

December 2024

General Education Board Report

Instructional Services:

November was filled with a variety of work:

Coaching sessions were held in Saranac, Ionia, Portland, and Lakewood around topics such as: curriculum, math practices, classroom management, preparation for standardized tests, and behavioral issues. Model math lessons were requested, as well as support with students' challenging behaviors. Math interventions were discussed for support at Portland Saint Patrick School. Support with lesson planning continued at Coon School. Online training related to the science of reading progressed. Support and leadership in Responsibility Centered Discipline (Twin Rivers) continued. Meetings with Ionia's coaching staff, curriculum director, and building principals were held to plan ongoing work with teachers. Our department facilitated an asynchronous learning opportunity for our New Teacher Network, involving book studies ([Roadmap to Responsibility](#) and [The Joyful Teacher](#)). Attendance at the Educational Careers Advisory Board meeting helped to support the ICCC. And finally, virtual attendance continued with the newly formed Michigan Mentoring and Induction Network (MMTIN), whose goal is to share ideas across ISD/RESA/ESD/ESA.

Great Start Readiness Program:

Connect 4 Learning PLC: Staff participated in a C4L PLC “Power of Being Prepared: Time Management in C4L”. In this session staff engaged in time management activities and ideas to better navigate their C4L curriculum. Staff were provided with tips and tricks on how to fit it all in while ensuring that they are implementing the curriculum with fidelity and providing children with the best learning opportunities.

PreK for All: Our ISD was identified as one of the top enrollment areas in the State of Michigan. A Communication Strategist who is partnering with MiLEAP, reached out to learn more about our enrollment strategies and marketing ideas, as well as how we are communicating with families.

Great Start Collaborative:

The first Parent Workshop for the Great Start Collaborative was a success. We had over 20 parents and grandparents attend the workshop on parenting children with anxiety and ADHD. Special thanks to Julianne Klumpp from Ionia Community Library for organizing the story time activities for the children to participate in while their guardians attended the workshop.

For the holidays, our family coalition hosted a giving-back event at the open gym where families brought in nonperishable items to be donated to the food pantry last month. This month, they will be singing Christmas carols with their Grandfriends at Green Acres.

Happy Holidays from the Great Start Collaborative!