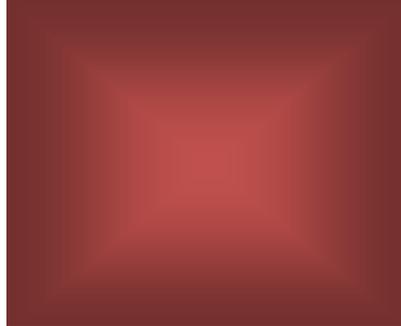




*Educational Service Center
of Lorain County*



2015 - 2016
Annual
Report

Performance. Achievement. Legacy.

Connecting to Our Community

Superintendent
Greg Ring

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 Eric Regional Consortium (health insurance) – host site and fiscal agent
- Lorain County Attendance Program
- Lorain County Health Coalition
- Fatality Review Board (law enforcement/health dept.)
- Boy Scouts of America
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) (ITC site)
- Lorain County Superintendents Council
Sponsor of "Superintendent Leadership Institute"
- TALK Network
- Middle School Health Collaborative, United Way
- Fill the Bus
- Boys and Girls Club of Lorain County
- NCSSA - substitute training
- Little Free Library Initiative (fiscal agent)
- Scholastic Games (fiscal agent)

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

- United Way of Greater Lorain Co., Executive Board
- Heart of Ohio Council (Boy Scouts), District Chairman and Executive Council
- Family and Children First Council
- REACHhigher, P-16 Council, Chairman
- Ohio Schools Council, Executive Board
- Greater Cleveland School Superintendents Assoc., Executive Board
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) Vice-Chairman
- Lorain County Chamber of Commerce
- Emergency Management Agency, Lorain County
- English Language Arts Network Regional Lead (ODE)
- Battelle for Kids – Value Added Leader
- Westshore International Reading Assoc., Executive Board
- Local Boards of Education - Executive Searches (Treasurers and Superintendents)



ESC STAFF

160

Full-time

65

Part-time

42,000

Students served across Lorain County

Programs & Services

The ESC is strategic in developing services that meet the needs of our customers. We provide a cost saving means to school districts in Erie, Huron and Lorain County for professional development and services.

Along with professional development rolled out from the Ohio Department of Ed, we provide tailored trainings to meet the needs of our districts. Our high quality professional development opportunities meet the standards established by the state as they provide job embedded opportunities to affect change in practice. To that end, we encourage our customers to provide us with feedback after attending our events/workshops.

Professional Development Curriculum and Instruction

- Curriculum Consulting
- Eduplanet21
- English Language Arts Training
- Electronic Teacher/Principal Evaluation System (ETPES)
- LEANOhio Boot Camp
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention
- Ohio Principal Evaluation System (OPES)
- Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES)
- Ohio's State Tests
Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies
- On-site Contracted Services
- Principals Network
- Resident Educator
- Value Added

NORT2H Technology Integration Services

- District Meetings
- Professional Development
- Video Conference

Fingerprinting Services

- Federal Background Check
- Ohio Background Check
- On-site Locations

Art, Music & Spelling

- Art Shows
- Honors Choir & Band Festival
- Spelling Bees
- Solo & Ensemble
- Virtual Recital

Special Projects

- Agency Cross-Training
- Homeless Education
- Liaison/EMIS
- Nordson Grant
- Pupil Transportation
- School Safety
- Tutoring

Services

- SLP Supervision
- Educational Audiology
- Substitute Services
- Project SEARCH
- The Early Learning Center
- Lorain County Academy
- Healthy Kids Network
- ANTI-VIRUS Youth Ed.
- Parapro Assessment
- Occupational Therapy

Gifted & Talented Programs

- Classroom Workshops
- Math Mania
- Mock Trial
- Prof. Development
- Screening/Testing/ID
- WEPs/Resources
- Young Authors



Curriculum/Instruction Professional Development

Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction
Moira Erwine

LeanOhio Bootcamps

We had three boot camps resulting in 20 graduates. Seven of our staff members took advantage of this training and have already begun utilizing the strategies in their own role. To further our efficiencies we were approved for a Local Government Efficiency Program Grant to focus on the job posting to selecting a candidate process of Human Resources. Through this grant we have purchased **Applitrack** with the intention that we will improve customer satisfaction, reach a greater audience in order to recruit qualified candidates to our county and lesson the time of processing applications internally.

Curriculum and Instruction

The focus on implementation of and preparation for the change from PARCC Tests in English Language Arts and Math to Ohio's State Tests through AIR were a high priority this school year. Social Studies, Math, Science and English Language Arts teachers attended events to review testing blueprints and performance level descriptors to help understand what constitutes 'proficient', below and above. We welcomed the addition of Dr. Lori Wilfong to our Curriculum Department.

The value of having her expertise available to our county was reflected in every event evaluation. We also provided on-site professional development and coaching to St. Peter's and St. Anthony's schools. Two reading specialists provided intensive reading instruction to third graders in Lorain City schools under the **Third Grade Reading Guarantee** resulting in achievement gains that mirrored their peers.

Non-violent Crisis Intervention

Support this year resulted in 245 hours of training for Clearview, Oberlin, Wellington, Firelands, Avon Lake, Columbia, Lorain City, Early Learning Center and our Academy. Both trainers spent 7-12 days in additional training to provide best practices and enhancements to the program. Decreased number of restraints has been reported with more participants being trained to de-escalate situations.

Professional Development - June 2015 - May 2016

104

Total Events

1,697

Total Participants

1,125

Eduplanet21 Participants

30

ParaPro Praxis Participants

51

Graduate Credit Recipients

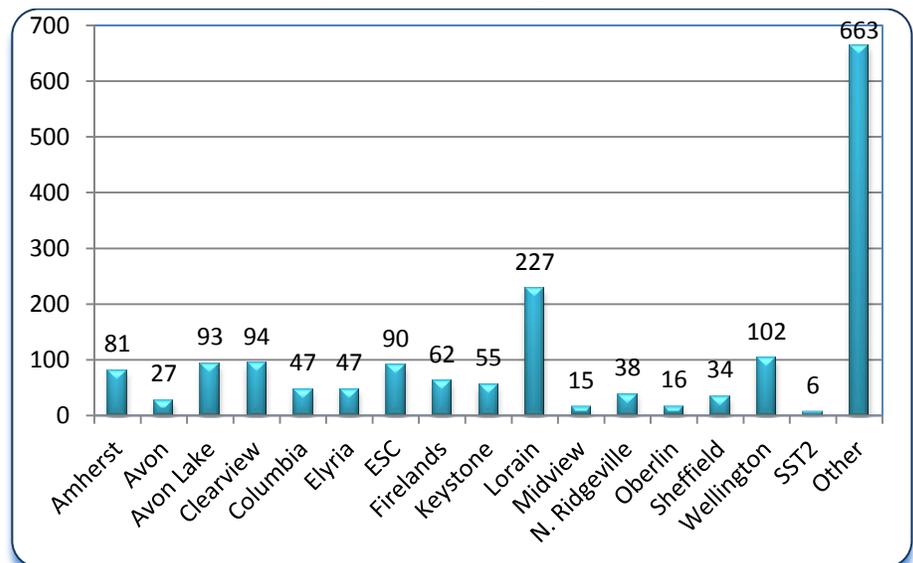
10

District Visits

2

OTES Trainings

Participants Attending PD Events



"Other" contains community schools and other counties.



Gifted & Talented Programs

Gifted Supervisors

Cathy Fischer and Mary Lou Kaminski

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

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	Amherst, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville	70
Artist Creative Workshops	Nineteen (19) interactive sessions with Cartoonist Jim Gill helped students improve their illustrating techniques, and explore career opportunities in visual arts.	3-6	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville	570
Attorney Courtroom Workshops	Eleven (11) 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, Avon Lake, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	270
Author Writing Presentations	Four (4) sessions in which national authors Stephanie Tolan and Bob Kann inspired students to continue to improve upon their writing skills, and explore career opportunities in the arts.	3-6	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	540
Math Mania	Math competition by grade level at Lorain County Community College.	4-6	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville	290
Mock Trial	Thirteen (13) simulated courtroom trials presided by actual attorneys/judges at Lorain County Justice Center. Verdicts were decided by student juries.	5-8	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	305
Visual Arts Identification	Evaluation of student portfolios by credentialed artists.	4-5	North Ridgeville	6
Young Authors Conference	Year-long program in which students wrote and illustrated books, complying with multiple state standards. Program concluded with students' participation at LCCC featuring nationally-renowned authors/speakers Stephanie Tolan and Bob Kann.	3-6	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Elyria, Firelands, Keystone, Lorain, North Ridgeville, St. Jude School	930
Young Authors Open House/Book Signing	Students, families, friends, teachers and administrators were welcomed to view students' work, with the opportunity for Authors Stephanie Tolan and Bob Kann to sell and autograph their published books.	3-6	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Elyria, Firelands, Keystone, Lorain, North Ridgeville, St. Jude School	400

CURRICULUM SUPPORT

Service	Description	Grade(s)
Classroom Resources	Physical/electronic resources provided to assist teachers in meeting the curricular needs of students.	3-8
Classroom Support	In-class support and modeling to assist teachers with Math Mania, Mock Trial, PBL and Young Authors	3-6
Consortium Meetings	Two (2) sessions 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.	3-8
Lending Library	Classroom book sets provided to teachers to enrich learning.	3-6
Parent Communication	Responding to parent questions regarding districts' gifted services.	K-12

Gifted & Talented Programs

DATA MANAGEMENT

Service	Description	Grade	Districts	Students/Teachers
Data Management	Cognitive, Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies, Creative Thinking and Visual Arts recordkeeping and analysis.	K-12	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	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	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Columbia, North Ridgeville	11 students and respective Acceleration committee members
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, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	District-wide
Identification: Referral Testing & Further Assessments	Gifted identification and services prepared after initial whole grade screening or by referral from parents, teachers, or other students - collaborated with teachers and administrators in determining criteria for further assessments; administered and scored tests, prepared parent notifications and reported gifted identifications to EMIS Coordinators.	K-8	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	690
High Quality Professional Development	Forty (40) sessions to address the educational needs of gifted students, delivering 542 contact hours.	K-12	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	450
Written Acceleration Plans	Assisted teachers and administrators in preparing acceleration plans for Early Entrance, Subject, or Whole Grade Acceleration.	K-8	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Oberlin	550
Written Education Plans	Recommended and/or assisted teachers and administrators in preparing plans for specialized gifted services, as approved by ODE.	3-12	Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin	3,510



NORT²H Technology Integration Services

Director of Technology & Innovation
Dave Miller



The Northern Ohio Research and Training Technology Hub (NORT2H) provides training and resources to K-12 institutes and higher education partners. NORT2H specializes in assisting districts in the selection of technologies that impact teaching and learning, which improves student learning. Given the extensive research that NORT2H conducts around emerging technologies, they provide consultative services to schools as technologies are deployed as well as direct professional development.

Consultation

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 a school district's ability to impact student learning. NORT2H has helped districts all across Northern Ohio as various 1:1 and BYOD initiatives were deployed.

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 over 20 different professional development workshop topics to its clients.

Member School Districts

Avon Lake City, Avon Local, Bay Village, Berkshire Local, Cuyahoga Heights, Elyria City, Firelands Local, Keystone, Lorain City, LCCC, ESC of Lorain County, Lorain County Juvenile Home, Midview, North Ridgeville, Polaris Career Center, and Sheffield/Sheffield Lake.

Representing over 70 school buildings and three Educational Services Centers (Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake Counties).

A Snapshot of Services

Meetings - Working with clients and ESC staff to provide high quality services.

Professional Development - Large, small group, and 1:1 coaching and professional development for educators.

Projects - Higher time-intensive events for educators and students (Green Screen Video Productions, EdCamp Cleveland, Techno Math Mania, etc).

Consultations - meetings with clients to help them make informed decisions.

235

Meetings

184

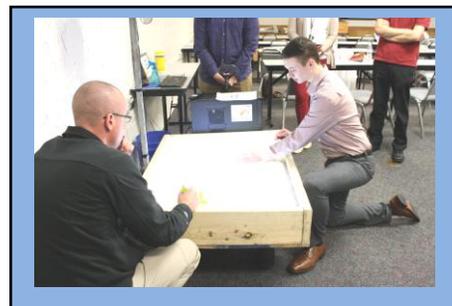
Prof. Development

24

Projects

14

Consultations



Fingerprinting Services

Fingerprinting Agents

Stephanie Calhoun & 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

August 2015 - May 2016

1,261

Self Paid



899

Invoiced



2,160

Total Number Printed



ON-SITE ACTIVITY

August 2015 - May 2016

1

Visits



87

People Fingerprinted



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.

Art, Music and Spelling

Project Coordinator
Debbie Hunt

ART

Elementary, Middle School & High School Art Exhibits was held May 2 - 20 at the Elyria Public Library.

Any teacher in the Region 2 district is free to join these exhibits. This also includes non-public and charter/community schools.

Elem./Middle School Art Exhibits

148

Participating Students

16

Participating Schools

High School Art Exhibits

128

Participating Students

10

Participating Schools

MUSIC

Virtual Recital

is interactive connection from the ESC Green Room to the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) where students perform music to a CIM Teacher who will in turn critique their work and prepare them to perform better at the Solo & Ensemble Contest.

14

Participating Students

3

Participating Schools

Solo & Ensemble Contest

is a gathering of many musicians in the Region 2 district who perform music in front of a judge and receives awards if they perform well.

823

Participating Students

48

Participating Schools

Middle School Honors Choir & Band Festival

is held at Keystone High School each year and brings together musicians from Avon, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, Keystone, Midview, N. Ridgeville and Wellington.

206

Participating Students

11

Participating Schools

SPELLING

ESCLC Elementary Bee Grades 3 - 6

Date: May 1, 2016

Location: Midview MS

123

Participating Students

21

Participating Schools

ESC/Chronicle Telegram Bees Grades 7 & 8

West Preliminary - March 4, 2016
East Preliminary - March 11, 2016
Finals - March 18, 2016

Location: Avon MS

72

Participating Students

20

Participating Schools



Special Projects

Project Coordinator
Debbie Hunt

Participation & Impact of Events & Programming

Event & Date	Total # of Students served	Staff (teachers & support personnel) involved or served	# of schools involved (represented by students or teachers)	# of agency personnel served (including Juv Court & law enforcement)	Notes
Delinquent Education Programs June 8, 2015 – June 7, 2016 *226 is an unduplicated count as many students go from one facility to another and recidivism is high in this population. We ensure every student receives education even while incarcerated	226*	11 ESCLC Staff serving DH/SSPW/TP	46 different Schools served in Lorain, Erie Medina & Cuyahoga Counties in 22 different School Districts	0	All students were at sometime during the school-year, residents at DH/SSPW/TP
Homeless Education Program July 1, 2014 – July 1, 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison/EMIS Seminar September 24, 2015 89 attended After-school homework-help Tutoring Sept. 1, 2015 – May 30, 2016 	918 reported by LEA's 0 72	All Region 2 Homeless Liaisons & EMIS Coord. (29 LEA s + 10 Charter) 78 4 ESCLC Homeless Tutors	29 LEAs + 10 Charter 33 11	11 0	918 students identified as Homeless & reported to ODE by 29 LEAs or charter/community schools @ 2 Boys/Girls Clubs 1 in Lorain & 1 in Elyria
Pupil Transportation Appreciation & PD Sept. 15, 2015	0	144	12	0	
School Safety Seminar 72 attended @ Spitzer Jan. 15, 2016	0	54	14 school districts	15	Train-the-Trainer Seminar covering all topics of ODE & HB requirements
Agency Cross-Training Seminars @ ESCLC 189 (total) attended 10/22/15 & 04/21/16	0	27	7 school districts	161	2 Seminars each year sponsored by The Manager's Group
Nordson Grant used in school year 2015-16	0	14 teachers from 9 school districts were awarded grants	7 school districts submitted a total of 39 applications		Total amount awarded was \$11,500 in various grant-amounts according to each request.

Explanation of each event described on following page.

Special Projects

Title I Delinquent Education Program – This is a regular school for incarcerated and sheltered youth at all the Lorain County Juvenile Court Residential Facilities (Detention Home, Stepping Stone Boys Group Home, Pathways Girls Group Home, and Turning Point Shelter). All residents at all facilities receive a 6-hour school-day of direct-instruction by HQT education professionals. The curriculum consists of Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Technology & Art.

Detention Home - The residency averages 38 boys (max is 45) & 9 girls (max is 12). The stay can be anywhere from 1 - 30 days or longer. The average stay is two weeks. The residents are all felons. We have three teachers at DH (Lang Arts, Art, Math & Science, Social Studies & Tech, and individualized instruction for special-needs or special-curriculum situations).

Stepping Stone & Pathways - The average population is 16 boys (max is 20) & 7 girls (max is 10). The stay is five months which allows for intensive rehab. The residents are minor felons. We have three teachers at SS/PW (Lang Arts & Science, Soc Studies & Lang Arts, Math & Lang Arts).

Turning Point Shelter - The average residency is 4 boys (max is 5) & 3 girls (max is 5). The stay can be anywhere from 1 - 30 days or longer. The average stay is eight days. Residents are in protective custody. We have one teacher at TP (who operates a one-room school-house using home-schooling-techniques & activities integrating all subjects).

Title I Homeless Education Program - This program covers all of Region 2 SST (Lorain, Erie & Huron Counties) and is supported by our McKinney-Vento Grant; it consists of two parts:

1. Professional development, awareness & consultation services:
2. Tutoring & academic services:

Pupil Transportation Appreciation & Prof. Development - This is an awards banquet for the Bus Drivers of Lorain County. We have a dinner and a speaker so they can receive professional development hours certificates. We give out awards to one particular bus driver of a district that is chosen by the Transportation Supervisor of that district. This is held in October each year.

School Safety Seminar - This is a training program that “trains the trainer” of other schools on ODE & HB Laws and requirements. We offer this training to everyone who deals with students – i.e. Superintendents, Principals, Guidance Counselors, Teachers, etc. This is a required training every five years for every education professional by ODE. This event is held in January each year.

Agency Cross-Training Seminars - This seminar gathers a variety of agencies in Lorain County who deal with children/youth. Examples of who presents at the seminar is personnel from Nord Center, Children Services, Ohio Guidestone, Bellefaire JCB, Applewood, Lorain County Juvenile Courts, Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities, LC Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services, etc. Each presenter has 30 minutes to talk about their agency and what they do. We have a wide variety of participants attend, from teachers to guards at the detention home. It is received well by the community and we are usually at full capacity within 3 days of releasing the registration information.

Nordson Grant - This grant is money that the ESC receives from the Nordson Corporation each year. We send out applications to all schools in Lorain County including Private Schools and a committee selects which school/teacher receives their requested grant. The process begins in August and is complete in June the following year.



Speech/Language Therapy Services

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

Seventy-three SLPs from 25 districts receive speech and language supervisory services including a monthly e-packet of information and access to a pass coded section of the ESC's website specific to the practice of speech-language pathology in the school setting. The web pages and e-packets are provided by Barb Conrad, Supervisory of Speech/Language Therapy Services. In addition, professional development, quarterly meetings, clinics and labs were offered to district speech-language pathologists throughout the 2015-16 school year. A table listing topics, dates and number of attendees follows:

NAME OF EVENT	TOPIC	DATE HELD	NUMBER OF ATTENDEES
IEP Refresher	Writing ETR's and IEP's	Aug 2015	13
Fall SLP Mtg	Professional Updates	Choice of one of 3 meeting dates in October	51
Social Thinking	Perspective Taking	September 2015	117
Artic Clinic	Assisting new SLP's in teaching phonemes	December 2015	10
Winter SLP Mtg	Google Docs, sharing, Medicaid Updates	Choice of 3 dates in February	47
From Few Words to Discourse	Assessment and Intervention to increase Expressive communication in ASD	May 2016	70

SUPPORT TO NEW HIRES

New speech-language pathologists must be rigorously supervised as they undergo their clinical fellowship (CF) year. Successful completion of their CF year results in obtaining Ohio Board licensure (a requirement to work in schools) and a Certificate of Clinical Competence from ASHA.

Barb provided CF supervision and mentorship to **two** new SLPs during the 2015-16 school year totaling 38 observations. Both were recommended for their licensure and their certificate of clinical competence. They are: Chelsey Fries, Keystone Local Schools and Nicole Saurer, Murray Ridge School.

Speech-Language Pathologists new to a district received orientation visits and on-going support throughout their first year in the region. In addition to those named as CF's above, **eight** other SLPs were new to the region this year. Barb provided on-site visits, and packets of information to: Lauren Manuella, Norwalk Schools, Gina Olszowy, Oberlin City Schools, Nicole Bird, Lorain City Schools, Rachel Strinka, Midview Local Schools, Meghan Didion, Bellevue Schools, Kim Smola and Brenda Booth, Avon Lake City Schools, and Myra Pecora, St. Joe's, Amherst.

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

Partnerships developed with the University of Akron, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, University of Cincinnati, Bowling Green University, Ohio University, Miami University and The Ohio State University continued as **seven** student SLPs were placed in the following districts during the school year: Clearview (2), North Ridgeville (2), and Elyria (3).

SLPs in the region mentor area students pursuing a career in speech-language pathology. Currently, there are **fifteen** students from area high schools in pursuit of a bachelor's or master's degree from an Ohio university. Barb connects with the students offering student teaching sites in the region and encouraging them to seek a position in the school setting in the area.

Four positions were added at the beginning or throughout the school year in Midview (2), Avon Local, St. Joe's, Amherst. Filling temporary vacancies for medical leaves, etc. is always a challenge. This year Barb assisted in filling **three** short term positions mostly working with area retirees or private agencies to fill the positions in the following districts: Columbia Local, Willard, South Central.

Twelve retirees gathered at the 7th annual Retiree Luncheon to connect with Barb; some assisted with short term openings throughout the year. They are invited to many of the professional development offerings provided in order to keep their licensure current allowing them to continue to practice.

To date several SLP vacancies have been announced for Fall 2016 with a few more expected. Barb assisted in filling the vacancies for the following districts: Lorain City Schools, Margaretta Local Schools, New London and North Ridgeville.

Regional Educational Audiologist

Carol Lepi, MA, CCC-A

The Educational Audiologist provided direct audiological services to meet the needs of students with hearing loss in 20 participating school districts in Lorain, Erie and Huron Counties during the 2015-16 school year. The difference between a clinical audiologist and an educational audiologist is that 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 loss.

During the 2015-16 school year, the educational audiologist made 424 contacts in providing the following services:

- Initial evaluation and re-evaluation of individual students' hearing ability status for determination of eligibility or continuation of specially designed services.
- Appropriately fitting (only an educational audiologist can determine the need for and fit FM/DM systems) FM/DM systems for students with hearing loss so they have direct access to the teacher's voice in the educational environment. Follow-up services dealing with troubleshooting equipment problems during the school year when necessary were provided.
- Group and individual instruction (training) to general educators, special educators and related service personnel on the care, maintenance and daily listening checks of hearing aids, cochlear implants and FM/DM systems per specific students.
- Active contributing member to ETR, IEP and 504 school teams such as needed evaluations, formulate appropriate individual education goals and determine appropriate assistive hearing technology.
- Conducting a Functional Listening Evaluation (FLE) for students with hearing loss to provide objective information about how their listening abilities are affected by noise, distance and visual input in a student's natural listening environment. These written evaluation results justify accommodations that need to be made.
- Direct consultation about specific student needs (accommodations and modifications) to school district personnel through the school year.
- Evaluating the classroom acoustical environment to maximize all children's auditory learning potential which entails the measuring of the sound level of the classroom and the reverberation (echo) within the classroom so appropriate modifications and adaptations can be put in place.
- Group and individual instruction to general educators on how to appropriately utilize an audio distribution system (ADS also referred to as soundfield system) in their classroom.
- Coordinating and facilitating the pure-tone audiometer service contract program so participating school districts receive a substantial discount per the cost of their units.

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 hold a teaching license or at least a Bachelors Degree. Substitutes can be stay-at-home mothers or fathers, people interested in becoming teachers, ministers, child care workers, retired industrial workers, military or unemployed professionals needing flexibility to pursue other employment while earning an income.

The ESC conducted our first Substitute Job Fair in January 2016 which included eight districts and was attended by 83 potential substitutes.

Our collaboration is the first of its kind in our state; as four wide-ranging ESC partners with the most respected, private sector substitute provider, to deliver the best of all worlds for districts in Northeast Ohio. This service is brought to us through the **North Coast Shared Services Alliance (NCSSA)**.

ESC Districts

Amherst

Avon

Columbia

Detention Home

Keystone

Lorain County Academy

Midview

ESC SUBSTITUTES

577

Registered Substitutes



The ESC accepts substitute teacher applications year round.

NCSSA Districts

Avon Lake

Clearview

Early Learning Center

Firelands

Lorain City

Sheffield/Sheffield Lake

Vermilion

Wellington

NCSSA SUBSTITUTES

430

Registered Substitutes



10,054

Substitute Placements



141

NCSSA Interviews Conducted



Project SEARCH

Director of Special Education Services
Jamie Maassen



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.

The presence of a Project SEARCH High School Transition Program can bring about long-term changes in business culture that have far-reaching positive effects on attitudes about hiring people with disabilities and the range of jobs in which they can be successful.

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 member, or 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 United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland, but is supported through the collaboration of United Rehabilitation Services, Developmental Disabilities of Lorain County, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, State Support Team Region 2, the students' families and the city and county school districts.

The ESC of Lorain County has two host sites:

Lorain County Community College: Marketplace, Spitzer Catering Kitchen, Student Life/Hyper, Commodore Bookstore, Bass Library, Children's Learning Center, The ESC of Lorain County has two host sites:

Mercy Regional Medical Center: Coffee Shop, Company Store, Emergency Department Technician, Environmental Service, Food Services, Materials Management, Medical Records, Patient Transport, Maintenance/ Grounds Keeping, and Laundry.

The 2015-2016- interns have accepted positions at French Creek YMCA, Walmart in Oberlin, Doughboys Pizza in Sheffield Lake, Cleveland Clinic, Heinen's, Home Depot, and Pat O'Brien Chevrolet in Vermilion.



The Early Learning Center

Early Learning Center Supervisor
Elizabeth Fleming Krall

The Early Learning Center works to provide a high quality learning environment for preschool age students with and without disabilities.

During the 2015-16 school year there were 5.5 classrooms and itinerant services. A total of **167 students** were provided preschool educational services. The Early Learning Center provides instruction using both evidence based interventions as well as the Houghton Mifflin preschool curriculum, the Early Learning Developmental Standards and curriculum maps in order to provide instruction that meets the needs of all learners.

Enrichment and Parent Activities included in the Early Learning Center Schedule:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| -Open House | -Parent teacher conferences | -Apple Orchard Field trip | -PTO family events |
| -Halloween Parade | -Holiday Singing Program | -Right to Read Week | -Earth Week with a parent day |
| -Jungle Terry visit | -The Bubble Lady show | -Construct-a-Saurus, Metro Parks | -Firefighter visit |
| -Field Day | -Petting Zoo | -End of year Ice Cream Social | |

Four Saturday family events were added this year,

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| -Fall Festival | -Winter Beach Party | -Pirate and princess movie party | -Planting play date |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|

Two classroom specific family events were also added this year:

The 3-4 year olds had Muffins with Mom and Doughnuts with Dad as classroom specific parent events.

The 4-5 year olds had Stone Soup and 100 Days as classroom specific parent events.

Programs we have added during the 2015-16 school year.

The character program was expanded to include 6 months of characters in order to promote pro-social behavior with our preschoolers. The program entitled Character Critters, developed out of Louisiana State University, centers around home and school activities that provide teachers and parents opportunities to support children in learning about positive behaviors.

A music program entitled *Music Together* was adopted this year. Each classroom received a weekly half-hour music class based on this curriculum.



A new literacy curriculum Foundations was adopted and used with the 4-5 year old classrooms. The teachers saw positive results with the student's letter and sound recognition this year.

The PTO assisted with additional fundraising this school year. Both the traditional fundraisers of Mama Joe's Pies and Malley's chocolate resulted in earnings for the school. Two additional bake sales were held in order to fund a teacher appreciation week. School t-shirts were sold as an additional fund raiser.

In order to support the kindergarten transition process some refinements were made.

There was a team approach between the five school districts and the Early Learning Center in regard to assessments and transition procedures. The Early Learning staff met with the 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 has always written the Evaluation Team Reports for the students transitioning to kindergarten. New this year the Early Learning Center staff wrote the IEP's for those students transitioning. This change was met with positive feedback from all the districts. The districts felt as though this took a great deal of stress away from their staff that previously had to write the IEP's without really knowing the students.

The assessment process for children being evaluated for preschool special education services continued to be a team approach this year. The school psychologists, speech therapist, intervention specialist, physical and occupational therapists used a play base assessment process where everyone assisted in evaluating the children then teamed on each child in order to arrive at a comprehensive decisions based on all data available. A total of 60 preschool age student were evaluated this school year.

All classrooms have a working a SMART board and used the boards throughout the year for instruction. In addition each classroom has 3 i-pads to use as a learning center in the classroom. Grants were written and the goal is to have 4 i-pads in each classroom for the 16-17 school year. The teaching staff participated in technology training this year to better incorporate new technology methods into their teaching. Standards-based report cards were used with both the 4-5 learning groups and the 3-4 learning groups. The state adopted and refined the Early Learning Assessment practices this school year. All of the teachers and paraprofessionals were trained on the Early Learning Assessment. The teaching staff is working to refine their assessment procedures in order to incorporate the Early Learning Assessment into our comprehensive assessment practices and include this information in our standards based report cards.



Staff includes: 8 classroom teachers, 1 itinerant teacher, 7 classroom aides, 1 school psychologist, 2 speech and language pathologists, 1 occupational therapist, 1 secretary and 1 principal.

Lorain County Academy

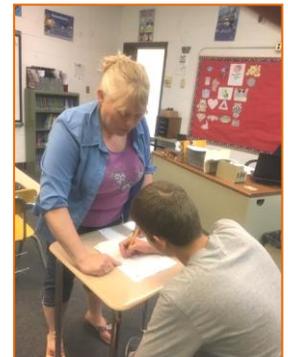
Supervisor

Graham Henderson

Lorain County Academy is comprised of middle and high school students (grades 6-9). These students come from public middle and high schools throughout Lorain County and they are placed at the academy by their home schools. Placement at the academy is due to any or all of the following: academic performance, absenteeism, behavioral, social and/or emotional issues.

GOALS:

1. Provide alternative learning experiences in a non-traditional classroom setting resulting in higher student engagement and academic achievement.
2. 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.
3. Provide students with unlimited moments throughout the school day to assist with social/emotional issues and time to reflect on their behavior. Discuss strategies they can implement and practice to control inappropriate social behavior which will allow them to eventually return to their home school environment with a better skill set to be academically and behaviorally successful.
4. Increase student attendance.
 - Classes are taught by four HQT dual-certified teachers in a small group setting.
 - Differentiated instruction is provided for all students aligned to common core standards.
 - Students in 9th grade participate in 9th grade core subject classes and receive .5 credit in Phys. Ed and .5 credit in Health
 - Provide students community-based activities that empower and elicit pro-social behavior skills. Activities and events funding by the Nord Foundation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Oberlin College, Boys and Girls Club: Students participate in rockwall climbing, bowling, fishing, excursions to Cleveland Aquarium, Black River Cruise and Great Lakes Theatre



Academic Growth

	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
Reading Growth	.2	1.1	1.8
Math Growth	1.7	2.3	1.9

Attendance: Student attendance increases dramatically compared to their home school attendance.

Healthy Kids Achieve More Network

Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction

Moira Erwine

Mental Health and wellness are equally important as we meet the needs of students in our county. We collaborated on an August professional development session with LCHD, LCBMH offering support through Eduplanet21 for Signs of Suicide as well as modules to support teams in developing policies around wellness. Surveys conducted in spring will help us to coordinate support to meet the needs in our county.

ANTI-VIRUS Youth Education

Superintendent
Greg Ring



Nearly 2000 middle school students completed a character education program sponsored by the ESC entitled "ANTI-VIRUS". Trained mentors delivered ten lessons over ten weeks to students in the Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Keystone, Firelands, Midview, Elyria and Wellington districts.

The program focused on the values of Ambition, Responsibility, Hard Work, Emotions, Restraint, Common Sense, and Generosity. The program was provided at no cost to the districts, thanks to contributions from the ESC, Nordson, United Way, REACHhigher, and many private funders.

Paraprofessional Assessment

Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction
Moirra Erwine

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. Thirty prospective and/or practicing paraprofessionals took the test between July 2015 and May 2016. Ninety-nine percent passed the assessment with the required passing score of 456 or more.

Occupational Therapy

Director of Special Education Services
Jamie Maassen

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 to benefit from special education. Educational or school-based OT is designed to enhance the student's ability to fully access and be successful in the learning 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. OT 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.

During the 2015-16 school year the Educational Service Center provided Occupational Therapy services to meet the needs of students in 8 participating school districts in Lorain County including ; Amherst, Clearview, Columbia, ESC Early Learning Center, Keystone, and Midview, Oberlin and Vermilion. The occupational therapists have worked with over 280 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade.

Some of the services the OTs provided to the districts included:

- 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 member 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 student 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.



SUPERINTENDENT

Greg Ring

TREASURER

Jill Orseno

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