

# MICHIGAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING  
AND SUPPORTING  
OUTSTANDING LEADERS

[Home](#) | [Services](#) | [Support - 1st Yr Supes](#) | [Search Process](#) | [Searches in Progress](#) | [Academies](#)  
[MLI Team](#) | [About Us](#) | [References](#) | [Business Partners](#) | [Leaders' Almanac](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Volume 20 Issue Number 5, October 2017

## What's in this issue?

1. What's New?
2. Following Up
3. Research/Reading Roundup
4. Leaders' Speech File
5. Notes from the Asylum
6. Sponsor Highlight

## 1. What's New?

### **Leadership Opportunities**

Detailed information about **Michigan Leadership Institute Searches in Progress** and the on-line application can be found at the Michigan Leadership Institute website, [www.mileader.com](http://www.mileader.com).

### **Superintendent, Traverse Bay Area ISD**

Michigan Leadership Institute is facilitating the search for Superintendent of Traverse Bay Area ISD. The application deadline is October 13, 2017. Questions regarding the search should be directed to the search consultant, MLI past-president Dr. Timothy Quinn at [timquinn@omleader.com](mailto:timquinn@omleader.com) or 231-642-0966.

### **Superintendent, Bedford Public Schools**

Michigan Leadership Institute is facilitating the search for Superintendent of Bedford Public Schools. The application deadline is October 13, 2017. Questions regarding the search should be directed to the search consultant, MLI President/CEO Dr. Michael Wilmot at [drmwillmotmli@hotmail.com](mailto:drmwillmotmli@hotmail.com). or 248-755-7596.

## Superintendent, Farwell Area Schools

Michigan Leadership Institute is facilitating the search for Superintendent of Farwell Area Schools. The application deadline is October 27, 2017. Questions regarding the search should be directed to the search consultant, MLI Regional President Gary Rider, at [gridermli@gmail.com](mailto:gridermli@gmail.com) or 606-901-3738.

## Superintendent, Sturgis Public Schools

Michigan Leadership Institute is facilitating the search for Superintendent of Sturgis Public Schools. The application deadline has not yet been set. Questions regarding the search should be directed to the search consultant, MLI Regional President Gary Rider, at 616-901-3738 or [gridermli@gmail.com](mailto:gridermli@gmail.com).

## Placements in Recent MLI Searches

Congratulations to Wendy Somers selected as Superintendent for Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools.

## 2. Following Up

**Note: If you are a graduate of any Superintendent Preparations Series Academy class, please keep us posted as you assume new education leadership roles.**

Congratulations to Wendy Somers (SUPES 2011) selected as Superintendent of Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools. Wendy was previously Middle School Principal in Fruitport.

## 3. Research/Reading Roundup: Articles of Interest

**Education Week; Vol. 37, Issue 6; September 27, 2017.**

This edition of Education Week, examines the future of work and the skills that will be necessary for employability and success in the near future. The first article in this issue (“Facing an Uncertain Future” by Benjamin Herold) examines the impact of automation and artificial intelligence on the most common occupations. It presents the prediction that by 2030 millions of jobs held today will no longer exist. A striking graphic on page 4 of the issue shows the percentage of each occupation likely to be eliminated. The second article (“‘Intelligent’ Tutors: Will They Change Teaching?” by Sarah D. Sparks) looks at the future of teaching. The article predicts that teaching positions will not be eliminated by technology, but will be significantly changed by it. Specifically, the article looks at AI technology which is used in classrooms and makes the case that teachers need to learn to integrate the technology into teaching, rather than simply use it as an “add on” to individualize. The article says that not only will the use of technology replace elements of a teacher’s instruction, but it is a way to model for students how technology will influence their work. Other articles in this issue look at the profile of a successful student in the technology age, model programs using apprenticeships to prepare students for the world of work, the use of digital badges and alternative credentialing related to work world skills, and how to learn how to learn. Included is a list of fastest growing occupations. The entire issue is worth reading as it poses lots of questions and ideas about how education for our students will be relevant to their futures. (Note: Education Week is starting a new line of coverage about workforce development.)

“Ed-Tech Trends, Challenges Predicted for Next Five Years;” Sarah Schwartz; Education Week, September 13, 2017; p.7.

This article reports the findings of a recent report from the New Media Consortium and the Consortium for School Networking. The report generated after interviews with education and technology experts predicts the impact of emerging technologies in K-12 education. The report identifies six significant challenges impeding technology adoption and six key trends and ed-tech approaches likely to accelerate technology adoption with a projected timeline for their implementation. The article suggests important topics for conversation as education reshapes itself for a future with technology integration.

“What Sets Successful CEOs Apart;” Elena Lytkina Bothelho, Kim Rosenkoetter Powell, Stephen Kincaid, and Dina Wang; Harvard Business Review; May-June 2017; pp. 71-77.

This HBR article reports on research conducted over ten years with data on more than 17,000 corporate level executives, including more than 2,000 CEO’s. The article identifies four key behaviors that appear to account for success in top executive roles. The descriptions of the key behaviors and the number one mistake made by first time CEO’s suggest important leadership characteristics and actions for leaders of organizations—including school Superintendents. Read the full article for a thought-provoking and interesting study of successful leadership.

#### 4. Leaders’ Speech File: Critical Thinking Quotes

- ❖ “Too often we hold fast to the cliches of our forebears. We subject all facts to a prefabricated set of interpretations. We enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought.” -John F. Kennedy
- ❖ “It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it.” -Joseph Joubert
- ❖ “The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking.” -John Kenneth Galbraith
- ❖ “Men are apt to mistake the strength of their feeling for the strength of their argument. The heated mind resists the chill touch and relentless scrutiny of logic.” –William Ewart Gladstone.
- ❖ “The essence of the independent mind lies not in what it thinks, but in how it thinks.” –Christopher Hitchens
- ❖ “The test of a first rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposing ideas in mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function.” -F. Scott Fitzgerald
- ❖ “Believe those who are seeking the truth; doubt those who find it.” -Andre Gile
- ❖ “The aim of argument or discussion should not be victory, but progress.” -Joseph Joubert
- ❖ “The beginning of thought is in disagreement—not only with others, but also with ourselves.” -Eric Hoffer
- ❖ “I feel I change my mind all the time. And I sort of feel that’s your responsibility as a person, as a human being—to constantly be updating your positions on as many things as possible. And if you don’t contradict yourself on a regular basis, then you’re not thinking.” –Malcolm Gladwell

#### 5. Notes From the Asylum: Jokes for the season

- Where do spooks waterski? On Lake Erie
- What is the ratio of a pumpkin’s circumference to its diameter? Pumpkin pi
- Why didn’t Dracula have any friends? He was a pain in the neck.
- What did one casket say to the other? “Was that you coffin?”

- What do you call a witch who likes the beach but is scared of the water? A chicken sand witch
- How do you fix a broken jack-o-lantern? With a pumpkin patch
- How do you make a witch itch? Take away her W.
- What did the ghost teacher say to her class? “Watch the board and I’ll go through it again.”
- Why don’t skeletons play music in church? They have no organs.
- What did the werewolf eat after he’d had his teeth cleaned? The dentist
- When do vampires like horse racing? When they are neck and neck
- What do you call ghosts who ring doorbells? Dead ringers
- What does a ghost keep in his stable? Night mares
- Why don’t mummies take vacations? They are afraid they will relax and unwind.
- Where do mummies go for a swim? To the Dead Sea

## 6. Sponsor Highlight—Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co.

The Michigan Public Finance team at HSE provides small and large school districts and other municipal issuers with financial expertise in capital planning, budgeting and debt management. HSE’s industry expertise and long term relationships bridge the lines of communication between issuers and the investment community. The company helps clients understand current interest rates, bond market conditions and trends, and changes in federal and state laws and regulations which affect bonds and borrowing plans.

## 7. About Us

Michigan Leadership Institute is committed to supporting the success of public education by developing, deploying and supporting outstanding executive leadership. Based in current leadership research, all MLI services are developed and delivered by successful leader-practitioners. For more information about MLI services, please visit our web site [www.mileader.com](http://www.mileader.com) or contact any of the regional presidents:

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Our purpose in publishing this newsletter is to share some of the more interesting and useful information gleaned from our ongoing research on the topic of leadership. Please feel free to forward this message to colleagues who may be interested. If they would like to subscribe directly, they can email us at [kathy\\_eiler@hotmail.com](mailto:kathy_eiler@hotmail.com) and ask to be added to the mailing list. To unsubscribe, email us at the e-mail address above and ask to be removed from the list.