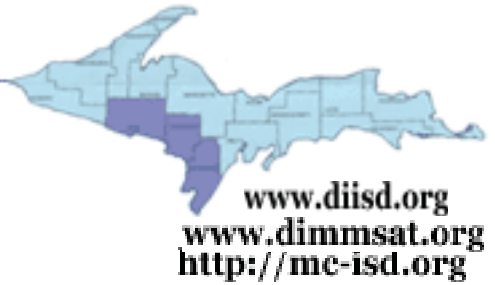


# DICKINSON IRON MENOMINEE



## Educational News & Upcoming Events

Volume 11 Issue 3  
April 2011

*It is today we must create the world of the future*  
-- Eleanor Roosevelt

### What's Inside?

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Produced by:  
Dickinson • Iron • Menominee  
Math Science Center  
1074 Pyle Drive  
Kingsford, MI 49802  
Fax: 906.779.2609

Dee Benjamin  
Director  
Phone: 906.776.8137  
dbenjamin@diisd.org

Mary Ellen Welcher  
Support Services  
Phone: 906.776.8110  
mwelcher@diisd.org

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As we have all experienced, professional development for teachers is rapidly changing. This year, the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center delivered professional development using moodle and google docs, Adobe connect and Fuze meeting technology, Skype, ITV, streaming video and flip videos as well as on site facilitators. Teachers were connected electronically and worked with colleagues, University professors and others across the state.

The Menominee County ISD and Dickinson-Iron ISDs offered summer, fall and winter sessions of “21 Things for 21st Century Educators: Technology Every Educator Should Know”. The course provides “just in time” training through an online interface for K-12 educators based on the National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS-T). NETS standards reflect the basic technology skills every educator should possess. In the process of engaging in the 21 Things course, educators develop their own skills and discover what students need in order to meet the NETS for students.

The 21 modules in this course are Assessment/Evaluation/Survey Tools, Blogs, Collaboration Tools, Content Area Tools, Differentiated Instruction and Diverse Learning, Digital Citizenship, Digital Images, Digital Storytelling, Face of Your Classroom, Mentoring an Online, Online Interactive Learning Tools, Online Video, Professional Organizations and Networking, Research and Reference Tools, Staying Informed, Staying Organized, and Visual Learning. New on the horizon are the courses 21 Things for 21st Century Administrators and 21 Things for 21st Century Students. An educator's role is changing from the traditional "impartor of knowledge" to that of coach and consultant.

There are many exciting examples of successful strategies and programs in which the students are not only allowed, but encouraged and required, to take responsibility for much more of their learning than ever before. Do-it-yourself, student-to-student teaching, project-based learning, and student-centered learning environments are some of the more encouraging programs. The integration of technology into every subject and at all grade levels allows unprecedented levels and types of exciting collaboration and learner to learner connectivity.

This issue is filled with Professional Development opportunities both online and face to face. Please check out the offerings and register at [www.diisd.org](http://www.diisd.org). under Workshops.

*Dee Benjamin*

# Student Opportunities

## SCIENCE FAIR 2011

The Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center is offering each school district that hosts a school science fair \$250 for materials and supplies to support that event. In addition, we will be giving out \$500 for supplies or materials to support your Science Curriculum to the teacher who has the highest percentage of their students participating in their school science fair. To qualify for the \$250, a district must notify Dee Benjamin of the date of the school science fair. We would also like pictures or flyers which are announcing the event. A \$500 check will be sent to the district against which the teacher can write purchases.

The Regional Science Fair is **Saturday, April 30th** at **Woodland Elementary** for all 4th through 8th grade students. Students do **NOT** have to win a 1st, 2nd or 3rd in their school science fair to go to the Regional Science Fair. We hope you will encourage all students to participate.

There is strong data to show that students who participate in Science Fairs do better on the MEAP and the MME. Doing science experiments supports the Science Inquiry standards, science vocabulary and makes a real world connect for students.

Any one willing to serve as a Science Fair Judge on April 30th (9:45 am to Noon), please contact Dee Benjamin. We need approximately 25 judges.



## MTU Mind Trekker Program

### Student Opportunity:

Michigan Tech (MTU) **MindTrek** event is being held on the Bay College West campus (in Iron Mountain) on Friday, May 6, 2011.

MTU held a similar event in places like Detroit and DC, and they now have a grant to hold it in rural areas. This is a great opportunity to promote the STEM fields to K-12 students.

The day is open to K-12 students, but most schools are bringing 4th-12th grade students. The guidelines for time of attendance at the event are from 9:00-11:30am Central and from 12:00-2:30pm Central. The Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center will support attending this event with \$100 per district. If you are planning to bring students, please contact Dee Benjamin at [dbenjamin@diisd.org](mailto:dbenjamin@diisd.org) and send the time you will arrive, the grade levels and number of students.

## Trig-Star Competition



The Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Mathematics, Science and Technology Center with sponsorship from Bacco Construction Company, Champion Incorporated and Coleman Engineering will host

its first **Trig-Star** competition.

Trig-Star is an annual math competition program from the National Society of Professional Surveyors. The goal of the program is to recognize and stimulate the best students of mathematics, honor high school students who demonstrate superior skills, acquaint students with the use and practical applications of math in the surveying professions and build an awareness of surveying and mapping as a profession. Information on the math competition has been sent to all area high school math teachers. The competition is a timed trigonometry test. Maximum time allowed is 60 minutes.

The competition will be held **Saturday, May 7th** starting at 10 a.m. and winners will be announced by Noon. The event will be held at the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District Administration, 1074 Pyle Drive, Kingsford, MI. Local program coordinator for the Trig-Star competition is Mr. Zach Stevens from Coleman Engineering. Students can register by e-mailing Dee Benjamin at [dbenjamin@diisd.org](mailto:dbenjamin@diisd.org) with their name and name of their high school or **local math teachers can register their students using the forms included in their packets.** There is no limit on how many students you can register. Registration deadline is April 29th. The local first place winner will receive **\$500**, second place winner **\$300** and third place **\$200**.

For more information, please contact your local math teacher or Dee Benjamin at 906-776-8137.

**Toyota International Teacher Program Accepting Applications for Costa Rican Study Program**

The Toyota International Teacher Program is accepting applications from full-time middle and high school (7th-12th grade) **teachers of all subjects as well as librarians** for its Costa Rica study tour.

The program will provide educator with global, environmental, and cultural learning opportunities and will take place November 19 - December 3, 2011. The program will explore environmental and cultural preservation, biodiversity and sustainability through a variety of site visits, discussions, lectures, and hands-on activities. Program participants will have an opportunity to meet with local experts, visit schools and museums, and experience the rainforest firsthand. Toyota will cover all expenses related to the program, including materials, transportation, meals and lodging, as well as a \$500 stipend for each participant's school to help defray the costs of their absence during the school year. The Toyota International Teacher Program values diversity and encourages educators of all backgrounds, subjects, and school types to apply for this unique professional development opportunity. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, employed full-time as a secondary classroom teacher or teacher-librarian (grades 7-12) and have a minimum of three years teaching experience. The deadline to apply is May 4, 2011. Great in Social Studies application.

**Mathematics Standards for Mathematical Practice**

The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe ways in which developing student practitioners of the discipline of mathematics increasingly ought to engage with the subject matter as they grow in mathematical maturity and expertise throughout the elementary, middle and high school years.

The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe varieties of expertise that mathematics educators at all levels should see to develop in their students. These practices rest on important "processes and proficiencies" with long-standing importance in mathematics education.

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for an make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

**Cross Your Fingers!**

US Department of Education just released new competitive grants for Teaching American History & Physical Education. Both DIISD and Menominee County ISD will be part of the UP-wide proposals.

**Revisions Planned for Advanced Placement Courses Exams**

The College Board will announce an overhaul of many Advanced Placement courses next month. Standardized curricula will be created for the courses and synchronized with new exams to eliminate much of the uncertainty about AP exams. It also will allow teachers to spend more class time helping students develop critical-thinking skills. The changes will first affect German and French, followed by biology and U.S. History courses in 2012-13. Changes to other AP subjects will be introduced in 2014 or beyond.

**2011 INSPIRE Project**

U.S. high school students are invited to participate in NASA's Interdisciplinary National Science Program Incorporating Research Experience, or INSPIRE, through an online learning community. INSPIRE is designed to encourage students in ninth through 12th grades to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Applications are being accepted through June 30, 2011. NASA will make selections for the program in September. The selected students and their parents will participate in an online learning community with opportunities to interact with peers NASA engineers and scientists. The online community also provides appropriate grade level educational activities, discussion boards and chat rooms for participants to gain exposure to careers and opportunities available at NASA.

Students selected for the program also will have the option to compete for unique grade appropriate experiences during he summer of 2012 at NASA facilities and participating universities.

INSPIRE is part of NASA's education strategy to attract and retain students in the STEM disciplines critical to NASA's missions. For more information about INSPIRE, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/education/INSPIRE> To apply for the program visit: <https://inspire.okstate.edu/index.cfm?lftoff=logIn.LoginForm>

**Celebrating Earth Day in Your School or Community**

Are you elevating "green actions" to show your interest in the environment? Earth Day, April 22, is the perfect occasion for your best "green activity" and Nickelodeon wants to contribute.

To have your event posted on Nickelodeon's scrolling webpage on April 22, join others across the nation by providing a short description of the event along with your school or organization's name and address to [Maitland.Lachman@mtvstaff.com](mailto:Maitland.Lachman@mtvstaff.com). Become one of thousands who choose to care about our Earth and share the passion.

## **DIBELS Training for Dickinson-Iron Specialists**

### **DIBELS Next Training Coming Soon!**

Trainings will be offered for K-6 grade staff at the Dickinson-Iron ISD in late May or early June and again at the start of the 2011-2012 school year. Schools will be notified of specific dates soon.

DIBELS and AIMS web testing window is May 2nd - 13th

### **Literacy Council**

The K-5 Literacy Council will meet at the DIISD on Friday, April 29th.

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## **MeL Spring Training is Here!**

Refresh your knowledge or learn new things by taking a MeL online course in April. We are offering three MeL Databases workshops in April: April 1 Basics Part 1, April 12 Basics Part 2, and April 27 Basics Part 3. [Please note that Part 1 and Part 2 are not pre-requisites for Part 3.]

We are also offering a MeLCat cataloging training session on April 26-27 MeLCat Cataloging Workshop (online).

The MeL Databases program is now able to offer a limited number of inservices for K12 teachers. Inservices will be based on PowerPoint presentations that highlight the best MeL resources for various K12 groups, such as elementary, middle school, secondary, and health. Inservices can be scheduled for one or two hours. For more information on the minimum number of participants and the technical requirements for the host site, please contact Suzanne Robinson, MeL Training Coordinator at MCLS at [robinson@mcls.org](mailto:robinson@mcls.org).

The MeL project is made possible by grant funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the State of Michigan through the Library of Michigan.

## **ARTSERVE Creative Impact Michigan**

ArtServe is launching Creative Impact Michigan -- a new statewide arts and cultural website and bi-weekly e-magazine in May! Developed in response to the growth of online news options, decline of local arts and cultural reporting and news outlets, decrease in public/private funding, and the abundant opportunities to engage the creative community in Michigan's reinvention, Creative Impact Michigan seeks to expand audiences and awareness for our sector's significance statewide. Check out the site at <http://news.artservemichigan.org/>.

Mark your calendars to attend the Michigan Nonprofit Association's 2011 Super Conference - May 10 and 11, 2011 at the Lansing Center. This year's SuperConference "Michigan's Transformation: Nonprofits Leading the Way" will gather nonprofit leaders, staff, volunteers, funders and consultants from across Michigan for inspiring keynotes (including Governor Rick Synder!), innovative and practical workshops from state and national experts on topics facing nonprofits today, and networking.

ArtServe Michigan will be traveling April 25th to Escanaba to introduce the Creative Impact Michigan communications project and hear from you! To register for the regional event closest to you:

**April 25, 2011 - ESCANABA 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
Go to <http://news.artservemichigan.org> and click on current events.

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## **Foreign Language Teachers**

Foreign Language Teachers Professional Learning Community will meet April 28th at 9 a.m. at the DIISD. All area Foreign Language Teachers are welcome. Please register at [www.diisd.org](http://www.diisd.org) click on workshop.

### High School Science Priority Expectations Document Roll-Out

The High School Science Priority Expectations will be presented by the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Mathematics, Science and Technology Center. Participants will understand the organization and components of the new "High School Science Priority Expectations" document and learn how to evaluate instructional lessons using the document and related resources. Registration is required.

Informational rollouts will be at Menominee County ISD on April 27 and at the Dickison-Iron ISD on April 28. Both sessions are from 4 - 6:30 p.m. Please register at [www.diisd.org](http://www.diisd.org) under workshop.

### Project WILD Workshop for Grades 4-8 Educators

On May 5th, presenter Bob Wild, Park Interpreter with the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, will provide 4th - 8th grade level educators with the knowledge and skills to conduct a variety of Project WILD activities that teach about wildlife. This will meet Michigan GLCEs for science, math, social studies, and language arts environments. The workshop starts at 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the DIISD. please register at [www.diisd.org](http://www.diisd.org) under workshop. Sub costs will be covered.

### Summer Teacher Institutes at Michigan Tech University

2011 Summer Teacher Institutes at Michigan Tech University:  
Great Lakes Maritime (June 20 - 24)  
Forest Ecology (June 27 - July 1)  
Navigation & Math (June 27 - July 1)

For more information, contact Joan Chadde at 906-487-3341 or [jchadde@mtu.edu](mailto:jchadde@mtu.edu). Download brochures and application forms: <http://wupcenter.mtu.edu>

**Registration deadline: Friday, May 13, 2011.**

### NMU/Seaborg Center Offers Implementing the Geometry Units

**Target Audience:** High School Mathematics Teachers & High School Special Education math Teachers

**Dates and Times:** Monday thru Friday  
8:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. July 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 2011 And  
Monday thru Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. August 22,  
23, and 24, 2011

**Where:** NMU Seaborg Center, West Science Room. 2609

**Cost:** This workshop is fully funded by the EMATHS Grant. Each participant will be paid a stipend of \$150 per day for attending the 8 day training.

\*\*\* To register, e-mail to [seaborg@nmu.edu](mailto:seaborg@nmu.edu) or contact Lisa Mattson at 227-2002 (Workshop is limited to 30 teachers).

### Michigan Mathematics Program Improvement Project for Middle School Math Teachers (5 - 8th)

Presenter: Val Masuga - Eastern UP ISD Math Consultant

Focus for 4 days will be on Number & Operations

Four Day Workshop June 27th - 30th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Held at the Dickinson-Iron ISD

All materials will be provided. SBCEUs pending.

Registration required and limited to 20 teachers. Please register at [www.diisd.org](http://www.diisd.org) click on workshop.

### Algebra for All May 13

The last session for the two year Algebra for All training is scheduled for May 13th at the DIISD Technical Education Center. Start time is 9 am. Teachers are reminded to bring all the assigned work and video footage to this session.

Algebra for All (AFA) was developed by the Michigan Mathematics and Science Centers Network, the Michigan Dept. of Ed. and MiVU. The continuing emphasis in this statewide initiative will be on school teams of Algebra teachers collaborating together in professional development.

Teachers will continue approaching the teaching of Algebra from a functions-based perspective (Michigan HS Mathematics Content Expectations and the State Common Core Initiative). Teachers participating in this grant received a document camera and projector for their room, graphing calculators and flip videos.

A major component for this year has been a focus on pedagogical issues to enable teachers to engage diverse learners. There is a continued emphasis on deepening teachers' content knowledge, effective use of graphing calculators and technology.

The Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center wishes to thank the 32 teachers who are completing this training for all their extra work.

## Available Interface Languages



The Gmail interface is now available in many different language settings. Pick from the following:

Amharic, Arabic, Basque, Bengali, Bulgarian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Kannada, Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Malay, Malayalam, Marathi, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil and Portugal), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Traditional Chinese, Turkish, UK English, US English, Ukrainian, Urdu, or Vietnamese.

To change the language view in Gmail:

1. Sign in to Gmail.
2. Click Settings at the top of any Gmail page.
3. Select a language from the Gmail display language: drop-down menu in the Language: section.
4. Click Save Changes.

The Gmail interface will appear in the language of your choice after you click Save Changes. Remember, your Gmail's display language doesn't affect the language in which your messages are sent and received.

Some of the features available in the English setting may not be available when you select another language setting. Gmail is working hard to make all of Gmail's features available in every language setting.

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## 21 Things for 21st Century Educators

Watch the DIISD webpage for Summer dates. On-line course except 1st session. 12 SBCEUs or 4 grad. credits.

## Outstanding Science Trade Books for Our Children K-12: 2011, Books Published in 2010

What makes an outstanding book for a young reader? Although it would be hard to create a rubric for every book, experienced teachers recognize them quickly. They fascinate and captivate with both their content and style. Award-winning trade books inspire young readers to want more...more information, more books, more inquiry, more science.

Here are examples of some of the best books: *Neo Leo: The Ageless Ideas of Leonardo da Vinci*. Written and illustrated by Gene Barretta. Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. 32pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-8050-8703-1, \$16.99

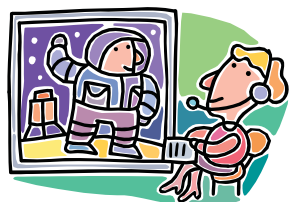
*The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair*. Russell Martin and Lydia Nibley. Illustrated with black-and-white photographs. Charlesbridge Publishing. 128pp. Trade ISBN 978-1-57091-714-1, \$15.95

*Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland*. Sally M. Walker. Carolrhoda Books. 144pp. Trade ISBN 978-08225-7135-3, \$22.95

*The Story of Snow: the Science of Winter's Wonder*. Mark Cassino, with Jon Nelson. Chronicle Books. 36pp. Trade ISBN 978-0-8118-6866-2, \$16.99

*A Place for Birds*. Melissa Stewart. Illustrated by Higgins Bond. Peachtree Publishers. 32pp. Trade ISBN 978-1-56145-474-7, \$16.95

To view the full list, please visit: <http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/ostb2011.aspx>.



### NASA's Teaching from Space Office Unveils New Website

Teaching From Space is a team of former classroom teachers devoted to helping educators make science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, come alive for learners. Each experience and resource offered through Teaching From Space is intended to be unique and accessible and to provide real-life connections to the works of STEM.

Teaching From Space recently unveiled a new website. This site provides information on many opportunities available through the Teaching From Space Office. Opportunities range from capturing images of Earth by remotely programming a camera aboard the International Space Station to launching an experiment on a NASA weather balloon. Teaching From Space even can put you in touch with astronauts aboard the International Space Station to answer questions related to your classroom studies.

The new site also features a section devoted to women and female students who serve as role models for future generations. Celebrate Women's History Month by reading about some of the women at NASA and the paths they followed to achieve their goals.

In addition to hands-on activities, the website features electronic resources designed with busy educators in mind. Quickly and easily find everything needed, from short video clips to lesson plans, to infuse your classroom with NASA-unique content.

To find available opportunities and to learn more about Teaching From Space, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/educations/tfs>.

### Find Creative Ways of Using Science News

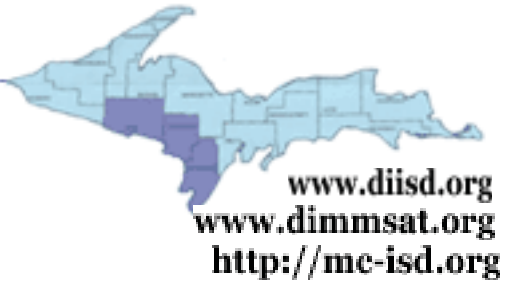
Science News for Kids is a Web-based interactive site devoted to science news for children aged 9-14. The site features an Article Archive with information that resembles offerings in the Web-based informational reading systems; however, the archive sits alongside a menu of more interactive selections that actively engage students with science content. For example, in the GameZone, students can play various games, such as Slime Volleyball and Traffic Jam. In LabZone, they can follow directions to conduct experiments, such as measuring the effect of temperature on the rate of a chemical reactions (using Alka-Seltzer) or investigating what happened to layers of water with different densities. In SciFairZone, they can find tips for creating successful science fair projects and examples of winning entries. Elsewhere, students can post questions about science news topics and interact with others. The **TeacherZone** features instructional supports, including an annotated list of science Websites to explore as well as question sheets intended to spark students' thinking before, during and after reading articles in the archive. SciFiZone offers suggestions for how and why to integrate science fiction into science lessons. Please visit: <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/>.

### Science Homework Help

Motivate your students to explore the sciences by providing the help he/she needs with science homework. Encourage parents to visit: <http://www.education.com/topic/science-homework-help/> and browse resources on getting involved with your child's science homework using activities to develop his/her scientific knowledge and understanding. Featured articles include:

- \* Helping Your Child Learn Science: the Basics
- \* Helping Your Child Learn Science: Developing Your Child's Scientific Understanding
- \* Helping Your Child Learn Science - Activities: Introduction
- \* Helping Your child Learn Science: Resource List
- \* Helping Your Child Learn Science - Activities: Science in the Community
- \* Developing a Love for Science: Parents Make the Difference
- \* What Makes a Good Science Fair Project?

# DICKINSON IRON MENOMINEE



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## Dates to Remember

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Field Service/MDE Spring Training.....                 | April 21 |
| H.S. Priority Expectations - Menominee County ISD..... | April 27 |
| H.S. Priority Expectations - Dickinson-Iron ISD.....   | April 28 |
| Foreign Language PLC.....                              | April 28 |
| Literacy Council.....                                  | April 29 |
| Regional Science Fair.....                             | April 30 |
| Project Wild Training.....                             | May 5    |
| Mind Trekker at Bay West.....                          | May 6    |
| Trig STAR Competition.....                             | May 7    |
| Algebra 4 All.....                                     | May 13   |
| Power Walk Through/Administrators.....                 | May 24   |
| MMPI for 5th - 8th Grade Math Teachers.....            | June 27  |

**Keep checking for more Summer Professional Development  
on the DIISD website.**