

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

CHARTER SCHOOLS OFFICE

May-June news & updates



May 7, 2021 | Volume 18 | Issue 5



ART WILICK RETIRES AFTER 24 YEARS IN JUNE



Art Willick was the first staff member hired to work in the newly created Ferris State University Charter Schools Office (CSO) in 1997. During that time, he has witnessed the growth and development of not only the CSO but the charter movement in the State of Michigan. Art will be retiring in June, and we would like to publicly thank him for his dedication and commitment to the CSO, his assigned academies, and the students who attend those schools. Our best wishes and thank you for a job well done, Art!

UPCOMING EVENT

**Author Nathan
Levenson
Presenting**



Director's Opening Thoughts

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter for the 2020-2021 academic year. And what a year it has been! COVID-19 has been the biggest disruption to the educational field since World War II. Once this pandemic is officially “over”, we will still be dealing with the ramifications of the disruption for years to come. I know all of you share the same concern about getting students caught up academically, as well as addressing the social/emotional challenges the pandemic has caused for both students and staff.

At the same time, we should all take immense pride in what we have been able to accomplish during this challenging year. The commitment and dedication from school staff at FSU-authorized academies to continue to deliver instruction have been

Six Shifts to Improve
Special Education and
Other Interventions

A COMMONSENSE APPROACH
FOR SCHOOL LEADERS



NATHAN LEVENSON

A Virtual Professional Development

"Overview of Best Practices for Addressing Learning Loss and Pandemic Recovery"

**Tuesday, May 18, 2021
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

For information click [FLYER](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

Ferris State University Charter Schools Office Scholarship Fund

For scholarship information click
[BROCHURE](#)

inspirational. We have learned a great deal about motivating students and determining the most important parts of our curriculum. Likewise, we recognize the extraordinary efforts school administrators have taken to provide learning continuity, as well as the contributions of our Board of Directors to each of their academies.

As we conclude this year, we look forward to 2021-2022 with hopes that we will be able to return to some normalcy in the fall. As your Authorizer, please know that we are committed to our continuation to support our academies, and we look forward to discussing those opportunities with you soon. Have a great end of the year, and thank you all for your commitment and dedication.

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Associate Director News



Author Nathan Levenson Presenting A Virtual Professional Development

"Overview of Best Practices for Addressing Learning Loss and Pandemic Recovery"

**Tuesday, May 18, 2021
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Nate's experience as a superintendent, school board member, consultant, researcher, and

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NATHAN LEVENSON

private sector CEO allows him to bring a unique perspective to his passion for improving the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of K-12. Nate works closely with superintendents and their leadership teams, policy makers, EdTech entrepreneurs, departments of education and state legislators to create practical solutions to pressing challenges with equity at the core.

For information click [FLYER](#)

**Link to Nathan Levenson's Virtual Professional Development
New Solutions K12 | Ferris State - Six Shifts and the Pandemic**



Panorama Education

The Ferris State University Charter Schools Office (FSU CSO) is excited to announce that beginning in the fall of 2021, we will be offering the Panorama Education student surveys and platform for all of our schools who wish to use it. Panorama Education offers survey scales for school climate and social-emotional learning. Schools will be able

to choose from a variety of topics including school climate, safety, belonging, rigorous expectations, grit, and growth mindset to create a survey that can provide data for school improvement related to the needs of the whole child.

Given the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever that schools are not only able to address academic concerns, but also create strategies to assist with student social and emotional needs. We at the FSU CSO believe that it is crucial that schools have valid and reliable data in order to plan for the future and provide support to all students. For more information, visit the Panorama at www.panoramaed.com.

Academic Assessment Specialist Updates

Using Assessment Data to Intentionally Teach What Students Need

A key to defining effective education is the need to clearly enforce the idea that we must understand the goal in the instructional process. What is it that you hope to accomplish? Why are you teaching the objective? Why are you teaching, what you are teaching? Our answers to these questions should be specific. Specificity comes from having information. Data is information.

Data gathered from the NWEA assessments should become an...

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Compliance Auditor/Board Liaison Updates

Michigan Open Meetings Act - Closed

Session

The Michigan Open Meetings Act allows a closed session during an open meeting, but only for specific purposes (see limited list below). If one is needed, there would need to be an agenda item titled *Closed Session*.

In the open meeting, a board member makes a motion to go into a closed session specifically citing one or more permissible purposes for a closed session. The motion is...



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Hope of Detroit Academy in Running for National Award



Hope of Detroit Academy (HDA) was recently announced as one of the 75 schools nationally as a semi-finalist in the *Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Competition*. Of the 75 semi-finalists that made it to the semi-finals, HDA has now been named a semi-finalist and one of only ten schools in the country still in competition. Hope has been awarded \$65,000 in prize money so far and is vying to make it into the Top 3 finalists worth \$130,000.

Hope Superintendent Ali Abdel states that the academy will use the prize money to bolster their STEM offerings by bringing state-of-the-art equipment and technology to their labs. Congratulations and best wishes to Hope of

Detroit-we are proud of you!

Ferris State University Charter Schools Office Scholarship Fund



We would like to remind our authorized academies with high schools that the Ferris State University Charter Schools Office offers a scholarship for students graduating from Ferris State University-authorized academies. Students are automatically considered for the scholarship when they complete the Ferris State University application. Click on the link below to view the brochure detailing the scholarship, or contact the Ferris State University Admissions Office for more information.

For scholarship information click [BROCHURE](#)

Relax, Have Fun...
It's Summertime,
Bulldogs!



Our Mission

FSU Mission

Ferris State University prepares students for successful careers, responsible citizenship, and lifelong learning. Through its many partnerships and its career-oriented, broad-based education, Ferris serves our rapidly changing global economy and society.

CSO Mission

The Ferris State University Charter Schools Office focuses on student success and continuous improvement through quality oversight, professional learning opportunities, and relevant resources for its authorized public school academies.

Contact Us

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