



May 15, 2017

Spring 2017

### Special points of interest:

- Growing with MACAE
- Seat Time Waivers
- Educate and Elevate
- Program Spotlight
- Brain Waste
- Upcoming Events

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### Message from the President



WOW!!! I can't believe our school year is coming to a close. I would like to thank everyone that has participated in all of our events this past school year: MACAE Fall 2016 Conference, Family Speak, Advocacy Day, MACAE Spring Institute and Topic Fridays. All of these events are not possible without the many volunteers working to bring them to you, our members. I would like to thank each of our MACAE Board members for their dedication and commitment to strengthening our organization. They all have worked hard to promote and advocate for our members both at the state and national level. Also, a special thank you to Judy Walker for being our primary communication link to our members. She is a wonderful asset to the operation of our office.

I truly believe the success of a professional association depends on member satisfaction and involvement. I would encourage all of you to consider getting involved with MACAE committees for 2017-18. Our board is always looking for new involvement and ideas on how to help you, the professionals in the field by providing useful resources, information and professional development opportunities. MACAE works diligently to be that support for you!

What inspires me about community and adult education is the building of strong schools as the focal points within communities. I believe community and adult education are an integral part of the educational delivery system. It is through this connection that we are a valuable resource for districts and can find creative ways to improve student achievement. Adult education plays a vital role to families by providing students with continued lifelong learning.

Our mission is to be a voice to educate and support our students by making sure their stories are heard. This includes meeting with legislators, promoting family literacy, supporting quality education legislation, and actively working with COABE and Workforce Development. These collaborative partnerships can help to strengthen MACAE's voice for families in Michigan.

An important mission of MACAE is to provide professional development opportunities that bring the latest information from experts around the state and country. We are always considering new ways to bring you this information and have the chance for members to network and share best practices!

Our strength is YOU, the members we represent. I challenge all of us to make it our mission to advocate for the students, families, programs, and communities that make Michigan a great place to call home!

I wish you all the best. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook for the latest on upcoming MACAE activities.

Take care and have a wonderful summer,  
Bob Steeh

## Did you know?

Up to \$238 billion annually in health care expenditures can be saved by improving adult literacy.

**Michigan was the first state to guarantee every child the right to tax-paid high school education.**

2 out of every 6 adults in the U.S. cannot handle basic number skills.

### What is Happening in MDE



As we near the end of the school year, we at MDE hope everyone has had an

awesome school year! There are a few things related to alternative education and flexible learning options that the MACAE membership should be aware of in preparation for the 2017-18 school year.

#### Seat Time Waiver Changes in 2017-18

If you are part of a district that has historically operated a Seat Time Waiver program, you will want to make sure you are up to date with the latest changes. Start by checking our website and don't hesitate to contact me if there are any questions.

The process will eliminate the application and reporting process, but there are some updated pupil accounting aspects to be aware of.

#### Alternative Education Updates

If your building utilizes the Alternative Education (Reduction of Hours and/or Days) Waiver, the application process remains similar to previous years. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the instructions for applying and reporting will be available at [www.michigan.gov/alted](http://www.michigan.gov/alted).

In other alternative education news, our accountability team is working hard to define metrics that will be utilized for the proposed alternative accountability system which will continue as a pilot program in 2017-18.

#### Innovation Council

Have an innovative idea and aren't sure what to do next? The Innovation Council (IC) is here to help. The IC consists of local educators, superintendents, county pupil accounting auditors, private sector agents, and numerous subject matter experts from the MDE. The IC exists to help foster innovative projects and practices across the state with the goal of improving student outcomes. Those who are interested can present innovative ideas to the IC and receive meaningful feedback.

Thanks for all that you do to help support our alternative students here in Michigan. We look forward to working with MACAE in 2017-18!

*Eric Lipinski*

### COABE-Coalition on Adult Basic Education: Advocating Together in D.C.!



COABE has launched a national advocacy campaign called **Educate & Elevate** during their national conference in Orlando, FL in April. The campaign is being conducted in partnership with the National Council of the State Directors of Adult Education to inform policy makers on the importance of investing in Adult Education.

#### How Adult Education is Uniquely Situated to Address the Needs of U.S. Employers

By 2020, the American Action Forum projects that the United States will be short an estimated 7.5 million private sector workers across all skill levels. Adult Education brings businesses options by preparing existing workers with families and competing life responsibilities with the skills that companies need through flexible classrooms and curriculum.

#### How Adult Education Addresses the Skills Gap

In a recent survey, 92% of business leaders thought that U.S. workers were not as skilled as they needed to be. By 2018, 63% of all U.S. jobs will require education beyond high school. Yet, nearly half of the U.S. workforce—about 88 million of 188 million adults aged 18 to 64—has only a high school education or less, and/or low English proficiency.

#### How Better Educated Populations Strengthen Communities

Educating adults creates stronger communities. Higher education levels are correlated with lower rates of chronic diseases like diabetes and asthma, and a mother's education level is the highest determinate of a child's academic success. Adult Education makes communities safer too. Inmate participation in adult education reduced recidivism by 29%.

## MACAE Fall Conference



### SAVE THE DATE! 2017 Fall Conference! DATE!

MACAE's 2017 Fall Conference is at the beautiful **Amway Grand Plaza!** The date is **October 16-18**. We will feature preconference Sunday sessions, New Director Training and Literacy Day. Strands include State Updates, Alternative Education, Adult Education, Community Education, Leadership and Advocacy and Education and Training Partners!

Why do we go to a conference? We spend too much time behind our desk or in front of our computer; we feel a little stale and don't remember how beautiful fall can be! There is a world of information available to hear from people who are doing what you do, but differently; it will reignite your enthusiasm! Networking is important- there's something powerful about meeting your peers face to face. We are like family! It is important to check out the vendors and see the new products that are available.

The most important reason to attend is to support your professional organization-**MACAE!**

Plan on being there on October 16-18 for a great event. Last year over 200 attendees enjoyed Boyne, but nothing beats the fun fall atmosphere of Grand Rapids! Look for information at our website, [macae.org](http://macae.org) and our Facebook page. We will be sending out a **Call for Presenters, Vendor Packets and Award nominations soon!**

## Harnessing Immigrant Talent in Our Communities

On Monday, May 1, 2017, Global Detroit, World Education Services (WES) Global Talent Bridge, Michigan Office for New Americans (MONA), the Governor's office and New American Economy hosted a one day workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the economic impact of immigrants on the workforce. Many immigrants arrive in Michigan with advanced degrees and hopes for professional success. Unfortunately, they find themselves unemployed or working in low-wage jobs. This "brain waste" has negative consequences for immigrants and their families and for employers looking for highly skilled workers. There are approximately 7.2 million college-educated immigrants

in the U.S. Half of the immigrants obtained their degree in another country. Because of this, a quarter of these immigrants are unemployed or working in jobs that are not at their knowledge or skill level! Global Detroit created a strategy that worked with partners to help welcome new families. These programs have expanded the opportunity for employers to hire new immigrants in specific positions promoting high-credentialed immigrants. Adult Education can help with this process by filling the English language gap. Participants of the workshop walked away thinking about how adult education providers can play an important role in this process. Adult Ed can educate and train students to fill in-demand jobs and give students information on where to go for credential verification and authenticity.

## Program Spotlight-Houghton Lake

On Monday, April 17th, 2017, Houghton Lake Community Education had the pleasure of hosting a visit from Senator Darwin Booher. Senator Booher represents the 35th district in the State of Michigan and chairs the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee and serves as a member of the Agriculture and Education committee, and Senate Appropriations Committee, where he chairs the Capital Outlay and Community Colleges subcommittees. The senator visited each of the classrooms and talked to the students about their future plans, what circumstances landed them in an alternative education program, why they were not successful in a traditional educational environment, and the job outlook in the state of Michigan. The students were very receptive to the senator's visit and welcomed the opportunity to speak with him about the current hot topics in education and the future of Michigan's job market.



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**Our Mission:**

To provide a cohesive framework for community education through collaboration and guidance at the local, state and federal level.

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**2016-17 Calendar of Events****October 2-4, 2016****October 2-5, 2016****October 5-7, 2016****October 10, 2016****October 14, 2016****October 14-15, 2016****October 15, 2016****November 11, 2016****December 9, 2016****January 12, 2017****January 13, 2017****February 15, 2017****February 10, 2017****February 24, 2017****March 8, 2017****March 17, 2017****March 21-24, 2017****April 2-5, 2017****April 11-13, 2017****April 14, 2017****May 17-18, 2017****June 13-15, 2017**

Michigan Works Conference, Mt. Pleasant, MI  
Dropout Prevention Conference  
Career Pathways, Indianapolis, IN  
MI League for Public Policy's 2016 Policy Forum  
Michigan ESLPAC Conference  
MiTESOL, Flint, MI  
Board Meeting- Fall Conference, Boyne Mountain  
MACAE Board Meeting, Topic Friday  
MACAE Board Meeting  
MACAE Board Meeting  
Topic Friday-Family Speak, Legislative Day  
Family Speak  
MACAE Board Meeting  
Literacy Day  
MACAE Legislative Day  
Michigan ESLPAC Conference  
TESOL Conference, Seattle, WA  
COABE Conference, Orlando, FL  
MAETC Conference, Detroit, MI  
MACAE Board Meeting & Topic Friday  
MACAE Spring Institute & Board Meeting  
CASAS Summer Institute, Anaheim, CA

**Join us October 16-18 for the 2017 MACAE Fall Conference!!!**