

**Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District
2013-14 Report on the Status of the Service Consolidation Plan to
Meet Best Practice Requirements A and D
Of MCL 388.1681(7)
January 30, 2014**

Shared Services that have been implemented at the Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona E.S.D.

The Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona E.S.D. has a large number of shared services with other entities for efficiencies and cost savings. These include Transportation, Food Service, Business Services, Maintenance, Special Education Staffing, curriculum development, professional development and others. The District has always looked at ways to be more efficient while providing quality service and will continue to do so when it is appropriate. In 2012-13 the District met with area Superintendents and discussed additional ways to consolidate services. The following service consolidations were implemented in 2013-14.

1. Student Information/Data Systems – The Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona E.S.D. along with all but one of its LEA's has studied and contracted with a company to provide all data information necessary to report student demographic, academic, and program participation information to meet Federal, State and local reporting requirements. This includes parent communication including grade reporting and scheduling.
2. Technology Services – The Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona E.S.D. along with all but one of its LEA's formed a technology consortium through Alpena Public Schools. This consolidation of Services for technology will provide consistent and reliable updates, upgrades, planning and repairs to the equipment, fiber, networks for the large amount of technology needs in both instruction and administration within the Schools.

Districts and Intermediate Districts Participating in the Shared Student Information System

1. Alpena Public Schools – Total Participation
2. Alcona Community Schools – Total Participation
3. Hillman Community Schools – Total Participation
4. Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District – Total Participation

Districts and Intermediate Districts Participating in the Shared Technology Services

1. Alpena Public Schools – Total Participation
2. Alcona Community Schools – Total Participation
3. Hillman Community Schools – Total Participation
4. Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District – Total Participation

Projected Total Cost Savings Related to Each Shared Service

1. The cost savings for the shared Student Information System totals \$312,000 over a five year period.
2. The cost savings for the shared Technology Services annually are \$55,000.

Brief Narrative Summary describing the successes related to implementing each shared service

1. The successes so far of implementing the Student Information System includes saving money, doing joint professional development, sharing technical support services, collaboratively problem solving as issues arise. Also, the shared service allows for consistency of ISD wide grade reporting and Pupil Accounting Attendance and auditing applications for communicating to parents and reporting to the State and Federal Government. It also allows for easier setup to transfer data regularly to our data warehouse system and allows one staff of technicians to become an expert on the system and yet service multiple districts.
2. The Successes so far of implementing the shared Technology Services include cost savings, staffing support throughout the ISD with different levels of expertise in different areas, extra support if needed, more than one person understanding the system in a District (capacity), and expertise to review and plan the networks and systems to recommend consistency throughout the ISD.

Challenges faced in the implementation of each shared service

1. The challenges faced with the shared Student Information System include coordinating and agreeing on the decision to purchase a particular piece of software with each District and Board of Education, setting up agreements as a consortium, the large amount of training involved. In deciding on the software and also on training schedules each District didn't always have the same priorities which needed to be worked through.
2. The challenges faced with the shared Technology Services includes finding and training the proper staffing who are qualified, the many cost upgrades for equipment and software to become similar and consistent, the loss of control per District, and the learning of staff members the process for attaining service.