

Cass County Career and Technical Education 2017-2018

Introduction.

Cass County Career and Technical Education is delivered through a system of local and shared time programs. While operating without a career center, the county still offers 23 in county CTE programs. Cassopolis, Dowagiac Union, and Marcellus High Schools send students to the Van Buren Technology Center, while Edwardsburg High School sends students to the Elkhart Area Career Center. Lewis Cass ISD operates and manages the Career Academies, a collaborative partnership of CTE programming located at Southwestern Michigan College.

Lewis Cass ISD employs the CTE Director for the county. The Director serves as a liaison between the local districts and the Michigan Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education. It is the responsibility of the ISD to coordinate the CTE classes offered to high school students.

Career and Technical Education provides hands on experiences for students while engaging them in rigorous and relevant learning environments. CTE allows students the ability to blend real life experiences with core academics that are needed in order to prepare them to be college and career ready. Research shows that students that are enrolled in Career and Technical Education classes are more successful in secondary and postsecondary opportunities.

Mikki Spagnoli.
Career and Technical Education Director.
Lewis Cass Intermediate School District.

Student Events.

CTE Awards Banquet.

- At the 2017 C.T.E. Awards Banquet, 48 students were honored for their achievement in their individual C.T.E. programs.
- Six students received scholarships for their achievements from Southwestern Michigan College.

10th Grade Career/College Exploration Days.

- In partnership with Southwestern Michigan College, 540 tenth grade students from the 4 local high schools were given the opportunity to participate in the Career/College Exploration Day at Southwestern Michigan College.
- This event is an opportunity for school 10th grade students to receive an early exposure to Career & Technical Education and career opportunities available to them as they explore a college campus.

Young Entrepreneurs Day.

- Young Entrepreneurs Day is a joint venture between Lewis Cass I.S.D. and the Edward Lowe Foundation.
- The event is hosted at the beautiful Edward Lowe Foundation.
- 17 students attended this event to have their business plans reviewed.
- 5 Business Partners assessed and reviewed students' business plans.
- 2 teams comprised of students from all four districts competed to have the best business plan for a "food truck". The presentations included students in business, finance and digital design C.T.E. programs. By combining districts, the students gained a closer experience to what it is like in the real world working with people they haven't met before.

Other Events.

- F.F.A. State and National Convention.
- Non Trad Day.
- Green Flag Day.
- Chicago Auto Show.
- Dental Health Field Trip.
- Environmental Health Field Trip.
- Nursing Field Trip

College and Career Readiness.

Cass County is fortunate to have a partnership with Southwestern Michigan College, who offers the Dual Enrollment classes, LCISD Career Academies and Early Middle College programs to Cass County students.

Dual Enrollment.

Designed for eligible high school students, the Dual Enrollment Program offers students the opportunity to enroll in college courses at one of the SMC campuses. The college course may be used for credit at both the high school and college level. Dual Enrollment statistics are inclusive of all three programs; Dual Enrollment, Career Academies, and Early Middle College.

•2016-2017.

Cassopolis. 19 students. 183 credits.

Dowagiac. 106 students. 841 credits.

Edwardsburg. 128 students. 1786 credits.

Marcellus. 13 students. 147 credits.

•2017-2018. (Semester 1).

Cassopolis. 32 students. 204 credits.

Dowagiac. 73 students. 513 credits.

Edwardsburg. 154 students. 1106 credits.

Marcellus. 18 students. 109 credits.

Lewis Cass ISD Career Academies.

- During the 2016-2017 school year, 53 students participated in the Lewis Cass ISD Career Academies.
- LCISD and SMC partner to provide 10 Career Academies including Automotive, Business, Construction, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Graphic Design, Health, Mechatronics, Sports Management, and Welding.
- 856 college credits were awarded to the 53 participating students.
- 92% of the college credits awarded were awarded an A or B grade.
- Current Academy enrollment:
 - Cassopolis—6. (2 Business Administration, 1 Criminal Justice, 3 Health).
 - Dowagiac—14. (3 Business Administration, 4 Criminal Justice, 6 Health, 1 Welding).
 - Edwardsburg—44. (11 Business Administration, 8 Criminal Justice, 1 Early Childhood Education, 1 Graphic Design, 18 Health, 2 Mechatronics, 3 Welding)
 - Marcellus—3. (3 Business Administration).

Early Middle College.

An Early Middle College Program is a unique opportunity offered to high school students to earn an associate's degree, credential or transferable credit from Southwestern Michigan College while still in high school. These programs are allowed through school districts that have applied, and approved through the Michigan Department of Education. Students accepted and enrolled in the program commit to a 13th year of high school. A student will have one high school graduation requirement withheld during the 12th grade. During the 13th year students complete a full course load at Southwestern Michigan College. Students will also complete the final high school requirement in order to fulfill their high school diploma requirements for the state of Michigan.

Graduation Requirements.

Effective: 2014-15 School Year with 2015 Graduates.

Content Areas.	Michigan Merit Curriculum.	Personal Curriculum.
English Language Arts (E.L.A).	Credits: 4. E.L.A. 9, E.L.A. 10, E.L.A. 11, E.L.A. 12.	No modifications.
Math.	Credits: 4. Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, (Option 1: State Approved CTE program that teaches the Algebra 2 assessed benchmarks on the M.M.E. Option 2: Algebra 2 over 2 years)., Math 4 th credit. A math course must be taken in the final year.	Modifications: Credits: 3.5. Algebra 1, Geometry, and 1 Algebra 2 option. Option 1: Any course delivering the Algebra 2 assessed benchmarks on the Michigan Merit Exam (M.M.E.), Option 2: Semester of Statistics, or Functions and Data Analysis, or technical mathematics. 1 credit must be taken during final 2 years.
Science.	Credits: 3. 1 credit Biology, 1 credit Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy, Ag Science or 1 course that covers Chemistry and Physics benchmarks., Science 3 rd credit. (Option 1: 1 credit Computer Science. Option 2: State Approved CTE Program).	No modifications.
Social Studies.	Credits: 3. ½ credit Civics, ½ credit Economics, 1 credit U.S. History/Geography, 1 credit World History/Geography.	Modifications: Must complete 2 Social Studies credits, including Civics and one option. (Option 1: 1 credit E.L.A., Option 2: 1 credit Math, Option 3: 1 credit Science, Option 4: 1 credit Language other than English, Option 5: State Approved CTE Program).
P.E./Health.	Credits: 1.	Modifications: Must complete one option:

	½ credit Health, ½ credit Physical Education, or (Option 1: ½ credit extracurricular or related physical activity).	(Option 1: 1 credit E.L.A., Option 2: 1 credit Math, Option 3: 1 credit Science, Option 4: 1 credit Language other than English, Option 5: State Approved CTE Program).
Visual Performing and Applied Arts (V.P.A.A).	Credits: 1 Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts	Modifications: Must complete one option: (Option 1: 1 credit E.L.A., Option 2: 1 credit Math, Option 3: 1 credit Science, Option 4: 1 credit Language other than English, Option 5: State Approved CTE Program).
Online Learning.	Course learning or integrated learning experience.	No modifications.
Language other than English, (World Language).	Credits: 2 Course content grade appropriate K-12. (Option 1: 1 credit by Completing State Approved CTE Program, Option 2: 1 credit V.P.A.A.	No modifications

Michigan Merit Curriculum.

The Michigan Merit Curriculum, (M.M.C.), defines a common set of required credits for graduation, and provides educators with a common understanding of what student's should know and be able to do for credit. It also provides students the learning opportunity, knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college or the workplace. In addition to requiring students to earn a full complement of math, science, English and other credits to receive their diplomas, Michigan is the first state to require students to have an online learning experience to prepare them for postsecondary education and the workplace.

The Michigan Merit Curriculum, (M.M.C.), requires students to obtain a minimum of 16 credits for graduation. Some of which may be met through the successful completion of Career and Technical Education courses.

Meeting Credit and Other Graduation Requirements through C.T.E.

Since many of the M.M.C. standards are taught in C.T.E. programs, students may earn that credit through these programs. By completing a State approved Career and Technical Education program, students may fulfill the following requirements with the substitution.

- 1 credit of Science. AND
- 1 credit of World Language. AND
- 1 credit of Algebra 2 —only if the C.T.E. program includes the same Algebra 2 benchmarks addressed on the State assessment.
- The local school district can tell you which C.T.E. programs qualify for this substitution.

C.T.E. courses also may satisfy the following graduation requirements:

- 1 credit of Visual, Performing and Applied Arts (V.P.A.A.) AND
- 1 credit of math-related experience required in final year of high school.
- Note that the local school district is responsible for awarding credit in both of these areas.

Completing a formal *Personal Curriculum* may allow students to substitute courses in a department-approved C.T.E. program for additional required credits, such as:

- 1/2 credit of Health.
- 1/2 credit of Physical Education.
- 1 credit of Social Studies.
- 1/2 to 1 credit of Algebra 2/Mathematics.

Career Cruising.

Career Cruising is an industry-leading online career guidance and planning system used by schools across North America. The assessments and databases are used to guide students toward informed decisions as they plan their education and career goals.

Career Cruising has been designed with one goal in mind: to help 7th thru 12th grade students plan their future by creating a personal Education Development Plan (E.D.P.). With exceptional assessment tools, detailed occupation profiles and comprehensive post-secondary education information, students move seamlessly through the career exploration and planning process leading to a completed E.D.P. The powerful portfolio system helps students document career and postsecondary search experience, and helps them to make concrete, long-term plans, also giving schools access to the real-time information and statistics needed to track students' progress and achievement.

Key Train.

A growing amount of research indicates that high skill levels are required to succeed in today's economy and that schools are having difficulty preparing students for their future in college or the workplace. Key Train is an effective tool for teaching foundational workplace skills. More than 300 high schools in Michigan have chosen to use Key Train, including all of Detroit Public Schools.

Michigan has adopted an assessment called the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress, (M-STEP), that also includes the S.A.T. and Work Keys Reading for Information and Applied Mathematics. In order to teach the skills required for the M-STEP, Key Train is the curriculum of choice in Michigan. Outcomes from Key Train include, better scores on standardized tests, career readiness certifications, students ready for college and work, and students with high-demand skills.

Partnerships.

Career and Technical Education develops and maintains the partnerships that will contribute to the development of a world class workforce for Cass County and the State of Michigan.

Through our partnerships, students experience a seamless entry into Michigan's variety of educational pathways beyond high school learning to academic and workplace success. Partnerships have been established to promote student achievement and provide experiences that could not otherwise be achieved.

Edward Lowe Foundation.

One of our most recognized projects, Young Entrepreneurs Day, is funded and hosted in part by the Edward Lowe Foundation. The Foundation recognizes the potential of creative young people and promotes their efforts to master the skills and practices of entrepreneurial endeavors.

Berrien RESA and Van Buren Intermediate School Districts.

In addition, the three counties partner in the Perkins Grant, work together to increase awareness of Career & Technical Education, create Early College credit opportunity, and promote National Career Readiness Certificates with Michigan Works.

Southwestern Michigan College.

Lewis Cass County Career & Technical Education and Southwestern Michigan College have partnered on a substantial number of initiatives, including 10th Grade Career Days, Non-Traditional Day, It's Reality Day, Career Fair, and the Chicago Auto Show Field Trip.

Michigan Works.

In the Tri-County region, a partnership has been formed between C.T.E. and Michigan Works. Michigan Works researches and develops a career guide which forecasts job openings in our region. With this document, the C.T.E. Leadership Team can utilize data in developing new and relevant C.T.E. programs.

Lewis Cass Intermediate School District.
Learning for All...Whatever It Takes.

For additional information, contact:

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Lewis Cass I.S.D. Board of Education

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It is the policy of the Lewis Cass I.S.D. Board of Education that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, height, weight, marital status or disability shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity for which it receives any financial assistance from the United States Department of Education. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: School Improvement Facilitator, 61682 Dailey Road, Cassopolis, MI 49031