



---

# DICKINSON-IRON ISD NEWSLETTER

---



FEBRUARY 22, 2010

---

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

3	Henrion, Rich	18	Peterson, Marcia
4	Gerber, Sam	22	Carollo, Cheryl
7	Davis, Sharon	25	Thone, Sharon
10	Stachowicz, Keith	26	Welcher, Mary Ellen
14	Hruska, Theresa	28	Steele, Lisa
15	Dooley, Katie	28	Tapio, Denise

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3	Schwamlien, Pam	10	Hicks, Craig
4	Flesher, Lorna	21	Anderson, Jody
5	Berger, Kathy	21	Pfister, Diane
6	Beauchamp, Sheila	24	Henley, Nancy
9	Witter, Pamela	25	Mattson, Randall

## SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWS

■ The U.P. Special Education Conference will be held February 25-26, 2010 at NMU. On Wednesday, February 24, we will also have training on the new “Learning Disability Evaluation and Eligibility.”

■ Our MoCI Teachers and Tricia Meneguzzo attended an inservice training on “Sex Education for Teachers of Cognitively Impaired Students” presented by Charles Yeager from MARESA on February 5<sup>th</sup>. We may look at setting up a District Sex Ed Advisory Committee. The training was excellent and was something our teachers expressed a need for within our ISD.

■ Happy Valentine’s Day!

## TECHNICAL EDUCATION NEWS

■ The first semester is completed and was very successful. A very small percentage of our students received failing grades or incompletes. The vast majority worked hard, are learning valuable skills and preparing themselves for the world of work or post-secondary education.

■ Elaine has been working with our staff to align our programs with NWTC. It looks as though most of our programs will qualify for articulation for our students. We are also renewing articulation agreements with Ferris and NMU.

■ Mr. VanDenHeuvel will be taking some of his senior students to the NWTC open house after school on February 18. We try to do as much as possible to promote a seamless transition to postsecondary whenever we can.

■ On February 22 the Tech Center will be hosting an in-service sponsored by NAPA which will be for area auto body shop owners and managers as well as Mr. Stachowicz, our Auto Body instructor. The purpose of this training will be to educate this group on the new requirements mandated by the EPA relative to Volatile Organic Compound Compliance (VOC). The industry is moving from oil based paint with a high concentration of VOC to water based paint with very low concentration of VOC.



## **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

■ Enrollment for the month of January was reported at 194 children in Head Start. We are maintaining a Head Start waiting list at the Willis Center and Iron River centers. We have 32 children enrolled in the Great Start Readiness Program. We continue to conduct recruitment activities for both Head Start and the Great Start Readiness programs. We will begin Early Head Start recruitment in February.

■ An Early Head Start Planning team has been meeting weekly to facilitate the process of working through the start up phase of the grant. Four members of the team, Casey, Maria, Linda and Jean are attending the Early Head Start Orientation Conference in Washington, D.C. during the week of February 1. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about Early Head Start.

■ The annual Head Start Self Assessment is underway. An opening meeting was held with the Policy Council on January 19. Content Area Coordinators are working with a Policy Council member to conduct an assessment of their own component as we prepare for our upcoming federal review. We expect to conduct a closing meeting of the Self Assessment at the February 16 Policy Council meeting. Results of the Self Assessment will be shared with the Board at a future meeting.

■ Transition/Curriculum committee meetings were held with Iron County and Dickinson County school districts in January and early February. These meetings assist with transition planning for children leaving Head Start and Great Start Readiness for a Kindergarten program. We have Kindergarten registration events planned with each school district in the coming months.

■ R&A Transportation recently had State of Michigan vehicle inspections for buses used to transport Early Childhood and Special Education children. Inspections went well.

## **GENERAL SERVICES**

■ On March 2, 2010 there will be an ITV broadcast presented by Thrun Law Firm on the Race to the Top Legislation here at the DIISD from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. There is limited seating.

■ We plan to conduct interviews for the Director of Special Education on March 4.

■ The MASB Annual Dinner Meeting is scheduled for February 24 at Pine Grove. Brad Banasik, MASB Legal Counsel, and Dr. Tom Smith will be the presenters for the evening. Officer elections are scheduled for the business portion of the evening.

■ Superintendent's Roundtable is scheduled for March 5 at Breitung Township Schools and the Business Consortium Advisory Group will be meeting prior to our March Board Meeting.

■ The School Development Committee met to review the 2007-2010 School Development Plan and we are starting the updating process to prepare a 2010-2013 School Development Plan that will be presented to the Board in August.

