Homelessness is often thought of as an urban issue; rarely do we think of homelessness as a local problem. However, there are many students attending Sault Area Public Schools who have been identified as homeless. In fact, the district has identified more than 60 students who are homeless. There are a variety of reasons that students are homeless. The reasons are not important; what is important is that these students need extra support and assistance. The McKinney – Vento Act provides federal money to support homeless students. This money is routed to schools through a regional grant. The district’s Homeless Liaison, Carol McKay, is a special education teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. She works closely with area agencies and organizations to secure donations of clothes and school supplies that are then distributed to the students. Cash donations are used to buy other materials for the students. The Sault Rotary Club, with assistance from Junior Rotarians at the high school, operates the “Kidz Klozit” which accepts clothing donations for students who need these items. There is a “Kidz Klozit” at both the high school and the middle school. Local organizations and individuals have been very supportive of this effort. Other organizations provide donations to the schools to support students who are in need.

If you are aware of a student who may be homeless, please contact Ms. McKay at Lincoln School, or any of the principals at the buildings. If you are able to make a donation of clothes, school supplies, or a cash donation, again, please contact Ms. McKay or a building principal.

Prior to the terrible tragedy that took place in Newtown, Connecticut, the district administration had meetings with local and county law enforcement agencies to begin the process to update the district’s emergency preparedness plans. On February 15, there will be training for district staff on our responses to emergencies. The safety of our students is given the highest priority and we will continue to review and revise our emergency plans as we move forward. If you have questions about the emergency plans in your child’s school, please contact the building principal.

Once again this year, students in Business Professionals of America distinguished themselves at their first competition. Fifty-two of our students earned the chance to go to state competition. We wish them good luck!

Finally, the Student Health Adolescent Care Center (SHACC) located in the high school underwent a major renovation last summer and early fall. The Health Department secured a major grant to fund the renovations. As part of the project, the SHACC expanded and will soon offer dental services to our middle and high school students. The students benefit greatly from the medical, counseling, and (soon) dental services.

Dr. Tim Hall
SAULT AREA CAREER CENTER 2012-2013 CLASS OFFERINGS

Each year Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools offer Career and Technical Education Programs at Sault Area Career Center. These programs are designed to prepare youth for a broad range of employment and training services and are offered under the guidance of certified teachers, counselors, and a work based learning coordinator. The following is a list of programs being offered this year and criteria for admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Criteria for Admission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Technology</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMMT Marketing</td>
<td>11th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMMT Accounting</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMMT Administration</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMMT Information Technology</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>MT Welding</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>MT Machining</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drafting Technology</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Technology</td>
<td>10th grade status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Based Learning</td>
<td>11th or 12th grade status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-op</td>
<td>related CTE class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than Class Size</td>
<td>Minimum GPA, interview process</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All career and technical education programs follow the district’s policies of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender, age, disability, height, weight or marital status in all programs, activities, and employment. In addition, arrangements can be made to ensure that the lack of English language skills is not a barrier to admission or participation.

For general information about these programs, contact:
Jo Anne Lussier, Sault Area Career Center Director
904 Marquette Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3839 extension 5901

Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:
Amanda Matheson, Business Manager
876 Marquette Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3839 extension 5011

Historical Paintings: Purchased for Sault Area High School

Sault Area High School and Career Center have on display eight historic prints of Sault Ste. Marie throughout the building. Bernie Arbic, the Director of the Chippewa County Historical Society, assisted the high school administration with the selection of the prints.

"I think it is important our students understand they attend one of the oldest high schools in the State of Michigan. Our area has a rich cultural diversity and each year we plan on adding to our display," Principal John Sherry stated. At the annual Veteran’s Assembly a special portrait of the remaining WWI Drum and Bugle Corps was unveiled.

Pictured is Principal John Sherry showing a historical print of the original Sault Area High School.
Sault High Softball Ranks 35th Nationally

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - The 2011-12 Sault High softball team was ranked 35th nationally on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Academic list for schools with unweighted GPAs. It is the second-highest ranking in school history, but the program's highest team GPA since it began in 1994. The 2006 team was ranked 25th nationally with a 3.381 GPA.

Last year's squad posted a 3.41 team GPA and had four NFCA Academic All-Americans (Alex Crimin, Kylee Fitzpatrick, Payton Salomon and Courtney Shier). Crimin, Fitzpatrick and Shier were juniors, while Salomon was a freshman.

Sault High was one of five Michigan high schools that made the top 40. “Athletics and academics have always been a big part of my life, and having our team receive this honor is such a great recognition for all of our hard work,” said Shier, who has the team’s highest individual GPA of 4.035. Shier will be an outfielder for the Blue Devils in 2013.

“I think that it is an honor that our team got this recognition,” said Fitzpatrick, a three-year starting outfielder who has a 3.887 GPA and also earned all-region honors in 2012. “We all work hard during school, then bring that hard work to practice. Our team is full of smart student-athletes, which makes us successful.”

Sault High varsity coach Linda Bouvet noted that most coaches will say that it’s no coincidence that successful teams are generally made up of athletes who are good students.

“Maintaining good grades while playing a spring sport is no easy task,” Bouvet said. “Our players miss a lot of class as most of their season is crammed into the month of May, and they often have to make tough choices in order to balance athletics and academics. Knowing that I don’t have to worry about whether our players are going to class or fear weekly grade reports allows Coach McRorie and myself to focus more on coaching.”

Water Bottle Refilling Station Installed at Middle School

Late this fall the maintenance team from Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools installed an ELKAY water bottle refilling station in the Sault Area Middle School. Our entire school district continues to do our part to help reduce our footprint and keep these water bottles from hitting our waste stream. A filling station makes the most sense. Why not take advantage of free, filtered water in place of purchasing individual water bottles that are filling up our landfills.

These units can be installed as retro-fits to pre-existing water fountains or stand alone units. The water comes directly from the water supply and passes through the filter and then the evaporator, producing chilled, filtered water that dispenses from both the pre-existing bubbler on the original unit as well as the new bottle-filling unit. Each filter is good for about 3,000 gallons of water, which, depending on bottle size, can average out to 30,000 uses.

Refilling water containers is more sustainable and will reduce one-time use of plastic water bottles from entering the waste stream, ultimately reducing our cost of handling waste also. Larry Perron, Director of Maintenance and Transportation said, “The installation of these refilling stations makes tap water more accessible and convenient for our students.”
Anita Saluja

At age 16, most students are getting their driver’s license, looking forward to becoming an upper-classman, and thinking about applying for their first job. Not Anita Saluja. She had just received her BS in Mathematics from Lake Superior State University (two months before her 16th birthday) and was in her first year of medical school at the University of Michigan – the youngest med student in school history.

Today Dr. Anita Saluja is a board-certified dermatologist at MIMA Dermatology in Brevard County, Florida. Working in a multispecialty group of about 120 doctors, she provides a full spectrum of medical, aesthetic/anti-aging, and dermatological care. “I take care of a lot of sun damaged skin, aging skin, and skin cancer.” She has gained extensive experience practicing dermatology, dermatology surgery, and cosmetic dermatology with MIMA since 2001. Dr. Saluja and her wonderful team have a common goal to make sure her patients are both healthy and beautiful.

Dr. Saluja’s educational path was a unique one, to say the least. As a 5th grader at Jefferson Elementary School in 1987, Anita took her first college mathematics course at LSSU, where her father, Dr. Madan Saluja, is a business professor. “I continued taking classes at Lake State from 6th grade through 10th grade. My early education was most influential; It’s the time to build a foundation and develop good habits.” At Jefferson she had many excellent teachers, including her mother, Karuna Saluja. While in Junior High and High school she found writing in English classes to be most challenging. “I remember my English teachers, especially Mrs. Michaud and Mrs. Faunt, for instilling my love of reading and writing.” Junior high art with Tom Marshall and high school chemistry with Lynn Dunham were also very memorable. “The teachers at the Sault Public Schools were very engaged in their classes and actively teaching. Schools are only as wonderful as their teachers and the Sault Public Schools had great ones!”

Dr. Saluja earned her medical degree at the age of 20 from the University of Michigan. While at UM she was a member of the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. After her internship, Dr. Saluja received three years of dermatology specialty training at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, helping her become an expert dedicated to skin.

For students thinking about pursuing a career in medicine she recommends “enjoying the educational process and its challenges. For me, it now takes planned effort to find time to study or go to conferences – time away from work and home. It was easy as a student to go to the library or find a quiet space to concentrate and learn. Learn as much as you can and do as well as you can. I can say, as an employer, it’s hard to find an employee who has his/her fundamental education down and who has developed a work ethic and professional character too.”

Anita and her husband Raj Gutta met in medical school. Dr. Gutta is an emergency room physician. Friends like to joke that “I’m the doctor you want to see (for things like Botox, skin peels, etc.) and he’s the doctor you don’t want to see!” Raj and Anita live in Melbourne, Florida, and have two children, Priya 8 yrs and Sajan 11 yrs.
Blaine Fowler

What music were you listening to in the mid-80s? Prince & The Revolution, U2, Dire Straits? Chances are you were listening to that music on 99.5 YES FM and probably heard the voice of Blaine Fowler, a young DJ at the station. Blaine began his career in radio at the local station in 1983 during his freshman year at Sault High. By the time he graduated high school he already had his own overnight show. Nearly 30 years later, Blaine is still going strong in entertainment.

Blaine Fowler is the co-host of Detroit’s #1 rated morning show, 96.3 WDVD’s “Blaine and Allyson in the Morning.” The 1986 Sault High graduate has been doing the morning show there since 2003. Blaine and co-host Allyson’s features like Love Court, Therapy Thursday, Cross Examination, Swift Justice, Allyson’s Hollywood Dish, and Blaine’s Brain Buster keep listeners entertained every weekday in the Detroit area, and online at 963wdvd.com. “When I started here, the show was rated #18. We’ve been #1 for about five straight years.” Blaine has also spent the last two seasons as a host on Dish Nation, a nightly entertainment/celebrity news program which satirizes pop culture news, events, and headlines on Fox Television.

In his time away from the station, Blaine is lead singer and guitarist for his band, The Blaine Fowler Experience. They’ve played with Rick Springfield, Stone Temple Pilots, and more. Blaine also writes and records his own music in his spare time.

As a student in the Sault Public Schools, Blaine attended Washington Elementary School until 3rd grade and then McKinley Elementary through 6th grade. He credits Randy Pianosi with getting him back on track after a few “bad years” in 4th and 5th grades. “He tutored me one summer. He really ‘got’ my love of music and somehow used that to improve my math and reading skills. He’s a great guy.” Ann Ware, his 3rd grade teacher, and Sharon Faunt, his high school British Literature teacher, also played a huge role in his education. “Sharon was an amazing teacher and got me interested in different types of literature and really sparked my love of reading.” He really appreciates that both were at his mother’s funeral years ago.

Blaine feels that the Sault Public Schools “are always striving to give their students every advantage they can. Great teachers and a beautiful place.” When looking back at high school, Blaine remembers “doing a lot of time in Saturday School. I was not always a good student, but there were a lot of teachers who saw past my silliness and pushed me. I think that helped me in my radio career because they taught me that hard work and dedication pays off. And it has.”

For those thinking about a career in entertainment, Blaine says “be persistent, read a lot, be interested in current events, learn to tell stories, and be comfortable in your own skin.”

Blaine lives in Detroit with his wife Colleen and their son and daughter. You can follow him on Twitter at Blaine963 or check out his website blainefowler.com.
Tall Hat Society at Lincoln Elementary School

What is the Tall Hat Society? Each month a member of the Lincoln Elementary School staff is selected as the Tall Hat Winner. The other staff members nominate people for the award. They are nominated because they go above and beyond their regular job duties. Just like a Falcon Award Winner (student award), the Tall Hat winner follows the Four B’s and helps out without being asked. They are always looking for a way to make Lincoln Elementary School a better place. The Tall Hat winner is always cheerful, helpful and sets a good example for others to follow. The Tall Hat award is presented at our monthly honors assembly. The Tall Hat Society winners to date are: September- Joe Wartella; October- Cheryl Sundstrom; November- Tara Dodge.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR TALL HAT AWARD WINNERS!!
Sault High Exchange Students

This year Sault Area High School and Career Center is proud to have the opportunity to host three foreign exchange students. Pictured with Principal John Sherry and Assistant Principal Carl McCready are Luisa Birkmann, Mathis Müller, and Michaela Bierlich.

Luisa, a fifteen year old from Herne, Germany is living with host parents David and Melissa Dowdy. In her spare time she enjoys swimming, drawing, and painting. She is also a gifted musician, playing both the piano and keyboard.

Mathis Müller is a sixteen year old from Weinsberg, Germany. Mathis is currently staying with his host parents, Andrew and Bréndá Jones. Mathis enjoys computers and playing handball.

Finally, Michaela is living with host parents Andrew and Karen Kucharczyk. A sixteen year old from Sweden, she enjoys both sports and animals. All three stated they have enjoyed their time at Sault High and look forward to the rest of the school year.

School Meals Are Changing—New School Meal Requirements!

You may have heard that there will be new requirements for school meals. The new requirements are great news for our students! The new requirements will help Sault Area Public Schools build on the work we are already doing to provide more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and healthier entrees in our school cafeterias.

Some of the New Requirements include

- Increasing the amount of fruits and vegetables
- Reducing the sodium in meals over the next 10 years
- Setting calorie limits for the first time
- Increasing whole grains
- Limiting the amount of meat/meat alternative and grains

Students will now be required to have ½ cup of fruit or vegetable on their tray for it to count as a full meal. Anything less than a full meal will be charged as individual items. We plan to offer a variety of fruits and vegetables daily to give students more options in the hopes that choosing fruits and vegetables will be easy.

Schools are now limited on how much meat/meat alternate and grain that can be offered. This means that some of the main dishes may not be as large as they have been in the past. Remember, though, there will be more fruits and vegetables available, to fill out the meal and ensure students have plenty to eat!

In Sault Area Public Schools, we have already made progress toward meeting the new requirements.

What Are We Doing

- Fresh fruit and vegetables are served every day.
- Sandwiches are served on whole wheat buns.
- Half of the pasta served is whole grain.
- Milk that is available is only low-fat or fat-free.
- Main dishes have been changed to reduce sodium.
- Dark green and orange vegetables are served on a weekly basis.
- Dried beans have been incorporated into some of the recipes.

How Can You Help?

The school nutrition program needs the support of parents to succeed! Parents can support this effort by encouraging their child to give the healthier meals a try, joining their child for lunch and talking about the healthy options, or simply introducing their child to these healthy changes at home. You are your child’s primary role model, when they see you choose healthy foods they are more likely to choose them as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Brenda Garland, Food Service Director at (906) 635-3839 ext. 5828 or by email at bgarland@eup.k12.mi.us. We are here to help!
FLL Lego Robotics Teams Place First and Second

Sault Area Public School FLL LEGO Robotics teams from Soo Township and Washington Elementary Schools placed first and second in the “Movin’ U.P.” FIRST FLL Qualifying Tournament held at LSSU on December 1. Washington Elementary School fourth and fifth grade students participated for the first time in the LEGO Robotics program. This program provided students an opportunity to apply math and science concepts to design, build and program an autonomous robot. They also had worked together to find a possible solution to a real-world challenge faced by senior citizens. Both teams worked hard to overcome obstacles and meet challenges, and on December 8 competed in the FLL State Tournament in Flint, MI.

Pictured above:
Katie Marger, Ellie Marger, Hannah DeNuccio-McShane, Taylor Pitko, Alex Lamma, Miles Randolph, Joseph Allen, Gavin Wilson, Landon Bosley