



For Immediate Release

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April Highlights the Important Work of Occupational Therapists

Mason, MI - During the month of April, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) celebrates the important role that occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants play in the lives of others. Professionals in these roles help people across the lifespan participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. Ingham Intermediate School District (Ingham ISD) is fortunate to have a number of occupational therapists on staff that serve a variety of students and families across the Ingham ISD service area.

Common occupational therapy (OT) interventions include helping children with disabilities to participate fully in school and social situations, helping people recover from an injury to regain skills, and providing supports for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive changes. At Ingham ISD, our occupational therapists are helping the families of babies reach milestones, assisting students in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classrooms as well as helping students with disabilities lead fuller lives. Services typically include; individualized evaluation, customized intervention to improve the student's ability to perform daily activities as well as outcome evaluations to ensure the goals are being met and/or make changes to the intervention plan.

“Our Ingham ISD occupational therapists are essential to the students we serve because they enhance the students' ability to fully access their school environment and be successful,” states Brian Grew, Director of Itinerant Services at Ingham ISD. “Our OT's collaborate with students, parents, teachers and other professionals with the goal of achieving the best school experience possible for students. They are continuously challenging themselves to grow and develop as providers,” Grew also noted.

Stacy Turke is in her 36th year working as an Occupational Therapist at Ingham ISD. She has served students in a variety of situations and classrooms. Currently she is working with students in East Lansing Public Schools including the ASD program at Pinecrest Elementary.



“As a school occupational therapist, I get to help children unlock skills and abilities unique to each of them, helping them develop a love of playing and learning”, notes Turke. “Watching their joy and confidence grow fills my heart,” she also noted.

Ingham ISD will highlight our occupational therapists throughout the month of April on social media. We will share their experiences, what motivates them daily and what they are most proud of when it comes to their work.

Ingham Intermediate School District offers program and services to staff and students in the districts of Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Lansing, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston. For more information, visit Ingham ISD (www.inghamisd.org).

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