

April
2022 Issue



FAREWELL FROM THE TOP

Dear Academy Board Members and Leadership Teams,

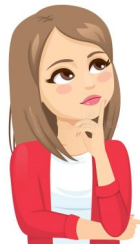
Thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to serve you over the last seven years in the capacity of Executive Director of LSSU Charter Schools. It has been my absolute pleasure and to say how far we've come as an organization is an understatement.

Recently, the LSSU Charter Schools Office became an accredited authorizer in Michigan. The power in accreditation really lies within the process itself, allowing an organization to reflect on practices, examine systems, and evaluate whether or not we have attained our goals. Through the accreditation process, we were able to celebrate our strengths as well as identify areas that could be improved.

LSSU CSO is in great shape moving forward which leads me to announce that I will be stepping down as Executive Director. It is a bittersweet time for me but I have accepted a new venture that will serve my family well. I will miss all of you and am grateful for my time at LSSU. I am confident that my team will continue to move our office forward and improve the way we serve and support all of you which leads to positive student outcomes. Rebecca Clawson has been appointed as the Interim Director and can be reached at rclawson@lssu.edu.

Sincerely,


Chris Oshelski
Executive Director



Looking for something to do this summer?

LSSU Charters Schools is please to offer a summer learning opportunity for any staff member working in an LSSU authorized public school academy. Please read the flyer for additional details. Still have questions? Contact,

Summer Learning Opportunity
Trauma Informed Teaching

<p>WHERE</p> <p>LSSU Charter Schools & LSSU School of Education is teaming up to offer a course on Trauma Informed Teaching. Any staff working in LSSU authorized academies are eligible for this 3 credit online course.</p>	<p>WHEN</p> <p>TEAC 470 will be a 6 week course running from June 27-August 5 at minimal cost to employees of LSSU authorized PSA's. (\$250 processing fee) Instructor: Dr. Cathy White, LSSU</p>
<p>WHY</p> <p>Learn about trauma and how to better meet the needs of students who have experienced trauma.</p> 	<p>To Register</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please complete the registration form found at https://www.lssu.edu/charter-schools/lssu-course-offerings/. 2. Email your registration form to jhopper@lssu.edu by April 15, 2022. <p>Note: Class is capped at 24 students with forms processed in the order in which we receive them.</p>

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOLS

IN THE KNOW

- Did you know that Lake Superior State University is situated on 115 acres?
- Fort Brady was originally sold to the State of Michigan for the Mining & Technological University in 1946. In 1966, the school became the site of Lake Superior State College of Michigan Technological University. Finally, in 1970, the college earned university status.
- There are fourteen buildings on campus today that are original buildings (all on the National Historic Register). The Fletcher Center (where LSSU CSO is housed) was once a horse stable during Fort Brady Days and later a gymnasium. Talk about upcycling!
- Each year, LSSU hosts a "Burning of the Snowman" to welcome spring. Move over Punxsutawney Phil.

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ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Recently, I was able to attend the Michigan Association of School Administrator's Testing Conference. I attended a session on accountability hosted by Chad Bailey and Chris Janzer from the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability. Here are a few important takeaways.

1. "Normal" accountability will return in fall 2022
 - School Grades will be published with reward schools identified
 - School Index scores will be published with Comprehensive Targeted Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATS) schools exited, retained, and identified
2. Important accountability information is communicated through the "Spotlight on Education." Be sure to read it!
3. Make sure that you are inputting accurate information in MSDS, EEM, GEMS, REP etc so that data is accurate and not delayed.

By Julie Hopper, *Academic Assessment Specialist*

"Education can be a self-fulfilling activity, liberating in and of itself."

-Abraham Maslow-

FINANCE UPDATE

APRIL 31

- 3rd Quarter Budget Amendment

MAY 15

- 3rd Quarter Financial Statements

JUNE 30

- Adopted Budget Resolution,
- 2023 Public Hearing Notice
- 2023 Budget Timeline
- 2022 4th Quarter Budget Amendment

Questions? Please contact
rclawson@lssu.edu



Brooke's Corner

It's hard to believe that we are already into April with only three more leadership meetings to go for the 2021-2022 academic year; April 21, May 19, and June 16 from 10:00-11:30. Remember it is required by LSSU CSO to have a representative from your academy attend these meetings since this is where important updates that directly impact your academy are communicated. Please note that the 2022-2023 calendar will be distributed by June, 2022.

Next year, we will also be utilizing MAPSA's MiCharter Mastermind Network to create an LSSU CSO Leadership Hub. This Hub will help organize all of our leadership meeting resources, agendas, as well as pertinent information, and meeting links. More to come on this at a later date. We encourage you to join the MiCharter Mastermind Network at <https://micharter.mn.co/>.

If you have not joined the network by the first leadership meeting of 2022-23, we will send an email invitation to you.

Lastly, we are still working on planning professional development for next year and hoping to secure training through the University of Michigan on high leverage practices. Additionally, we are researching potential training offered through the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network or GLSEN. GLSEN works to improve school climate for LGTBQ youth. Finally, our very own Lynn Methner, will be sharing her extensive knowledge through a series of recorded trainings on NWEA reports and how best to leverage the data gleaned from these reports to improve student performance.

Take care as we move towards winding up another year. Isn't that crazy?

Brooke Maciag, *School Support Specialist*

ASSESSMENT ABC'S

While the purpose of assessment is to gather relevant information about student performance or progress, NWEA MAP reports provide a useful instructional tool for classroom teachers, interventionist and administrators. The **Classroom Report** is a great place to start and provides useful information for subjects tested. This report provides educators with a summary of their class' overall performance in regards to Mean RIT, Median RIT, Standard Deviation, and allows for comparison of the percentage of students at or above district and national norms.

So what does this mean instructionally? While Mean, Median and Standard Deviation are all useful, it is important to know what they mean from an instructional standpoint. When looking at the Mean, it is important to keep in mind it can be skewed by outliers especially when dealing with small groups.

Educators may use the **Overall Performance** quadrants to quickly calculate the percentage of students performing at or above national norms by adding up the percentages listed for Average (Gold), Hi Average (Green) and Hi (Blue). This is helpful when working toward targeted levels of proficiency. This can be helpful at the classroom level to plan for instruction, for interventionists to prioritize the level of support for grade levels and for administrators when allocating resources.

The **Standard Deviation** can also be used when planning for instruction. A Standard Deviation of 10 or so indicates a homogenous group which could benefit from whole group instruction, while a larger standard deviation of 14+ indicates a need for differentiated instruction. This can help educators know when planning for instruction for specific goal areas.

While overall trends are helpful, it is important to dig a little deeper and look at how individual students are doing on page two of the Class Report. This report lists students from low RIT/Percentile to high percentile along with the amount of time spent on the assessment. This can be useful information for instructional grouping, remediation and/or accessing additional supports and services. As with any tool, it is important to be strategic and monitor results from Fall to Winter and Spring.

by Lynn Methner

map		Class Report		Term Rostered:	Spring 2016-2017	Norms F
CROWTH		Barofsky, Brandee E		Term Tested:	Spring 2016-2017 <td>Weeks 4</td>	Weeks 4
		Class: Spanish 1(AB)		District:	NWEA Sample District (PS Reporting)	Small G
				School:	St. Basil's Middle School	
Reading						
MAP: Reading 6+ OH 2011 V2 / OH Common Core English & Literacy PK-12: 2011						
Summary						
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	22					
Mean RIT	214					
Median RIT	215					
Standard Deviation	11.4					
District Grade Level Mean RIT	-					
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	-					
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	218.2					
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	5					
	Lo	Laggy	Avg	Hi Avg	Hi	Hi
	Scale > 21	Scale 21-40	Scale 41-60	Scale 61-80	Scale > 80	Hi
Overall Performance	count	%	count	%	count	%
MAP: Reading 6+ OH 2011 V2 / OH Common Core English & Literacy PK-12: 2011	4	17%	6	28%	9	39%
Goal Area						
Literature	5	22%	7	30%	6	29%
Informational Text	6	28%	5	22%	7	30%

COMPLIANCE CORNER

Board Training

Note: The April 13th training will be the last board training for the 2021-22 academic year.

- **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.**

-PLEASE NOTE- (Effective immediately)

All new Oaths of Office will be required to be notarized. Please be sure to have proper arrangements made for the notary as oaths without notarization will be returned.

NWEA TESTING WINDOWS FOR 2022-2023

As your authorizer, we set your educational goals with the exception of your academy specific goals. Part of your goals state that your second through eighth graders must be assessed three times per year in both math and reading by NWEA's MAP. We also set your testing windows. Your windows for 2022-2023 are listed below as I know that many of you are already planning your calendars for next year. If you are in need for a testing window modification, requests must be made to and approved by jhopper@lssu.edu.

Please note that the testing windows document is also housed on our LSSU CSO website and can be found at, <https://www.lssu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-2023-Testing-Window-Memo.pdf>.

- **FALL:** September 12-October 7
- **WINTER:** January 9-February 10
- **SPRING:** April 24-June 2

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

LET'S CELEBRATE CHARTERS

National Charter School's Week 2022 will take place on May 8th through May 14th, 2022. This special week celebrates charter schools. Participate in daily challenges sponsored by LSSU Charter Schools Office and your name will be entered into our contest for a daily prize. The theme for prizes this year is self-care. Thank you for giving so much to your students, families, and communities.

You deserve some TLC! (all challenges must be posted to LSSU FB page)

We would also like to congratulate the following rock stars for being nominated for

MAPSA's Teacher of the Year; Mike Bonkoski, Carrie Durante, Latoya Williams from American International Academy, Lisa Stambaugh from Bay City Academy, Tamila Walker from Concord Petoskey, Samantha Sherman, Bradley, Terrill, Kimberly Wilson from Grand Traverse Academy, Dana Hunter, Aimee Woodcock, Nicole Dick, Jennelle Keseloot, and Jessica Randles from Tipton Academy. For Administrator of the Year; LaToya Williams from American International Academy, Darci Long and Brian Lynch from Bay City Academy, and Janell MCarter-Green from Oak Park Service Learning.

LSSU CSO would like to offer an additional congratulations to Tamila Walker-kindergarten teacher from Concord Petoskey Academy for being selected as a semi-finalist for Teacher of the Year!

LAKE SUPERIOR
STATE UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOLS



Charter School Challenge

National Charter Schools Week will take place the week of May 9th, 2022 culminating with an in person celebration at the capital on May 12th. This special week allows us to celebrate and promote the wonderful world of charters. Participate in the daily challenges and your name will be entered into the daily drawing for a great prize.

Monday- May 9th



- Show your academy spirit by uploading a picture of your academy staff wearing academy swag.

Tuesday- May 10th



- Show your academy spirit by uploading a picture of your students wearing academy swag.

Wednesday- May 11th



- Show your LSSU spirit by uploading a picture of your staff or students standing by an LSSU sign or wearing LSSU swag.

Thursday- May 12th



- Post a video of a staff member or student stating why their academy is special.

Friday- May 13th



- Post a picture of your academy leader or dean with an academy board member.

IMPORTANT



ONCE YOU COMPLETE A CHALLENGE, POST THE PICTURE ON OUR LSSU CSO FACEBOOK PAGE. <https://www.facebook.com/LSSUCharters>

CHARTER SCHOOLS STAFF

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Lake Superior State University
Charter Schools Office
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Sault Ste. Marie, MI
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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.

CROCK POT CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS

- 1 LARGE ONION
- 1 CAN CREAM OF CELERY SOUP
- 1 CAN CREAM OF CHICKEN SOUP
- 1 TABLESPOON PARSLEY
- 1 TEASPOON POULTRY SEASONING
- BLACK PEPPER TO TASTE
- 4 SKINLESS CHICKEN BREASTS
- 2 CUPS CHICKEN BROTH
- 2 CUPS FROZEN VEGETABLES OR PEAS OR CARROTS DEFROSTED
- 1 CAN REFRIGERATOR BISQUITS



INSTRUCTIONS

1. ADD ONION TO 6 QT CROCK POT AND TOP WITH CHICKEN
2. IN A SMALL BOWL, COMBINE CREAM OF CELERY, CREAM OF CHICKEN, PARSLEY, POULTRY SEASONING, AND PEPPER. SPREAD OVER CHICKEN BREASTS. TOP WITH CHICKEN BROTH AND COOK ON HIGH FOR 5 HOURS.
3. APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR (I ALLOW 60-90 MINUTES) BEFORE SERVING (AFTER 4 HOURS COOKING) ROLL EACH BISQUIT THIN AND FLAT. CUT INTO 4 STRIPS. ADD VEGETABLES TO COOKER AND STIR. ADD BISQUIT STRIPS ON TOP.