

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

CHARTER SCHOOLS OFFICE



January/February

News and Updates

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When Ferris State University authorizes a public school academy, it is an endeavor to positively transform the life trajectory of the students who attend that academy. The Charter Schools Office holds as its most fundamental goal that all students be prepared for success in college, work, and life. Test scores and knowledge are important but are not enough to succeed in an ever-competitive and connected global community.

We believe that students must be able to apply knowledge to new situations, and to seek out new information through research skills and technological competence. To accomplish this, each academy must provide an environment to achieve academic excellence by delivering quality programming and instruction for the students it serves.



Thoughts from the Director

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year and thank you Academy Board members! January is Board Appreciation Month. We would like to recognize and thank our Board members for their service. It is important for all of you to know how much of an impact you have on the students and families who choose your academies. We also recognize the amount of time and effort you devote to governing your schools. As volunteers, yours is one of the highest levels of community service, although your work often goes unrecognized and underappreciated. Your Field Representative will be bringing you a small gift as a token of our appreciation for the work you do not only in January, but all year long!

Also included in this newsletter you'll find information on a new initiative here at Ferris State University called the *Ferris Momentum Admission and Scholarship Program*, as well as, information on our **21st Annual Spring Briefing and 25th Anniversary Celebration** on March 3, 2023. The CSO has much to look forward to in this New Year and we hope that you will take a few moments to read about some of these activities.

Ronald S. Rizzo, Ph.D.
Director



Ronald Rizzo, Director

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Momentum Scholarship for Ferris Charter School Students



Ferris State University and the Charter Schools Office are pleased to announce the creation of the Ferris Momentum Admission/Scholarship Program. Education builds momentum for a successful life. The Momentum Scholarship for Ferris Charter School



Students will help students take their next step forward - *Ferris Forward*. Under this program, graduates from a FSU-authorized charter school with a cumulative high school GPA of 2.35 or higher, will be automatically accepted to the University upon application, and awarded a minimum scholarship of \$3,500 per year in support for their tuition and room and board. This scholarship is renewable for four years. There are also several other great scholarships available to FTIAC students. Please be sure to share this info with your Guidance Counselors and parents with seniors contemplating post-secondary education.

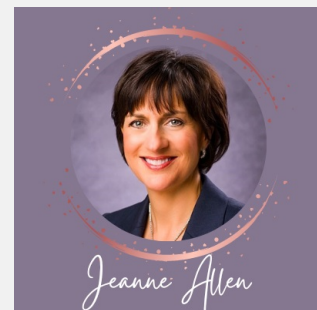
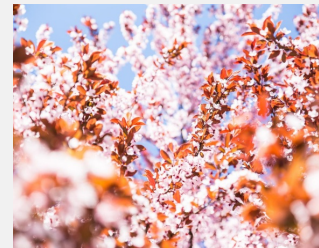
Find more information [HERE](#).

21st Annual Spring Briefing & 25th Anniversary Celebration Friday, March 3, 2023, Lansing, MI

This year at our 21st Annual Spring Briefing we will celebrate a milestone for the Charter Schools Office as we commemorate our 25th Anniversary as a Michigan Public School Academy Authorizer. We are pleased to announce this year's Briefing will feature [Ms. Jeanne Allen](#), Founder and CEO of the Center for Educational Reform in Washington, D.C., as our keynote speaker. Ms. Allen is an inspiring advocate for education reform, working tirelessly to ensure students across the nation are receiving the best educational opportunities possible. We are excited to hear her inspiring words.

If you would like more information on the event or would like to attend, please use this [LINK](#) or the QR code to the right to register. Please reach out to [Andrea Ruggles](#) with any questions or concerns. Please RSVP by Monday, February 20, 2023, to ensure your seat!

We look forward to seeing you there!



Associate Director News





Mastermind Network and FSU CSO Hubs



MI Charter Mastermind
Network

Are you a member of the MI Charter Mastermind Network through the Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA)? You should be!

The Mastermind Network is an online community hosted by MAPSA. It is digital community built to connect charter school educators from every corner of the Mitten, bridging physical distance to foster conversation, collaboration, problem solving and professional development. Within this site, you will find Ferris State University Charter Schools Office two private hubs, one for [school leadership](#) and the other for [board members](#). The hubs look similar to a private Facebook group. To join, please click on [Mastermind Network](#). From there you can join the FSU CSO hubs. On our hubs you'll find recorded professional development sessions, updates on legislation that affects public education and/or board governance, CSO Board Communications and other important information.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to join the Mastermind Network and FSU CSO Hubs. by clicking on the links in the narrative above or the pictures below.



FSU CSO: Academy Board Members

Ferris Forward



FSU CSO: School Leadership

Ferris Forward

Remaining Leadership Convenings for the 2022-2023 AY

Our next three Leadership Convenings for the academic year will be virtual. Those dates are **February 8th, March 8th, and April 12th** from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. The final convening will take place in-person at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West on **May 9th**. Andrea Ruggles will send the Zoom link out to school leaders prior to the event. Watch your email for an invitation to come for the final convening, as you will need to register in order for us to get a count for the lunch. Please contact AndreaRuggles@ferris.edu, if you have questions or need additional information on any of our Leadership Convenings. Please see below for dates and specific topics.

Date	Time	Topic	Location
Wednesday, 2/8/2023	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Data Analysis (Growth)	Zoom

Wednesday, 3/8/2023	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Motivating Learners	Zoom
Wednesday, 4/12/2023	10:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	School Climate & SEL	Zoom
Wednesday, 5/10/ 2023	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	School Climate & DEI	In-Person (Lansing) Lunch Provided

Compliance Auditor/ Board Liaison Updates

Sharon Hopper
Compliance Auditor/
Board Liaison



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If the board wishes the members of the public to identify themselves at the meeting, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel suggests the Board President announce something like:

"The Board would appreciate having the members of the public attending the meeting today identify themselves and mention if they would like the opportunity to speak during the public comment period. However, you do not need to give your name to attend this meeting. When the time comes to introduce yourself and you do not want to do so, just say pass."

Public Attendees at a Board of Directors Meeting

No person may be excluded from a public meeting, except for a breach of the peace actually committed at the meeting. Also, no individual may be required to register or otherwise provide his or her name or other information to fulfill a condition precedent to attend a public meeting.

Since speaking at the meeting is a step beyond "attending" the public meeting, the Michigan Open Meetings Act provides that a person may address the Board under rules established and recorded by the Board. Please refer to your Board Policies for such rules.

The public has a right to tape-record, videotape, broadcast live on radio and to telecast live on TV the public meeting. This right shall not be dependent upon prior approval of the Board, but the Board may establish reasonable rules in order to minimize the possibility of disrupting the board meeting. Again, please refer to your Board Policies for such rules.

Public Comment at a Board of Directors Meeting

The Michigan Open Meetings Act states the public has a right to address a public body and a public body may establish reasonable rules and procedures regarding public comments in order to minimize the possibility of disrupting the meeting. It is recommended that these rules and procedures be stated in the public body's meeting agenda. OMA experts suggest certain rules, procedures, and verbiage to be included as a notation in the public body's meeting agenda. **See to the right.*

It is further recommended that at a public meeting the Board President read the public comment notation aloud in case the public does not have access to or have a copy of the meeting agenda.



*OMA experts suggest the following rules, procedures and verbiage to be included as a notation in the public body's meeting agenda.

This is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the school's business and it is not to be considered a public meeting.

Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each with a total time allowance for public comment not to exceed thirty (30) minutes. The board will not verbally respond to public comments, but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.

Complaints or concerns regarding board members or school employees shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) day prior to the board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board.



From All of Us in CSO

Best Wishes for a
Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous
2023!

Our Mission and Vision Statement

Ferris State University 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.

Charter Schools Office Vision Statement

FSU will authorize public school academies that promise to transform the lives of students by demonstrating high-quality performance.

Charter Schools Office Mission

By implementing quality oversight, the Ferris State University Charter Schools Office focuses on student growth and achievement, offers professional learning opportunities, and provides relevant resources to its authorized public school academies.

Core Values

1. Student Learning
2. A Collaborative Working Environment
3. Diversity
4. Opportunities
5. Excellence
6. Accountability
7. Integrity and Trust

Contact Us

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