Annual Report 2000-2001

Community

Partners for Progress

Educators

CLINTON COUNTY RESA
Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency

Children

Learning for Life-Whatever it Takes

Annual Education Report

The 2000-2001 school year marked the first year of implementation of our strategic plan. We are proud of the accomplishments that we have made over the past year and will continue to ambitiously work toward our vision of **"Learning for Life—Whatever it Takes!"**

Our theme for this report is 'Partners for Progress'. To accomplish our vision, we must continuously strive to maintain and support our existing partnerships and develop others. This report is intended to provide information regarding achievements during the last school year and the role that our many valued partners play in the success of our organization. We hope that the information provided will be useful and informative. We appreciate the continued support of our local school districts and our community.

Lawrence D. Lloyd
Superintendent

CLINTON COUNTY RESA
Regional Educational Service Agency

Clinton County RESA Board of Education

Mission Statement

The mission of CCRESA is to lead and support the efforts of our local school districts in preparing lifelong learners who can function effectively in a diverse world. Through partnership with the local school districts, the community at large, and local and state agencies, we achieve this mission by:

Providing quality learning opportunities for all.

Providing innovative and responsive support services.

Clinton County RESA Board of Education: Pictured from left to right- Rick Fedewa (Trustee), Wilbur Weston (President), Glen Feldpausch (Trustee), Blaine Lentz (Trustee), Thomas White (Vice-President), Larry Lloyd (Superintendent).

Board of Education Meetings

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m

Serving Constituent Districts of:

Bath, DeWitt, Fowler, Ovid-Elsie, Pewamo-Westphalia, St. Johns

Clinton County Non-Public Schools:

Grove Christian School, Most Holy Trinity School, St. Joseph School, Pewamo, St. Joseph School, St. Johns, St. Mary's School, St. Peter Lutheran School, New Song Christian Academy, George Sumner Seventh Day Adventist School

CLINTON COUNTY RESA Regional Educational Service Agency

Marge Joslin Retires After 35 Years

Summarizing a thirty-five year career in education is a difficult task considering the vast experiences and people that one encounters along the way. As an educator Marge has served children and families in various capacities throughout mid-Michigan. For the past 18 years, Marge Joslin served as Clinton County RESA's Assistant Superintendent of Special Education.

Clinton County RESA honored Marge Joslin with an open house on May 22, 2001. Guests who attended the open house enjoyed refreshments, chatting with the guest of honor, and a pictorial montage highlighting her career. Marge also received a plaque honoring her years of service from Senator Garcia.

CCRESA Board President Wilbur Weston (right) presents Joe Arens with a plaque honoring him for his 18 years of service.

•CCRESA Bids Farewell to Joe Arens

After eighteen years of service, Joe Arens, CCRESA Board of Education Vice-President, retired at the conclusion of his 2001 term. In addition to this community service, Joe also served on the Board of Education at Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools for eight years.

Community

Career & Technical Education

In Clinton County, career focused education through **Career Connections** initiatives provide the foundation for successful transition from primary and secondary level education to post-secondary education, training, and employment. The key to the success of Career & Technical Education programming in this county is the overwhelming number of business partners who provide support for programs through donations of time, money and materials. Business and Education partnerships are key to **Career Connections** classes, the Interview Day Program, Job Shadowing Program, Speakers Bureau Program, Renaissance Program, Apprenticeship Program, and all areas of **Career Connections** programming.

Students in Computer Tech learn how to disassemble, reassemble, and repair computer equipment.

Blood typing is one of the many hands-on experiences students in Allied Health get to participate in.

Career Connections Courses

Four new countywide Career Connections courses were piloted in Fall, 2000. Program areas included: Agriscience, Allied Health, Computer Technician, and Criminal Justice. Sixty-five students were enrolled in the Fall; students in Allied Health, Computer Tech, and Criminal Justice received articulated credit to Lansing Community College (LCC) upon completion of their course. Two additional programs were developed in Auto and Construction Technology to be introduced in Fall, 2001.

Regional Career Pathways Programming

During the 2000-2001 school year, CCRESA, in conjunction with the six local school districts, participated in a regional (Clinton, Eaton, & Ingham counties), year-long series of Pathways workshops, in-services, seminars, and general programming. Instructors, counselors, administrators, students, board members, and business representatives were invited to participate in all activities. Ovid-Elsie received a Pathways grant in support of their local efforts, and the other five locals are developing teams and programming to further expand Career Pathways programming. One Career and Technical Education Strategic Plan goal is to have 10 classes established by the 2003-2004 school year.

2000-2001 Career Connections Program Facts

By Fall, 2001, CCRESA will have 6 **Career Connections** courses available to area students.

The second Strategic Plan goal is to have all local districts in one of three implementation phases (developmental, partial implementation, and full implementation) of Career Pathways programming by the 2001-02 school year. Plans were developed during the 2000-2001 school year to have all six districts receive local School Board adoption of Career Pathways by the end of the 2001-2002 school year.

In 2000-2001, Clinton County RESA obtained Tech Prep, Carl Perkins, and Career Prep Grants to support Career Connections programming. CCRESA also received state approval for the four courses offered during 2000-2001 as well as the two proposed for 2001-2002. Course approval will provide annual Added Cost funding beginning in 2001-2002.

2100 Clinton County High School students and 155 businesses participated in the Renaissance program.

9 Clinton County students obtained state-approved apprenticeships. All seniors, county wide, and 65 businesses participated in the annual Mock Interview Day Program.

Community

Educators

Professional Development

Increasing professional development options for CCRESA constituents continued to be a high priority during the 2000-2001 school year. Through the thoughtful planning of CCRESA's Curriculum Council and Math/Science Liaisons, professional development offerings tripled as compared to the previous academic year!

Michigan Literacy Progress Profile (MLPP)

TYPE	# TRAINED	LOCATION
MLPP Basic	36	CCRESA
MLPP Revision	21	CCRESA
MLPP Basic	39	Dewitt Public Schools
MLPP Admin.	15	CCRESA

Strategic Planning – "Growing" Forward

- As part of CCRESA's strategic planning process, the Office of Professional Development made a concentrated effort to increase its press coverage of all the exciting activities educators are participating in with CCRESA.
- Another component of the strategic plan involved conducting an internal staff survey to provide baseline data regarding communication and awareness of CCRESA sponsored activities, programs and services.
- Finally, professional development evaluations contain a question rating the quality of each activity offered—responses have been extremely positive!

CCRESA's 2000-2001 Public Awareness Display—"Watching Public Awareness Grow!"

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Bufford the Big Family Friendly Bus

CCRESA participates as a partner in the Building Stronger Communities Council of Clinton County (BSCC), which facilitates the exchange of information between human service providers, maximizes human and financial resources in the community, and minimizes the duplication of services.

The 0-5 Workgroup of the BSCC has spearheaded an initiative called "Bufford the Big Family Friendly Bus." Numerous agencies, including Mid-Michigan Community Health Department, Mental Health, Family Independence Agency, CCRESA, Family Resource Center, and HeadStart are collaborative partners in this project. Bufford is designed to bring developmental screening, immunizations, hearing and vision screening to children ages birth to five and their families. Thanks to the dedication of Dean Transportation, Inc. providing bus drivers, maintenance and repairs, and literacy contributions by Ovid-Elsie Area Schools, Bufford made its debut at the St. Johns Mint Festival in August 2001.

CHAMP and CHAMP Plus

CHAMP (Cooperative Highly Accelerated Mathematics Program) is an accelerated program that allows Clinton County middle and high school students to complete the traditional four-year high school mathematics program in two years. CHAMP Plus is a program offered to CHAMP graduates in 11th and 12th grades. CHAMP Plus offers problem-solving and math applications in Astronomy, Physics, and statistics.

CHAMP and CHAMP Plus students meet one afternoon per week and are instructed by professors on the campus of Michigan State University. Both programs are collaboratively supported by parents, local school districts, Clinton County RESA, Eaton ISD, Ingham ISD, The W.B. and Candace Thoman Foundation, The Dart Foundation, Capital Area Science and Math Center (CASM), and Michigan State University.

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Michigan-Shiga Student Exchange Program

Michigan Shiga is a student exchange program that is coordinated by Dr. John Chapman, International Education Specialist, from the Michigan Department of Education, with assistance from Linda Shepard, CCRESA.

The Michigan-Shiga student exchange program is a statewide program designed to promote friendship and understanding among Japanese and American high school students. Twenty high school students, grades 9-11, were chosen to represent the State of Michigan for this exchange program in July. During their two-week stay in Shiga, Japan, Michigan students stay with a Japanese student and family, attend school and participate in their daily lives. Japanese students arrived in September to Michigan for a reciprocal experience.

Cooperative Learning Series

K-12 educators participated in a 5-part series of workshops on cooperative learning. Pat Wilson O'Leary, Vicksburg Community Schools, led educators through the following topic areas:

- The differences between group work and cooperative learning
- Avoiding roadblocks which keep educators from using cooperative learning often and efficiently
- Knowledge of research supporting cooperative learning
- Techniques to implement in the classroom

Technology Showcase

On September 21, 2000, Clinton County RESA hosted the second annual technology fair at Ovid-Elsie High School, showcasing educational technology. Technology vendors were present to demonstrate current trends in technology related products and services for the classroom. An exciting addition to the showcase was the student demonstration area, where students from across Clinton County explained projects that they were working on at school. All of the students that participated were entered into a prize drawing for a computer driven microscope and a CD Writer.

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Summer Technology Academy 2001

The second annual collaborative effort by Clinton County RESA, Eaton ISD, Ingham ISD and REMC 13 made great strides toward uplifting technological skills of area educators. Classes were held from July 30th to August 9th throughout the region. In Clinton County classes were held in three local school districts (Bath Community Schools, St. Mary's in Westphalia and DeWitt Public Schools), allowing educators to learn on the same type of computers they use during the school year. Several sessions addressed beginning skills and laptop computer use directly targeting teachers receiving laptops through the Michigan Teacher Technology Initiative. Overall, the Regional Technology Academy served close to one thousand educators across the three counties.

CCRESA to Expand Video Capabilities

Students all across Clinton County are exploring the possibilities for learning afforded by video based distance learning. CCRESA has been active in building the Middle Michigan Network (MMNET) that provides the physical network that has made video conferencing possible in three Clinton County schools for some time. In the last year, CCRESA has also provided opportunities for educators interested in using video in their curriculum by holding training sessions in which teachers were guided on virtual learning experiences. These experiences took them outside of the classroom allowing them to converse over a live video connection with experts in the chosen content area. In June, Clinton County RESA hosted the first statewide "Two Way Interactive Connections in Education" (www.twice.cc) conference, attended by distance learning coordinators from all parts of Michigan. In coming months CCRESA will bring the benefits of video distance learning to all local school district educators through a combination of state (Technology Literacy Challenge Fund) and national (Rural Utilities Service) grants.

Take the Challenge

2001 concludes a very successful collaborative Technology Literacy Challenge Fund grant in which opportunities for technology training and professional development planning was provided to all Clinton County school districts. The training was modified to district specific needs as well as based on state and national standards for educational technology. Some session titles were:

- Using the Web in Instruction-Making Your Lesson Plans Networthy
- Teaching with Instructional Television
- The One Computer Classroom
- Integrating Technology into Elementary Science
- Using the Internet for Secondary Science

Approval ratings based on evaluations for these sessions demonstrated clearly that the training was both valuable and relevant to educators that took part.

Statewide Technology Integration

Clinton County RESA's Technology Coordinator Sherry McVay spent her time off this summer working hard providing staff development to increase integration of technology into school curriculum using a team building approach. Sherry was one of eleven technology integrators chosen from across Michigan to lead training sessions for the Ameritech Technology Academy. Over a thousand educators (including a team from Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools) were involved in the academy and the follow-up training which is sponsored by Michigan Virtual University, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), Michigan Institute for Educational Management (MIEM), Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA), the Offices of Michigan Governor John Engler and United States Senator Carl Levin and the SBC Foundation.

Community

Educators

Children

Special Education

Transition Planning

An increasing area of emphasis in the area of special education is that of planning and preparing students for success beyond formal educational involvement. This process is known as transition planning, and efforts have been undertaken to make these activities relevant and productive for students.

Involvement and support for community based learning experiences have been established for high school juniors and seniors, along with the formulation of a Transition Handbook and Family Night celebration.

Twenty high school age special education students were directly affected by the Transition Planning projects this year.

A Cooperative Approach

Cooperative efforts between Clinton County RESA, Early-On, and area agencies such as Head Start, Clinton County Family Resource Center, the Department of Public Health, Family Independence Agency, and public school districts have proven productive and beneficial to eligible special education students throughout Clinton County. Programs and services designed to meet the unique and varied needs presented by preschool aged children, have been expanding. Research supports the fact that early intervention is a key factor in remediating academic, social, and physical difficulties. Efforts at CCRESA will continue with this in mind.

Adult TMI Community Based Education (CBI)

The Community Based Education component of the Adult TMI program offers students the crucial opportunity to learn new skills in a "real job" setting. Clinton County Educational Center (CCEC) currently has all 15 students involved in CBI. Paraprofessional Fred Wright serves as CCEC's job coach taking 2 to 3 students to various job sites Monday thru Thursday. Friday's are reserved for delivery of **Meals on Wheels.**

Students Adam Droste and Billy Murphy help deliver Meals on Wheels every Friday as part of the Community Based Education program at CCEC.

Assistive Technology

Technology in general, and technological developments aimed at assisting handicapped students in particular, are rapidly evolving. Representatives from each local school district within Clinton County, along with a dedicated and determined CCRESA staff, have assembled a network of information and assistive devices designed to assist students, and remediate areas of need. That network received a boost from CCRESA's Professional Development Department and the Michigan Department of Education by way of a Technology Literacy Challenge Fund grant for hardware that will aid in providing educators with training in locating resources to assist students with all ability levels.

CCRESA Occupational Therapist Amy Baad, Speech Pathologist Jeff Diedrich, and Technology Coordinator Sherry McVay presented at the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) conference last March. The session entitled "Assistive Technology for Everyone" was presented in collaboration with Eaton ISD.

The future holds great promise with regard to assistive technology, and CCRESA's efforts will continue to serve parents, students, and staff in the most efficient, effective manner possible.

Assistive technology may range from computerized devices to ergonomically shaped pencils depending on the individual student need.

Festival of Trees

CCEC enjoyed another year as contributors to the "Festival of Lights" at the Lansing Center. The theme for CCEC's tree was "Frosty the Snowman" for which each student made ornaments to add as decoration. CCEC's tree was awarded the "Peoples Choice Award" for the entire festival!

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