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Flint Educator Receives International Recognition Award for 'Making It Happen' in Educational Technology'

April 3, 2013 – Lansing, Michigan – Marie Zuk, long time Flint area educator and technology consultant for Convergent Technology Partners, was recently honored with the coveted *Making IT Happen* jacket for her contributions to the successful integration of technology in education in K–12 schools. The Making IT Happen award is provided by the International Society for Technology in Education, of which the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) is an affiliate.

While attending the MACUL conference last month in Detroit, Zuk was honored for her dedication to education and successful integration of technology in the classroom. The *Making IT Happen* program has made a commitment to work with state and national organizations to identify individuals who are truly *Making IT Happen* within their respective state or region and to recognize them publicly.

During the award ceremony, Zuk was described as a tireless advocate in inspiring educators to use 21st Century resources to benefit student academic achievement. MACUL Executive Director Ric Wiltse described Zuk's invaluable contributions to educational technology through her service to MACUL and the greater Michigan education community by designing and leading the MI-Champions program over the last five years.

Finally, it was noted that Zuk continues to focus her efforts on integrating technology into education through her work with Michigan school districts.

Successful integration of educational technology requires a common passion, initiative and pledge that can best be summarized by the *Making IT Happen* Formula of Success:

- 1 Educators and leaders who apply available technology now
- 2 Move forward and don't look back
- 3 See students as real people
- 4 Teach through relationships by inspiring, encouraging, and nurturing
- 5 Recognize that further change is necessary, but understand that it is a process
- 6 Realize that teacher empowerment is the key element to technology integration
- 7 Expect success
- 8 Motivate through awareness and access to information

Zuk joins a prestigious group of *Making It Happen* honorees, including classroom teachers, school principals, district superintendents, legislators, governors, and even former Secretary of Education, Richard Riley.

About Making It Happen

Founded in 1995, the *Making IT Happen* program highlights the dramatic role educators are having on the learning process by using technology and rewards those individuals for their commitment and innovation. To date, nearly 500 individuals have been awarded this recognition through ISTE and its affiliates. The impact of this program has been felt at numerous conferences around the world. The focus of the *Making IT Happen* program is on current practitioners, highlighting their significant contribution and encouraging them to continue their work. *Making IT Happen* recipients are in the classroom, making it happen for learners every day.

About ISTE

The [International Society for Technology in Education](#) (ISTE ®) is the premier membership association for educators and education leaders engaged in advancing excellence in learning and teaching through the innovative and effective use of technology in PK-12 and teacher education. Home to ISTE's [annual conference](#) and exposition and the widely adopted [NETS](#), ISTE represents more than 100,000 professionals worldwide. <http://www.iste.org>.

About MACUL

The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization established in 1975 dedicated to assisting the education community through support, promotion, and leadership in the effective use of educational technology. Its 10,500+ members come from Michigan, neighboring midwest states and Canada. MACUL is an organizational affiliate of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). Find out more about MACUL at: www.macul.org