



GENESEE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENESEE COUNTY'S REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

INNERVIEWS

InnerViews is published for the staff of GISD with additional distribution to community partners and friends.

GISD Reading Recovery Coordinators Meet with Congressman Kildee

GISD Reading Recovery Coordinators Beryl Smith and Joanne LeBlanc met with Congressman Dale Kildee in Washington DC during the recent North America Reading Recovery Leadership Academy. The



Reading Recovery Council of Michigan presented him with a plaque recognizing his commitment to literacy in Michigan. Congressman Kildee is a Senior Member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and was formerly a

teacher at Flint Central High School from 1956-1964. Pictured are GISD Reading Recovery Coordinators Beryl Smith (left) and Joanne LeBlanc (right) sharing local Reading Recovery children's letters written to Congressman Kildee.

GISD Board Receives MASB Awards

At the May 10, 2005 meeting, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education proudly accepted the following awards presented by the Michigan Association of School Boards:

- Honor Board Award
- Standard of Excellence Award
- Distinguished Achievement Award

The GISD Board of Education earned these awards for its participation in the MASB Certified Board Member Awards program and leadership at the local,

state and national levels. The GISD Board was honored as one of two boards of education in the state of Michigan to earn the Distinguished Achievement Award. This award was granted because each member has achieved the Master Board Member level by completing certification/award levels 1, 2 and 3, plus a total of nine 200-level CBA classes and a minimum of 368 education credits.

Congratulatory letters were also received from MASB indicating that the GISD Board is one of eighteen boards across the state to receive the Honor Board Award (each board member must reach level 1 certification) and one of nine boards to achieve the Standard of Excellence Award (each board member must reach level 2 certification).

President Paul Newman was also recognized for his contributions by receiving his Advocacy Skills Specialist certification. This certification is also held by **Treasurer Jerry Ragsdale**. Service, leadership, certification, classes, presentations and other board activities are criteria for this prestigious honor.

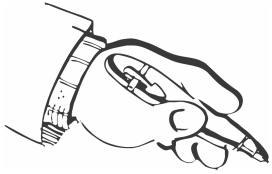
GISD End of the School Year Program 2004-2005

Please join the GISD staff to review highlights of the 2004-2005 school year at the End of the School Year Program scheduled for Friday, June 10, 2005, 12:00 Noon, at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center. Lunch will be served from 12:00-2:00 p.m., and casual attire is welcomed.

NOTE: Parking is not permitted along Maple Avenue or VanSlyke Road. Please park at the Carman-Ainsworth Junior High School, located just southeast of the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center property. Shuttle service will be available between the Carman-Ainsworth Junior High School and EKLC.

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Thanks for a Great Year!

On behalf of the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education, our students and our constituents, thank you for a great school year. As a total staff, we have been honored with several awards. We have received accolades for great services, and we have been recognized for excellence. Your outstanding work has once again maintained our reputation as a premier regional educational service agency.

Our work sends a strong message that education can indeed assist Michigan leaders in their attempts to remedy our State's economy. Education can provide a quality workforce, outstanding programs for our students and bring stability to our neighborhoods and communities. Michigan needs a strong public education system in order to turn our State's economy around.

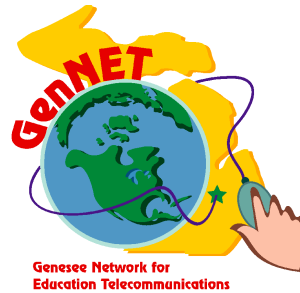
In return, the legislature needs to keep its promise to adequately fund public education. Schools cannot help children secure their futures if the legislature continues to break its promise to Michigan's education community. As we are currently structured, local citizens have lost the ability to effectively fund school districts. Now, it is the legislature's responsibility to fix this problem.

As a member of the educational community, you can join parents, and citizens in general, by planning to attend a rally in Lansing on June 21, 2005, to call for action from our legislators. We must fix Michigan's structural budget problems, fund education appropriately and do what is best for this State's students. Your department head, principal or union leader has information about the K-16 Coalition and this important rally. You can access their website at <http://www.michigank16.org/>. Please consider registering for the rally and get important information about the message we are sending on June 21. A few hours of your time with thousands of other citizens from across Michigan gathered together in Lansing will send a wake-up call to get our elected representatives moving in the right direction. On behalf of our students, I certainly appreciate your involvement in participating and spreading the word about this serious problem and the actions we are taking to reach a solution. June 21 will give us a great opportunity to talk to our elected officials and convince them to find a proper solution to the lack of funding for our schools.

Again, despite the tremendous challenges we are facing, I am hopeful that you will have a wonderful summer. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all GISD staff members who are celebrating family graduations, as well as their own. These events mark the beginning of new adventures and challenges. Again, as we look back over this year, I also want to thank each of you. Indeed, we have had an extremely successful year and we are ready for a great summer ahead.

Sincerely,

Tom



State of GISD Technology

The GenNET system is approaching its 10th Birthday. In preparation for the upcoming celebration, Beverly Knox-Pipes, assistant superintendent, Technology, recently presented a technology status report to the board highlighting GenNET programming. Over the last ten years, 385 miles of fiber optic cable have connected 179 K-12 school buildings in Genesee County. This powerful voice, video and data system was developed to serve GISD and its constituent districts. Beverly Knox-Pipes also reported that in 1998-99, 624 students enrolled in 61 sections of interactive television classes. Today, 731 students are enrolled in 68 class sections, including classes such as the Civil War, 1960's and the Vietnam War, Money and Banking and Criminal Justice. Beginning in 2001, 73 students enrolled in 45 online courses. Today 160 students are enrolled in 283 courses such as Civics, Creative Writing, U.S. History and Trigonometry. Since starting last year, 95 virtual conferences have been held, as well as 60 virtual field trips.

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INNERVIEWS

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The report also included information about the latest initiative: GenNET Pioneers, a staff development and training initiative to explore the ways that boundaries of student learning can be expanded. This initiative involves 120 Genesee County teachers. Participants in the program will pilot and demonstrate the expanded use of technology to support academic achievement. This initiative is consistent with the GISD Teaching, Learning & Service Plan which has been unanimously approved by the GenNET Governing Board. Also, this high tech staff development program focuses on the curriculum issues identified in the accountability study. Additional topics discussed included the technology audit, videos on demand and the use of Blackboard, which is communications software available to all educators in the county.

Genesee County MEAP Results

The GISD board received the 2004-05 MEAP results for Genesee County students at the May 24 meeting. Dr. Mary Lavengood and Dr. David Treder shared the following with the board:

- A summary of the scores
- The efforts taken by the Office of Education and Learning to assist local districts to improve their scores
- The disparity in the writing test scores
- An update on the status of the 2005-06 MEAP testing program

Dr. Treder also demonstrated the methods that he has provided for the districts to evaluate their results.

Board Adopts Resolution Seeking Changes to NCLB Act

The National School Boards Association requested that the Genesee Intermediate School District consider approval of a resolution supporting the National Education Association's public campaign seeking changes to the *No Child Left Behind Act*. The administration recommended the board adopt a resolution which supports the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Improvements Act of 2005* developed by the National School Boards Association. This act calls for the following changes/improvements: improving the accuracy by which NCLB defines adequate yearly progress (AYP); strengthening the alignment between the required sanctions (remedies) and the educational needs of the individual students; granting the Secre-

tary of Education greater flexibility to approve effective and innovative state accountability systems.

An approved exception to the existing 1% cap on students using alternate proficiency standards has been applied to Genesee Intermediate School District's AYP status for special education programs.

After review and consideration of the resolution at the May 10 meeting, the GISD board unanimously adopted the resolution.



GISD Supports Jim Lee Fine Arts Camp

For the past 16 summers, Mott Community College has conducted its Summer Fine Arts Camp on the MCC campus for approximately 200 Genesee County area students in seventh through ninth grades. Maintaining the district's practice established in 1991, the board authorized a \$500 contribution to the Mott Community College Jim Lee Fine Arts Camp.

PAC Members Appointed

At the May 24 meeting, the following nominees were presented for board approval for reappointment to the GISD Special Education Parent Advisory Committee: Kathy Pabst, representing Fenton Area Public Schools; and Cynthia Alvado, representing Grand Blanc Community Schools. The board approved the appointment of both nominees to the committee.

Ligon Unrestricted Funds Transferred to Community Foundation of Greater Flint

Since its inception in 1985, the Genesee County Educational Foundation (GCEF) has maintained its funds under the GISD accounting system. These funds included both unrestricted and restricted accounts. In order to help grow Foundation funds at a greater rate, the GCEF, at its meeting on May 16, approved moving \$10,500 of the Ligon unrestricted fund to the Community Foundation of Greater Flint (CFGF). This action would: make giving more appealing to prospective donors because of CFGF's name familiarity and

Continued on next page.

encourage new givers to contribute for long-term goals at GISD’s Ligon Outdoor Center; provide a more attractive depository for Foundation funds where interest earning potential is far greater; qualify donors to receive both a federal deduction *and* state tax credit for their gifts; enable GISD Communications and Development staff that support the GCEF to have access to CFGF promotional materials and participate in broader marketing/community foundation publicity efforts; reduce annual audit costs (charge would be ½% of year-end balance); and retain a balance beginning July 1, 2005 at GISD (inclusive of current encumbrances) of approximately \$7,500 for emergency or special project purposes.

At the May 24 meeting, the board approved the transfer of \$10,500 of the (Genesee County Educational Foundation) Ligon unrestricted fund to the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.

Ligon Lodge to be Repaired

On May 25, 2004, the board approved the long-range capital improvement plan for the district. Included in the plan was the need to replace exterior logs for the Ligon Lodge that have disintegrated over time because of moisture and dry rot. On August 24, 2004, the board received a donation of \$10,500 from Robert Ligon to be used toward the renovation of the lodge. Since that time, GISD has been working with representatives from a construction management firm to do an assessment of the facility, research the availability of replacement logs and determine the scope of the project. Staff from the firm developed drawings and specifications and have been in contact with the State of Michigan Plan Review and Building Inspection Division as it relates to designation of the lodge as an historical building and assuring that we are in compliance with the School Code for renovating the lodge.

Invitations to bid were advertised on the state web site and in the newspaper; and specifications were provided to 20 potential contractors, including log home builders, as well as contractors that the district has utilized in the past several years. Five contractors responded and indicated that they would bid on the project. Bids for the project were due on May 3, 2005 and are summarized as follows:

Company Name	Met Specs	Base Bid
RL White Development of Grand Blanc	Yes	\$24,120.00
Unity Construction of Burton	Yes	\$23,333.00

The Building & Grounds Committee met prior to the May 24 board meeting to review the drawings, the scope of the project and the bids. As a result, the Building & Grounds committee made a recommendation to award the project to Unity Construction of Burton in the amount of \$23,333.00. The bid does not include the cost of the logs, which have been purchased separately by the district from Heartwood Cedar Products of Boyne Falls in the amount of \$7,994.80. Delivery is expected by June 1. The construction management/daily supervision fee with the construction management firm is \$5,025.00 for a total construction cost, including the logs, of \$36,349.80. On May 17, 2005, the Genesee County Educational Foundation met and recommended that the foundation contribute \$10,000 toward the cost of the project. This \$10,000, along with the \$10,500 donated by Robert Ligon, will result in a net cost for the district of \$15,849.80.

At the May 24 meeting, the board voted to award the bid to Unity Construction of Burton for the Ligon Lodge renovations.

Reading Recovery Graduation

Between 1999 and 2005, ninety-six Reading Recovery teachers have been trained at the GISD training site. Graduation for the Reading Recovery Class of 2004-05 will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Davis Education Center. Congratulations and best wishes to the following graduates:

- Elaine Bandemer – Beverly Elementary
Birmingham Public Schools
- Lauren Boruta – Green Elementary
West Bloomfield School District
- Melissa Childs – Woodland Elementary
Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools
- Lisa Dugas – Dye Elementary
Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools
- Katherine Dunlap – Randels Elementary
Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools
- Rebecca Elsworth – Reid Elementary
Goodrich Area Schools
- David Korhonen – Bunche Elementary
Flint Community Schools
- Tammy Perez – Weston Elementary
Kearsley Community Schools
- Holly Selesky – Bunche Elementary
Flint Community Schools

Donations Accepted

On behalf of several GISD programs, the board accepted numerous donations from parents, grandparents, volunteers and community organizations. Donations included: cash from friends, families and the Knights of Columbus Council #6694, a wheelchair, diaper packs and a computer (total value \$927) for use at the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; 11 prom dresses, toys, games and clothing (total value \$835) for use at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; and a triplet stroller for use at Early Childhood Programs and Services (\$300 total value).

Upland Hills Farms Visits ECPS

Upland Hills Farms brought farm animals to Early Childhood Programs and Services (ECPS) located at Special Services-South on Thursday, April 28, 2005. All of GISD's in-center and out-center early childhood classrooms participated in this fun-filled activity. Each student was encouraged to touch all of the animals, and most did! There was a cow and calf, a goat and kid, a sheep and two lambs, two geese, two pig-



ECPS students pet lambs from Upland Hills Farms.

lets, a rooster, duck and a rabbit. Students chose their favorites, and all the children enjoyed a wonderful educational experience.

Annual ECPS Spring Raffle Thank You

GISD's Early Childhood Programs and Services would like to thank all GISD staff, parents and community members who helped support the Annual Spring Raffle, held on Friday, April 29, 2005 at Special Education Services Center-South. Donations of time, money and prizes are very much appreciated. Ticket sales exceeded last year's, and the proceeds will

be used for ECPS students to enjoy many fun-filled activities. Again, thank you to everyone for your efforts and support.

Free Family Fun Day!

"Summer Fun" will be held on Saturday, June 4, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at Crossroads Village, 6140 Bray Road, Flint. The event is sponsored by 4C Child Care Unlimited and cosponsored by The Flint Journal, Genesee County Parks and Recreation, Rotary Club of Greater Flint Sunrise and the Michigan Arts Council. Special attractions include "Clowning Around Town," Mother Goose in the Gazebo, and Julie Austin and David Mosher will be singing in the Opera House. Other activities include: magic painting, parachute play, bubble play, boardwalk drawing, tattoo drawing and making paper hats. This event is supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs through its Region 5 Regranting Agency, the Greater Flint Arts Council. Information: contact 4C Child Care Unlimited at (810) 232-0145.

K-12 Community Partnership Directory

The University of Michigan-Flint announces its new "K-12 Community Partnership Directory" that can be accessed at www.umflint.edu/k12. This directory is a resource for K-12 faculty, staff, students and parents to discover the programs offered by UM-Flint. These programs share a common interest in supporting the work of K-12 schools in our area with high-quality educational and social services opportunities. The directory contains the following information: summer or school-year enrichment programs for K-12 students; quality graduate programs to fulfill planned program requirements; convenient online professional development for teachers and administrators; grant partnerships with UM-Flint faculty and staff; Online technology training for use in the classroom; and MLPP training for graduate credit

Visit the website to see the opportunities that UM-Flint has for you and your family members.

UM-Flint Master of Public Administration Offered Online

The UM-Flint WebPlus Weekend/Online Program in Educational Administration is designed to provide a high-quality experience to full-time, working educators. A unique blend of face-to-face interaction and convenient online coursework provides teachers, administrators and aspiring administrators the tools and concepts necessary for successful administration and an informal perspective on the range of problems confronting K-12 education. Monthly Saturday visits to the Flint campus are combined with coursework that you can do from the convenience of your own computer connected to the Internet. In addition, a clinical experience is organized in your current school setting. After completion of the two-year, 39-credit hour program, students are awarded a Master of Public Administration from the University of Michigan's nationally recognized Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies. The MPA concentration in Educational Administration meets State of Michigan and ISLLC standards for school administrators.

Leaves of Absence Approved

Leaves of Absence were considered and approved for: Judith K. Purdy, Principal, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; Christine E. Ballinger, Paraprofessional, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; and Denise L. Witte, Transportation Aide, Transportation Services.

Resignation Accepted

Resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Maria E. Gonzalez, Coordinator, English as a Second Language; Education and Learning. Best wishes, Maria!

Crim Registration Forms Available June 1

The Crim Festival of Races will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2005. All GISD employees participating in a Crim race will receive a GISD Crim Team 2005 shirt, and GISD will pay one-half of the cost of one event for which you are registered. You are not

required to train or run as a team. Crim registration forms will be sent to all buildings/programs as soon as they are available. Applications will be posted at www.crim.org after June 1.

To obtain your GISD Crim Team 2005 shirt and reimbursement, you must submit a copy of your Crim event registration form and receipt to GISD's Communications and Development department. For more information call 591-4541.



Certification Achieved

Arvind Poobalan, MBA, PMP - Technology and Media Services' Application Developer Analyst, has earned Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from Project Management Institute (PMI). Arvind states, "This is one of the most significant achievements in my career. Worldwide, there are over 60,000 Project Management Professionals (PMPs®) who provide services in 120 countries, and I am proud to be one among them - 60,000 out of six billion is very significant."

Project Management Institute (PMI®) stands as a global leader in the field of project management. PMI certification involves a rigorous, examination-based process that represents the highest caliber in professional standards. Therefore, PMI's professional certification is universally accepted and recognized. The PMP designation following one's name demonstrates to employers and other stakeholders that an individual possesses a solid foundation of experience and education in project management. The PMP certification is the project management profession's most recognized and respected global credential. Congratulations, Arvind!

News from GISD Families

The Motyls

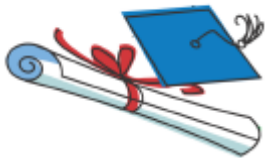
Michelle Motyl, EKLC-Project Choice teacher at Clio High School, her husband, David, and sons Christopher and Jeffrey recently returned from a nine-day family trip to Italy. The Motyls enjoyed the sights, wine, and food in Rome, Florence and Venice. Michelle had this to say about the trip, "new camera \$250, passports \$75.00, air fare (lots), the look on younger son Jeffrey's face as he was standing in front of a marble sculpture that he had numerous questions about on an art history final only two weeks prior to our trip: *priceless.*"

Continued on next page.

The Motyls' oldest son Christopher announced his engagement to Katy Frank, and everyone is looking forward to a June 2006 wedding. Christopher also received an invitation to attend MSU's Osteopathic School of Medicine. He will begin medical school this summer. His fiancé, Katy, will also be a Fall MSU graduate student pursuing an advance degree in physiology. She will work at MSU in a research lab and as a grad assistant in the biology department. Congratulations and best wishes, Katy and Christopher.

The Faris Family

Paula Meredith Faris, teacher at Early Childhood Programs and Services, would like to announce the graduation of her son, Justin, from Central Michigan University on May 7, 2005. In addition, her son, Ryan, was recently hired as a financial consultant with Smith Barney; and daughter, Tali, married Travis Hylen on September 24 at Boulder Pointe Country Club in Oxford, Michigan. Congratulations to all of the Faris children!



Congrats Graduates!

Roy Sovis, GISD Coordinator for Instruction, Social

Studies, and wife Pam would like to announce the graduation of their son, John, from the National Guard Basic Training last November. He graduated from Advanced Instructional Training in March and has recently volunteered to go to Iraq. Although it may be up to six months before he actually arrives in Iraq, he will start additional training this month in Grayling. **Many thanks to John for his dedication and commitment to serve and protect our country and those abroad.**

Kirstin, daughter of Milt and Linda Scheffler, (Physical Therapist, SESC-N), graduated with honors on April 30 from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. The proud parents state that Kirstin's studies are not over, however, as she has been accepted to Harvard Law School and will be moving to Boston this fall. She is a 2001 graduate and valedictorian of Linden High School. **Best wishes, Kirstin!**

Lauren Nicole, daughter of proud parents Tim and Cindy Miller (Speech-Language Pathologist, ECPS) will be graduating from Grand Blanc High School on June 8. She is graduating with high honors in the top twenty of her graduating class. Lauren will

be attending Grand Canyon University in Arizona this fall with a major in human biology/pre-med and a minor in Spanish. **Congratulations, Lauren!**

Kathy Bell, teacher at Early Childhood Programs and Services, is proud to announce the graduation of her son, Brennan Maxwell Bell (Max), on June 5th from Morrice High School. His plans include a year at Lansing Community College, and then he has hopes to join the Coast Guard. An open house is planned for July 10 at Elms Road Park in Swartz Creek from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. If your calendar is clear that day, please feel free to stop by and say hi. It would be great to see everyone. **Best wishes, Brennan!**



June Birthdays

2	Lori Lane	MCIC
2	Rachel Montague	Transportation
2	Gail Snider	MMC
3	Pamela Mills	EKLC
4	Jessica Fletcher	Transportation
4	Rebecca Kirby	MCIC
4	Teresa Skellenger	MCIC
5	Cheryl Martin	EKLC/CHOICE
6	Erin Boillat	Health
6	Deborah Morgan	EKLC
6	Cheryl Pfeiffer	Transportation
6	Theresa Southworth-Cockman	SESC
7	Kandy Griswold	SESC
7	Arvind Poobalan	TMS
8	John Rouse	Davis Ed. Cntr.
8	Bobby Tipton	TMS
9	Mary Kimack	Transportation
9	Judy Lemon	ECPS
9	Michelle Stafford	EKLC
10	Sara Sikes	EKLC
12	Diane Sparks	MCIC
13	Veronica Long	MCIC
18	Jane Walker	Transportation
20	Judy Green	EKLC
21	Terry Emmendorfer	Transportation
22	Carol Farver	Health
23	Marcia Pavkovich	SESC
24	Valerie Stein	TMS
25	Carla Harris	EKLC/CHOICE
27	Mary Pratt	SESC-N
27	Dale Spillers	Transportation
27	Chery Wagonlander	MMC
28	Laurie Baker	EKLC/CHOICE
28	Sharlene Weisenberger	Transportation
30	Diane Howard	Transportation

Continued on next page.

July Birthdays

1	Lynn Bengelink	EKLC
1	Susan Boegner	Transportation
1	Brenda Paulson	Transportation
1	Carol Rumminger	EKLC/CHOICE
1	Karen Seeley	EKLC
2	Heather Sandrik	MMC
4	Kasey Cronin	SESC
4	Gail Jahn	EKLC
4	Melva Kaiser	SESC
5	Paula Meredith-Faris	ECPS
5	Beverly Nelson	MCIC
5	Joan Olsen	EKLC/CHOICE

GISD Jobs

GISD's Human Resources and Operations department is accepting applications for the following positions:

Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment - EKLC
 Teachers of Students with Autism - EKLC
 Summer Program Assistant, EKLC & ECPS

Teachers of Students with Cognitive Impairment - ECPS
 Teacher - ECPS
 Principal, MCIC
 Systems Specialist - TMS
 PC Applications Assistant - TMS
 Manager, Interactive Media Operations - TMS
 Information and Application Systems Admin. - TMS
 Instructional Media & Technology Administrator - TMS
 Health Care Liaison (LPN License Required) - Lakeville
 Reading Recovery Teacher Leader Internship Program
 Coordinator, English as a Second Language

To apply, visit GISD's Human Resources and Operations department at 2413 West Maple Avenue in Flint, or you can now apply online by visiting www.geneseeisid.org. For more information, contact Cindy Workman at (810) 591-4404.

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