TLES alumni named Bridgman High School Principal

July 16, 2014

Christopher Machiniak, an alumni of the College of Education and Human Development, was named the new principal of Bridgman High School on June 9 by the Board of Education. A 15-member team of administrators, teachers, secretaries, parents, and students chose him unanimously.

"I am excited to begin the next phase of my career at Bridgman High School. I look forward to becoming part of the outstanding educational community that Bridgman is known for while working with the talented staff with the goal of challenging our students to succeed," Machiniak said.

In his previous roles, Machiniak has served as a science teacher, school improvement chair, football and basketball coach, and assistant principal at Buchanan High School. He received his bachelor's degree in secondary education in 2002 from the Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies and his master's in education from Ferris State University.

FCS students win regional competition for 2nd consecutive year

July 16, 2014

Textile and Apparel Studies majors Sarah Lyons and Erin Johnson have won first place in two recent Fashion on the Shore student design competitions. Shore Magazine, the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council and the Times Media Company sponsor the annual runway event. Students from fashion programs at universities in the Lake Michigan region enter their original fashion designs in the competition for cash prizes and the opportunity to be featured in Shore Magazine.

Sarah Lyons, a senior from Wyoming, Michigan, received first place and a $1500 prize in the 2013 competition with her beautifully embellished gowns inspired by the sea. Erin Johnson, a senior from Dexter, Michigan, continued WMU’s winning tradition in 2014 by taking first place and $1500 for her Charles Worth-inspired line consisting of unique designs and beautiful craftsmanship.
After completing courses at WMU, Erin and Sarah will be continuing their studies at WMU partner institutions Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, and Regents University, London. Laura Korolowicz, a recent WMU fashion design graduate who is working in the fashion industry in New York City, received the 2013 third place award.

Exercise Science alumni named NDC Strength and Conditioning Coach

July 16, 2014

Kyle Ferrell, alumni of the College of Education and Human Development’s exercise science program, has recently been named the new Strength and Conditioning Coach for the Notre Dame College athletic program. Prior to this role, Ferrell spent the last two years as the assistant strength and conditioning coach at the United States Military Academy in New York.

Ferrell received his bachelor’s degree in exercise science from WMU in 2010 and his master’s degree in sports administration from Kent State University in 2013. Ferrell has also served as an intern with the strength and conditioning staff at the University of South Florida.

Department Welcomes Dominican Republic Administrators

The Department of Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology (ELRT) and the College of Education and Human Development (CoEHD) hosted a group of 40 school administrators from the Dominican Republic for a week this summer. These administrators are a part of an ongoing training that began when two groups of trainers from WMU traveled to the Dominican Republic in late April and early May to conduct the first session.

While the administrators were here they received hands on training with technology such as the TeachLive Lab, which is currently being used in only ten public institutions in the nation. They were also exposed to differentiated instruction, and some of WMU’s bridge programs such as C.A.M.P. and Pre-college programs. While in the Kalamazoo area, trainees had the opportunity to observe in several Kalamazoo, Portage, and Mattawan Public Schools, as well as St. Michael’s Lutheran School, and Woods Edge.

Throughout their stay, the administrators were assisted by WMU student volunteers who are also from the Dominican Republic and had the evenings to experience Kalamazoo’s recreational activities such as bowling, shopping, Air Zoo, and a dessert reception at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum.
CECP congratulates the newest Mu Beta Members

On April 25, 2014, the Mu Beta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) inducted 63 new members. CSI is an international honor society with a mission to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership, advocacy, and excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling. We were honored to have Dr. Carol Bobby, CEO of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), give the keynote address. CACREP is the accrediting body for the counselor education programs at Western Michigan University. The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology congratulates the newest Mu Beta Members and the eight individuals who were honored with chapter awards that evening: Past President Award, Michael D. Bobbitt; Outstanding Masters Student Award, Gayle L. Garcia; Outstanding Doctoral Student Award, Stephanie R. Goodman; Outstanding Service to the Chapter Award, Danielle M. Smith; Outstanding Research Award, Carla R. Adkison-Johnson; Outstanding Alumni Award, Catherine Rich; Outstanding Supervisor Award, Shawn Bultsma; and Thomas J Sweeney Outstanding Leadership Award, Daniel R. Cruikshanks.

CTE faculty members secure federal grant

July 17, 2014

Dr. Adam Manley and Dr. Rick Zinser recently secured another federal flow-through grant for $10,513. This grant will allow Drs. Manley and Zinser to travel to Michigan military bases and discuss the career and technical education program’s Post-Baccalaureate Master’s Program. This program allows those with a bachelor’s degree in business, marketing, engineering, manufacturing, or family and consumer sciences to earn a related teacher certification after the completion of 18 graduate credit hours of teacher education courses and a student teaching internship.

Additionally, the grant will allow Dr. Manley to develop a statewide alternative teacher certification informational website. This website will make it easier for business and industry professionals to find out the steps necessary to become alternatively licensed to teach career and technical education in Michigan.

Alumnus Named Martin School District Superintendent

July 17, 2014

The Martin School Board has recently named David Harnish, alumnus of the College of Education and Human Development, as the new Martin School District Superintendent and High School Principal.
Harnish plans to continue the initiatives set forth by Bill Miller, who had been a part-time superintendent for the district. These changes include restructuring of the administration and new dual enrollment and curriculum options.

In regards to restructuring the administration, Harnish plans to hire a new athletic director and dean of students for the high school and a new principal for the elementary school.

Prior to his new position, Harnish served as principal and curriculum director at New Lothrop Area Public Schools for 11 years. Harnish received his bachelor’s degree in elementary education (’94) and master’s degree in educational leadership (’99) from the College.

Graduate Receives Teacher of the Year Award
May 21, 2014

Mr. Ross Bosse, a 2005 CoEHD graduate with certification in secondary history and social studies, has received the Post 8469 Teach of the Year Award. Since he graduated from WMU he has been teaching in Luther Jackson Middle School, Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA.

Alumnus named Theatre Coach of the Year
July 17, 2014

College of Education and Human Development alumnus, William Lapham, has been named the Theatre Coach of the Year by the Michigan Speech Coaches, Inc.

Lapham takes on many roles at Battle Creek Central including teaching speech, drama, and English, coaching the high school’s forensics team, and directing the theatre program.

Lapham earned his bachelor’s degree in secondary education from Western Michigan University in 2005.

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