The Office of Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Stakeholder's Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Nidia Ashby - Chief of Schools Pre-K-8 and Exceptional Student Education
Lohren Nzoma - Assistant Superintendent, Exceptional Student Education
Donna Payne - ESE Lead Administrator
Darlene Dorsette - Supervisor, Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Meeting Norms

- Use "Raised Hand" feature to speak
- If you are not speaking, please mute your mic
- Turn cameras off if you are not speaking
- Place questions/comments in the chat
- "Start" and "End" on time
- Be active participants
# Agenda

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Welcome/Introductions
Icebreaker
Test Your Basic ASL Skills

Rules:
There will be 6 short videos. Each video will be displayed one at a time. Once the video is displayed, put your answer in the chat.
Test Your Basic ASL Skills
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Test Your Basic ASL Skills
Accomplishments

ASL signage walkthrough with DPSCD Marketing Department

Recommendations were made for accessibility - Entrance Door Signal Intercom

Recommendations were made for emergency signals - Restroom
Accomplishments (continued)

On April 22, 2022, PurpleZ5 Communication presented at Drew

Funding to offer ASL as an elective during the day

Extra-curricular activities for students to participate - provide ASL Interpreters
Accomplishments (continued)

Transition of Administration

ASL Book Club - Age-appropriate book by Deaf Author

Signing with Khy – A Sign Language Guide by Khyiana Tate
Overview of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program

DPSCD Offers 2 DHH Programs

Oral Communication
Total Communication
The Mission & Vision

Mission: To create a learning environment that is rich in American Sign Language. To educate empower and promote the acquisition of American Sign Language for every student and every staff member within the designated campus. To ensure all staff and students (Exceptional Student Education and General Education) can have the opportunity to achieve a positive and productive Bilingual Educational Experience.

Vision: The American Sign Language Immersion Community is designed to support every student, every staff member, and every family with the confidence, knowledge and ability to communicate with all students and staff in the DHH Program, all ESE Programs and the General Education Program utilizing American Sign Language.
Project Scope and Background

• The American Sign Language (ASL) Immersion Community will be designed to merge students in the PreK-8th grade Total Communication Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs onto a single campus with general education peers.

• Merging students onto a single campus will promote an inclusive ASL learning environment where general education students, teachers and administration will understand and appreciate cultural diversity and learn ASL as a second language.

• The district’s goal is to improve the language and academic learning for students in the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program by creating a least restrictive environment which will promote a language enriched environment for all.
Goals of the ASL Immersion Community

1. Develop a pipeline of students interested in the field of interpreting.
2. Grow our own interest as a district.
4. Increase the number of students in the district that will graduate with a seal of biliteracy.
Expected Results

• Track students' language/communication data more efficiently across the grade level
• Increase opportunity for all students to benefit from Academic Interventionist, Life Skills, and ASL Instructions
• Create a Least Restrictive Language Environment (language enriched environment) = Reduce Language Deprivation
• Access ASL Communication through multi-modalities
• Implement Differentiated Instruction inclusive of ASL Strategies
• Provide life skills resources in ASL to prepare students for post academic education
• Peer2Peer Interaction with general education students
• Increase Deaf Awareness and Acceptance
Timeline:
“Where We Are and Where We Are Headed”
June 2021 - April 2022

- June 2021:
  - Physical Relocation from Schulze to Bunche (complete)
  - ESE Program Assignment Letters to Bunche (complete)

- June 2021:
  - Establish Sub-Committees (complete)

- June 2021 - July 2021:
  - Sub-Committee Meetings (ongoing)

- July 2021:
  - ASL Immersion Community Stakeholder Engagement (In progress)

- December 2021:
  - Bunche ASL Marketing walkthrough (complete)

- April 2022:
Upcoming Events
Detroit Renaissance Lions Club Book Club presents
Deaf Utopia

Join the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (DHH) Department for an author event with Nyle DiMarco in conversation with Theodore Dorsette.

June 10, 2022
6:00 pm

Interpreter will be present for voicing
Next DHH Meeting

Save the Date:

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Stakeholders Meeting will be:
Thursday, June 16, 2022
4:00 pm-5:00 pm
Michigan Hands & Voices Family Summer Parties

Saturday, July 23rd
Grand Traverse County Civic Center
Traverse City
11:00am-2:00pm

Saturday, August 6th
Lakeshore Park Novi
11:00am-2:00pm

Sunday, August 21st
Camp Tuhsmeheta
Greenville 11:30am-3:30pm

For more information and to register for the event, visit our webpage: mihandsandvoices.org/events
Play Date at the Gaffield Children’s Garden

**Build**
Build structures in the builder's garden

**Walk**
Enjoy a walk through a maze

**Discover**
Discover magical creatures in a fairy and troll knoll

**Play**
Play in the mud garden

When: June 23, 2022 10:30 a.m.
Where: Matthei Botanical Gardens
Gaffield Children’s Garden
1800 N Dixboro Rd
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

More information and to register for the event, visit our webpage: www.mihandsandvoices.org/events
Resources

Association for Advancement of Deaf & Hard of Hearing (AADHH)
aadhhnonprofit@gmail.com

Michigan Alliance for Families: 800 – 552 – 4821
info@michiganallianceforfamilies.org
https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/

Michigan Hands & Voices: 248 – 845 – 8762
mihandsandvoices@gmail.com
https://www.mihandsandvoices.org/

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS): 313 – 648 – 1149
https://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/mrs
MRS-CustomerAssistance@michigan.gov
Questions/Comments