

Saginaw County's TRUE Initiative

The TRUE Update

truesaginaw.org

2.08

“Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This issue

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The Future

To Our Partners

Welcome to another issue of our little newsletter. In the midst of these cold months, the TRUE Initiative is still going strong and has lots of “irons in the fire.” Read on to get up-to-date on where

the project is currently.

To you, the participants in this endeavor, our partners, we again say “thank you.” Without you and your efforts for Saginaw’s kids, our hopefulness would be impossible.

Steering Committee Success

It was a night of remembering the past, trumpeting the present, and envisioning the future. In December, at the Saginaw Intermediate School District’s Transitions Center, Mayor Seals and leaders from all spheres of our community met to celebrate the completion of the TRUE Initiative’s inaugural year.

Attendees of this event explored the Initiative’s unique role as the

only federally-funded character education program for early childhood in the country, how its work has already produced successful first-steps toward a more positive Saginaw County, and developed

practical ways to ensure success for the Initiative’s remaining three years.

In the coming months, our Steering Committee will

begin to play a more vital role in mapping the future of the Initiative—exciting things are in store!



Coming Soon to a School Near You

Throughout the winter, our trainers will be making periodic visits to Kindergarten teachers who are using the curriculum. If you haven't seen them in your building yet, please contact TRUE

so an appointment can be made.

When Anita and Lisa do stop by, it will simply be to make sure your needs (and your kids' needs) are being met, and to welcome any of



your great ideas.

Coming soon: training for First Grade!

Evaluation Continues

The evaluation component of the Initiative is vital. With that in mind, our best efforts at determining the effectiveness of this program continue.

Just to give you an idea

of what an undertaking the evaluation is: the *Peddlesfoots* is being used in over thirty schools—not to mention service organizations—and there is pre and post data to be interpreted from all of

these sites. Needless to say, sifting this information takes time, but it will be worth it when positive outcomes begin to be seen.

If you have evaluation concerns, please contact us.

What's new @ truesaginaw.org

- Find this newsletter, the 2007-2008 calendar and more online
- Head to the forum, check out ideas from other teachers, and add your own to enter our "TRUE Tips" contest

What's Next?

After our recent Steering Committee Meeting . . . A lot.

First, we're launching something called the "TRUE Tips" contest. Participants in our online forum who post their "tips" on implementing the *Peddlesfoots* will automatically be entered in this con-

test. Periodically, we'll choose the poster of the best strategies, and that person will win a prize, be recognized online and in future TRUE communications, and more. Please join the discussion at truesaginaw.org.

Also, big ideas for TRUE's involvement in



the greater Saginaw community are in the works. Next update, be looking for more specifics on how the Initiative may impact the future.