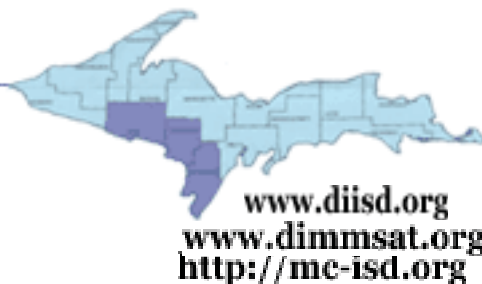


DICKINSON IRON MENOMINEE



Educational News & Upcoming Events

Volume 8 Issue 1
October 2008

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Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math/Science Center part of \$800,000 Grant

Four Math/Science Centers in the Upper Peninsula have received a Federal 2005-2006 Title II Part B Mathematics & Science Partnership Competitive Grant Program, titled "Greater Proficiency in Science". It will involve 3rd through 7th grade teachers of science in an intense and sustained professional development program. The Centers participating in the grant are the Glenn T. Seaborg, Northwoods Math Science Center serving the Delta Schoolcraft area, Eastern UP Math Science Center, and the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science and Technology Center. The total grant budget for the two year period is \$858,994. Dee Benjamin, Director of the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center will serve as overall Project Director.

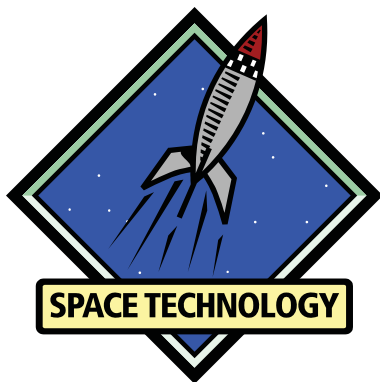
The purpose of this program is to improved student achievement in science. This model will address the critical need for teachers to have time to work in collaboration, to focus on data-identified content needs in science and to examine instructional practices. The professional development will include the lesson study process as well as content specific workshops, university courses and summer institutes. The workshops will be conducted during the school year and university institutes will be held during the summer Lake Superior State University and Northern Michigan University. The integration of technology to increase student motivation and learning is imbedded throughout the project. **Teacher applications are available through your Principal. Applications can be e-mailed or faxed to Dee Benjamin. Fax number is 906-779-2609. E-mail is dbenjamin@diisd.org.**

Deadline for applications is Friday, October 30th. 1st day of training is November 11th.

Dee Benjamin

High School Student Programs

Rocketry Program



The Kingsford High School High Power Rocketry Program is an after school learning experience. Young men and women have designed, built and launched high power rockets, containing complex electronic payloads. It is a uniquely inclusive program where students

of all ability levels are exposed to engineering, computer design, electronics, aerospace, amateur radio, and web page construction. Students are encouraged to ask the right questions and come up with their own solutions.

Bill Bertoldi, 1980 graduate of MTU, and has been the advisor since the program started. Support for the program has come from MUT and the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math Science Center. Kingsford's High Powered Rocketry Program started in 1997 with eight students, one rocket and payload. In recent years, students of the program have approached fifty. Each time I attend a launch with our students, I see the same reactions, said Bertoldi. There is always the look of pride and big smiles on their faces, with some nervousness as they take their rocket to the pad. The rocket goes up and there is complete silence as the rocket reaches apogee and arcs downward. The chute opens and students will scream, jump up and down, or sigh with relief that the chute opened. As a teacher knowing all the hard work and learning that has happened, it does not get better than this.

Student surveys have shown that the majority of students in Kingsford's Rocketry Program go into science, math and engineering programs when they go to college. They do engineering in the program and often do not realize it. Many students have made statements that the rocket program helped them to focus in on science, math and engineering.

Other schools wishing to start a Rocketry program can contact Bill Bertoldi at Kingsford High School or e-mail wbertoldi@kingsford.org.

VEX Robotics Club

The Dickinson-Iron Technical Education Center of Kingsford, MI hosts an extracurricular after school robotics club, called the DITEC_A.R.M.E. (Automation, Robotics, Mechanics, and Electronics). The Robotics Club is open to all high school students attending the high schools supported by the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District (DIISD), which includes six schools in Michigan and three bordering schools in Wisconsin. The club has participated in the FIRST VEX CHALLENGE for the past two years and this year is planning on competing in the INNOVATIONS FIRST INC, VEX ROBOTICS COMPETITION in Appleton, WI.

The Robotics system being utilized is the IF I VEX Robotics System, consisting of a micro processor, metal pieces, motors, servos, and several sensors. The club receives the challenge in mid-September, and members are then tasked with designing and building a robot that is capable of completing the challenge.

Club membership currently includes 15 students from 9 – 12th grade, from three area high schools. The group normally meets every other Saturday morning for four hours and is mentored by Mr. David Lies, and Mr. Randy VanDenHeuvel- Electronics/Robotics Instructor at the DIISD Technical Education Center. This year they plan on bringing three 4 person robotic teams to the competition. The club is sponsored by the Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math-Science and Technology Department, the Iron Mountain Rotary Club, Northern Star Industries Inc. of Iron Mountain, Cousins Subs of Iron Mountain, and the Dickinson-Iron Technical Education Center. For additional information regarding the VEX

ROBOTIC CHALLENGE go to Innovations First Inc at <http://www.vexrobotics.com> or [hppt://www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org).



Other districts wishing to submit articles about after school programs should e-mail mwelcher@diisd.org

Free Opportunities & Resources

Secondary Credit Assessment Test Update

The Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) has produced the Secondary Credit Assessment (SCA) test for Biology. It was placed onto OEAA's secure website last May. They are preparing the SCA Chemistry test and plan to post it to OEAA's secure website this coming May. Next summer they plan to begin preparation of the SCA Physics test and possibly the Earth Science test. It is possible that the Earth Science test preparation may not begin until the summer of 2010. As such, the Physics test will be ready May of 2010 and the Earth Science test will be ready May, 2011, or maybe as early as 2010.

Mini Grants for Educators 2009 from DTE

The DTE Energy Foundation is accepting applications for its Energy & Our World Mini Grants for Educators program. The program has awarded nearly \$800,000 since 1990 to teachers statewide to fund science projects that encourage students' curiosity and excitement about energy. The DTE Energy Foundation supports projects that help children maintain their curiosity and excitement about math and science, energy and the environment - so that they will succeed in an increasing technical and competitive business world. For more information and to apply for an Energy & our World Mini Grant, go to: <http://www.dteenergy.com/minigrants> or contact Carol Moore at 313-235-7012 or morec@dteenergy.com. **All applications must be postmarked by Friday November 28.** Grants will be awarded first quarter 2009.



Tools and Resources

Free ACT Prep:

<http://www.mivhs.org/content.cfm?id=667>

High School Science Expectations:

<http://mi.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-42814--,00.html>

K-7 Science Content Expectations:

http://mi.gov/documents/mde/Complete_Science_GLCE_12-12-07_218314_7.pdf

Resource Room

Reminder that the Menominee County ISD host many resources in their Resource Room. Please contact the Menominee County ISD for a complete listing of materials.

The Dickinson-Iron-Menominee Math/Science Center also has a Resource Room. Materials are listed on our website at www.diisd.org or stop in at the DIISD Administration Building, 1074 Pyle Drive in Kingsford.



Professional Development

Instruction In Inquiry (I³)

(Title for HS MASS - III)

PD for High School Math and Science Teachers

Michigan Math Science Network has received a \$1 Million grant to deliver state wide professional development for High School Math and Science teachers. The focus of the PD will be "Instruction In Inquiry" and the grant is entitled I³. The goal is for teachers to develop a deep understanding of inquiry and how it looks in the classroom, to be able to identify key elements of an inquiry based approach to teaching, and incorporate these into their own classes. Local teachers, Jen Toivonen, Science Teacher for Forest Park High School and Doug Quaak, Mathematics Teacher for Menominee High School have attended the Trainer of Trainers workshops and will be facilitating the local workshops. The grant will cover the cost of substitutes, mileage, books and materials. Teachers have the option of completing a Survey of Enacted Curriculum to see how what they teach (content and time spent on a topic) compares to the recommended curriculum. Teachers must register and complete all work in order to be eligible for the additional stipends.

Workshops Dates:

Instruction In Inquiry (I³) Science:

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 and
Tuesday, January 13, 2009

Instruction In Inquiry (I³) Math:

Wednesday, December 17, 2008 and
Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Foreign Language

Foreign Language Workshop

When: Friday, February 27, 2009

Where: Large Conference Room

DIISD Admin Building
1074 Pyle Drive, Kingsford

Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Subs will be covered.

4.....

Astronomy 4th & 5th Grade

Presenter: Milt Wirth

When: November 24, 2008
December 18, 2008

Where: Conference Room E
Technical Education Center
300 North Blvd, Kingsford

Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Addresses the Earth Science standards for 4th & 5th grades in astronomy. Teachers will also receive training on the use of the StarLab Planetarium.

Reading First - Teacher Reading Academy

Designed for **Kindergarten** teachers, and Special Education teachers, Title I teachers, and Educational Assistants working with this level.

When: Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Where: Conference Room E
Technical Education Center
300 North Blvd, Kingsford

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Teachers are asked to bring supplies such as scissors, glue, ruler, markers, etc.

Poster board, bags, baggies will be provided for their use.

Reading First - Teacher Reading Academy

Designed for **Second Grade** teachers and Special Education teachers, Title I teachers, and Educational Assistants working with this level.

When: Monday, January 26, 2009

Where: Conference Room E
Technical Education Center
300 North Blvd, Kingsford

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Teachers are asked to bring supplies such as scissors, glue, ruler, markers, etc.

Poster board, bags, baggies will be provided for their use.

Upcoming Professional Development



Health & P.E.

Michigan Health Model
Grades K-2

Presenter: Charlie Yeager
When: Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Where: Large Conference Room
DIISD Admin Building
1074 Pyle Drive, Kingsford
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Reimbursement for subs, lunch and materials will be provided

Michigan Health Model
Grades 3 - 5

When: Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Where: Large Conference Room
DIISD Admin Building
1074 Pyle Drive, Kingsford
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Reimbursement for Subs, lunch and materials will be provided.

English/Language Arts

ELA "Lift Up Through Literacy"
High School

When: Thursday, November 13, 2008
Where: Large Conference Room
DIISD Admin Building
1074 Pyle Drive, Kingsford
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Please bring your Novel unit you are currently working on.

ELA Group Balanced Assessment
High School

When: Friday, February 6, 2009
Where: Conference Room E
Technical Education Center
300 North Blvd., Kingsford
Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

State Board Update New Goals - Re-Imaging education

The Michigan State Board of Education adopted as one of the four 2008-09 Goals and Priorities for itself and the Department of Education “Re-imagining the pre-K–12 Educational System.” This means looking into what innovations and re-designing of Michigan’s K-12 education system need to be implemented to serve our students best in the this 21st Century. The State Board’s other three goals continue to be: Review and Improve Michigan’s teacher preparation system; Continue to advocate and promote high school reform; and Implement the “darkening the dotted lines” partnership between the MDE and the Intermediate School Districts (ISD’s). Steps needed to achieve the re-imagining goal will include public forums and input over the next year and working with the Midwest Regional Education Laboratory on a variety of research projects. The results of these initiatives are expected to be policy recommendations to the board by the end of the next school year. You can view the State Board of Education’s Goals and Priorities at the State Board’s website: [2008-2009 MDE/SBE Strategic Plan, Strategic Goal, and Priorities](#).

Michigan Merit Curriculum Resources

Since the passage of the new state high school graduation requirements commonly referred to as the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has worked with hundreds of educators and representatives from professional organizations and higher education to develop documents and materials that outline what students should know and be able to do in required courses/credits during their high school experience. Many of these resources are housed on the Michigan Department of Education’s High School website, which contains important information on Michigan’s graduation requirements and continues to support statewide professional development by providing access to documents, professional development modules, toolkit resources, Frequently Asked Questions and companion documents as they are developed and updated. Don’t be left in the dark, check it out at www.mi.gov/highschool.

MI Learning

MI Learning on iTunes U is a gateway to educational audio, video, and pdf files submitted by organizations and individuals throughout Michigan. These resources can be accessed by computer, iPod, MP3 player, handheld, and more – offering great learning opportunities for educators, students, and community!

MI Learning on iTunes U
www.macul.org link to MI Learning

Phase 2 of development for the creation and posting of curriculum resources in specific subject areas has started. Educators who are creating audio/video lessons in a particular curriculum area based on Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks are encouraged to share on MI Learning! Access participation information at the above link. Watch for funding news for course content development at www.macul.org.

PODCASTS

Podcasting is becoming increasingly popular in education. It can be a tool for teachers or administrators to communicate curriculum, assignments and other information with parents and the community. This creative tool for delivering content in the classrooms is one of the many ways teaching is evolving in the 21st Century. Did you know that the Department of Education has been using podcasts as an avenue for getting essential information out to the education field too? For over a year now, MDE has been sending out regularly recorded messages from Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mike Flanagan on a variety of educational topics and department updates. Previously podcasts include Re-imagining Education; Career and Technology Education; Education Budget; School Consolidation, and much more. You can access Mike’s podcasts at the MDE website: www.michigan.gov/mde, click on the Orange right hand navigation button titled ‘Superintendent’s Podcast’. Superintendent Flanagan’s podcast is available on iTunes. To subscribe, go to the iTunes Store and search for Mike Flanagan. RSS feeds are also available for subscriptions to RSS readers and supported browsers.

"Money Math" and "The Challenge"

Money Math is a four-lesson, 86-page curriculum that is written to national math standards and has been used by teachers across the country for years. The second edition improves upon the first by incorporating feedback from teachers who have used it in the classroom. Money Math uses real-life personal finance examples to each middle school mathematics concepts. The curriculum is free of charge via mail and available on the Internet to download. The goal of Money Math is to improve the personal financial literacy of middle school student through the integration of personal finance topics into the core subject of mathematics. To find out more information about Money Math please visit <http://www.treasury.gov/offices/domestic-finance/financial-institution/fin-education/council/lessonsforlife.shtml>.

National Financial Literacy Challenge. "The Challenge" is a contest for high school students. Based on national personal finance education standards, this 35-question online test is designed to build excitement among students and teachers and widen the base of support for financial education in U.S. high schools. Students with scores in the top 25th percentile of all scores will be recognized with Certificates of Recognition. Students who score exceptionally well will also qualify for an additional award. To find out more information about the Challenge please visit www.flc.treas.gov.

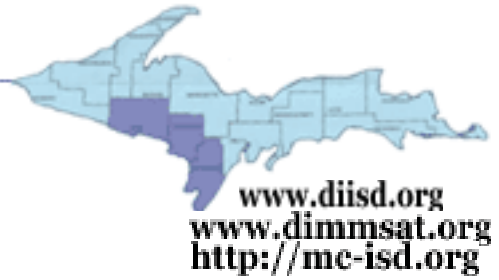
Rural Teacher Education Scholarships

WGU Scholarships for Rural Mathematics and Science Educators Western Governors University is pleased to offer the WGU Scholarships for Rural Mathematics and Science Educators. These scholarships, valued at up to \$7,500, are designed to help working adults attend college online to become highly-qualified mathematics and science teachers in America's rural schools. They are made available through a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Who Should Apply? Individuals living in a rural community who want to become mathematics or science teachers. **Current teachers who live and teach in rural areas and want to earn a master's degree in mathematics or science education are also eligible.** For more information please check: http://www.wgu.edu/tuition_financial_aid/rural_overview.asp.



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Dates to Remember

ELA "Lift Up Through Literacy" High School	Thursday, November 13, 2008
Astronomy 4th & 5th Grade Teachers	Monday, November 24, 2008
Reading First - Teacher Reading Academy (Kindergarten).....	Tuesday, December 2, 2008
Instruction In Inquiry (I ³) (HS MASS - Science).....	Tuesday, December 16, 2008
Instruction In Inquiry (I ³) (HS MASS - Math).....	Wednesday, December 17, 2008
Astronomy 4th & 5th Grade Teachers	Thursday, December 18, 2008
Instruction In Inquiry (I ³) (HS MASS - Science).....	Tuesday, January 13, 2009
Instruction In Inquiry (I ³) (HS MASS - Math).....	Wednesday, January 14, 2009
Reading First - Teacher Reading Academy (2nd Grade).....	Monday, January 26, 2009
Michigan Health Model Grades K-2.....	Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Michigan Health Model Grades 3 - 5.....	Wednesday, February 4, 2009
ELA Group Balanced Assessment High School.....	Friday, February 6, 2009
Foreign Language Workshop.....	Friday, February 27, 2009
