

Mason-Lake and Oceana

Intermediate Districts

Helping schools help students

Districts

FALL 2011

ASM Tech

Academy of Science, Mathematics and Technology
Early College High School

Entering college one year ahead of their classmates, and receiving two years of free college has become a reality for a handful of local students. Welcome to the beginning of the Academy of Science, Mathematics, and Technology Early College High School, or “ASM Tech” for short.

In June, the first student cohort was able to have its initial experience in ASM Tech when the students participated in a summer camp. This group was made up of thirty-seven students who are entering the eleventh grade, representing four counties and fourteen school districts. They converged for four days on the campus of West Shore Community College to begin the journey of learning how to be successful in college while developing new friendships.

Ethan Hurley, the Principal

for ASM Tech, commented, “It was inspiring to see the energy, excitement, and enthusiasm of all the students. I was so impressed to see students coming together from different districts and finding common interests and ideas. They formed bonds that will carry them through the next three years of their educational lives and beyond.”

ASM Tech is an Early College program for students from Mason, Lake, Oceana, and Manistee counties who are interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers. Students will attend their local high schools through the end of their junior year before officially becoming a student at ASM Tech. The application process takes place over their sophomore year and those accepted will then participate in a variety of activities, including a

summer camp, monthly cohort meetings, and a College Learning Strategies dual enrollment course. They will then spend their fourth (senior) and fifth years of high school out on the campus of WSCC as full time students. At the end of the fifth year, they will have the opportunity to both graduate with a high school diploma and earn up to an associate’s degree.

Although Early Colleges have now been in existence in Michigan for more than twenty years, ASM Tech is the first Early College with a location in a rural setting. It was established to reach out to those students who otherwise might not attend and/or succeed in college. The goal is to provide those students with the resources and support services necessary to help

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ASM Tech: Getting a college start

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them not only learn to be successful in college but to be successful in their chosen career path.

One of the main resources that will be provided for these students is the role that the College Success Coordinator, Randy Boerema, will play. He will act as the college advisor, high school counselor, college transfer coordinator, and career counselor who will walk along side students during their time in the program and beyond.

"I think ASM Tech is one of the most wonderful opportunities a person my age could have, because not only do we get two years free of college but we also get to do it a year early which makes it that much better."

- Austin

"To me this program isn't about the money, isn't about who does the best, it's a matter of what you do with this experience that really lays out your future and helps guide you on your path to the future."

- Kirsten

"ASM Tech is a great program that can help you achieve your goals."

- Zach

"I really like this program, because it gives kids the opportunity to be successful. It helps me out because our family does not have a lot of money, so it definitely gives me the chance to have a successful career."

- Jessika

"I feel like I am ready for college now instead of being so anxious about it. I didn't want to be nervous but it happens. I've already learned a ton in just the camp and I am looking forward to more! I can't wait until Monday when we start official class."

- Julia

"I think that ASM Tech Early College is a great idea. I want to go into the medical field and getting a head start on college will help me get into my career faster. I like the idea of having a camp to get to meet new people and see how a college class would look like."

- Morgan



College success coordinator Randy Boerema leads a session of ASM Tech summer camp.



Ethan Hurley, center, discusses his new position as principal of CTE and Early College with Mike Robinson, left, and Ed Palsrok.

Meet the principal

The Mason-Lake ISD Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, located on the campus of West Shore Community College, is pleased to introduce our new principal of CTE and Early College, Ethan Hurley. Ethan joins us from just outside of Tucson, Arizona where he and his wife Keeley (Donley) have resided for the past 17 years. Ethan, originally of southern California, and Keeley, born and raised in Ludington, decided they wanted to raise their daughters Maggie (5), Lindsey (3) and Emmy (1) where there was plentiful grass, water and a change in seasons.

Ethan left a career in Career and Technical Education in Arizona to take over the CTE responsibility held by Mike Robinson for the past 13 years. With a Bachelor in Business Administration and dual Master's in Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Leadership, along with work experience in both industry and education. Ethan is an incredible asset to our community. He started out his career in industry and later followed in his family's footsteps by changing careers to teaching and also coaching athletics. In teaching, Ethan realized that he liked working with kids but was not passionate about one particular subject. "What I realized was that I enjoyed the coaching part of teaching, working one-on-one with students to reach goals, generate confidence, and work on building the soft skills that are so important in life." This philosophy fits in well with the focus on CTE.

When Ethan flew to Ludington to interview for the position and toured the West Shore Community College campus, he saw a distinct difference between our CTE and others. Ethan states, "I was amazed at the incredible partnership between WSCC and the Mason-Lake ISD. You just don't see that anywhere else."

Ethan will also be responsible for directing ASM Tech, or Early College, which is fully explained in the article on the cover page. You may contact Ethan in his office on the campus of WSCC at 231.843.5935 or ehurley@westshore.edu.

MLISD-OISD General Education Professional Development Schedule, Fall 2011

Workshop	Date	Time	Facilitator	Description	Location	Category
Adaptive Schools	8-10-11 8-11-11 10-4-11 10-5-11	8:30-3:30	Kristi Dila Linda Steigenga Jen Orton Carolyn McKanders	Participants will receive four days of training that will include ideas and strategies to enhance student and adult learning through activities that engage and influence thinking.	MLISD	All Teachers
Stepping Up	9-12-11 11-7-11 1-9-11 5-7-11	4:00-6:00	Brenda Tarsa Joan Bade	Forum for women to develop strength-based leadership skills.	MLISD	Gen Ed and Special Ed
Science Safety	9-13-11 or 9-20-11	4:00 – 7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Participants will review the importance of safety in the science classroom and practice techniques for proper safety practices. The two session offerings are the same so attend the evening which is most convenient for you.	LHS on 9-13; Hart HS on 9-20	MS and HS Science Teachers
Adaptive Schools Evening Sessions	9-20-11 10-11-11 11-15-11 12-6-11 1-17-12	4:00-8:00	Kristi Dila Linda Steigenga Jen Orton	Participants deepen their knowledge, practice the strategies, and plan how to incorporate Adaptive Schools in their home districts. Dinner will be served.	MLISD	All Teachers
Hands-On Science for 6 th Grade	9-12-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	OISD	6 th Grade Science
Hands-On Science for 1 st Grade	9-14-11	4:00- 7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	1 st Grade Science
Hands-On Science for 2 nd Grade	9-15-11	4:00 - 7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	2 nd Grade Science
Preschool Mapping & Learning Community	9-16-11	8:30-3:30	Brandi Mendham Claire Rewold	Join your early childhood colleagues to continue your curriculum mapping work. We will also begin our year long book study together.	MLISD	Preschool
Hands-On Science for 3 rd Grade	9-19-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	3 rd Grade Science
Hands-On Science for 4 th Grade	9-21-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	4 th Grade Science
Hands-On Science for 5 th Grade	9-22-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	5 th Grade Science
Hands-On Science for Kindergarten	9-26-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to explore the Hands-On Science kits for their grade level and will leave with materials to differentiate the kits.	MLISD	Kinder Science
Hands-On Science for grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6	9-28-11	4:00 -7:00	Kathy Winczewski	Teachers will have an opportunity to talk about science across the grade levels and share ideas for science instruction.	OISD	K,1,2,3,4,5,6 Science

Workshop	Date	Time	Facilitator	Description	Location	Category
Attn: Elementary Teachers!!	9-28-11	4:00-6:00	Brandi Mendham Kathy Bourgault	Are you interested in looking at the way you facilitate your literacy and math instruction? Have you heard about Daily Five & Café for literacy or Math Work Stations? Join us to receive a free book and hear about our plans for supporting you in these areas for the school year!	MLISD	Elem Teachers
E-MATHS Algebra I	10-5-11	8:30 -3:30	Dave VanDuinen	Teachers will learn how to use the E-MATHS units and lessons. New and returning teachers all welcome!	MLISD	Algebra I Teachers
TI-Users Group	10-7-11	9:00 -2:00	Jodi Redman	Teachers will have the opportunity to share and learn more about TI technology they are using in the classroom. All levels of learners welcome!	WMISD	MS&HS Math
E-MATHS Geometry	10-14-11	8:30- 3:30	Dave VanDuinen	Teachers will learn how to use the E-MATHS units and lessons. New and returning teachers all welcome!	MLISD	HS Math Teachers
Preschool Learning Community	10-14-11	8:30-12:00	Brandi Mendham	Come learn and share together! We will continue our book study and share new ideas and strategies. Please come with ideas to share!	MLISD	Preschool
MS/HS Math PLC	10-19-11	4:00 -6:00	Kathy Surd	Teachers will have the opportunity to learn about updates in mathematics education and share ideas across districts.	MLISD	MS&HS Math Teachers
8 th Grade Math Common Core Transition	10-21-11	8:30 -3:30	Kathy Surd	8 th grade math teachers will have the time to investigate resources, share ideas, and update their curriculum to the Common Core State Standards	MLISD	8 th Grade Math Teachers
Secondary Literacy Network	10-21-11	8:30-3:30	Jen Orton and WSCC Instructors	Local high school and WSCC English instructors meet to support each other and to share best ideas.	MLISD	9-12 ELA Teachers
Middle School ELA (6 th -8 th grade ELA teachers)	10-24-11 4-17-12	8:30-3:30	Jen Orton & Teacher Leaders	Topics Across the Year will focus on resources and strategies to align to the new Common Core State Standards Meal provided.	MLISD MLISD OISD	ELA
MS/HS Science PLC	10-26-11	4:00 -6:00	Kathy Surd	Teachers will have the opportunity to learn about updates in science education and share ideas across districts.	MLISD	MS &HS Science Teachers
Daily Five & Café Introductory Session	10-27-11	8:30-3:30	Brandi Mendham Kathy Bourgault	Join us to learn the basics of the Daily Five framework for literacy instruction and the related Café strategies. We promise this isn't 'one more thing,' but instead a way to make what you are already doing easier!	MLISD	Elem Teachers
E-MATHS Algebra II	11-4-11	8:30 -3:30	Dave VanDuinen	Teachers will learn how to use the E-MATHS units and lessons. New and returning teachers all welcome!	MLISD	Algebra II Teachers
Curriculum Mapping	11-7-11 1-9-12 3-5-12	8:30-11:30 12:30-3:30 4:00-7:00 Sessions held at these times on all dates.	General Education Team	Teachers will be given time to work on their curriculum maps, assessments, or alignment. Three time slots are offered for each day: morning, afternoon, and after school. Teachers may sign up for one or all time slots on any of the three days. No meal provided.	MLISD	All Subject Areas
Social Studies Network ½ day sub reimbursed by ISD	11-9-11	8:30-11:30	Cathy Feyt Mark Branning Beth Pobjewski	Teacher representatives from each district share social studies curriculum updates and vertical alignment across the K-12 span. No meal.	MLISD	K-12 SS District Reps
Social Studies Afternoon Curriculum Work	11-9-11	12:30-3:30	Cathy Feyt Mark Branning Beth Pobjewski	SS teachers use this time to work on curriculum: mapping, assessments, units, or aligning to the CCSS literacy standards.	MLISD	K-12 SS Teachers

Workshop	Date	Time	Facilitator	Description	Location	Category
Daily Five & Café Sharing Session	11-9-11	4:00-7:00	Brandi Mendham Kathy Bourgault	Join fellow colleagues who have implemented Daily Five & Café to learn new ideas and strategies. Be sure to bring along your best ideas to share!	MLISD	Elem Teachers
Consonant Blends & Digraphs Intervention Kit	11-17-11	8:30-11:30	Kathy Bourgault Sharon Spencer	In this make and take session, you will create an intervention kit to use with your students who need support with blends and digraphs. Bring along a pair of scissors!	MLISD	Elem Teachers
Preschool: Learning to Write	12-9-11	8:30-3:30	Brandi Mendham	Explore the teaching of writing to our youngest learners. Practical strategies to take back to your room!	MLISD	Preschool
Math Work Stations	12-13-11	4:00-7:00	Brandi Mendham Kathy Bourgault	In this ongoing series of sessions, learn about how you can use work stations to help you students practice math skills independently while you teach in small groups. Additional sessions will be offered after January 2012.	MLISD	Elem Teachers
TI-Users Group	2-3-12	9:00 – 2:00	Jodi Redman	Teachers will have the opportunity to share and learn more about TI technology they are using in the classroom. All levels of learners welcome!	WMISD	MS&HS Math
Secondary Literacy Network	3-16-12	8:30-3:30	Jen Orton and WSCC Instructors	Local high school and WSCC English instructors meet to support each other and to share best ideas.	WSCC	9-12 ELA Teachers
MS/HS Math PLC	4-17-12	4:00 -6:00	Kathy Surd	Teachers will have the opportunity to learn about updates in mathematics education and share ideas across districts	MLISD	MS &HS Math Teachers
Middle School ELA	4-17-12	8:30-3:30	Jen Orton & Teacher Leaders	Topics Across the Year will focus on resources and strategies to align to the new Common Core State Standards Meal provided.	MLISD	6-8 ELA Teachers
Social Studies Network ½ day sub reimbursed by ISD	4-19-12	8:30-11:30	Cathy Feyt Mark Branning Beth Pobjewski	Teacher representatives from each district share social studies curriculum updates and vertical alignment across the K-12 span. No meal	MLISD	K-12 SS District Reps
Social Studies Afternoon Curriculum Work	4-19-12	12:30-3:30	Cathy Feyt Mark Branning Beth Pobjewski	SS teachers use this time to work on curriculum: mapping, assessments, unit, or aligning to the CCSS literacy standards.	MLISD	K-12 SS Teachers
MS/HS Science PLC	4-26-12	4:00 -6:00	Kathy Surd	Teachers will have the opportunity to learn about updates in science education and share ideas across districts	MLISD	MS &HS Science Teachers
TI-Users Group	4-27-12	9:00 – 2:00	Jodi Redman	Teachers will have the opportunity to share and learn more about TI technology they are using in the classroom. All levels of learners welcome!	WMISD	MS&HS Math

REGISTRATION

Please register for all PD through Coursewhere.
<http://www.solutionwhere.com/mloisd>
 Call the General Education Department at Mason-Lake with questions
 757-4934 x146



ReImagine Early Years

Investing in our children and our community

In the fall of 2010, Mason-Lake & Oceana ISDs were awarded the ReImagine Early Years grant, made possible through the Early Childhood Investment Corporation with the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. This grant was intended to enhance the services available to the birth through third grade population in our region. It's hard to believe it's been less than a year since the funds were announced considering the amazing work that has been accomplished as well as projects that have been set in motion because of the early childhood focus.

So, what can you do with nearly \$100,000 and dedicated staff who have an incredible passion for our youngest learners — LOTS! Here's a look at what we've accomplished together.

1. **Common Preschool Curriculum:** Every school district in Mason-Lake & Oceana ISDs has adopted Creative Curriculum, 5th edition. Districts purchased the curriculum materials and the grant funds provided the related training this summer. Teachers spent four days learning how to implement the curriculum and the related Gold assessment.
2. **Curriculum Mapping in Early Childhood:** Sessions were offered this summer for early childhood teachers to map their classroom curriculum to integrate the new Creative Curriculum resource. Brandi Mendham, MLOISD Early Childhood Consultant, created a Moodle site for teachers to store and access the maps.
3. **Early Years Response to Intervention:** Grant funds were utilized to provide teachers with materials they used to build intervention kits in the following areas: early math, fine motor, and home intervention.
4. **Pre-K Data Initiative:** Work has been done to include our region's pre-k students in Data Director, our data warehouse. In addition, pre-k assessments are being written in the warehouse so teachers can input student data that will follow the child as s/he progresses through school.
5. **Early Childhood PLCs:** Local preschool teachers offered to host quarterly PLC meetings rotating across districts. At these meetings, teachers shared teaching ideas, strategies, and concerns. Increased attendance was noted as the year progressed with kindergarten teachers joining in.
6. **iPad Lab:** Grant funds were utilized to secure a library of 10 iPads to be used both in early childhood classrooms as well as with parent groups. Rarely were these iPads on the shelf here at the ISD. Instead, they were in hot demand across our region as teachers embraced the opportunity to get this new technology into the hands of our youngest learners!
7. **Collaboration with Western Michigan Regional Resource Center:** Throughout the year, we have collaborated with Lisa Cooper, at the Kids Hub in the Ludington Meijer store, to connect more daycare providers to the curriculum and professional development opportunities we've provided.
8. **Early Childhood PD:** Brandi Mendham and Claire Rewold from FSU facilitated pre-k sessions during the 2010-11 school year on the following topics: Social Studies and Science in Early Childhood, Making Mathematics Meaningful, and Curriculum Mapping and Assessment Review. Additional offerings are being planned — check the PD calendar for dates.

Documentary in pre-production

Working in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Education and Emmy Award Winning Director, Allyson Rockwell, the Mason-Lake and Oceana ISDs are working on a documentary film chronicling the success in the pilot kindergarten and second grade iPad classrooms in Ludington. The classroom pilots, funded by 21st Century Learning Environments, have had tremendous success and are gaining much attention at the state and national levels.

The documentary project has already received funding from; the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, the Michigan Regional Educational Media Centers, the Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning, and the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. Discussions are underway with a number of national foundations interested in funding the full production of the documentary and possibly some expansion of the program in the region. Lastly, on August 2nd the ISDs submitted a federal Investing In Innovation grant for \$3,000,000 to expand the ipads to all pre-K-2 students in the three counties. News on the funded grants is expected in early October.



Technology news

BY TOM JOHNSON
Technology director
Mason-Lake and Oceana ISDs

New student management software for Mason-Lake and Oceana schools

All of the public schools in Mason-Lake and Oceana ISDs, are working together again, collaborating on a common software program for the management of student information, scheduling, grades, attendance, and state reporting.

Power School was purchased with a 21st Century Learning Environments grant. The grant, awarded by the State of Michigan is federal funds that support data and technology in K-12 education. Local districts only real cost is the annual license of \$5.00 per student, which is \$3.20 per student savings over the previous software.

Training in the new system is ongoing this summer as data is being transferred from the old system. Power School includes an online parent portal so that parents and students can always keep up on their progress at school.



Perspectives on networking, collaboration, and silos

BY LAWRENCE D. LLOYD
Superintendent, Mason-Lake and Oceana ISDs

There are currently no shortages of 'Education Reform Initiatives' being proposed and/or driven by our elected officials in Lansing. Headliner topics include New Public Pension Taxes, Tenure Reform, Public Employee Health Care Reform, and an overall focus on Shared Services. While there certainly are differing views on the details and/or requirements of these types of reform initiatives, it seems that a few things are fairly obvious. The importance of Networking in Education, Collaboration in Education, and the elimination of Education Silos are common ingredients for any 'reform' to be successful.

Several years ago, many educators began to realize the importance of 'networking' in successful school reforms. Networking in education has been endorsed, acknowledged, and verbalized over and over again. For

the past several years, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), have been the more formal descriptor of this concept. As early as 1996, Ann Liberman in a Schools Reform Network publication said that "Sharing has the effect of dignifying educational experience – the dailiness of their work, which is often invisible to outsiders, yet binds insiders together." The use of technology really has enhanced our ability to network. Changing times and Reform Initiatives have validated the importance of networking and PLCs for all educators.

Often times a follow up or next step to a valued educational network is successful Collaboration. As Educational Networks pool their thoughts, experiences, and expertise, the logic and value of collaborative initiatives become very evident. The Mason-Lake & Oceana ISDs' Boards of Education and Staff have found the value of collaboration and continue to lead by example.

A 'silo' is defined as a tall tower or pit on a farm in which grain is stored in an airtight or compressed form. In educational agencies, silo concepts were created in an attempt to specialize in certain areas and also by a perceived need to be better than your neighbor in anything from instruction, transportation, co-curricular activities, and management. This term has been used so often over the last several years that as educational agencies realize that isolation really is the enemy of improvement; organizations now purposely try to eliminate silos.

The value and importance of constructive staff networking, program, and service collaboration, and the elimination of educational silos all have been recognized and daily practiced by the Mason-Lake & Oceana ISDs. When focus is placed on these important concepts, a culture is created that is beneficial to all. If the perspective is on duplicate programs and services provided by two separate ISDs or from separate local districts, being parochial about our own 'turf' is counterproductive of the belief of 'Education for All'. Our ISDs have many examples of success from; sharing a superintendent to the true consolidation of all programs and services in General Education, Special Education, Business Office Support, and Board of Education Meetings. While these initiatives have been locally driven, it appears now that the State of Michigan through various 'reform' initiatives will be asking for similar action statewide.

"As educational networks pool their thoughts, experiences and expertise, the logic and value of collaborative initiatives become very evident."

Lawrence D. Lloyd
Superintendent, Mason-Lake and Oceana ISDs

Incredible years

Dina dinosaur social-emotional curriculum training

On July 13-15, 2011, Jamila Reid from the Incredible Years travelled from her home town of Seattle to Ludington to provide a wonderful professional development opportunity at the MLISD. Eight ancillary staff attended the training and were taught how to implement a social-emotional curriculum for preschool students, including those with disabilities.

The focus of the training was to learn how to work with children to promote social and emotional competencies such as dealing with disappointment, turn-taking, following rules, dealing with emotions, and getting along with others. Throughout the three days of professional development, participants watched vignettes of teachers working with children, discussed scenarios, and learned how to incorporate the use of puppets as a positive influence.

The Dina program can be implemented throughout the year in either the classroom setting, or can be used by therapists in small group sessions. The MLISD ECDD classrooms will be piloting the program this fall. For more information, contact Lois Bongard or Brenda Tarsa at (231) 757-3716.



Incredible years



Science happened in the summer

Mason-Lake Oceana Mathematics and Science Center served fifty-two students from Mason, Lake, and Oceana counties during the science summer camp. And, the kids LEARNED. Data from our pre-post assessments indicated that the mean score of their 10-item pre-test was 5.98 and the mean score of the post-test was 8.83. That's a 48 percent increase over just one week.

In addition to the science summer camp that was run by the Mason-Lake Oceana Mathematics and Science Center, our staff also assisted at the Mason County Library's Science Summer Camp. This camp was offered for three Mondays in July. It was wonderful to keep the community connection to science alive by volunteering at this camp.

But wait, there's more! The Mason-Lake Oceana Mathematics and Science Center also ran our first booth at Friday Night Live. Over 300 children in our community had an opportunity to "play" with science concepts at this event on July 15. Even the parents had fun experimenting with the concepts at our booth. Watch for us again next year at this family-centered event.



Friday Night Live science