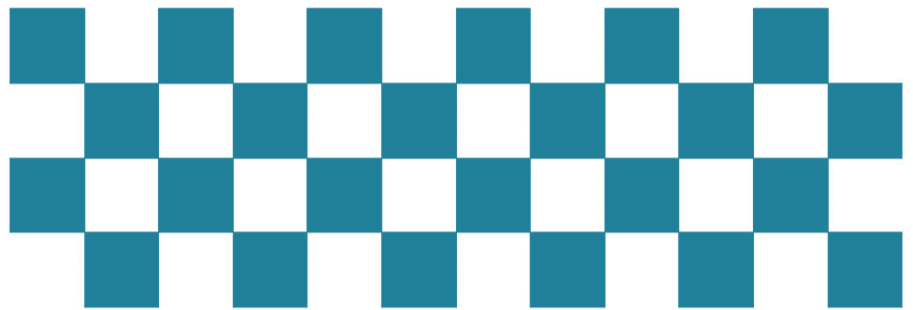




EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
of Lorain County

2020 – 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



THE
Premier Choice
FOR YOUR
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Connecting to Our Community



ESC SUPERINTENDENT FRANCO GALLO

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

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

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

- Ashland University
- Big Brother and Big Sisters of Lorain County
- Business Advisory Council
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) Vice-Chairman
- Effective Leadership Academy
- Emergency Management Agency, Lorain County
- Family and Children First Council
- Greater Cleveland School Superintendents Assoc., Executive Board
- Local Boards of Education - Executive Searches (Treasurers and Superintendents)
- Lorain County Chamber of Commerce
- Lorain County Community College
- Lorain County Community Protection Team
- Lorain County Imagination Library Project
- Lorain County Manufacturing Sector Partnership
- Mental Health Addiction and Recovery Services Board of Lorain County
- Oberlin Center for the Arts
- OESCA
- Ohio Schools Council
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- United Way of Greater Lorain Co., Executive Board

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, weekly meetings occurred with the Lorain County Public Health to provide Lorain County schools with the most up-to-date information. In addition, the ESC assisted in the distribution of facemasks and test kits.

ESC STAFF

165

Full-time

39

Part-time

38,798

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"> Classified Supervisors Leadership Content Area Specific Workshops Curriculum Mapping De-escalation Training Digital Assessments for Teachers Early Childhood Mental Health Educator Self Care & Wellness Series Fine Arts Gifted Competency Training Healthy Classroom Rewards Homeless Liaison Legal Update & Training Legal Update LETRS Training Literacy Science of Reading Literacy Classroom Coaching Math Coaching Mental Health Networks (Principals, School Counselors, Social Workers, Teachers) Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Ohio School Counselors Evaluation Training (OSCES) Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) Online Book Studies OTES 2.0 Bridge Training & Overview OTES Mythbusters PBIS Tier 1 Prevention 101 Restorative Justice & Practices Social Emotional Unconscious Bias Yoga 4 Classrooms 	<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 Homeless Liaison Support and Training Honors Choir/Band Nordson Teacher Grants Pupil Transportation Solo & Ensemble Spelling Bees Young Authors
	<h2>GIFTED & TALENTED PROGRAMS</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACT Practice Test Attorney Classroom Workshops Mock Trial Professional Development Screening/Testing/ID 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>SERVICES</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fingerprinting Paraprofessional Assessment Substitutes Social Workers 	<h2>OUR SCHOOLS</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avon Early Learning Center The Early Learning Center Pathway to Success

Professional Development

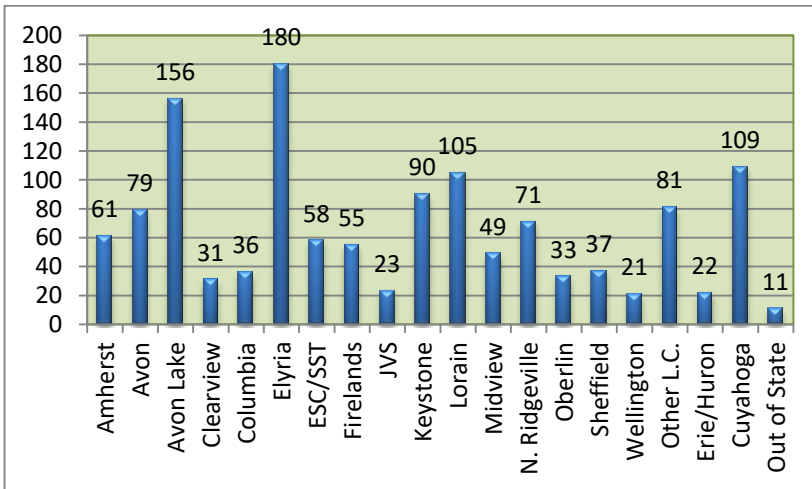


**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
DAVE KISH**

Throughout the year, over 400 educators attended our numerous professional networking meetings! These meetings were held for curriculum directors, school counselors, social workers, principals, and teachers. Those that attended received updates from the field, discussed best practices, and shared strategies and resources that helped make them successful in their individual roles.

In addition to formal networking meetings, a two-month leadership series was held for directors of food services, maintenance, and transportation. Representatives from seven different school districts attended the series which focused on leadership development, culture and team building activities as well as resource sharing and networking opportunities. Both the networking meetings and leadership series created opportunities for personnel to come together from many different districts to learn and grow from one another. The information and ideas shared during these events helped to streamline what was happening not only in the field of education but also in their specific position.

Participants Attending PD Events June 2020 - May 2021



"Other" contains community schools and other organizations

121

Total Events
Literacy not included

1,308

Total Participants

70

Graduate Credit
Recipients

41

ParaPro Praxis
Participants



Literacy

**LITERACY CONSULTANT
OLIVIA WEISMAN**

During the 2020-2021 school year, our Literacy Consultant supported over 1,600 individuals around language and literacy. Our consultant supported districts through professional development and coaching services both virtually and in person. Districts requested and received support in building Local Literacy Plans, the Science of Reading, vocabulary instruction, disciplinary literacy, Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling, and beyond.

Districts that were provided services: Avon Lake, Bay Village, Edison, Firelands, High Schools That Work, Keystone, North Ridgeville, Port Clinton, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Oberlin, Vermilion, and Wellington.



NORT²H Technology Integration Services

DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
DAVE MILLER
TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION SPECIALIST
GOOGLE CERTIFIED EDUCATOR
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, Avon, Brooklyn, Columbia, Cuyahoga Heights, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, ESC of Lorain County, Elyria, Firelands, Keystone, Lorain, LCCC, Lorain County Juvenile Detention Home, Polaris Career Center, Wellington

A Snapshot of Services

Coaching - One-on-one or job embedded support to increase efficiency and integrate technology into instruction while reaching individual improvement goals or supporting district wide initiatives, including weekly on-site support at Avon Lake and CVCC.

Consulting & Support - more focused meetings with clients to help make informed decisions, research instructional technology, and provide technical troubleshooting or instructional solutions. Examples, 3D printing support, scholarship data collection, makerspace development, etc..

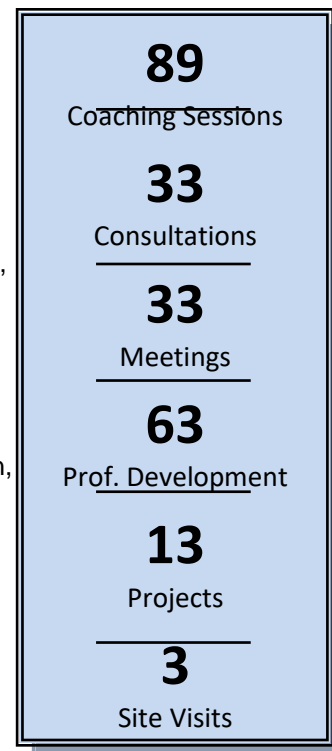
Meetings - developing district wide goals with member schools, attending district technology meetings, facilitating regional instructional technology meetings, etc...

Professional Development - large and/or small group customized sessions for educators across Northern Ohio. Examples, Flipped Instruction & Screencasting, New Teacher Orientation, after school series, Student Choice, Hyperdocs & Choice Boards, and more.

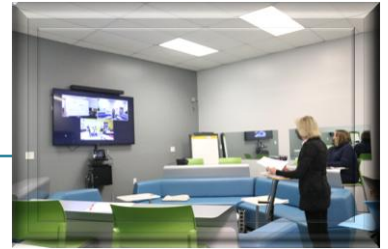
Projects - Higher time-intensive events for educators and students, and the ESC. Examples, SWIVL Demos, Network Cable Replacement, Papercut Installation, and developing Blended Learning Committee.

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.

Virtual Support - 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 2020-2021 academic year.	N/A
Attorney Classroom Workshops	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	Due to state-mandated school closures resulting from COVID-19, this program was unable to be presented during the 2020-2021 academic year.	N/A
24 Game Semi-Finals/Finals	Math tournament providing students gifted in math the opportunity to compete with students from other districts.	4-6	Due to state-mandated school closures resulting from COVID-19, this program was unable to be presented during the 2020-2021 academic year.	N/A
Mock Trial	Eight (8) simulated courtroom trials presided by actual attorneys acting as judges held virtually in a Zoom courtroom. Verdicts were decided by student juries.	5-8	Firelands, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake, and Wellington	233
Brain Games Math Competition	A Jeopardy style virtual math competition with questions developed from ODE's Learning Standards for Mathematics.	4-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Firelands, Perkins, and Sheffield-Sheffield Lake	117
Visual Arts Identification	On-site evaluation of student portfolios by credentialed artists.	K-12	Amherst, Oberlin, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake	30

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	35
Book Study Sessions	Provided 7 online book studies via Google Classroom: <i>A Meaningful Mess</i> , <i>Thinking Like a Lawyer</i> , and <i>Visible Learning for Teachers</i> offered for contact hours and/or graduate credit	K-12	Amherst, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, N. Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	210
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	500
High Quality Professional Development	Thirty-five (35 sessions to address the educational needs of gifted students, delivering ninety five (95) contact hours.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, Wellington	462
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	568
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	4,560

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 2020-2021 school year we continued to have two host sites for the program - Lorain County Community College and Mercy Health-Lorain Hospital. Due to COVID restrictions the interns at LCCC were transported off site to Burlington, Drug Mart, and Subway in Sheffield. We had **7 interns at Mercy Health** - Lorain Hospital and **4 interns at Lorain County Community College**. We had 10 interns complete the program this school year. Districts that participated include - Amherst Exempted Village Schools, Avon Lake City School, Edison Local Schools, Elyria City Schools, Lorain City Schools, Vermilion Local Schools, and Wellington Exempted Village Schools. At this time we have had **3 interns** hired at Meijer in Lorain, **1 intern** hired at Beerhead Bar and Grill in Avon Lake, **1 intern** hired at Burlington in Sheffield, and **1 intern** hired at Drug Mart in Sheffield. The other **4 interns** are working hard and actively looking for jobs in the community.



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 2020-2021 school year, the consultants were in participating districts for a total of **27 days** working with staff to address challenging behaviors. Participating districts: Clearview, Firelands, Lorain, Midview, Elyria, North Ridgeville, Sheffield, and Wellington.

Parent Mentors

One of the many services we offer to districts, not just in Lorain County but also in surrounding counties, is parent mentoring. A parent mentor is the parent of a child with a disability that is employed by the ESC to provide support, information, and training services to families and school districts as they navigate together through special education programming. The parent mentors work with all parties to keep the communication lines open between the parents and districts. Their experience working through special education services with their own child helps to provide a unique insight that parents oftentimes find comforting.

The ESC employs **two part-time parent mentors** that provide services to **14 school districts** and their families within our region. Besides communicating with stakeholders via phone, email and in face to face meetings, the parent mentors attended several professional development opportunities provided by the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities and the State Support Team Region 2. Lastly, the parent mentors hosted two events for parents and district personnel which focused on using effective communication and organizational skills during the special education process.

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 2020-21 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 355 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade, completed 356 IEPs and completed 238 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 2020-21 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 Therapist worked with approximately 17 students ranging from preschool to grade twelve. Over the course of the school year, she completed 19 IEPs and 16 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 2020-21 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, North Ridgeville city Schools, Vermilion Local Schools, Summit Academy, Wellington Exempted Village Schools, Oberlin City Schools, and Murray Ridge. The O&M specialist has worked with approximately **22 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 **22 IEPs and 15 ETRs**.

Special Education

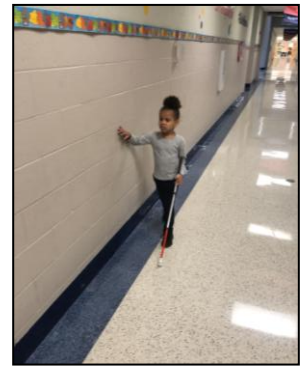
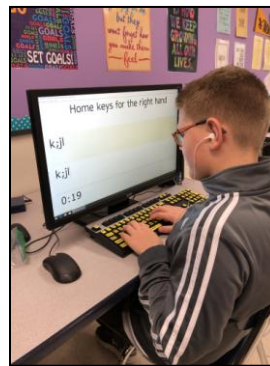
Visually Impaired

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 2020-21 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, Sheffield/ Sheffield Lake Schools, Lorain Prep Academy, Positive Education Program (PEP), Constellation School, Summit Academy, Wellington Exempted Village, and Murray Ridge. The TVIs have worked with approximately **59 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 **20 ETRs and 48 IEPs**.



Speech/Language Therapy Services



SUPERVISOR OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICES

BARB CONRAD, M.A., CCC-SLP

Seventy-eight speech-language pathologists from twenty-two school districts in Erie, Huron, and Lorain Counties receive speech and language supervisory services from the ESC. Barb Conrad, Supervisor of Speech-Language Therapy Services continued to provide services this year via remote options such as Zoom. Services included lunchtime support calls, virtual quarterly meetings, live and recorded professional development. A monthly e-packet of pertinent information is also shared and information is archived in a shared Google folder. Clinical fellows are supervised and student teaching speech-language pathologists are placed in the region with volunteer SLPs. A lending library of assessments is maintained for use in districts each year.

SPONSORED EVENTS

EVENT NAME	TOPIC	DATE HELD	ATTENDEES
Back to School Training	Ethics in Speech-Language Pathology	Aug 26	88
Getting Tech Ready	Designing a Bitmoji Therapy Room Dave Miller, North2	Aug 13 Oct 28	26 19
Fall SLP Virtual Meetings and PD	Assessment in Telepractice Interventions in Telepractice William Bolden III, MA, CCC-SLP, presenter	Oct 7 Oct 14	22 17
Winter SLP Virtual Meetings	Hot Topics and Share & Tell by SLPs	Feb10 Feb 17	10 17
Spring Workshop	Six recorded PD modules for just in time viewing and listening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility for Speech Sound Disorders • Evaluation and Eligibility in Schools: • Dynamic Assessment • Narratives • Impact of Poverty on Language • and Executive Functioning Marie Ireland, MA, CCC-SLP presenter Assessing and Implementing AAC in Schools Jennifer Heim, MA, CCC-SLP presenter	May-August 2021	TBD

SUPPORT TO SLPs

Barb provided support to 'new-to district' SLPs in Avon, Avon Lake, Lorain, Elyria, JVS, St. Joe's Amherst, Holy Trinity/St. Mary's, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake, First Baptist/Elyria, New London and Columbia during the 2020-2021 school year. Brand new speech-language pathologists (Avon, Avon Lake, Columbia Local, and ESC) 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 Ohio University University of Toledo	Lorain City Elyria Avon Lake Norwalk	(16) Openings for Full-time Filled (3) Short-term Leaves Filled (2) Mid Yr. Positions Filled (10) Anticipated openings for 2021-22	(41) Various assessments or materials borrowed 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 15 participating school districts in Lorain, Erie, and Huron Counties during the 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 school year, the educational audiologist worked with approximately **85 students** ranging from preschool to 12th grade. The educational audiologist made **797 total contacts** in providing the following Services:

Service	Contact
Perform comprehensive, educationally relevant hearing evaluations and make recommendations to enhance communication access and learning.	4
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.	25
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).	40
Measure classroom noise, evaluate acoustics and make recommendations for improving the classroom listening environment.	4
Facilitate and provide direct intervention for self-advocacy for students with auditory needs.	10
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.	67
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.	24
Consultation about specific student needs (accommodations, modifications, assistive technology) and or support to school district personnel throughout the school year.	491
Observe students with hearing challenges within their listening environment and determine appropriate accommodations, modifications and/or need for further evaluation.	30
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



SUPERVISOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM 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: 98 HEADSTART STUDENTS: 12 TOTAL STUDENTS: 147

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 69, 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 implements 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 67 preschool age students were evaluated this school year.**

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, 9 classroom aides, 6 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 24 students** during the 2020-2021 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.

Improve student attendance.

INSTRUCTION: Due To COVID-19, 9 Students were on remote learning

- 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.

Due to COVID-19, students participated in fishing and all other excursions were canceled.

Academic Growth

	8th Grade
Reading Growth	4.1-5.4
Math Growth	2.4-5.6
High School Credits Earned	86 (2 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. Many students have been removed from court truancy.

Academic Challenge, Art, Music & Spelling

PROJECT COORDINATOR
DEBBIE HUNT



ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

Grades 5 - 8

Preliminary 1 - Nov. 17, 2020
Preliminary 2 - Nov. 18, 2020

Due to COVID, this was conducted virtually

Grades 5 & 6

38

Participating Students

5

Participating Schools

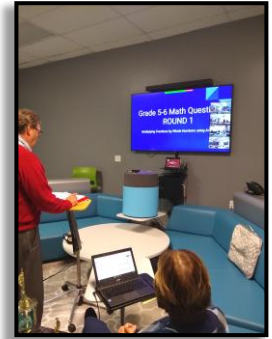
Grades 7 & 8

45

Participating Students

6

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

100

Participating Students

16

Participating Schools

High School Exhibits

73

Participating Students

6

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.

180

Participating Students

24

Participating Schools

Feb. 20, 2021

Honors Choir & Band Festival

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

Cancelled due to the pandemic

SPELLING

ESCLC Elementary Bees Grades 3 - 6

Grades 3 & 4 - May 6, 2021
Grades 5 & 6 - May 13, 2021

Location: Avon MS

73

Participating Students

22

Participating Schools

ESC/Chronicle Telegram Bees Grades 7 & 8

March 12, 2021

Location: Avon MS

38

Participating Students

11

Participating Schools

Special Programs

PROJECT COORDINATOR
DEBBIE HUNT



Academic Programs

Program	Students	Teachers	Personnel	Description
Delinquent Education Programs July, 2020 – June, 2021	143	3	27	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	1,056	15 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 – all done virtually

Event	Attendees	Agency Personnel	Personnel	Description
Agency Cross Training Oct. 30, 2020	130	96	34	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
Apr. 23, 2021	111	81	30	
Liaison/EMIS Seminar Sept. 17, 2020	102	8	94	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. 8, 2020	120	0	120	Awards banquet and professional development for Lorain County school bus drivers.
	Applications	Grants	Districts	
Nordson Grant	65	18	7	Total amount awarded was \$12,000 in various grant-amounts according to each request.

Young Authors

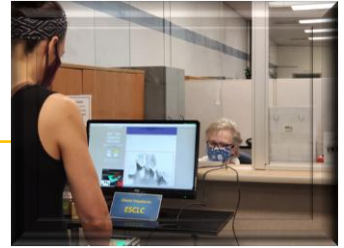
This program was scheduled for May 18, 2021 and was held virtually. A total of **15 illustrators and 20 writers** submitted their books for judging by the ESC. Ribbons were given to the students that submitted books and trophies to the finalists in each category: Best of Show Writer and Best of Show Artist for each grade level.

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



Fingerprinting Services

FINGERPRINTING AGENT
PAM GAMBLE

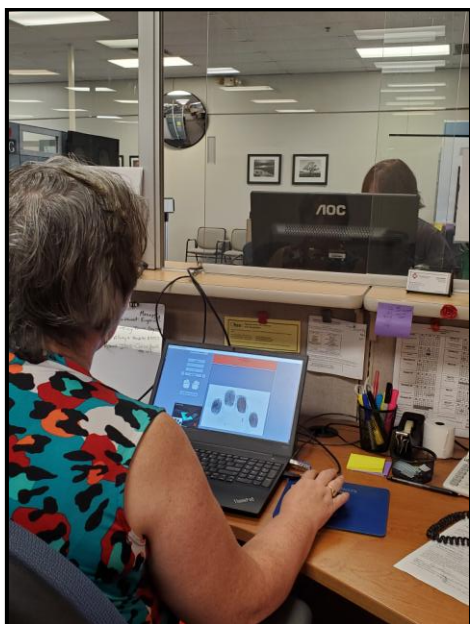


Fingerprinting/background checks are completed for customers who need...

- 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 2020 - May 2021

1,830

Self Paid



748

Invoiced



2,578

Total Printed



ON-SITE ACTIVITY

June 2020 - May 2021

1

Visits



70

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.

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

Due to COVID, our annual job fair was cancelled.

ESC Districts

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

ESC Substitutes

262

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

265

Registered Substitutes



4,037

Substitute Placements



57

NCSSA Interviews Conducted



Other Services



SUPERINTENDENT
FRANCO GALLO

Business Advisory Council

In today's economy, it is critical that Ohio schools prepare all students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in future learning, careers, and life. Parents, educators, and the business community want to prepare students for successful career paths, whether those include college degrees, industry credentials, apprenticeships, military enlistment or a combination of these. Businesses can partner with schools to share news about job trends and opportunities, as well as economic changes that will affect jobs.

The Lorain County Business Advisory Council has met four times during the 2020-21 school year. In attendance were the superintendent or designee of the following school districts: Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Columbia, Clearview, Elyria, Firelands, JVS, Keystone, Midview, North Ridgeville, Oberlin Sheffield, and Wellington. The meetings were facilitated by the ESC of Lorain County and they were all virtual due to the pandemic. Activities were limited this year due to the hybrid schedules, remote learning, and periodic shut downs in our schools.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
DAVE KISH

Social Workers

Mental Health and Social Emotional Wellness continues to be an integral part in all school districts throughout not only Lorain County but our entire country. During the 2020-2021 school year, the ESC employed **12 school social workers** throughout 10 districts in Lorain County. These school social workers helped to provide support for students and families in need of basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, heat, and transportation. In addition, the school social workers also helped to provide access to educational materials by providing internet connectivity and technology support to both students and their families.

While the school social workers partnered with many great community organizations and providers, one of their most successful partnerships has been with Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio. Besides the food drops and mobile food pantries, Second Harvest and the school districts around the county would set up, each month. Second Harvest and the school social workers would also team up to deliver food to families from the schools our social workers serve. We are extremely grateful for this partnership and as you can see from the statistics below many households, people, and children benefited from this outstanding collaboration.

Food Distribution STATS June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Households Served:	1,636	ESC Pantry (new families never served):	1,947
People Served:	6,411	Children Served:	3,014



Paraprofessional Assessment

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. **Forty-one** prospective and/or practicing paraprofessionals took the test between June 2020 and May 2021. Ninety-eight percent passed the assessment with the required passing score of 456 or more.

State Support Team Region 2



SST REGION 2 DIRECTOR

JULIE D'ALIBERTI

It is the mission of the State Support Team Region 2 to empower educational leaders through service and support to foster ongoing improvement. Our team of **7 consultants** does that by supporting all public school districts and community schools in Lorain, Huron and Erie Counties. Included in that are 29 districts within Lorain County.

Our consultants' offices are located at the ESC of Lorain County and focus on specific areas as dictated by the Ohio Department of Education. These areas include Early Childhood, Family Engagement, Literacy, Positive Behaviors Interventions and Support, School Improvement, and Special Education. While the focus of our work is primarily with districts and schools who are in need of the most comprehensive support per Ohio designation, professional development and networking is available to all districts in the region.

During the 2020-21 school year, SST Region 2 was able to host three nationally renowned educators in our region. Dr. Anita Archer joined us for a Leadership Series as well as a four-day professional development opportunity regarding Explicit Instruction for over 350 teachers and administrators. LeDerrick Horne shared his experience as an individual with a disability with staff and parents during the Virtual Transition Fair. Finally, Dr. Ruby Payne spoke about Emotional Poverty to over 300 educators.

In addition to professional development, SST Region 2 consultants work with districts to support them in continuous improvement. Coaching occurs at every level from District Leadership Teams to Building Leadership Teams to individual groups of educators such as Early Childhood, Special Education and English Learners. SST Region 2 also coaches and supports initiatives around Positive Behavior Supports and Family Engagement. Through all of this work SST Region 2 holds true to its vision of building the capacity of leadership by fostering the ongoing cycle of improvement and inclusive instructional practices.

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PBIS & Family Engagement

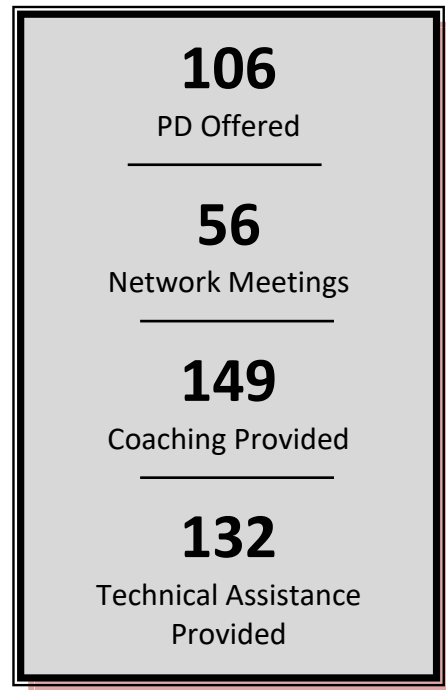
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