemplifies the holiday season. Winners and Honorable Mentions are chosen from four categories; K-2, 3rd-5th grades, 6th-8th grades, and 9th-12th grades and receive an LSSU t-shirt or sweatshirt and swag bag. We always look forward to this contest and enjoy reviewing each submission. Thank you to Concord Academy Boyne, Concord Academy Petoskey, Grand Traverse Academy, Detroit Service Learning Academy, Bay City Academy, and WAY Flint Academy for participating.

Julie Hopper



Dillonna Gant, 2nd grade
Detroit Service Learning Academy

"I am still learning."

-Michelangelo@ age 87-

FINANCE UPDATE

JANUARY 31

- Budget Revision-2nd Quarter
- 1st Quarter Budget Revision due

FEBRUARY 13

- 2nd Quarter Financial Statements

MARCH 30

- Audit Letter of Engagement

Questions? Please contact
rclawson@lssu.edu



Claudia Bailey, 12th grade
Grand Traverse Academy



Shelby Jesse, 10th grade
Concord Academy Petoskey



Tyleen Priest, 8th grade
Grand Traverse Academy



Emily Lea, 8th grade
Bay City Academy

**"THE JOY OF BRIGHTENING OTHER LIVES BECOMES FOR US
THE MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAYS."**

W.C. JONES



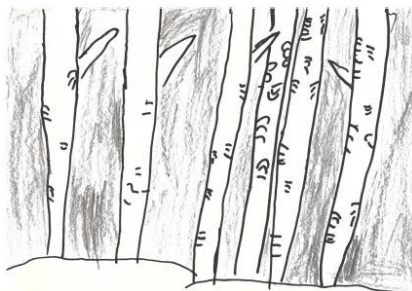
**Nyasia Foster, 3rd grade
Detroit Service Learning Academy**



**Rachel Wiseman, 10th grade
WAY Academy Flint**



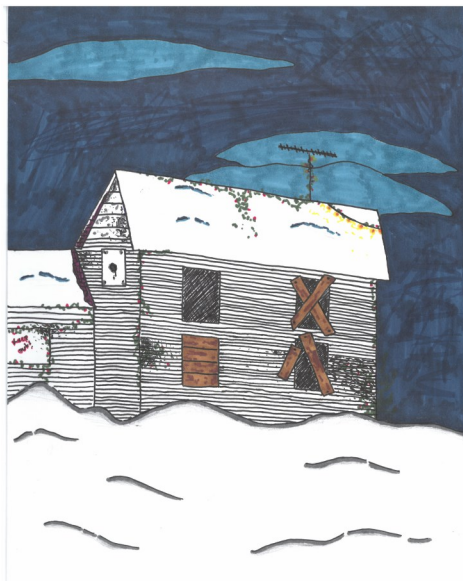
**Trinity Wells, 4th grade
Bay City Academy**



**Adria Kokko, 2nd grade
Concord Academy Boyne**



**Bristal Fuller, 4th grade
Concord Academy Boyne**



**Maddie McPhilinny, 8th grade
Grand Traverse Academy**

COMPLIANCE CORNER

- Academy boards should begin discussion on board member (s) who are up for reappointment or new appointment. The LSSU Board of Trustees's last meeting before the term expires will be on May 13, 2022. All board members must be nominated by the Academy board and submit a completed application to their appropriate field representative by March 31, 2022. Background checks, U.S. documentation and interviews will be performed prior to approval by the LSSU Board of Trustees.

Board Training Webinars

- Jan. 19th @ 6 p.m.
Understanding the Charter Contract
- Feb. 15th @ 6 p.m.
Understanding Student Achievement Scores: The Basics
- Apr. 13th @ 6 p.m.
Evaluating Critical Relationships
Look for additional board professional development resources on our website at: <https://lssu.edu/charterschools/professionaldevelopment/>

Annual Meetings

Reminder that it is best practice to schedule annual board meetings in May or June. Doing so allows Epicenter tasks and other items to be scheduled based on your board commitments and coordinates with board term expirations of June 30.

ACES Training at OCAMT

I wanted to take a moment to thank Dr. Robyne Thompson and her team at Oakland County Academy of Media and Technology (OCAMT) in Pontiac for allowing me the opportunity to conduct staff training on Adverse Childhood Experiences. It was so very nice to be able to conduct a training in person! Attendees at the January 3rd training learned about the original ACE study, implications of having a high ACE score, how early trauma impacts academics, basic brain structure and development, as well as strategies for improving resilience. I appreciate your time and willingness to continually learn in order to better serve your students at OCAMT. If you are interested in ACE training for your academy, please contact Julie Hopper at jhopper@lssu.edu or 906-635-2118.

“In the end, it’s not the years in your life that count. It’s the life in your years.”

-Abraham Lincoln -

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

NEW STAFF MEMBER

The Charter School’s Office would like to welcome, Lynn Methner, to our team. Lynn brings years of experience as both an educator and administrator. She will serve as a field representative for the Grand Rapids and Traverse City areas.

Welcome, Lynn!

Name: Lynn Methner

Position: Field Representative

Hometown: Posen, Michigan

Family: Husband, Jaime, and two daughters, Logan and Bryn

Pets: Ziggy the Boston Terrier

Hobbies: Reading, gardening, camping, trying new recipes, and traveling

Little Known Fact: I enjoy looking for agates along the shores of Lake Superior and we own a refurbished vintage camper



CHARTER SCHOOLS STAFF

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Field Representative
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Lake Superior State University
Charter Schools Office
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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, joining the military, 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.

Homemade Alfredo Sauce

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream or half and half
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups freshly grated parmesan cheese



Directions

1. Add the butter and cream to a large skillet
2. Simmer over low heat for 2 minutes
3. Whisk in the garlic, Italian seasoning, salt/pepper for one minute
4. Whisk in the parmesan until melted.
5. Serve immediately with choice of noodles.

Nutrition

Calories: 535 kcal
Carbohydrates: 10 grams

Submitted by Julie Hopper