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Battle Creek Educator Receives National Recognition Award for 'Making It Happen' in Educational Technology

March 12– Grand Rapids, MI – Margaret “Gigi” Lincoln, District Library Media Specialist for Lakeview School District in Battle Creek, Michigan was honored with the coveted *Making It Happen* award for her contributions to the successful integration of technology in education in K – 12 schools.

While attending the 36th Annual Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) conference in Grand Rapids, Gigi was honored by MACUL, 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 U.S. state and national organizations and conferences to identify individuals who are truly *Making It Happen* within their respective state or region and to recognize them publicly.

During the award ceremony, Gigi Lincoln was described by Mike Oswald, MACUL President and Assistant Superintendent of Regional Technology Services at Calhoun ISD, as a tireless champion for the use of media and technology to improve student learning. “Gigi is a leader in Michigan helping educators effectively use media and technology resources to benefit student academic success,” Oswald stated. “Providing educators with the knowledge and understanding of how to integrate the most appropriate educational technology tools into schools is what Gigi does best. It is clear that whatever Gigi sets her mind to it is grounded in passion for educating students and empowering educators with resources and experiences that bring learning to life.”

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.

The eight components of the Formula of Success are:

1. Educators [those in the field of education] who apply available technology now
2. Move forward and don't look back
3. See students as real people
4. Teach through relationships – inspire, encourage, nurture
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

Gigi 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 MACUL

The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization established in 1975 and is dedicated to bringing educators from all levels together to ignite learning through meaningful collaboration and innovation. Its 7,000+ 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.

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About ISTE

The [International Society for Technology in Education](http://www.iste.org) (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>.