

Library of Michigan Included on Best-of-List

The Library of Michigan's joint project with the Archives of Michigan made the "**101 Best Websites 2010: Eastern US Resources**", according to Family Tree Magazine. Their genealogy web resource, "**Seeking Michigan**" at www.seekingmichigan.org was recognized for the abundant recourses available to help users find ancestor's in the Eastern United States.

[Family Tree Magazine](#) is a warehouse of tip and tools for people to trace and research their families ancestories. They had this to say about the "**Seeking Michigan**" website:

"You'll be drawn here by the nearly 1 million digitized Michigan death certificates (1897 to 1920). But don't overlook the collections of Civil War photographs and records, WPA property inventories, oral histories, maps and more."

Congratulations to the Library of Michigan, and Archives of Michigan on this distinguished and deserved honor!

Education Jobs Fund Grants

The Ed Jobs Fund is a new federal program that provides more than \$317 million in assistance to Michigan to save or create education jobs for the 2010-2011 school year. The legislature has appropriated a portion (\$68.9 million) of that amount to be distributed to eligible local school districts, public school academies, and intermediate school districts.

Jobs funded under this program include those that provide educational and related services for early childhood, elementary, and secondary education. In order to receive these funds, two actions must be completed in the Michigan Electronic Grant System (MEGS). Grant approvals will be processed when these actions have been completed.

Additional information on the Ed Jobs Fund can be found on the Michigan Department of Education website under Grants or by contacting Alyssa Sagolla at 517-335-9618 or sagollaa@michigan.gov.



\$1000 Teacher Grants

The **Michigan Section of the American Water Works Association** and the **Michigan Water Environment Association Youth Education Committee** have announced grant funds, opportunities and resources available to Michigan educators.

Could you:

- Use \$1000 to fund a unit about water in your classroom?
- Do you know a student that is working on a science project related to water?
- Are you looking for information on promising career opportunities for your students?
- Are you interested in activities, hand outs, or videos about water?

All of these are available from the **Michigan Section of the American Water Works Association** and **Michigan Water Environment Association Youth Education Committee**.

What do they have to offer?

- \$1000 Teacher Grants
- Two grants are awarded each spring to support the implementation of water related studies – the money is available before the start of the next school year;
- The funds can be used to purchase items such as groundwater models, water quality sampling kits, nets, waders, microscopes, and more...
- SIMPLE, ONE-PAGE application!

All of this (and more) can be found at www.mi-water.org or www.mi-wea.org.



Sites Needed to Provide Important Afterschool Meals For Kids



The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is looking for community sponsors to run afterschool snack and supper programs for at-risk children. This federal program provides free meals to students while they are engaged in positive afterschool programs.

Research has demonstrated the positive relationship between good nutrition and academic achievement. MDE's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) offers an Afterschool Snack and Supper Program in At-Risk Areas that can improve the quality of nutrition for eligible students. The CACFP provides a cash reimbursement for snacks and suppers served to children while in an afterschool program. Reimbursement is for school-age children who are 18

years of age or under at the beginning of the school year.

Eligible sites must:

- Be located in an attendance area of a school where 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for free and reduced price meals;
- Offer educational or enrichment activities, after the regular school day ends or on weekends, during the times of the year school is in session;
- Meet licensing, health or safety codes required by state or local law; and
- Serve meals that meet USDA meal pattern requirements.
- Many students go home to an empty cupboard and absent parents. Their food needs are great but the resources are minimal or non-existent. The CACFP Afterschool Snack and Supper Program in At-Risk Areas could be a stop-gap measure. What child wouldn't want something to eat immediately after the school day? Students who participate in the CACFP Afterschool Snack and Supper Program in At-Risk Areas receive healthy snacks and/or balanced suppers.

Interested groups and organizations can contact the CACFP staff at (517) 373-7391 for further information. To preview a sample CACFP application, go to www.michigan.gov/meis. Scroll down to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) and click on the Child Nutrition Application Program (CNAP). To login, use **systems** and use **samplesa** as the password. The sample application is in "read only" format.

IEP Development Process Resources

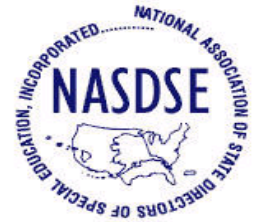
The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) has posted the new state model Individualized Education Program (IEP) Addendum form. The IEP Addendum is to be used when the district and parent agree to minor adjustments to the student's IEP that do not require a new IEP team meeting.

The state model IEP Addendum form is part of a series of documents, podcasts, and other training resources being provided by the OSE-EIS to implement requirements and practices that are compliant AND focused on results for students.

In addition to the new IEP Addendum form, changes have been made to the previously posted state model IEP form and the IEP Quick Reference Guides for the 2010-2011 school year. These changes to the forms and guides reflect feedback from stakeholders and improve clarity and compliance with the IEP development process.

The IEP Development Process materials can be accessed by visiting the OSE-EIS website at www.michigan.gov/ose-eis. Updates regarding new materials and products will be provided via email. Documents will be revised periodically and the most current materials and products will be available on the OSE-EIS website.

2010-11 NASDSE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES



The [National Association of State Directors of Special Education](#) (NASDSE) will hold a four-part Professional Development Series in 2010-11 featuring information on high-interest topics from nationally recognized experts.

The Center for Educational Networking, a mandated activities initiative of the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services, has purchased the rights to bring this series to Michigan.

School personnel at the intermediate, local, and public school academy levels, as well as parents, and organizations, can view the series during the 2010-11 school year via satellite or streaming media at no cost.

2010-11 Conference Schedule:

Using Technology to Support Teaching and Learning: Available Online Beginning **Wednesday, December 8, 2010** After 1 p.m. ET

Special Education Teacher Evaluation: Issues and Answers: Available Online Beginning **Wednesday, January 12, 2011** After 1 p.m. ET

Common Core Standards: What They Mean for States and Schools: Available Online Beginning **Wednesday, March 16, 2011** After 1 p.m. ET

Virtual Special Education: Issues and Answers: Available Online Beginning **Wednesday, May 4, 2011** After 1 p.m. ET

All access information, including satellite coordinates and login information for the web version, will be provided to CEN by NASDSE approximately two weeks before each conference. To receive access to the conference series you must complete the online request form.

For more details on each topic, including presenters, please download the [series brochure](#). Conference participants can earn SB-CEUs for participating in the conference series. For additional information regarding SB-CEUs, please contact your local SB-CEU Coordinator.

[2010-11 NASDSE Professional Development Series Online Request Form](#)

STRIVING READERS COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY PROGRAM: THE MICHIGAN LITERACY PLAN

The Michigan Literacy Plan (MiLitPlan) will serve as the statewide literacy plan for the Striving Readers federal Comprehensive Literacy Grants program. The overall goal of the MiLitPlan is to create a coordinated, comprehensive state resource and infrastructure to increase and sustain high literacy achievement for all Michiganders cradle through career. The MiLitPlan is to be implemented and sustained through a virtual MiLit Network, coordination with other statewide initiatives, and the creation of state regional MiLit Teams. For more information contact Ruth Isaia, English Language Arts Consultant, 517-373-2590.



MiBLSi Model

Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi) is funded by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). In spring 2003, Macomb ISD, Ottawa Area ISD, and Kalamazoo RESA were chosen to create MiBLSi under the direction of the Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services.

MiBLSi is a school improvement model consistent with Michigan's School Improvement Framework and developed from the scientific research base of Applied Behavior Analysis, the findings of the National Reading Panel report, and the National Research Council.

"In a Response to Intervention (RtI) model, all students are screened and monitored for specific educational outcomes and those needing additional assistance are given targeted intervention that is monitored systematically using scientifically based data recording procedures" (Brown-Chidsey & Steege, 2005). As an RtI model, MiBLSi supports schoolwide implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) and reading intervention. Schoolbased leadership teams utilize a data-driven, problem-solving process to help all students become better readers with appropriate social skills.

MiBLSi facilitates regional collaboration between ISDs and LEAs to build local capacity; providing ongoing support, training, coaching, and technical assistance. This collaboration sustains schoolwide support systems and improves student outcomes.

- *Helps students become better readers with social skills necessary for success*
- *Helps schools develop schoolwide support systems in reading and behavior*
- *Combines the best of scientifically based practices in literacy and behavior interventions*

To learn more about MiBLSi, please visit their website at <http://miblsi.cenmi.org>.

FULBRIGHT-HAYES SEMINARS ABROAD

The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program provides opportunities for overseas experience. The program is open to educators and administrators with responsibilities for curriculum development in fields related to humanities, languages, and area studies.



Topics and host countries of the seminars vary from year to year. All seminars are in non-western European countries. Seminars are designed to provide a broad and introductory cultural orientation to a particular country (ies). The program is geared towards those educators with little or no experience in the host country (ies) who demonstrate the need to develop and enhance their curriculum through short-term study and travel abroad.

There are ten seminars being offered for Summer 2011 with 14-16 positions per seminar, subject to the availability of funds. Country seminars to be offered in 2011 include:

Elementary Seminars: Argentina; India; Turkey & Greece

Secondary Seminars: China – History & Culture; Mexico; Thailand & Vietnam

For more information, please see the Web site at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap>.

Michigan's Integrated Technology Supports

A member of The Alliance for Technology Access, [Michigan's Integrated Technology Supports](#) (MITS) is a Michigan's Integrated Improvement Initiative (MI3) funded under IDEA mandated activities funds through the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services. The overall purpose of Michigan's Integrated Technology Supports is to:

- Provide information services
- Support materials
- Technical assistance
- Training to local and intermediate school districts in Michigan in order to increase the capacity to address the needs of students with disabilities for assistive technology.

MITS provides many services that could be helpful to educators and their students. In addition, MITS has an extensive list of technological equipment for students with a visual impairment and students who are deaf or hard of hearing for short term loan. [Click here to view the lending library.](#)

MITS may be contacted at: (517) 908-3930, (517) 853-1904 (TTY), or E-Mail: mits.email@gmail.com.



2010-11 Michigan Teacher of the Year



Matinga Ragatz was named 2010-2011 Michigan Teacher of the Year (MTOY) this past spring during a visit from state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan and State Board of Education Secretary Carolyn Curtin. Ragatz, a teacher at Grand Ledge High School with 20 years of classroom experience, 17 of those years at Grand Ledge, was selected from 20 regional semifinalists statewide.

As MTOY, Matinga will serve as an ambassador for all Michigan teachers and for the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) calling positive attention to education as an honorable profession, urging students and others to consider teaching as their chosen profession. The MTOY works to elevate the teaching profession and serves as an ambassador for the MTOY's own district.

The MTOY program provides a great opportunity for an outstanding teacher to lead and serve, to learn and grow. The program is sponsored by: the MDE, the State Board of Education, MEEMIC Insurance Company, the Council of Chief State School Officers, and ING Foundation.

The other educators selected as state-level finalists for the Michigan Teacher of the Year Award are:

- o Mr. Jaime Dudash, Social Studies Teacher, Dexter High School
- o Mr. David Legg, Language Arts/Broadcasting Teacher, Novi High School

MDE would like to Congratulate Matinga Ragatz for this distinguished honor, and look forward to her great work in the year to come. For additional information on the Michigan Teacher of the Year program, access www.michigan.gov/mtoy.

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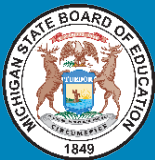
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www.michigan.gov/mde-newsletter

ON THE HORIZON...

- Near Future

[Annual Support Staff Conf for Admin Professionals](#), Nov 18-19

[2010 Fall School Improvement Conference](#), Nov 29-30

[MEMSPA State Conference](#), December 1-3, 2010

[State Board of Education Meeting](#), December 7, 2010

- Distant Future

[State Board of Education Meeting](#), January 11, 2011

[2011 MSPRA Conference](#), January 25-26, 2011

[MI Collaborative Early Childhood Conf](#), January 26-28, 2011

[MASA MidWinter Conference](#), January, 26-28, 2011

[2011 MACUL Conference](#), March 16-18, 2011

[MiAEYC Conference](#), March 31-April 2, 2011

[Spring School Improvement Conference](#), April 14, 2011

[MSBO Annual Conference](#), April 26-28, 2011

[MI After-school Collaborative Summer Summit](#), May 13, 2011

[MASSP Summer Institute](#), June 27-29, 2011

