



**MONTCALM AREA  
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Exceptional Leadership  
with Unmatched Service*

**2013-2014  
ANNUAL REPORT**



# MONTCALM AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District (MAISD) is an educational service organization that is committed to providing a wide variety of quality educational support services and programs to school districts, children, families, and communities within Montcalm County and around the state. Together with the school districts of Carson City-Crystal, Central Montcalm, Greenville, Lakeview, Montabella, Tri County, and Vestaburg, public school academies, and private schools, MAISD coordinates and delivers services and programs designed to improve education and student learning in Montcalm County. MAISD is about service, leadership, and collaboration to advance educational excellence for students in Montcalm County.

The local schools in Montcalm County do an outstanding job educating our youth. They provide the students in our community with a high quality education that helps to sustain and improve our community. But, they can't do it alone. It takes partnerships among schools, parents, community agencies, and business and industry to make sure all our children succeed in school and in life. MAISD collaborates with others to provide job training for students, professional development, special education, bus driver safety training, technology services and support, administrative services, leadership training, and more in a cooperative and cost-effective manner.

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District is committed to excellence and to preparing all of our students to successfully compete and live in the new global economy. The MAISD is dedicated to and accountable to the citizens of our district to provide a quality educational experience for all students and improve the quality of life in the county. Our promise is "Exceptional Leadership with Unmatched Service". MAISD is proud to be a community partner and we look forward to better serving the changing needs of all of our stakeholders. Through our dedicated staff and outstanding programs, we are preparing our students and community for a bright future. I encourage you to join in the efforts in preparing our children for a time we cannot know.

Montcalm Area Intermediate School District (MAISD) provides the 2013-2014 Annual Education Report in a format that is in alignment with the Michigan Department of Education *Michigan School Improvement Framework*. In an effort to best support the local constituent districts, MAISD utilizes the *School Improvement Framework* to provide current research and best practices in multiple ways to encourage individual school district school improvement efforts through its programming, services, and professional development.

The MDE Framework is organized by five major strands/general areas of focus, twelve standards/categories of influence within each strand, and twenty-six benchmarks/specific areas of performance within a standard. In order to assist schools in their *No Child Left Behind* efforts we hope this reporting format will show how MAISD has endeavored to provide support and assistance in meaningful context.



Dr. Scott M. Koenigsnecht, Superintendent

# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## CURRICULUM

### Early Childhood Services

During the 2013-2014 school year MAISD's Early Childhood programs included Early On, Parent/Child Learning Group, and Little People Land as well as MAISD's Great Parents, Great Start initiatives.

Expansion of programming options within Montcalm County and collaboration with other county organizations (Department of Human Services (DHS), EightCap, Mid Michigan District Health Department, etc.) supports the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the federal legislation governing services for children with disabilities ages birth-26. The requirements include providing a continuum of services within the least restrictive and natural environment for all children determined eligible by the school district for special education or Early On services.

### 2013-14 Early Childhood Services and Numbers Served

| Type of Service or Program  | Eligibility Requirements   | Age Range         | Number of Children Served |
|---|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Early On</i>   | Developmental Delay/Established Conditions   | Birth to age 3    | 37                        |
| <i>Early On</i> /Special Education<br><br>(Parent/Child Learning Group) | Developmental Delay/Established Conditions and eligible for special education  | Birth to age 3    | 91                        |
| Early Childhood Special Education Program<br><br>(Little People Land)   | Eligible for special education programs and/or services under one or more of the 13 areas of special education eligibility (moderate to severe level of need). | 2 ½ through age 5 | 38                        |



# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## INSTRUCTION

### Child Find Activities

Child Find is an outreach activity focused on identifying children, teens and young adults who may require special education services. During the 2013-14 school year, several child find activities took place including: participation in county health fairs, scheduling and conducting community based activities for pre-school age children, and participating in school based child find activities (K-12), including referrals for special education testing. The following data provides information about child find activities in addition to the number of child/students identified as eligible for special education services.

| 2013-14 Birth to 5 Referrals and Special Education Evaluation Data |                        |  |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Description of the Activity  | Total Number Conducted | Number of Children Eligible for Services |
| Early On Referrals (birth-3)                                       | 184                    | 84                                       |
| Project Find Referrals   | 83                     | N/A                                      |

### Continuum of Special Education Services

In cooperation with our local school districts, the MAISD special education programs offer a continuum of services. Our goal is to provide the individualized services needed in the least restrictive environment that maintains student success. The MAISD operates programs for low incident populations such as students with hearing impairments, visual impairments or severe cognitive impairments. We offer therapy in the form of physical, occupational and speech and language. Teacher consultant services, school psychology services, and school social workers are available as deemed appropriate. Additionally, the MAISD also offers a wide variety of training for special education teachers.

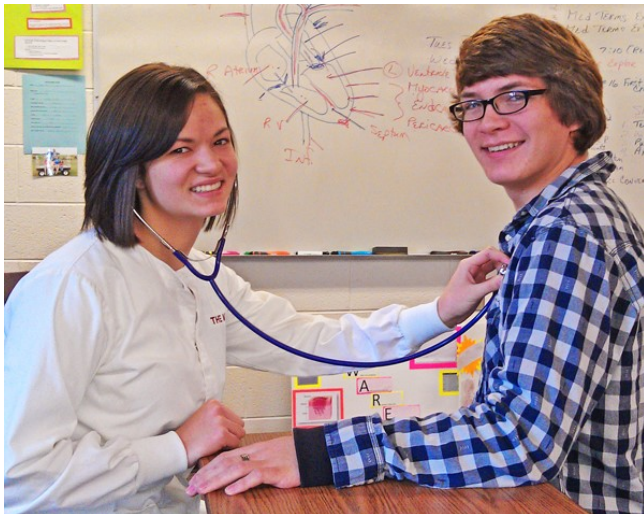


# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## The Montcalm Area Career Center

The Montcalm Area Career Center (The MACC) is a secondary technical education school serving sophomores, juniors, and seniors in Montcalm County, as well as from neighboring counties and non-public schools. Students have the opportunity to enroll in one of the 15 programs that use the latest technology and state-of-the-art equipment. The MACC, located in Sidney, has formed partnerships with various community colleges and universities to offer articulated credits that build the foundation for higher education. Approximately 380 students were enrolled in The MACC programs during the 2013-2014 school year.

The chart on the right displays Career and Technical Education programs that are offered as well as the enrollment trends for the last five years.



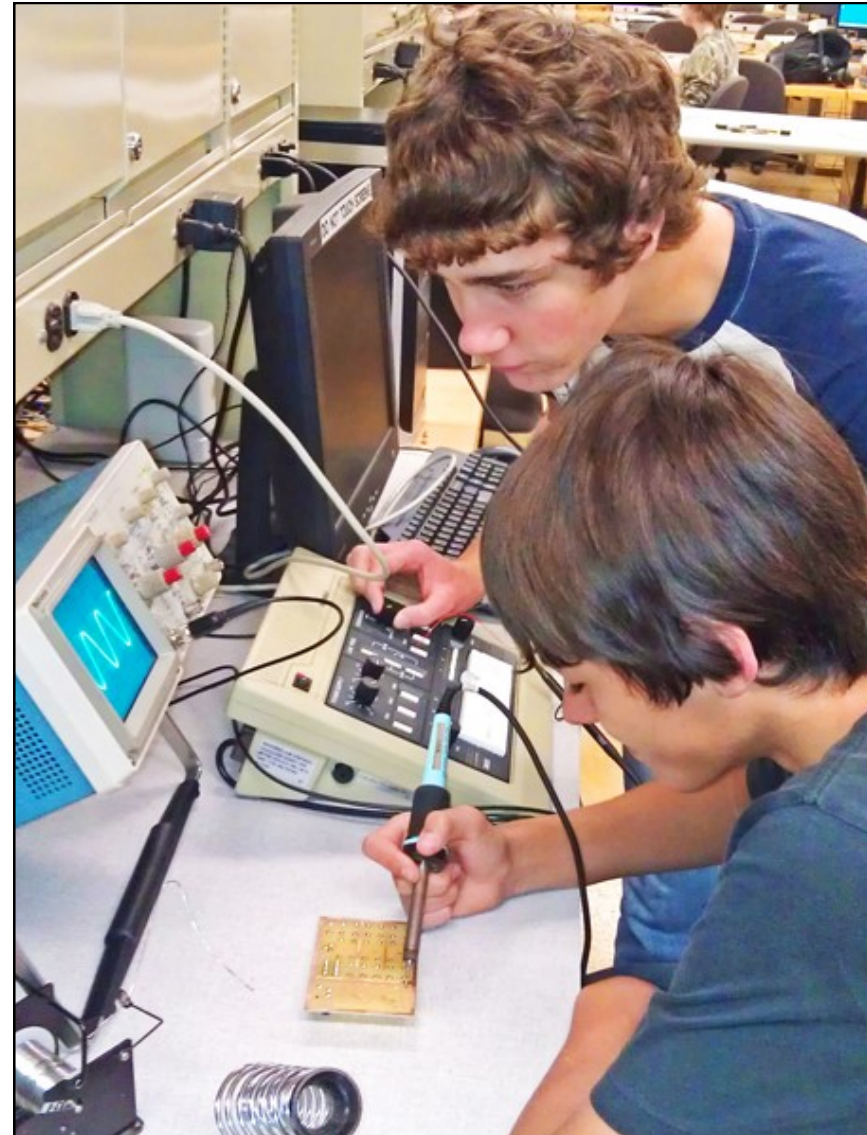
| PROGRAM                             | 2009/10    | 2010/11    | 2011/12    | 2012/13    | 2013/14    |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Animal Science/<br>Vet Medicine     | 16         | 21         | 17         | 12         | 22         |
| Auto Technology                     | 38         | 41         | 40         | 46         | 39         |
| Business                            | 23         | 12         | 7          | 30         | 29         |
| Computer Aided<br>Design            | 12         | 17         | 13         | 13         | 14         |
| Computer Support<br>Technology      | 17         | 14         | 16         | 20         | 12         |
| Construction<br>Trades              | 36         | 39         | 35         | 29         | 29         |
| Cosmetology I &<br>II               | 27         | 32         | 26         | 28         | 39         |
| Criminal Justice                    | 35         | 43         | 18         | 36         | 24         |
| Dental<br>Occupations               | 11         | 4          | 12         | 10         | 9          |
| Diesel & Equip-<br>ment Technology  | 32         | 37         | 38         | 27         | 35         |
| Early Childhood/<br>Elem. Education | 25         | 26         | 27         | 24         | 16         |
| Engineering<br>Technology           | —          | 3          | 11         | 5          | 23         |
| Health Sciences                     | 53         | 45         | 49         | 48         | 44         |
| Plant & Environ-<br>mental Science  | 11         | 16         | 16         | 16         | 14         |
| Welding                             | 22         | 18         | 20         | 41         | 31         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                       | <b>358</b> | <b>368</b> | <b>344</b> | <b>385</b> | <b>380</b> |



# TEACHING AND LEARNING

Benefits of attending The MACC:

- Free college credit for successful completers
- Post-secondary planning: Information about in-state and out-of-state schools
- Academic credit for CTE courses
- State Certification or licensure upon successful completion
- Career Planning: exploration of potential careers
- Career Training: career and technology training
- Job Placement: resume and interviewing preparation



# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## College Credit for High School CTE Courses

The Montcalm Area Career Center has articulation agreements with Montcalm Community College, Ferris State University, Davenport College, Baker College, Mid-Michigan Community College, Lincoln Tech, Grand Rapids Community College, Nashville Auto Diesel College, and the University of Northwestern (Ohio) for most of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs offered at the Career Center. Students who successfully complete CTE courses at the Career Center with a “B” average or better, receive an appropriate teacher recommendation, and/or pass a competency test may be granted free college credit towards a planned and approved program at the above-named institutions. In 2013-14 graduation honor cords were given to students eligible for free college credits in recognition of their achievement. Approximately 82 seniors earned cords, which were presented during honor ceremonies at each local district.



## CTE End-of-Course Assessments

Students in select programs at The MACC are able to demonstrate proficiency in their specialized area of study by taking a nationally recognized end-of-course assessment which covers essential knowledge and skills learned in their CTE course. In 2013-14 students in the following programs participated in the exam: Health Sciences, Dental Occupations, Business, Automotive Technology, Criminal Justice, Diesel Equipment and Technology, and Early Childhood Education. The MACC exceeded the state requirement of 49% of students passing the technical skill exams - 69% of MACC tested students passed the exam. The Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) plans to have exams in place for all CTE programs in future years.

## Ombudsman Alternative Education Program

MAISD, in cooperation with Carson City - Crystal, Central Montcalm, Fulton, Greenville, Montabella, and Vestaburg, continues to provide an alternative education consortium that was housed at the Stanton Elementary Building. MAISD contracted with Educational Services of America to provide the service. Approximately 53 (fifty three) students from the participating locals take part in the program.

Since 1975, Ombudsman Educational Services has provided more than 100,000 at-risk students across the country an alternate route to graduation – and to all the opportunities a real high school diploma provides. Ombudsman partners with school districts nationwide to help remove the roadblocks to graduation and offers alternative education programs for at-risk middle and high school students who want to get back on track. Many students do better in small learning communities where they receive individual attention, work on computers to master subjects at their own pace, and attend class on a flexible schedule that accommodates work and family responsibilities. One hundred percent of Ombudsman students are at-risk when they enroll in the learning centers. Eighty-five percent of them graduate, earn credits or return to their district school closer to or at grade level. For more than 30 years, Ombudsman has provided students with the right environment and the right instruction to reach their goal of high school graduation. Ombudsman students work with teachers and staff to find a schedule and approach to meet their needs. Through personalized and computer-assisted instruction, students learn skills ranging from math and science to personal finance and nutrition. Ombudsman Educational Services is a division of Educational Services of America (ESA), the nation’s leading provider of K-12 and post-secondary alternative and special education programs. Based in Nashville, Tenn., ESA operates more than 140 schools and programs serving more than 240 school districts in numerous states.



## TEACHING AND LEARNING



### Michigan College Access Network Grant

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District continued to utilize \$50,000 for Michigan College Access Grant in partnership with Ionia County Intermediate School District, Central Michigan University, Montcalm Community College, Cleary College, and a host of other agencies. Michigan College Access Network exists to dramatically increase Michigan's college participation and completion rates, particularly among low-income and first-generation college students. The program opens doors to postsecondary education—and a brighter future—by supporting the creation,

expansion and sustainability of community-based programs dedicated to increasing college access in Michigan. Local college access programs provide college application and financial advising, last-dollar scholarships, college visit opportunities, resource centers, retention programs, career guidance and more. As the statewide leader and advocate for college access efforts, MICAN works to coordinate college access resources and identify gaps in service to increase college attendance and completion across Michigan.

### Teaching American History Grant

2013-2014 was the final year that the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District along with Ionia County Intermediate School District, Clare-Gladwin RESD, Gratiot-Isabella RESD, and Newaygo RESA facilitated a \$1,000,000 federal grant to improve the teaching of American History. The *Teaching American History* grant was a three-year federally funded grant designed to improve student achievement by preparing teachers to teach American History as a core subject in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms. The goals of the grant were to improve instruction of traditional American History content, improve student interest and achievement in American History and improve teachers' knowledge and understanding of American History. Professional development provided by nationally renowned presenters, including speakers from the Smithsonian Institute, was provided in various locations through the year.



### McKinney Vento Homeless Grant



Montcalm Area Intermediate School District, along with Ionia County Intermediate School District and Gratiot-Isabella RESD, continued to appropriate approximately \$90,000 in federal funds to help with issues surrounding homelessness. Components of the grant included: the review and revision, if necessary, of all legislation, policies and procedures which impede the enrollment and educational success of homeless children and homeless youth; the collection and reporting of data regarding the number and location of homeless children and homeless youth; the adoption of a state plan to establish comparable procedures for local and intermediate school boards to enroll and educate homeless children and homeless youth; helping local educational agencies to facilitate enrollment, attendance and educational success of homeless children and homeless youth; and coordinating interagency programs and activities with federal, state and local agencies to enhance effective implementation of the McKinney-Vento Act.

# LEADERSHIP

## SHARED AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

### Van Buren Legislative Consortium

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District and our locals continued membership in the Van Buren Legislative Consortium which, in 2013, changed its name to the Karoub Educational Service Agency Group. The consortium advocates for 17 ISDs in southern and mid-Michigan. The districts included in the initiative have over 275,000 public school students in their districts. Don Olendorf acts as a lobbyist on behalf of the member districts. As part of the membership in the consortium, Mr. Olendorf works with local superintendents within the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District to lobby on their behalf as well.

### Montcalm Early College

During the 2013-2014 school year, MAISD, its local districts, and Montcalm Community College implemented The Early College at Montcalm Community College. Participating districts included Central Montcalm, Greenville, Montabella, and Vestaburg.

Early College at Montcalm Community College allows high school students to earn up to two years of college credit or an associate degree as part of their high school learning experience. The three-year program encompasses grades 11-13. At Early College, students benefit from a personalized learning environment that fosters the development of critical thinking skills within an innovative curriculum that promotes excellence in the fields of math, English, social studies and science. The program began in the Fall of 2013 with 18 students enrolled.



### Montcalm County School Boards' Association

The Montcalm County School Boards' Association is a dynamic organization committed to working collaboratively to improve student achievement within Montcalm County. The group is comprised of the governing boards of the seven local school districts, the intermediate school district and Montcalm Community College. The purpose of the association is to assist in the progress of public education by promoting cooperation and communication among member boards of education, offering professional development opportunities for board members, and advocating for public education.

The September 2013 General Membership Meeting was held at the Seiter Educational Center in Greenville. The program consisted of a discussion around the May 2014 special education millage as well as 45 minutes of questions and answers for Representative Rick Outman and Senator Judy Emmons. The March 2014 General Membership Meeting was held at Greenville High School and it focused on school culture and climate. The main speaker was Dr. Anthony Muhammad. Dr. Muhammad had been the keynote speaker at the COMMIT conference in the summer of 2013.

# PERSONNEL AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



### Educating Local Schools Boards

In an effort to create awareness about the McKinney-Vento Act and the homeless education supports we provide, the Superintendent and the Director of Homeless Supports for Montcalm, Ionia, Gratiot and Isabella Counties, Brenda Greenhoe, visited each local board of education and provided them with an explanation of the programs and services that are provided for students who are homeless. In addition to programmatic information, data was shared regarding the financial aspects of providing these services both from an expense point of view as well as a revenue point of view. Numbers of students who qualified for these services were shared as well. During each visit, time was allotted for a question and answer period.

### C.O.M.M.I.T.

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District is a member of COMMIT: the Consortium of Mid-Michigan Instructional Teams. COMMIT, founded over 14 years ago, connects instructional personnel in our region including Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District, Clinton County Regional Education Service Agency, Gratiot-Isabella Regional Education Service District, Ionia County Intermediate School District, and the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District. The group met monthly during the 2013-2014 school year and worked collaboratively to address instructional needs within the five county region. Five districts sent teams to the COMMIT state conference held in June of 2014 in Traverse City, Michigan, featuring Dr. Randy Sprick as the presenter.



# PERSONNEL AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

### **Hair on Fire Project and the Common Core State Standards**

In the fall of 2013, Montcalm County schools continued their focus on digging into and understanding the Common Core State Standards. Once each standard for ELA and mathematics had been dissected and thoroughly discussed, we moved on to concepts of quality assessment. The main task of 2013-14 was to create common, standards-based summative assessments that teachers could use to drive their overall instruction and answer the question: “How do we know if students know and can do the standards?”

By the end of June 2014, teachers had mapped out the standards over 165 days of guaranteed instruction. In mathematics, each grade level consisted of between 5 to 8 modules or units. In ELA, the standards for language were distributed over 165 days divided into segments of 9 weeks each. Assessments for each module or 9 weeks segment were created using research-based criteria. Whether or not a district chooses to use the sequences as laid out, all teachers who participated in this Hair on Fire professional development now have extensive skills in creating assessments and can use these skills when creating assessments in their classrooms and buildings. Topics and skills covered included:

- the proper use of spacing and fonts for clarity,
- brain research and the use of “visual rests”,
- work on bias, objectivity, and
- the specific creation of distractors for use in direction for re-teaching.

In addition to working with the mathematics and ELA CCSS, during the 2013-14 school year, we pulled together science and social studies teachers to unpack the CCSS Literacy standards. While it will not be prudent to create common assessments with these standards, this group of teachers now has a clear process to understand each standard and begin to implement them in their classrooms.

Also joining the project were a group of pre-school teachers from both counties that included private preschool teachers, Head Start teachers, and local district pre-school teachers. While Common Core State Standards do not exist at the preschool level, work centered around standards recently released from the State of Michigan.

For the 2014-15 school year, focus through the Hair on Fire project turns to what we must do when students do not reach proficiency on the standards as well as what we do when they do. The focus will be helping schools create multi-tiered systems of support so no student falls through the crack. Once this step in the project is completed, and it will take years to polish it, we can truly say that we use a student-centered, standards-based approach to teaching and learning!



# SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### **Cool to be Kind Countywide Anti-bullying Initiative**

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District wrapped up its two year anti bullying campaign with a celebration at Central Montcalm on April 24, 2014. Climate teams from each school district gave capstone presentations regarding “Making it Cool to be Kind”. Corporate sponsors were on hand for the event as well as Laurie Stewart, the project’s facilitator. Local climate teams will continue to meet in the years ahead with the goal of creating a positive culture and climate in their respective school buildings.

### **WOTV4 Media Partnership**

In 2013-2014, the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District partnered with the Ionia County Intermediate School District and formed a media partnership with WOTV4 out of Grand Rapids. WOTV4 provided television coverage of a number of events as well as a number of public service announcements. Time and attention was also given to each ISD on the WOTV4 website. The goal of the partnership was to promote the positive events within both organizations and communicate them to the West Michigan area. Programs that were covered included the IM Kids Third Meal as well as Great Parents, Great Start.

### **106.3 Radio Partnership**

In an attempt to communicate to the public about what ISDs do and to stress the importance of education, the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District formed a radio partnership with 106.3 WGLM out of Greenville. Staff from the ISD and/or local district staff are featured on the second Tuesdays of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 am. Time is spent discussing the programs and services that the ISD offers and further clarifying the role the ISDs play in the field of education. Local districts are also highlighted and are afforded time to share matters of importance to them as well.

### **IM Kids Third Meal**

Out of the response to the strategic plan update, the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District partnered with the Ionia County Intermediate School District and formed the IM Kids Third Meal Program housed at the HO Steele Center. IM Kids Third Meal is a grant funded program that sends home over 500 sack suppers a night to students in Montcalm and Ionia Counties. The program is run by volunteers and funded through grants and donations. The program hopes to expand and begin serving more children in the future.

### **May 2014 Special Education Millage**

After three years of planning and preparation, the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District and its local districts successfully passed a special education millage that included an override of .32 mills as well as an additional mill. The millage rate went from 2.1878 to 3.5. The millage passed successfully in 76% of the precincts across the county with a vote total of 3596 in favor and 2764 opposed. This was the first successful countywide special education since 1988. The millage will generate over 50 million dollars over the next 20 years. Due to the successful passing of the millage, MAISD flowed through \$800,000 of the 2.6 million dollars generated in the first year of the levy back to the local districts. Other initiatives financed through the additional funds included placing behavioral therapists in each of the locals, the creation of two new programs aimed at improving transitions for 18-26 students with disabilities, the purchase of four busses and three vans, as well as providing direct special education administrative supports to three of the local districts.



# SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *Involvement*

### **Montcalm County Business Partnerships**

In Montcalm County, career-focused education provides the foundation for successful transition from primary and secondary level education to post-secondary education and employment for all students. The MAISD Career and Technical Education Department provides K-12 programming for the seven in-county and neighboring school districts. The strength of the department lies in the incredibly large amount of support and partnering opportunities provided by our community at large. Business/Education partnerships are key to providing Career Connections classes, on location programs, the Reality Store program, College Night, and all areas of career-focused education.

The Montcalm Area Career Center staff meet at least twice a year with business and industry partners in the community who are active participants in their profession. These program advisory committees perform a wide variety of functions, including providing input to curriculum and instruction, program review, recruitment and job placement, student organizations, staff development, community/public relations, and resources.

The Montcalm Area Career Center, along with Montcalm Community College, hosted 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Days on May 21, 22 and 23 for local eighth grade students. Approximately 850 eighth graders that participated from Carson City-Crystal, Central Montcalm, Greenville Lakeview, Montabella, and Vestaburg were taken to six activity stations that focused on each of the Career Pathways and the skills needed to obtain jobs in each area. Career Center students and instructors provided demonstrations and hands-on labs during the three-day event. All of this gave students the opportunity to become more familiar with the career choices and fields of study awaiting them in the future.

### **Montcalm County Education Partnerships**

During the month of October 2013, students from The MACC visited MCC in small groups to learn more about articulated credits, college life, financial aid, and how to enroll in postsecondary education. They also met with faculty from their program area and participated in demonstrations to gain an understanding of college coursework. These visits were followed by presentations from universities to discuss the 2+2 and 3+1 agreements that allow students to obtain their baccalaureate degrees by completing three years at MCC and one year at a university.

### **Montcalm County Community Agency Partnerships**

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District partnered with the Mid Michigan District Health Department and agreed to lease an area of the Montcalm Area Career Center for use as the Stanton Dental Clinic. Historically the clinic has served over 500 local patients a month and has been staffed by 2.5 dentists. In return for the lease, Montcalm Area Career Center students were allowed to access the clinic to gain work experience in the fields of dentistry, medical records, and business administration and management.

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District also partners with many different community agencies such as Head Start, Central Area Michigan Works, the Greenville Optimist Camp, the Coalition of Greater Greenville, the Montcalm Area Reading Council, the Montcalm Human Services Collaborative, and the Montcalm Alliance to name a few.

# SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

## PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Parent involvement is very important and valued by MAISD and its staff. Information about MAISD's Parent Involvement Policy has been shared with parents as part of a packet of important information. If you would like more information about our Parent Involvement Policy, please contact the superintendent's office at 989-831-5261. Parent Involvement is also encouraged on both the Parent Advisory Council for Special Education and the Montcalm County Local Interagency Coordinating Council for *Early On*, which is part of the Early Childhood Coalition.

### Montcalm County Great Start Collaborative (MCGSC) & Parent Coalition

Our vision of a Great Start for every child in Montcalm County starts with parents. Parents are their child's first and best teacher so they need to have leadership roles and a voice in how services and supports are delivered. The MCGSC provides this opportunity to parents of young children birth to age eight. The MCGSC maintains a strong board membership of 35 people. The MCGSC membership is composed of 25% parent board membership and provides leadership opportunities for all parents. To support this leadership role in Montcalm County's families and communities the MCGSC continues to organize annual professional development trainings, Early Childhood Conference, Implementation of Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and Nurturing Father activities. Three committees with parent membership work to accomplish improvements and build supports for families in the following areas; physical health, social emotional health, Family Support, and Early Education and Child Care. Advocacy opportunities are another part of the MCGSC work. Parents are voices for our youngest community members.

### Great Start Early Childhood Services and Supports

Kindergarten readiness begins at birth. Through the Montcalm County Great Start Collaborative strategic planning process parents provided information which resulted in the creation of the following early childhood programs:

- The MACC Parent Playgroup is a partnership with Early On, Early Head Start, and the Montcalm Area Career Center to bring evidenced based playgroup opportunities to birth to three families. This activity is focused on building pre literacy skills in children as well as provides modeling for at home literacy building skills. Professionals from a variety of disciplines provide support for parents and their children in a classroom based setting.
- Early Childhood Love and Logic Programming is a research based parenting class designed to support parents who are trying to build better behavior management skills and develop social emotional skills in birth to five children. Love and Logic supports empathy and problem solving skills in children, parent child bonding, parent resilience, and knowledge of child development.
- Welcome Baby! is a home visiting programming in partnership with United Lifestyles that helps build a more comprehensive family support strategy. Welcome Baby supports families in a strength based, capacity building way. Parent Resilience, Social Connections, Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development, and Concrete support in times of need are the focus.
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library is a program that provides a free book each month to a child birth to 3 years of age. Children must live within the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District. More than any other skill, the ability to read helps a child succeed in school, function in society and have more employment options in the future. Parents are a child's first and best teacher; therefore providing tools through DPIL to build an in home library for parents to encourage literacy is critical.



All of the Great Start activities are designed to have a positive impact on the development of children and families in Montcalm County.

# SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

## PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

### MAISD Parent Advisory Committee

#### PAC's Mission Statement

The mission of the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Parent Advisory Committee is to promote partnerships among parents and educators that benefit students with disabilities. PAC members are appointed by their local school board and approved by the Montcalm Area ISD Board of Education. PAC members represent the various disabilities of students enrolled in programs across the intermediate school district.

#### Parent Advisory Committee's Make a Difference Award Ceremony

The 8th annual "Make a Difference" awards ceremony, sponsored by the MAISD Parent Advisory Council (PAC), was held on Wednesday, May 14, at Greenville High School's Auditorium. This event recognizes educators, school staff, and students from MAISD and all seven Montcalm County school districts for their dedication and commitment to students with special needs who are all "*An Essential Piece*". The evening featured a ballet performance by Petra Mark, who is a student at Lakeview Elementary and a video presentation done by Jeff Main, Katelyn Lau, and Calli Clemens, students in MAISD's deaf and hard of hearing program, who assisted in the videotaping and production of an ASL music video. Awards are selected from six categories with nominees chosen from the positions of administrator, special education teacher, general education teacher, ancillary staff, support staff, and peer to peer support. Ancillary staff include occupational therapists, speech therapists, physical therapists, social workers, school nurses, school psychologists and teacher consultants. Support staff include classroom aides and para professionals, bus drivers, administrative assistants and secretarial support staff, food service providers, and maintenance and custodial staff. The Peer to Peer Support category recognizes students who have been mentors to other students with learning or behavioral challenges and have shown positive support to those students. MAISD extends its congratulations to all those nominated for these awards. Their commitment to the children in Montcalm County truly does "Make a Difference" in their future. Many thanks to them for what they do!



Linda  
VanHouten



Amy  
VanOrman



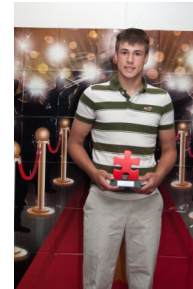
Rita  
Hockemeyer



Mary  
Overbeek



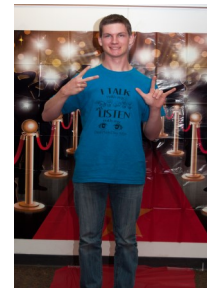
Dave  
Schaap



Ben  
Behrenwald



Trenton  
Doan



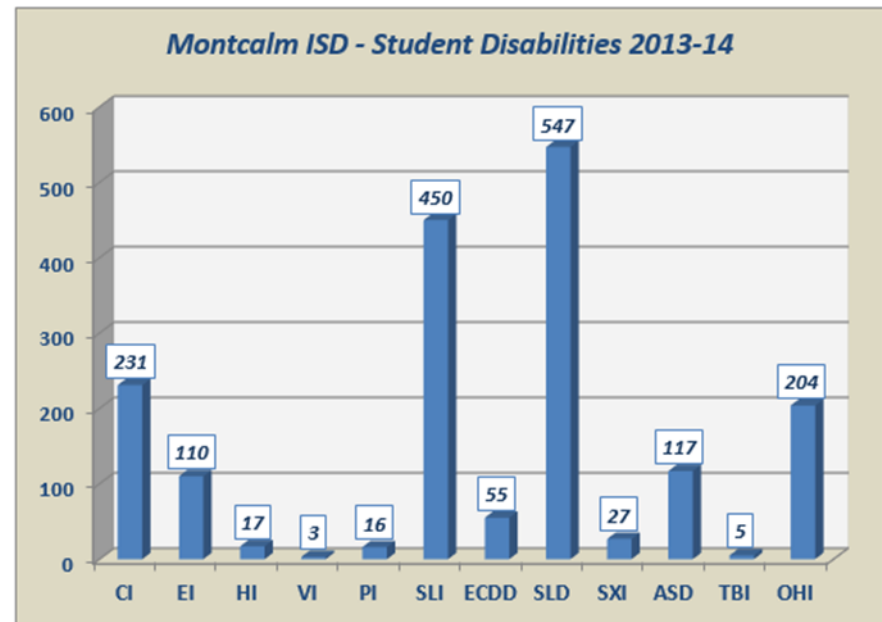
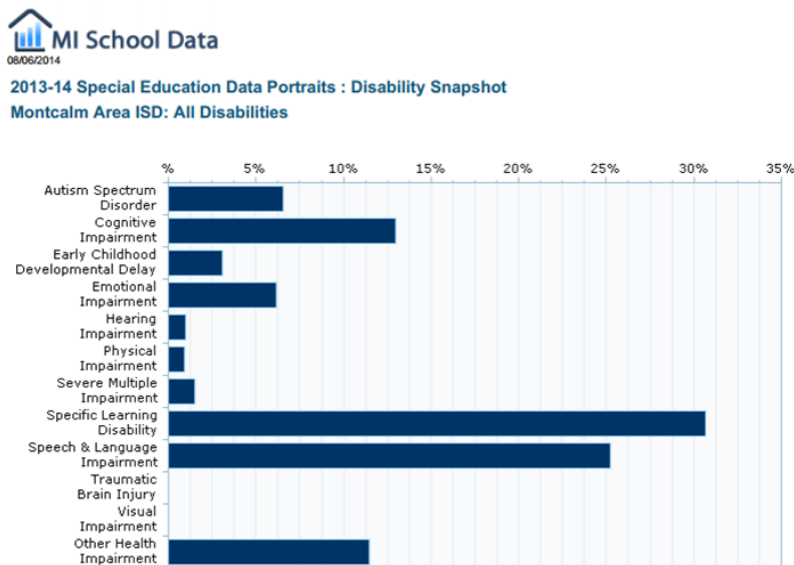
Jeff  
Main

# INFORMATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

## DATA MANAGEMENT

### Student with Disabilities County Data

Michigan recognizes twelve (12) different educationally based disability categories as defined by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For a child to qualify for special education services he/she must have at least one of these 12 disabilities listed in the chart below. The disability must adversely impact his/her performance in general education and the student must be in need of specialized instruction provided by Special Education Service Providers. Based on the October 2, 2013, special education federal headcount, there were a total of 1,782 students within the MAISD service area who received special education services. This represents 15.20% of the total school enrollment within MAISD programs and the seven local school districts.



# INFORMATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

## DATA MANAGEMENT

### Governor Snyder's Best Practice Incentive

On June 13, 2013 the Governor enacted legislation under Section 81 of the State School Aid Act, 2013 PA 60, that appropriated \$2,000,000 to provide an additional 3.2% of the district's Section 81(2) allocation for the FY 2013-14 school year to intermediate school districts (ISDs) meeting five out of six of the following best practices:

- Enters into an agreement with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to develop, implement, and report on a service consolidation plan;
- Obtains competitive bids for the provision of 2013-14 non-instructional services;
- Develops a Technology Plan in accordance with MDE policy on behalf of all constituent districts within the ISD that integrates technology into the classroom and prepares teachers to use digital technologies as part of the instructional program of each of its constituent districts;
- Provides a link on the district's home page to the URL under the Budget Transparency Icon that provides the required data elements consistent with the legislation;
- Works in consortium with 1 or more other ISDs to develop information management system requirements and bid specifications that can be used as statewide models;
- Holds the policy on medical benefit plans (if directly employed by district, or not excluded by a voluntary employee beneficiary association).

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Board of Education approved a resolution at its April 2014 regular board meeting confirming that it had completed five of the six best practices consequently meeting the requirements for securing the extra funds.

### Reading Now Network

In 2013, Montcalm Area ISD joined 12 other counties in forming the Reading Now Network. This network is the collective effort of superintendents, school boards and school districts throughout West Michigan to improve early literacy and, ultimately, student achievement across all grade levels. MAISD took part in action research involving 5 schools in the region that out-performed their peers on the 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading MEAP for the past 3 years. Preliminary results of this research study reveal that the success of these schools is not based on a specific reading program, class or building size, the condition of the school building, technology resources, or number of classroom volunteers. What was common to all of these schools was the uncompromising focus on reading and student success. More data from the action research study will be available throughout the 2014-15 school year.



### 22i TRIG Grant

The Montcalm Area Intermediate School District participated in activities associated with a 22i TRIG grant. The focus of this grant was to develop or improve a district's technology infrastructure, including, but not limited to, hardware and software, in preparation for the planned implementation in 2014-2015 of online assessments as part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

The statewide goals included building a statewide interconnected network to support reliable unencumbered access to online assessments, establishing collective purchasing contracts for learning devices and online content, leveraging regional networks to facilitate the consolidation and improve service levels for data, technology, and other related services to service centers, building capacity to assist educators in planning and implementing the best practices and technology required to support the next generation of assessment, teaching, and learning.



# INFORMATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

## PUPIL ACCOUNTING

With over \$10 billion in school funding tied to enrollment counts, pupil accounting is an increasingly important part of a school district's function. In most districts this represents 85% - 90% of a district's revenue. The foundation allowance this fiscal year for a full time student (F.T.E.) equated to \$7,026.00.

MAISD is responsible for auditing the pupil accounting data submitted by its constituent districts. This occurs twice in a school district's fiscal year, once in October and then again in February. The counts are blended (90% fall count, 10% spring count) to determine the number of pupil memberships to be reimbursed.

The districts in Montcalm County have done an excellent job submitting accurate, complete, and timely data. Accuracy and timeliness not only provides the district with its proper funding from the State of Michigan, but also avoids the potential of having 5% of its State revenues delayed.

Data submissions are completed electronically and are referred to as the Michigan Student Database System (MSDS). This submission also has an impact on the district's State issued report card.

To ensure pupil accounting personnel are prepared to meet the demands and challenges of accurate pupil accounting, attendance record keeping and MSDS submissions, the Michigan Pupil Accounting and Attendance Association (MPAAA) offers conferences to keep abreast of changes. In addition, MAISD offers individual training to local district staff upon request as well as support at any time regarding concerns related to pupil accounting.

Below is a history of MAISD districts pupil counts.

### MONTCALM COUNTY ISD FTE STUDENT COUNTS BY DISTRICT

| September | MAISD  | Carson<br>City-Crystal | Central<br>Montcalm | Greenville | Lakeview | Montabella | Tri<br>County | Vestaburg | County<br>Wide<br>Totals | County<br>Wide<br>Change |
|-----------|--------|------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------|------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2007      | 290.18 | 1,162.30               | 1,912.85            | 3,867.82   | 1,549.00 | 954.65     | 2,468.44      | 775.34    | 12,980.58                | -156.69                  |
| 2008      | 268.43 | 1,113.10               | 1,872.84            | 3,804.55   | 1,554.05 | 898.40     | 2,468.20      | 740.70    | 12,720.27                | - 260.31                 |
| 2009      | 245.08 | 1,067.00               | 1,873.00            | 3,785.00   | 1,491.00 | 839.00     | 2,403.00      | 711.00    | 12,414.08                | -306.19                  |
| 2010      | 234.77 | 1,010.70               | 1,822.29            | 3,730.21   | 1,438.50 | 851.34     | 2,387.80      | 698.10    | 12,173.71                | -240.37                  |
| 2011      | 223.38 | 1,004.91               | 1,861.67            | 3,780.07   | 1,334.50 | 831.57     | 2,260.02      | 705.65    | 12,001.77                | -171.94                  |
| 2012      | 199.68 | 957.61                 | 1,731.89            | 3,748.86   | 1,299.80 | 830.00     | 2,198.41      | 699.06    | 11,665.31                | -336.46                  |
| 2013      | 174.49 | 948.56                 | 1,722.74            | 3,762.82   | 1,265.00 | 830.00     | 2,163.89      | 630.59    | 11,498.09                | -167.22                  |

# MONTCALM AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of Education

Steve Foster, *President*  
Mark Christensen, *Vice-President*  
Bud Longnecker, *Secretary*  
Brian Corwin, *Treasurer*  
Chris Bradshaw, *Trustee*  
Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, *Superintendent, Ex-Officio*

## MAISD's Purpose

*Leading, collaborating & serving to create education without boundaries*

## MAISD's Promise

*Exceptional Leadership with Unmatched Service*

## MAISD's Goal

*MAISD will be a catalyst for responsible learners, innovative schools, and strong communities*

## Administration

Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, *Superintendent*  
Katie Flynn, *Associate Superintendent of Special Education*  
Celena Mills, *Associate Superintendent of Car. and Tech. Education*  
Ron Simon, *Associate Superintendent of Finance*  
Michelle Goodwin, *Associate Superintendent of Curr. and Instr.*

## MAISD Public School Districts

*Carson City-Crystal Area Schools*  
*Central Montcalm Public School*  
*Greenville Public Schools*  
*Lakeview Community Schools*  
*Montabella Community Schools*  
*Tri County Area Schools*  
*Vestaburg Community School*

*It is the policy of Montcalm Area Intermediate School District that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or disability shall be subjected to discrimination in any program, service, activity, or in employment for which it is responsible.*

## Montcalm Area Intermediate School District

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