



EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
of Lorain County



**2019 – 2020
ANNUAL
REPORT**

THE
Premier Choice
FOR YOUR
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Connecting to Our Community



Superintendent
Franco Gallo

The ESC actively connects to community organizations providing a place to gather and discuss important issues impacting our region:

- ODE State Support Team Region 2 – host site and fiscal agent
- Lake Erie Regional Consortium (health insurance) – host site and fiscal agent
- Lorain County Attendance Program
- Lorain County Health Coalition
- Fatality Review Board (law enforcement/health dept.)
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) (ITC site)
- Lorain County Superintendents Council
- TALK Network
- Middle School Health Collaborative - "CommonView" (United Way)
- Fill the Bus
- NCSSA - substitute teacher recruitment and training
- Little Free Library Initiative (fiscal agent)
- Scholastic Games (fiscal agent)
- Commonview Collaborative

ESC leadership is actively involved in organizations that seek to improve children's lives:

- United Way of Greater Lorain Co., Executive Board
- Family and Children First Council
- Ohio Schools Council
- Greater Cleveland School Superintendents Assoc., Executive Board
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) Vice-Chairman
- Lorain County Chamber of Commerce
- Emergency Management Agency, Lorain County
- Westshore Council International Reading Assoc., Executive Board
- Local Boards of Education - Executive Searches (Treasurers and Superintendents)
- Lorain County Business Advisory Council
- Lorain County Imagination Library Project



ESC STAFF

170

Full-time

45

Part-time

39,682

Students served across Lorain County

Programs & Services



The ESC is a premier provider of professional development opportunities striving to meet the ever changing needs of administrators, service providers, teachers, and classified staff serving our children. Along with rolling out mandatory trainings from Ohio Department of Education to meet state requirements, we also provide customized trainings.

<h2>Professional Development</h2>	<h2>NORT2H Technology Integration Services</h2>	<h2>Programs</h2>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catastrophic Cost Workshops • Content Area Specific Workshops • Curriculum Mapping • De-escalation Training • Desmos Training • DIBELS Next Webinar • Excessive Costs Workshops • Gifted Competency Training • Legal Update • LETRS Training • Literacy Consulting/PD • Making Math Irresistible • Math Coaching • Non-Violent Crisis Intervention • Ohio School Counselors Evaluation Training (OSCES) • Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) • Online Book Studies • OTES 2.0 Bridge Training • OTES Mythbusters • PBIS Tier 1 • Restorative Practices in the Classroom • SAS EVAAS Training • Unconscious Bias • Yoga 4 Classrooms • Zones of Regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customized On-site or Remote/Online Professional Development • Instructional Technology Coaching • Support for Redesigning Instructional Spaces • Technology Planning & Consultation • Tinker/Makerspace, STEAM, and PBL Support • Transition to Digital/Remote Instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Challenge • Agencies Cross-Systems Training • Art Shows • Honors Choir/Band • Nordson Teacher Grants • Pupil Transportation • Solo & Ensemble • Spelling Bees • Young Authors • Homeless Liaison Support and Training
<h2>Services</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fingerprinting • Paraprofessional Assessment • Substitutes • Social Workers • Job Fairs 	<h2>Gifted & Talented Programs</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT Practice Test • Attorney Classroom Workshops • Mock Trial • Professional Development • Screening/Testing/ID • SpherOlympics • WAPs/Accelerations • WEPs/Resources • Visual Arts ID Day • 24-Game 	<h2>Special Education</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Audiology • Occupational Therapy • Orientation and Mobility Specialist • Parent Mentors • PEP Assist • Physical Therapy • Project SEARCH • Speech/Language Therapy
		<h2>Our Schools</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avon Early Learning Center • The Early Learning Center • Pathway to Success

Professional Development



Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction

Moira Erwine

Literacy Consultant

Olivia Weisman

An estimated 500 teachers, administrators and service providers in the Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, Keystone, and Wellington school districts participated in a Common Professional Development Day on Monday, Nov. 4, at Lorain County Community College. The theme was “#eachchildourfuture.”

The planning team carefully designed 77 sessions to meet individual professional development needs of both certified and classified staff. Presenters from Kent State, Ohio Department of Education, Lake Erie College, NASA, LCCC and many local agencies helped us to make this day impactful. With financial support from the Nordson Foundation, participants started the day with Dr. Stephen Sroka, whose keynote session entitled, “The Power of One” emphasized the importance of building relationships with students, staff, and community.

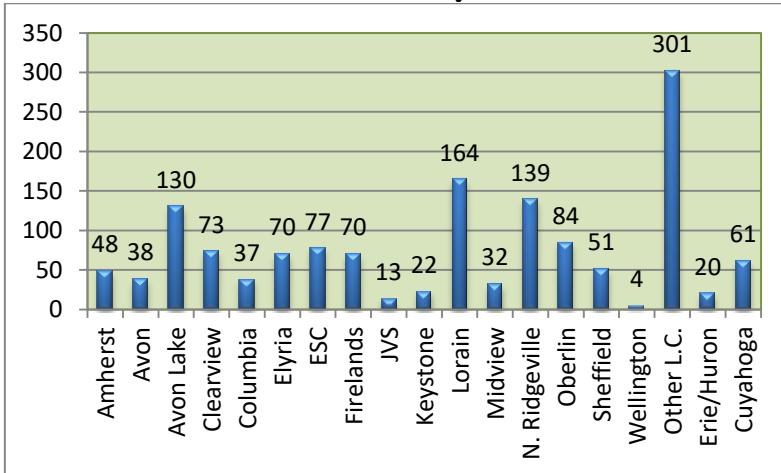
International presenter, William VanCleave, provided four hours of training on “Vocabulary Matters!” implementing best practices in vocabulary instruction with a focus on morphology.

North Ridgeville’s Professional Development Day was held on October 10, 2019 providing twenty-three sessions to 222 staff members including full day sessions for science teacher and those who serve students on the autism spectrum.

Literacy Professional Development

PD Topics	District/Session	# of Participants
Facilitating LETRS Face to Face Training	Brooklyn City Schools	95
R-TFI	Clearview Local	9
Vocabulary and Informational Text Strategies/Literacy Consultation	Edison Local	59
Kindergarten Literacy Night	Avon Lake City	30
LETRS Training/Coaching	Firelands Local/Lorain Prep Academy	201
Advanced Word Studies & Morphology; Phonological Awareness & Phonics	Lorain Prep Academy	97
Garfield SoR and 5 big ideas	Lorain City	40
Literacy Coaching	N. Ridgeville City, Oberlin, Firelands, Lorain Prep, Midview, Bay Village, Brooklyn City Schools, Edison	172
Science of Reading Webinar	Oberlin City	36
Phonological Awareness Development in Emergent and Early Readers	2019 OcaliCon Session	32
Literacy Coaching	Port Clinton City	10
RTFI (K-4); RTFI (5-12); Science of Reading & Curriculum Selection	Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City	24
Vocabulary Explicit Instruction; R-TFI	Vermilion Local	101
BL: Completing -R-TFI; Science of Reading Webinar; LETRS, Curriculum Selection PD, Facilitating Literacy Team and Curriculum Selection Team, and Literacy Coaching	Wellington Ex. Village	125
Building Decision Making Rules around Literacy	LPA, Bay Village	25
TOTAL		1,056

Participants Attending PD Events June 2019 - May 2020



"Other" contains community schools and other organizations

73

Total Events
Literacy not included

1,434

Total Participants

37

Graduate Credit Recipients

2,736

Eduplanet21 Participants

50

ParaPro Praxis Participants

NORT²H Technology Integration Services



Director of Technology & Innovation
Dave Miller
Technology & Innovation Specialist
Michael Triska



The Northern Ohio Research and Training Technology Hub (NORT²H) assists K12 schools with EdTech vision, instruction, and support. NORT²H acts as a consultant to districts as technologies are adopted for the classroom and provides professional development and coaching to support selected technologies.

Consulting & Support

The consultative staff inside NORT²H come from the classroom, work with districts all across Northern Ohio, and have the unique ability to assist districts as they make technology decisions and purchases that can impact student learning. NORT²H helps districts all across Northern Ohio as various 1:1 and BYOD initiatives are deployed. More recently, NORT²H has assisted districts in researching makerspaces and redesigning collaborative learning environments.

Professional Development

NORT²H specializes in providing engaging and hands-on training to schools. We want teachers to embrace new methodologies and technology tools for the classroom to engage students which will ultimately increase student learning. This year, NORT²H provided 176 hours of professional development workshops to its clients, as well as coaching, consulting, site visits, special projects, and MORE!

Member School Districts

Avon Lake City, Avon Local, Columbia Local, Cuyahoga Heights, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, ESC of Lorain County, Elyria City, Firelands Local, Lorain City, LCCC, Lorain County Juvenile Detention Home, North Ridgeville, Polaris Career Center, and Sheffield/Sheffield Lake.

A Snapshot of Services

Coaching - One-on-one or job embedded in-the-moment support to increase efficiency and integrate technology into instruction while reaching individual improvement goals or supporting district wide initiatives.

Consulting & Support - more focused meetings with clients to help make informed decisions, research instructional technology, and provide technical troubleshooting or instructional solutions.

Meetings - developing district wide goals with member schools, attending district technology meetings, facilitating regional instructional technology meetings, etc...

Professional Development - large and/or small group customized sessions for educators across Northern Ohio.

Projects - Higher time-intensive events for educators and students.

Site Visits - Organizing visits for members and non-members to see schools across Northern Ohio that have incorporated innovative maker/tinkerspaces, flexible seating options, 1:1 deployment, redesigned media centers, etc.

Aug 2019 – Mar 2020

66 Coaching Days
33 Consulting & Support
24 Meetings
54 Prof. Development
16 Projects
6 Site Visits

After March 2020

Developed NORT²H Online Learning Support website (online.nort2h.org) to assist our members during COVID-19 school closures sharing availability, online learning models, tutorials, guides, resources, and more resulting in over 250 remote support sessions via Zoom or other online connections.

Gifted & Talented Programs



Gifted Supervisors

Cathy Fischer, Mark Millar, & Alice Ogonek

The Gifted Department offers contracted services to school districts for programs, services, professional development, and assuring compliance with the ODE. Consortium Member Districts included: Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, and Wellington.

EVENTS/FIELD TRIPS/PROGRAMS

Programs	Description	Grade(s)	Districts	Students/Teachers
ACT Practice Testing	Practice college entrance testing and results that mirror a real-life testing environment.	7-8	Due to state-mandated school closures resulting from COVID-19, this program was unable to be presented during the 2019-2020 academic year.	N/A
Attorney Classroom Workshops	Fifteen (15) interactive workshops in which Lorain County attorneys instructed students in trial protocol and case presentation using proper courtroom vocabulary, protocol, and effective questioning techniques.	5-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Perkins, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, Wellington	462
24 Game Semi-Finals/Finals	Math tournament providing students gifted in math the opportunity to compete with students from other districts.	4-6	Amherst, Avon Lake, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, Wellington	60
Mock Trial	Twelve (12) simulated courtroom trials presided by actual attorneys acting as judges held at the Lorain County Justice Center. Verdicts were decided by student juries.	5-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Perkins, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, Wellington	462
SpherOlympics	Robot coding competition by grade level at LCCC Spitzer Center.	4-8	Due to state-mandated school closures resulting from COVID-19, this program was unable to be presented during the 2019-2020 academic year.	District
Visual Arts Identification	On-site evaluation of student portfolios by credentialed artists.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Perkins, Wellington	20

CURRICULUM SUPPORT

Service	Description	Grade(s)
Classroom Resources	Physical/electronic resources provided to assist teachers in meeting the curricular and social/emotional needs of gifted students.	K-12
Classroom Support	Support and resources to assist teachers with programming and curriculum.	K-12
Consortium Meetings	Three sessions (2 in-person) and (1 virtual) to address the educational needs of gifted students	K-12
Consulting	Phone, email and face-to-face consulting to assist teachers and parents in understanding gifted services and implementing instruction.	K-12
Lending Library	Classroom book sets provided to teachers to enrich learning.	K-12
Parent Communication	Responding to parent questions regarding districts' gifted services.	K-12



Gifted & Talented Programs



DATA MANAGEMENT

Service	Description	Grade	Districts	Students/Teachers
Data Records & Analysis	Cognitive, Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies, Creative Thinking and Visual Arts recordkeeping and analysis.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	District-wide
Class Placement Rubric Analysis and/or Development	Collaborated with administrators and educators to develop criteria for content area placement rubrics.	2-7	Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Wellington	District-wide

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMPLIANCE

Service	Description	Grade	Districts	Students/Teachers
Acceleration Testing/Early Entrance to Kindergarten	Met staff and parents of prospective students, and provided testing, scoring, and notification services for Early Entrance, Subject, or Whole Grade Acceleration.	Pre-K-8	Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake	113
Book Study Sessions	Provided introductory and follow up sessions to supplement online book studies: <i>How the Gifted Brain Learns</i> , <i>Differentiation of the Brain</i> , and <i>A Meaningful Mess</i> offered for continuing education hours and/or graduate credit.	K-12	Amherst, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, N. Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	72
District ID and Service Plans	Prepared plans encompassing state requirements, district criteria, and district services, submitted to and approved by ODE.	Pre-K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	District-wide
Identification: Referral Testing & Further Assessments	Analyzed whole grade screening data, provided testing, scoring, and notification services, reported to EMIS Coordinators.	K-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington <i>Due to state-mandated school closures resulting from COVID-19, further assessments were unable to be administered.</i>	187
High Quality Professional Development	Thirty-five (35) sessions to address the educational needs of gifted students, delivering one hundred eleven (111) contact hours.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	604
Written Acceleration Plans	Prepared acceleration plans for Early Entrance, Subject, or Whole Grade Acceleration.	PK-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	635
Written Education Plans	Recommended and/or assisted teachers and administrators in preparing plans for specialized gifted services, as approved by ODE.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	4,415

Special Education



Director of Special Education Services
Jamie Maassen



Project SEARCH

Project SEARCH is a high school transition program that is unique, business-led, one-year, school-to-work program that takes place entirely at the workplace. Total workplace immersion facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and relevant job-skills training through internships.

The goal for each student participant is competitive employment. The program provides real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent living skills to help youths with significant disabilities make successful transitions from school to productive adult life.

The Project SEARCH model involves an extensive period of training and career exploration, innovative adaptations, long-term job coaching, and continuous feedback from teachers, job coaches, and employers. As a result, at the completion of the training program, students with significant intellectual disabilities are employed in non-traditional, complex and rewarding jobs.

Eligibility and Student Selection:

Project SEARCH serves students with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities. Typically, these are students who are on an Individual Education Program (IEP) and in their last year of high school eligibility. The most important criterion for acceptance into Project SEARCH is a desire to achieve competitive employment.

Students are referred to the program through their schools, family members, or a vocational rehabilitation counselor and apply in the winter and spring in the year prior to entering the program. A team representative of all the partners: Project SEARCH teacher, host business liaison, VR Counselor, community rehabilitation provider staff and other appropriate staff carry out the selection process which includes tours, student interviews, hands-on assessments at the host sites and scoring on a rubric related to entrance considerations.

Project SEARCH is funded through the collaboration of Lorain County ESC, United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland, Board of Developmental Disabilities of Lorain County, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, the students' families and the city and county school districts.

For the 2019-2020 school year we continued to have two host sites for the program - Lorain County Community College and Mercy Health- Lorain Hospital. We had **7 interns at Mercy Health** - Lorain Hospital and **5 interns at Lorain County Community College**. Districts that participated include - Amherst Exempted Village Schools, Avon Lake City School, Avon Local Schools, Elyria City Schools, Keystone Local School, and Lorain City Schools.

The ESC of Lorain County has two host sites:

Lorain County Community College: Marketplace, Spitzer Catering Kitchen, Conference Staff, Corner Bistro, Student Life, Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) program, Commodore Bookstore, Bass Library, Children's Learning Center, Shipping and Receiving, Mailroom, Security and Triangle Services, Teacher Education Resource Center (TERC) Physical Plant.

Mercy Regional Medical Center: Sacred Grounds Coffeeshop, Company Store, Emergency Department Technician, Environmental Service, Nutrition Services, Materials Management, Medical Records, Patient Transport, Maintenance/ Grounds Keeping, Talent Acquisition, sterile processing and Angelica Linens.

Special Education

PEP Assist

PEP Assist is a service provided to schools to assist school staff when working with at-risk and special needs students. Services are tailored to meet the needs of each district. PEP assist consultants have experience and training in working with students identified with diagnoses including emotionally disturbed, autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, cognitively delayed, and multi-disabled. During the 2019-2020 school year there were **28 requests** for assistance in working with students with challenging behaviors. The consultants were in participating districts for a total of **184.75 hours** working with staff to address challenging behaviors. Participating districts: Clearview, Firelands, Lorain, Midview, Elyria, North Ridgeville, Sheffield, and Wellington.

Parent Mentors

School districts develop and provide meaningful educational programs for all students. A parent mentor works to support the relationship between the school and the family of a child with a disability. The school and family work together to provide a pathway for the child's success. By working closely with the parents and teachers, the parent mentor is an important part of the student's educational team. Mentors provide information and support to families about special education issues. Additionally, they make sure the district receives perspective and input from families. The ESC employees are two part-time parent mentors that service 16 school districts in Lorain and Huron County and work with many families. They communicated with all stakeholders via phone, email, or face to face meetings. This year they made **1,828 points of contact with the parents, 1,225 points of contact with teachers and administrators and 2,525 points of contact with other agencies that might provide private or public services to students and their families. The parent mentors attended 146 meetings including ETR/ IEP meetings, RTI/IAT, 504 meetings, and suspension/expulsion hearings.**

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy (OT) is considered a related service under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA), and is provided to help students with disabilities achieve success in the educational environment. Educational or school-based OT is designed to enhance the student's ability to fully access the educational environment. School therapy is provided in the natural school environment, meaning treatment and/or evaluation may take place in the classroom, library, cafeteria, playground, or other designated area within the school. Therapy in the school setting supports the student in meeting his/her educational goals; therefore, the level of OT support is driven by the student's IEP. The OTs may address needs in the areas of fine motor skills, visual perception, sensory processing, self-help or vocational skills.

During the 2019-20 school year, the Educational Service Center provided occupational therapy services to meet the needs of students in eight participating school districts in Lorain County including: Amherst, Clearview, Columbia, ESC Early Learning Center, Keystone, Midview, and Oberlin. The occupational therapists have worked with approximately 259 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade, completed 238 IEPs and completed 141 evaluations.

Services provided to districts:

- Initial evaluation and re-evaluation of individual students' fine motor skills and functional abilities (e.g. perceptual- motor, hand functions, motor coordination, sensory development, muscle strength).
- Active contributing members to ETR, IEP and 504 school teams such as needed evaluations formulate appropriate individual education goals and determine appropriate assistive technology.
- Direct consultation about specific student needs (accommodations and modifications) to school district personnel through the school year.
- Assists in assessing and recommending assistive technology, seating/ positioning equipment, transportation, and other adaptive equipment in all school environments.
- Plan, organize, and provide appropriate occupational therapy programs and activities to meet students' needs including accommodations and modifications in the schools' environment.
- Collaborates with other special service providers and school personnel to develop appropriate classroom activities to reinforce services being provided to children by the occupational therapist.

Special Education

Physical Therapy

Physical therapy (PT) is another of the related services under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). It is provided to support the Individualized Education Program (IEP) for students ages 3-21, who have a disability that interferes with their educational performance and ability to benefit from their education program. PT is provided to assist a child move as independently as possible in the school environment, to achieve academic success, and to participate fully in classroom activities. Physical therapy services are provided primarily through an integrated service model, meaning services are a combination of direct student-therapist contact with consultation and instruction to others involved in the student's educational program. PTs may work on functional mobility skills, architectural accessibility, utilizing appropriate assistive devices, transfers, positioning, and pre-vocational tasks.

During the 2019-20 school year, the Educational Service Center provided Physical Therapy services to meet the needs of students in three participating school districts in Lorain County including: Midview, Oberlin, and Wellington. The Physical Therapists work with approximately 15 students ranging from preschool to grade twelve. Over the course of the school year, she completed 20 IEPs and 9 evaluations.

Services provided to districts:

- Services as a consultant to and in collaboration with school personnel in the development and provision of a program for gross motor skills, functional mobility and safety improvement.
- Provide screening services and assists school personnel in the identification and referral of children with suspected gross motor and/or functional movement delays.
- Functions as a member of the evaluation team to provide a multi-factored evaluation to facilitate the assessment and diagnosis of motor disabilities/delays.
- Provides appropriate physical therapy to meet students' needs identified in evaluation reports and as described in the IEP.
- Collaborates with other special service providers and school personnel to develop appropriate classroom activities to reinforce services being provided to children by the physical therapist.

Orientation and Mobility Specialist

The Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist provides a wide range of services to students and school districts in compliance with local, state, and federal legislation. The O&M Specialist participates with district evaluation teams in qualifying students under state guidelines, assisting in developing program plans, providing direct and consultative services, and facilitating appropriate materials for individual students.

What does a Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist do?

- Conduct Orientation and Mobility Assessments to determine qualifications and needs
- Teach students how to move safely within their school and community using spatial and environmental concepts and information received by the senses (such as sound, temperature and vibrations) to establish, maintain, or regain orientation and line of travel (e.g., using sound at a traffic light to cross the street)
- Teach students to use the long cane to safely negotiate the environment
- Teach students to use remaining vision and distance low vision aids in order to travel independently
- Teach students to use GPS assistive technology to assist in independent travel
- Orient a student who is blind to locate classes, cafeteria, and other locations within school grounds

During the 2019-20 school year, the Educational Service Center provided O&M services to meet the needs of students in Avon Local Schools, Keystone Local Schools, Midview Local Schools, Vermilion Local Schools, Summit Academy, Wellington Exempted Village Schools, Oberlin City Schools, and Murray Ridge. The O&M specialist has worked with approximately 13 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade with a wide range of needs including those that are completely blind, have low vision, or Cortical Vision Impairments over the course of the school year. She completed 12 IEPs, 5 ETRs and 5 CVI evaluations.

Special Education

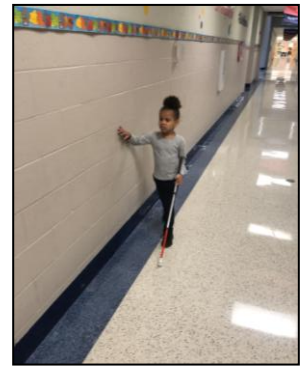
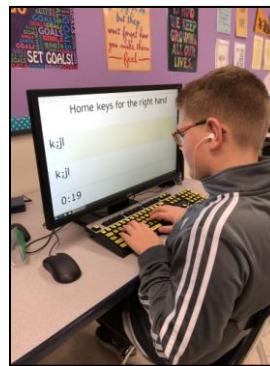
Visually Impaired

Itinerant Teachers of the Visually Impaired provide a wide range of services to students and school districts in compliance with local, state, and federal legislation. The teachers participate with district evaluation teams in qualifying students under state guidelines, assist in developing program plans, provide direct and consultative services, and facilitate appropriate materials for individual students.

What does a teacher of the Visually Impaired do?

- Interpret eye reports and conduct functional vision evaluations to help teams determine student qualification and needs.
- Help school teams to better understand how vision impacts student learning and assist in developing effective program plans including ETRs and IEPs.
- Provide instruction in Braille.
- Provide instruction in how to use low vision aids.
- Coordinate/order braille or enlarged materials for the district, in most cost-effective manner.
- Conduct workshops/in-services for staff on effective strategies for students with visual impairments.
- Refer to appropriate agencies for assistive technology evaluation.
- Teach children with varying abilities who are blind or have low vision- deafblind, multiple disabilities, students fully included, vocational students, Pre-K through graduation.
- Teach students daily living skills under the umbrella of the Expanded Core Curriculum.
- Teach students about their visual impairments and how to advocate for their needs and accommodations.
- Collaborate with classroom teachers and other professionals to be sure students with visual impairments have access to all aspects of the curriculum.
- Communicate and work closely with parents of children with visual impairments so that they can become key players on their child's educational team.

During the 2019-20 school year, the Educational Service Center provided TVI services to meet the needs of students in Amherst Ex. Village, Avon Local Schools, Avon Lake, Clearview Local Schools, Keystone Local Schools, Midview Local Schools, Vermilion Local Schools, Oberlin City Schools, Edison Local Schools, Lorain Prep Academy, Positive Education Program (PEP), Constellation School, Summit Academy, Wellington Exempted Village, and Murray Ridge. The TVIs have worked with approximately 58 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade with a wide range of needs including those who are completely blind, have low vision, or Cortical Vision Impairments. Over the course of the year they have completed 13 VI referrals, 10 ETRs, 43 IEPs and 3 504 meetings.



Speech/Language Therapy Services



Supervisor of Speech-Language Therapy Services
 Barb Conrad, M.A., CCC-SLP

Seventy-six speech-language pathologists from twenty-two school districts in Erie, Huron, and Lorain Counties receive speech and language supervisory services from the ESC. Supervisor of Speech-Language Therapy Services, Barb Conrad, continues to provide those services including quarterly meetings for the speech-language pathologists, professional development, a monthly e-packet of pertinent information, supervision of clinical fellow speech-language pathologists, placement of student speech-language pathologists, maintains access to a lending library of assessments and archived information on the ESC's website specific to the practice of speech-language pathology in the school setting.

SPONSORED EVENTS

EVENT NAME	TOPIC	DATE HELD	ATTENDEES
Fall Workshop	Practical Treatment Strategies for Preschool and School-Age Children Who Stutter- Dr. Scott Yaruss	Sept. 2019	103
Fall SLP Meetings	Overview of Language Sampling Techniques Terri Farnham, MS, CCC-SLP	Oct 2019 Oct 2019	27 37
Artic Clinic	Tips and Tricks to Guide Articulation Therapy for newbie SLPs	Dec 2019	5
Retiree Luncheon	Speech and Language Updates and Future Directions	Oct 2019	16 26
Winter Workshop	Integrating SLP Interventions into Classrooms and Curriculum Using a Workload Approach Christina Bradburn, M.A., SLP	Feb 2020	66
Spring Workshop	Rescheduled to Fall Due to COVID-19 Pandemic	April 2020	0

SUPPORT TO SLPs

Barb provided support to new SLPs in Avon, Avon Lake, Lorain, and Columbia during the 2019-2020 school year. Brand new speech-language pathologists must be rigorously supervised as they undergo their clinical fellowship (CF) year. Successful completion of their CF experience results in obtaining licensure from the Ohio Speech and Hearing Professionals Board (a requirement to work in schools) and a Certificate of Clinical Competence from ASHA which is comparable to the National Teacher Board Certification.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

University Partnerships	Student SLP Placement	SLP Openings	SLP Materials Loaned
Baldwin Wallace University of Akron Cleveland State University Kent State University University of Toledo	(2) Clearview Local (1) Lorain City (2) Midview (1) Avon Local (1) Amherst	(6) Openings for Full-time Filled (3) Short-term Leaves Filled (2) Mid Yr. Positions Filled (6) Anticipated openings for 2020-21	(28) Various assessments loaned throughout the year.

Educational Audiology

Regional Educational Audiologist

Crystal Henry, Au.D., CCC-A

The Educational Audiologist provided direct audiological services to meet the needs of students with hearing challenges in 19 participating school districts in Lorain, Erie, and Huron Counties during the 2019-2020 school year. Audiologists have doctoral degrees and are trained to diagnose, manage and treat hearing and balance disorders. The difference between a clinical audiologist and an educational audiologist is that the educational audiologist holds an additional certificate in education and delivers a full range of hearing services to children in the educational setting. The educational audiologist understands school-based issues and practices and can assist the school team in understanding the link between hearing, language and learning for their students with hearing challenges.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the educational audiologist worked with approximately 105 students ranging from preschool to 11th grade. The educational audiologist made **961** total contacts in providing the following services:

Service	Contact
Perform comprehensive, educationally relevant hearing evaluations and make recommendations to enhance communication access and learning.	6
Provide group and individual training to general educators, special educators and related service personnel on the care, maintenance and daily listening checks of personal amplification (i.e., hearing aids), cochlear implants, classroom audio distribution systems (CADS) and personal DM systems per specific students.	84
Appropriately select and fit personal DM systems for students with hearing challenges to allow for direct auditory access to the teacher's voice in the student's educational environment. In addition to fitting these devices, follow-up services were also provided throughout the school year (i.e., troubleshooting devices as needed).	152
Measure classroom noise, evaluate acoustics and make recommendations for improving the classroom listening environment.	8
Facilitate and provide direct intervention for self-advocacy for students with auditory needs.	9
Active contributing member to the ETR, IEP and 504 school teams such as needed evaluations, formulating appropriate individual education goals and determining appropriate assistive technology and accommodations.	52
Conducting a Functional Listening Evaluation (FLE) for students with hearing challenges to provide objective information about how their listening abilities are affected by noise, distance and visual input in a student's listening environment (i.e., classroom). These functional evaluations determine and justify appropriate accommodations that need to be made per student.	30
Consultation about specific student needs (accommodations, modifications, assistive technology) and or support to school district personnel throughout the school year.	490
Observe students with hearing challenges within their listening environment and determine appropriate accommodations, modifications and/or need for further evaluation.	28
Coordinate and facilitate the audiometric service contract program so participating districts receive a substantial discount per the cost of their units.	102



The Early Learning Center

Early Learning Center Supervisor

Elizabeth Fleming Krall

The Early Learning Center (ELC) works to provide a high quality learning environment for preschool age students with and without disabilities. This school year, we were awarded 5 stars through Ohio's Step-Up to Quality evaluation system. This is the highest level that can be earned and signifies exemplary work at all levels of the program.

CLASSROOMS: 7 STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL ED SERVICES: 112 HEADSTART STUDENTS: 21 TOTAL STUDENTS: 188

The Early Learning Center provides instruction using both evidence based interventions, Houghton Mifflin preschool curriculum Big Day for PreK, Preschool Foundations literacy program, Touch Math preschool edition, Heggerty Phonemic Awareness curriculum, the Early Learning Content Standards in order to provide instruction that meets the needs of all learners.

Typical Peer Program

Students participated in the typical peer program. Of the 85, 17 students were funded to attend the program at no cost though the Early Childhood Education grant that the Early Learning Center has been awarded. Typical peers are screened at the beginning of each school year in order to develop Early Learning Goals that the teacher then implement and track progress that is reported on the students report card. Teachers collaborated with parents to write transition plans for the students and carry out transition needs for the families.

Special Education Processes

There is a team approach between the four school districts and the Early Learning Center in regard to assessments and transition procedures. The Early Learning staff meets with the four receiving district staff in order to support the kindergarten transition process for the special needs students moving to school age services. The staff at the Early Learning Center writes both the Evaluation Team Reports for the students transitioning to kindergarten as well as the Individualized Education Plan. **A total of 43 students had special education transition meetings within the four districts.**

The assessment process for children being evaluated for preschool special education services is a team approach. The school psychologists, speech therapists, intervention specialists, physical and occupational therapists use a play-based assessment process where everyone assisted in evaluating the children then teamed on each child in order to arrive at a comprehensive decision based on all data available. A total of 92 preschool age students were evaluated this school year.

Three additional districts contracted with the Early Learning Center for either intensive needs or itinerant services.

Professional Development

All teaching and paraprofessional staff participated in 15 hours of PBIS training. Teachers had teacher-based team meetings monthly. The PBIS team met monthly and the team attended the state PBIS conference. All staff were trained on CPI procedures.

Staff includes: 6 classroom teachers, 2 itinerant teachers, 10 classroom aides, 5 part time floating aids, 1 school psychologist, 3 speech and language pathologists, 1 occupational therapist, 1 secretary and 1 principal.



Pathways to Success



Supervisor of Pathways to Success & Delinquent Education Graham Henderson

Pathways to Success is comprised of middle and high school students (grades 8-12). These students come from public middle and high schools throughout Lorain County and they are placed at our facility by their home schools. Placement at Pathways is due to any or all of the following: academic performance, absenteeism, behavioral, social and/or emotional issues. Pathways **served 36 students** during the 2019-2020 school year.

GOALS:

Provide alternative learning experiences in a non-traditional classroom setting resulting in higher student engagement and academic achievement.

Provide students the opportunity to experience positive learning experiences and success. Nurture high self-esteem and an understanding of appropriate behavior and actions in a variety of social situations.

Students learn coping methods they can utilize when returning to their home school environment with a better skill set to be academically and behaviorally successful.

We also provided an alternative to suspension placement that may allow students that are at risk to continue with their education. Pathways provided this service to three students for 2019-2020.

Improve student attendance

INSTRUCTION:

- Classes are taught by three HQT dual-certified teachers in a small group setting.
- Differentiated instruction is provided for all students aligned to common core standards.
- Students in grades 9-12 utilize online software and receive assistance from a certified teacher.
- Provide students community-based activities that empower and elicit pro-social behavior skills.

Students participated in fishing, hiking, bowling, and had excursions to the Oberlin Art Museum and The Cleveland Playhouse Square/Great Lakes Theater with funding provided by grants.

Academic Growth

Reading Growth

Math Growth

High School Credits Earned

8th Grade

7.9-9.7

3.9-7.9

88 (4 students graduated)



Attendance:

Student attendance improves dramatically compared to their home school attendance. Truancy officers are in constant communication with us with students already involved with the court system. We have students that attendance improves so dramatically to the point they are no longer under the court directives.

Academic Challenge, Art, Music & Spelling

Project Coordinator
Debbie Hunt



ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

Grades 5 - 8

Preliminary 1 - Nov. 13, 2019
Preliminary 2 - Nov. 14, 2019
Finals - Dec. 9, 2019

Preliminaries were held at Wellington McCormick Middle School. No cost event to any Lorain County educator, including non-public and charter/community schools.

Grades 5 & 6
71
Participating Students
9
Participating Schools

Grades 7 & 8
70
Participating Students
12
Participating Schools



ART

Elementary, Middle School & High School Art Exhibits

Held at the Elyria Public Library.

No cost event to any Lorain County educator, including non-public and charter/community schools.

Elem./MS Exhibits

Cancelled due to the pandemic

High School Exhibits

136

Participating Students

10

Participating Schools

Teacher Exhibits

Cancelled due to the pandemic

MUSIC

Solo & Ensemble Contest

is a gathering of many musicians in Lorain County who perform music in front of a judge and received awards if they perform well.

618
Participating Students
30
Participating Schools
Feb. 23, 2020

Honors Choir & Band Festival

brings together musicians from Avon, Clearview, Columbia, Elyria, Firelands, Keystone, Midview, N. Ridgeville, Sheffield, Vermilion and Wellington.

214
Participating Students
10
Participating Schools
April 18, 2020

SPELLING

ESCLC Elementary Bees Grades 3 - 6

Grades 3 & 4 - May 2, 2019
Grades 5 & 6 - May 9, 2019 **31**
Participating Schools

Cancelled due to the pandemic

ESC/Chronicle Telegram Bees Grades 7 & 8

March 22, 2019

20
Participating Schools

Location: Midview MS

Location: Avon MS

Special Programs



Project Coordinator
Debbie Hunt

Academic Programs

Program	Students	Teachers	Schools	Description
Delinquent Education Programs June 5, 2019 – June 4, 2020	242	5	36	Title 1 - School for incarcerated/sheltered youth at Detention Home, Stepping Stone, Pathways and Turning Point Shelter. Residents receive a 6-hour instructional school day. 242 is an unduplicated count as many students go from one facility to another and recidivism is high in this population.
Homeless Education Program	998	16 LC LEAs 9 Erie LEAs 7 Huron LEAs 12 Comm/Charter LEAs	All schools in LC, Erie, Huron	Title 1 - Supported by McKinney-Vento Grant for Erie, Huron and Lorain counties.

Professional Development

Event	Attendees	Agency Personnel	Districts	Description
Agency Cross Training Oct. 25, 2019 Apr. 24, 2020	80 Cancelled due to the pandemic	56	12	Two Seminars each year sponsored by the Manager's Group. Various agencies present: Nord Center, Children Services, Ohio Guidestone, Bellefaire JCB, Applewood, LC Juvenile Courts, LC Board of Development Disabilities and LC Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services
Liaison/EMIS Seminar Sept. 20, 2019	84	10	37	Yearly McKinney-Vento Act state law update training for Homeless Liaison's and EMIS coordinators. Trainings are geared to give information on how to recognize homelessness in the schools and any other topics Liaisons might request or need.
Pupil Transportation Appreciation & PD Oct. 10, 2019	170	0	12	Awards banquet and professional development for Lorain County school bus drivers.
	Applications	Grants	Districts	
Nordson Grant	85	21	14	Total amount awarded was \$12,000 in various grant-amounts according to each request.

Young Authors

This program was scheduled for April 1, 2020. Due to the pandemic, we were not able to have the 38th Annual Young Authors Conference held at Lorain County Community College Stocker Arts Center and the Open House. Grades 3-6 students started writing their books in September. A total of **15 illustrators and 16 writers** submitted their books for judging by the ESC in March. Ribbons were given to the students that submitted books and trophies to the finalists in each category: Best of Show Writer and Best of Show Artist for each grade level.

Districts included: Elyria, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, St. Jude, and Wellington.

Fingerprinting Services

Fingerprinting Agents

Pam Gamble & Debbie Sawicki



Fingerprinting/background checks are completed for customers who need...

- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI)
- Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI).

Reasons for fingerprinting include:

- School employees
- Parent volunteers
- Roofing/construction companies
- Home health care agencies
- Day care providers
- College students
- Church volunteers

CUSTOMER ACTIVITY

June 2019 - May 2020

2,432

Self Paid



1,384

Invoiced



3,816

Total Printed



ON-SITE ACTIVITY

June 2019 - May 2020

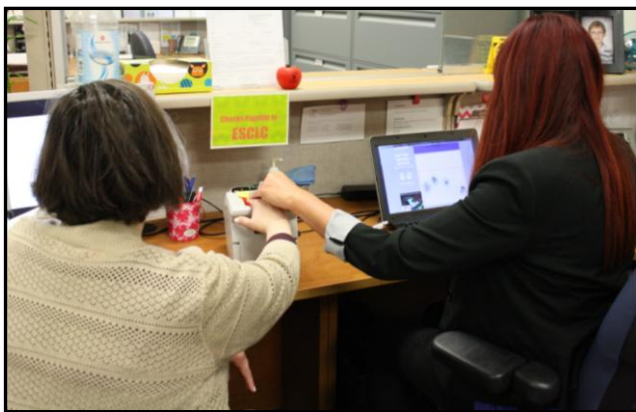
3

Visits



296

Total Number Printed



The ESC offers on-site fingerprinting to districts and companies at a cost of \$125 per four-hour session and \$25 for each additional hour.

Substitute Services



Substitute Recruiter

Pam Gamble

Did you know that 180 days of a child's K-12 education is taught by substitute teachers? We recruit for both North Coast Shared Services Alliances (NCSSA) and for districts that are serviced through our ESC.

Substitutes must hold a teaching license or have a Bachelor's Degree to obtain a substitute license. Substituting is ideal for individuals interested in becoming teachers, retirees or unemployed professionals needing flexibility to pursue other employment while earning an income.

Our annual Substitute Job Fair was held in January 2020 and provided several districts, and the Lorain County JVS, with an opportunity to meet and interview 58 candidates.

The North Coast Shared Service alliance (NCSSA) Teacher Substitute program is a partnership with the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County (ESCCC), the Educational Service Centers of Lorain and Medina Counties and with Rachel Wixey & Associates, a private sector substitute provider.

ESC Districts

- Amherst
- Avon
- Columbia
- Keystone
- Midview
- Pathways to Success

ESC Substitutes

440

Registered Substitutes



The ESC accepts substitute teacher applications year round.

In order to streamline and improve the overall efficiency of our application process, the ESC implemented Frontline Education, (formerly known as Applitrack) a leading provider of online applicant tracking systems.

NCSSA Districts

- Avon Lake
- Clearview
- Early Learning Center
- Firelands
- Lorain City
- North Ridgeville
- Sheffield/Sheffield Lake
- Vermilion

NCSSA Substitutes

432

Registered Substitutes



22,140

Substitute Placements



110

NCSSA Interviews Conducted



Other Services



Social Workers

Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction

Moira Erwine

Mental Health and social emotional support needs continue to require school social workers to be hired serving Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Keystone, Firelands, Midview, North Ridgeville, and Wellington.

School social workers are an integral link between school, home and community in helping students' social emotional needs so that they can achieve academic success as well as breaking down barriers for families. Social workers collaborate as a part of an essential team with school mental health agency partners, school counselors, administrators, and school psychologists.

In January a new partnership was created with Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio and ESCLC to ensure families in need would be helped. During the pandemic, social workers continued to ensure that food was accessible for the increase of people in need.

Food Distribution STATS January – May 2020

Households Served:	1,694	ESC Pantry (new families never served):	912
People Served:	7,170	Children Served:	3,615



Paraprofessional Assessment

Debbie Shannon

The ESC of Lorain County became a test site for the Paraprofessional Assessment in December 2014. The test created by ETS, measures the reading, writing and basic math competencies of practicing and prospective paraprofessionals. In accordance with the No Child Left Behind Act, the Paraprofessional Assessment can be used to certify teacher's aides and assistants in the instruction of these subjects to school children. **Fifty** prospective and/or practicing paraprofessionals took the test between June 2019 and May 2020. Ninety-eight percent passed the assessment with the required passing score of 456 or more.

Teacher Job Fair

The 2nd Annual Teacher Job Fair was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Leadership

SUPERINTENDENT

Franco Gallo - gallo@esclc.org

TREASURER

Jill Orseno - orseno@esclc.org June - December 2019

Angela Dotson - dotson@esclc.org

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION

Moira Erwine - erwine@esclc.org

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