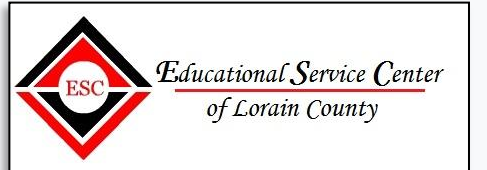


# Annual Report 2017 - 2018

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 Erie Regional Consortium (health insurance) – host site and fiscal agent
- Lorain County Attendance Program
- Lorain County Health Coalition
- Fatality Review Board (law enforcement/health dept.)
- Boy Scouts of America
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) (ITC site)
- Lorain County Superintendents Council
- TALK Network
- Middle School Health Collaborative - "CommonView" (United Way)
- Fill the Bus
- NCSSA - substitute teacher recruitment and training
- Little Free Library Initiative (fiscal agent)
- Scholastic Games (fiscal agent)
- Management Council of the Ohio Education Computer Network, Board of Directors
- Rotary International (Amherst Club)

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

- United Way of Greater Lorain Co., Executive Board
- Family and Children First Council
- REACHhigher, P-16 Council
- Ohio Schools Council, Executive Board, President
- Greater Cleveland School Superintendents Assoc., Executive Board, President
- CONNECT (North Coast Council) Vice-Chairman
- Lorain County Chamber of Commerce
- Emergency Management Agency, Lorain County
- Westshore Council International Reading Assoc., Executive Board
- Local Boards of Education - Executive Searches (Treasurers and Superintendents)
- Lorain County Schools Business Advisory Council
- Lorain County Imagination Library Project



## ESC STAFF

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**144**

Full-time

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**68**

Part-time

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**42,500**

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.

## Professional Development

- Aspiring Administrators Workshop
- Book Studies
- Close Reading for Fiction/Non-Fiction
- Content Area Specific Workshops
- Counselors Network
- Curriculum Mapping
- Curriculum Network
- De-escalation Training
- Desmos Training
- ELASPA-School Psych Network
- Electronic Teacher/Principal Evaluation System (ETPES)
- Gifted Competency Training
- Middle School Engagement
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention
- Ohio Counselor Eval System (OSCES)
- Ohio Teacher Eval System (OTES)
- Ohio's Learning Standards
- Content Area Specific Workshops
- Principals Network
- Resident Educator Training
- Superintendents Network
- Value Added Support Sessions
- Vendor Fair

## NORT2H Technology Integration Services

- Green Screen Studio
- Instructional Coaching
- Immersive Education Visionscape
- Instructional Technology Teacher PD
- Technology Consultation
- 1:1 Device & Makerspace Consultation

## Gifted & Talented Programs

- Classroom Workshops
- Mock Trial
- Professional Development
- Screening/Testing/ID
- STEAM-24
- WEPs/Resources

## Special Education Services

- Educational Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Orientation and Mobility Specialist
- Parent Mentors
- PEP Assist
- Physical Therapy
- Project SEARCH
- Speech/Language Therapy

## Schools

- The Early Learning Center
- Lorain County Academy

## Services

- Anti-Virus Youth Education
- Fingerprinting/Background Check
- Healthy Kids Achieve More Network
- Paraprofessional Assessment
- Substitutes

## Programs

- Academic Challenge
- Agency Cross-Training
- Art Shows
- Homeless Education
- Honors Choir/Band
- Liaison/EMIS
- Nordson Grant
- Pupil Transportation
- School Safety
- Solo & Ensemble
- Spelling Bees
- Tutoring
- Virtual Recital
- Young Authors

# Professional Development



## Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction

Moira Erwine

This year's priority was to provide professional development to meet the requirements of Ohio's Gifted Standards resulting in six face to face workshops with internationally recognized authorities in the gifted world. Additionally, we provided online book studies on *How The Gifted Brain Learns* using Dr. David A. Sousa's 2nd edition resulting in 274 completing fall, winter and spring cohorts. Based on feedback from the participants, we designed learning paths on Differentiation and the Brain and Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom for spring and summer cohorts to further develop the classroom teachers' ability to meet the needs of their diverse learners.

As we entered our third year of Ohio's state testing through AIR, we focused on improving results for English Language Learners. Dr. Wilfong offered non-fiction writing workshops along with vocabulary workshops that offered strategies to support ELL students. We also brought in Dr. Kyleen Beers and Dr. Robert Probst, renowned authors and researchers, on best practices strategies for close reading. A county-wide plea for training in DESMOS, a software program that is used on the state AIR Math tests, was offered twice to use all of the program applications to enhance math instruction.

Over 800 teachers, administrators and service providers in the Clearview, Columbia, Firelands and Keystone, Oberlin and Sheffield/Sheffield Lake school districts participated in a **common professional development** day Nov. 6, 2017. Sharing services on this professional development day saved each of the districts just over \$7,000. Participants selected from a total of 73 sessions that were carefully designed to meet their individual professional development needs. Implementation of strategies learned had a direct impact on student achievement. Our partners, Lorain County Community College, sponsored the venue for the sessions, as well as facilitating sessions for Maker and STEAM education in the Patsie C. and Dolores Jeneé Campana Center for Ideation and Invention. Lorain County Health District, the Board of Mental Health and United Way of Lorain County helped with planning and provided breakout sessions to support the social emotional needs and mental health needs of our students. Sponsors and vendors enriched the experience and further assisted in offsetting costs.

The ESC welcomes the opportunity to work with our parochial schools. We have provided contracted services to Open Door Christian School and St. Peter School in Lorain. Our senior director met with the principal and curriculum directors to develop customized professional development plans to meet their accreditation requirements and the needs of teachers. Schedule a meeting with Moira Erwine to discover how the ESC can support your needs.

## Professional Development - June 2017 - May 2018

**75**

Total Events

**1,370**

Total Participants

**1,920**

Eduplanet21 Participants

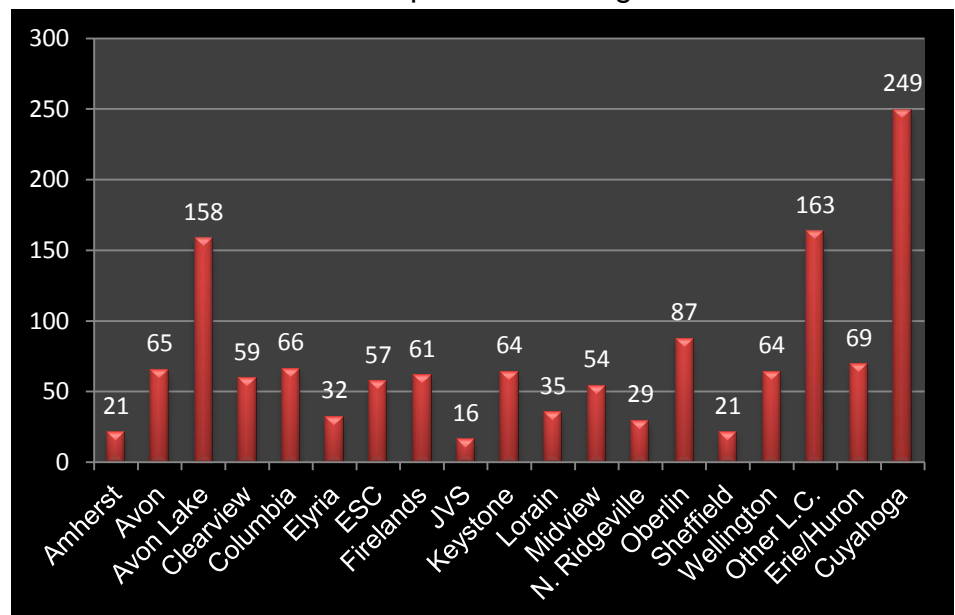
**152**

Graduate Credit Recipients

**43**

ParaPro Praxis Participants

Number of Participants Attending PD Events



# NORT2H Technology Integration Services



Director of Technology & Innovation  
Dave Miller



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 to support selected technologies.

## Consulting & Support

The consultative staffs 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 helps districts all across Northern Ohio as various 1:1 and BYOD initiatives were deployed. More recently NORT2H has assisted districts in researching maker spaces and the re-design of the 21st century classroom.

## 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 200 different professional development workshops and consultations to its clients.

## Member School Districts

Avon Lake City, Avon Local, Bay Village, Berkshire Local, Columbia Local, Cuyahoga Heights, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, Elyria City, Firelands Local, Lorain City, LCCC, ESC of Lorain County, Lorain County Juvenile Home, Midview, North Ridgeville, Polaris Career Center, Sheffield/Sheffield Lake & South Euclid Lyndhurst schools.

## A Snapshot of Services

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

**Professional Development** - Large, small group or job embedded professional development for educators.

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

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

For example, Cedar Point Success Bound Innovation Faire, Immersive Education Visionscape, Augmented Reality Sandbox workshops, Green Screen Video Productions, EdCamp Cleveland, EdTech Team Summit, & Maker Tinker, Learn through Play workshops.

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

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



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**135**  
Consulting & Support

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**72**  
Prof. Development

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**96**  
Meetings

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**17**  
Projects

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**65.5**  
Coaching Sessions

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**10**  
Site Visits

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# Gifted & Talented Programs



## Gifted Supervisors

Cathy Fischer and Mark Millar

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 and Perkins.

### EVENTS/FIELD TRIPS/PROGRAMS

Programs	Description	Grade(s)	Districts	Students/Teachers
<b>ACT Practice Testing</b>	Practice college entrance testing and results that mirror a real-life testing environment.	7-8	Amherst, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin and Perkins	71
<b>ACT Practice Testing</b>	Practice college entrance testing and results that mirror a real-life testing environment.	9-10	Amherst and Columbia	15
<b>Attorney Courtroom Workshops</b>	Ten (10) interactive workshops in which Lorain County attorneys instructed students in trial protocol and case presentation using proper courtroom vocabulary, protocol, and effective questioning techniques.	5-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins and Wellington	336
<b>Mock Trial</b>	Fourteen (14) simulated courtroom trials presided by actual attorneys/judges at Lorain County Justice Center. Verdicts were decided by student juries.	5-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins and Wellington	450
<b>STEAM-24</b>	Robot coding and math competition by grade level at Lorain County Community College.	4-6	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins and Wellington	342
<b>Visual Arts Identification</b>	On-site evaluation of student portfolios by credentialed artists.	2-11	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins and Wellington	85

### CURRICULUM SUPPORT

Service	Description	Grade(s)
<b>Classroom Resources</b>	Physical/electronic resources provided to assist teachers in meeting the curricular needs of students.	3-8
<b>Classroom Support</b>	In-class support and modeling to assist teachers with Mock Trial, PBL, STEAM-24	3-6
<b>Consortium Meetings</b>	Three (3) sessions specifically designed for Gifted Intervention Specialists within the Consortium to address the educational needs of gifted students.	K-12
<b>Consulting</b>	Phone, email and face-to-face consulting to assist teachers and parents in understanding gifted services and implementing instruction.	3-8
<b>Lending Library</b>	Classroom book sets provided to teachers to enrich learning.	3-6
<b>Parent Communication</b>	Responding to parent questions regarding districts' gifted services.	K-12



# Gifted & Talented Programs



## DATA MANAGEMENT

Service	Description	Grade	Districts	Students/Teachers
<b>Data Records &amp; Analysis</b>	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 and Wellington	District-wide
<b>Class Placement Rubric Analysis and/or Development</b>	Collaborated with administrators and educators to develop criteria for content area placement rubrics.	2-7	Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins and Wellington	District-wide

## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMPLIANCE

Service	Description	Grade	Districts	Students/Teachers
<b>Acceleration Testing/Early Entrance to Kindergarten</b>	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	Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin and Perkins	26 students and respective Acceleration committee members
<b>Book Study Sessions</b>	Provided introductory and follow up sessions to supplement online book studies ( <i>How the Gifted Brain Learns</i> ) offered for continuing education hours and/or graduate credit.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Wellington	177
<b>District ID and Service Plans</b>	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, Wellington	District-wide
<b>Identification: Referral Testing &amp; Further Assessments</b>	Analyzed whole grade screening data, provided testing, scoring and notification services, reported to EMIS Coordinators.	K-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Wellington	1,030
<b>High Quality Professional Development</b>	Fifty-two (52) sessions to address the educational needs of gifted students, delivering 174 contact hours.	K-12	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Wellington	579
<b>Written Acceleration Plans</b>	Prepared acceleration plans for Early Entrance, Subject or Whole Grade Acceleration	PK-8	Amherst, Avon Lake, Clearview, Columbia, Firelands, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Perkins, Wellington	681
<b>Written Education Plans</b>	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, Wellington	5,410

# 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 member, 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 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 2017-2018 school year had 5 interns at Mercy Health - Lorain Hospital and 6 interns at Lorain County Community College. Three of the interns have accepted positions at Main Event in Avon Ohio and Elms nursing home in Wellington. The other interns are currently interviewing and applying for employment within their local communities.

### The ESC of Lorain County has two host sites:

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

**Mercy Regional Medical Center:** Sacred Grounds Coffee Shop, Company Store, Emergency Department Technician, Environmental Service, Nutrition Services, Materials Management, Medical Records, Patient Transport, Maintenance/Grounds Keeping, Talent Acquisition, Sterile Processing and Angelica Laundry.





# 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 2017-2018 school year there were 26 requests for assistance in working with students with challenging behaviors. The consultants were in participating districts for a total of 200.25 hours working with staff to address challenging behaviors. Participating districts: Clearview, Elyria, Firelands, Lorain, Midview, N. Ridgeville, Sheffield and Wellington.

## Parent Mentors

School districts develop and provide meaningful educational programs for all students. A parent mentor works to support the relationship between the school and the family of a child with a disability. The school and family work together to provide a pathway for the child's success. By working closely with the parents and teachers, the parent mentor is an important part of the student's educational team. Mentors provide information and support to families about special education issues. Additionally, they make sure the district receives perspective and input from families. The ESC employees are two part-time parent mentors that service 16 school districts in Lorain and Huron County. They made direct contact with 189 families, made 1,399 points of contact with teachers, and had 3,266 points of contact teachers and administrators and 6,657 points of contact with other agencies that might provide private or public services to students and their families. The parent mentors attended 156 ETR/ IEP meetings and 38 RTI/ IAT meetings.

## 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 2018-18 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 320 students ranging from preschool to grade twelve and evaluated approximately 190 students.

### 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 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.

# Special Education

## Physical Therapy

Physical therapy (PT) is one 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 work on functional mobility skills, architectural accessibility, utilizing appropriate assistive devices, transfers, positioning, and pre-vocational tasks.

During the 2017-18 school year, the ESC provided Physical Therapy services to meet the needs of students in three participating school districts in Lorain County including: Midview, Oberlin and Wellington. The Physical Therapists worked with approximately 26 students ranging from preschool to grade twelve. Over the course of the school year 17 students were evaluated.

### 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, assist in developing program plans, provide direct and consultative services, and facilitate 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 2017-18 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 and Murray Ridge. The O&M specialist has worked with approximately 12 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 year, she has completed 12 evaluations including initial referrals and re-evaluations.

# Special Education

## Visually Impaired

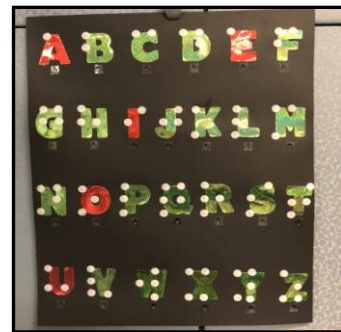
Itinerant Teachers of the Visually Impaired provide a wide range of services to students and school districts in compliance with local, state, and federal legislation. The teachers participate with district evaluation teams in qualifying students under state guidelines, assist in developing program plans,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

What does a Teacher of the Visually Impaired do?

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

During the 2017-18 school year, the Educational Service Center provided TVI services to meet the needs of students in Amherst Ex. Village, Avon Local Schools, Clearview Local Schools, Keystone Local Schools, Midview Local Schools, Vermilion Local Schools, Edison Local Schools, Lorain Prep Academy, Positive Education Program ( PEP), Connection Academy and Murray Ridge. The TVIs have worked with approximately 48 students ranging from preschool to 12th grade with a wide range of needs including that are completely blind, have low vision, or Cortical Vision Impairments. TVIs are working with nine students on learning how to read and use Braille. Over the course of the year they have completed 40 school-based functional vision assessments including initial referrals and re-evaluations.

The VI program at the ESC has received the Local Braille Production Center Grant that was fully funded providing the ESC TVIs with an embosser to be able to create and produce Braille materials for students within the districts. They have also received two partially funded grants for Literacy and Braille Resources along with Functional Vision assessment grants.



# Speech/Language Therapy Services



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

**Seventy-four** speech-language pathologists from more than **twenty** school districts in Erie, Huron and Lorain counties access speech and language supervisory services from the ESC. Barb Conrad continues to provide support and services for the speech-language pathologists including quarterly meetings, professional development, a monthly e-packet of information, and archived information on the ESC's website specific to the practice of speech-language pathology in the school setting. Barb is active at the state and national level attending both state and national conferences in order to keep tabs on an ever-changing profession. She was an invited speaker at the annual American Speech and Hearing Convention in Los Angeles in November and presented at the OSLHA convention in spring.

## SPONSORED EVENTS

EVENT NAME	TOPIC	DATE HELD	ATTENDEES
Social Thinking	Implementing Social Thinking	Sept. 2017	128
Retirement Luncheon	Updates on Current Trends & Research	Oct. 2017	15
Articulation Clinic	Training New SLP's on Tips and Techniques to Improve Articulation Skills	Dec. 2017	11
Winter SLP Meeting	Training on new IAT and ETR Forms and Sensory Bins	Feb. 2018	60
SLP Guide to Servicing Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students	Integrating Technology and Therapy for English Language Learners	May 2018	70

### SUPPORT TO NEW SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

Barb provided supervision and mentorship to **five** new SLPs during the 2017-18 school year in North Ridgeville, Midview, Huron, Vermilion and Lorain City school districts. New speech-language pathologists must be rigorously supervised as they undergo their clinical fellowship (CF) year. Successful completion of their CF experience results in obtaining Ohio Board licensure (a requirement to work in schools) and a Certificate of Clinical Competence from ASHA which is comparable to the National Teacher Board Certification. Also the speech-language pathologists new to a district receive orientation visits and on-going support throughout their first year in the region including several new SLPs not listed above.

### RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

Partnerships developed with Baldwin Wallace University, The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, and Kent State University, continued as **five** student SLPs were placed in the following districts during the school year: Clearview (2), Columbia Local (1), Lorain (1) and Elyria (1). Many SLPs in the region mentor area students pursuing a degree in speech-language pathology. Currently, there are **thirteen** 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 clinical observation opportunities, student teaching sites and encouragement to seek a position in the school setting in an area school district. Filling temporary vacancies for medical leaves, etc. is always a challenge.

This year Barb assisted in filling **four** short term positions mostly working with area retirees to fill positions in the following districts:

North Ridgeville, Bellevue, Columbia Local and South Central School Districts. **Fifteen** retirees gathered at the 9th annual Retiree Luncheon to connect with Barb; some assisted with short term openings throughout the year. Retirees are invited to many of the professional development offerings provided in order to keep their licensure valid allowing them to continue to practice and to keep current in an ever-changing field of speech-language pathology. **Three** open positions have been announced for fall 2018 with a few more expected.

Barb assisted in filling the vacancies for Avon and Avon Lake school districts. Both positions are hired through the ESC.

# Educational Audiology



## 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 21 participating school districts in Lorain, Erie and Huron Counties during the 201-18 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 2017-18 school year, the educational audiologist made **559** 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 sound field 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.

# 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. This school year, the Early Learning Center was awarded 5 stars through Ohio's Step-Up to Quality evaluation system. The 5 stars is the highest level that can be earned and signifies exemplary work at all levels of the program.

During the 2017-18 school year, there were 6.5 classrooms and itinerant services. A total of 180 students were provided preschool special education services and 166 students attended school. The Early Learning Center provides instruction using both evidence based interventions, Houghton Mifflin preschool curriculum, Preschool Foundations literacy program, Touch Math preschool edition, the Early Learning Developmental Standards and curriculum maps in order to provide instruction that meets the needs of all learners. A Music Together music class is provided to each class weekly and the Grafton/Midview public library comes in monthly to read and provide enrichment activities.

### 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                | -Pony Rides                      | -Ice Cream Social             | -Bowling Field Trip |

**Four Saturday family events:** Fall Festival, Winter Beach Party, Pirate and Princess Movie Party, Planting Play Date

**Two classroom specific family events:** Lemonade with Ladies and Doughnuts with Dudes (3-4 year olds), Stone Soup and Fairy Tale Theater (4-5 year olds)

### Programs we have added during the 2017-18 school year:

The entire staff has been trained on PBIS through SST 2. This was year zero of a four year training process to implement PBIS strategies school-wide.

The 4-5 team focused on using the Early learning Assessment data in order to flexibly group students and provide specific interventions and extension based on student data.

The 3-4 team introduced the Foundations literacy curriculum and the students experienced significant growth in the areas of letter recognition and letter sound recognition.

This year teachers and related services (speech and OT) collaborated together to develop instruction that involved all students. Related services team members went into the classroom weekly to provide instruction through whole group or small group. Students receiving related services were given opportunities to have these skills reinforced in the classroom by all team members.

New this school year was an **extended care** option for students and their families. The morning extended care ran from 6:30-8:30 and afternoon extended care ran from 3:30-5:30 with 47 students participating. Families paid a small fee associated with extended care. A multipurpose room was developed within the school to support this program. This room is also used for music class and library presentations. The room also serves as the nap and lunch room for part of the full day students.

# The Early Learning Center

## Special Education Processes

There is a team approach between the five school districts and the Early Learning Center in regard to assessments and transition procedures. The Early Learning staff meets 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 writes both the Evaluation Team Reports for the students transitioning to kindergarten as well as the Individualized Education Plan. A total of 34 students had special education transition meetings within the five districts.

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 use a playbase 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 70 preschool age students were evaluated this school year.

## Classroom

Standards-based report cards are used with both the 4-5 learning groups and the 3-4 learning groups.

The Early Learning Assessment with 32 learning progression is done with each student three times during the course of the school year.

All classrooms have a working SMART board and use the boards throughout the year for instruction.

All classrooms have a set of four iPads for students to use.

## Professional Development

All teaching and paraprofessional staff participated in 15 hours of PBIS training. The staff was trained this year on CPR and First Aid procedures as part of their two year certification requirement. All staff were trained on CPI procedures. Teachers were trained on the technology component of data collection for the Early Learning Assessment.

**Staff includes:** 7 classroom teachers, 2 itinerant teachers, 8 classroom aides, 4 part time floating aids, 1 school psychologist, 2 speech and language pathologists, 1 occupational therapist, 1 secretary and 1 principal, 4 extended care staff members



# Lorain County Academy



**Director of Lorain County Academy & Delinquent Education**  
Graham Henderson

Lorain County Academy is comprised of middle and high school students (grades 5-9). 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.

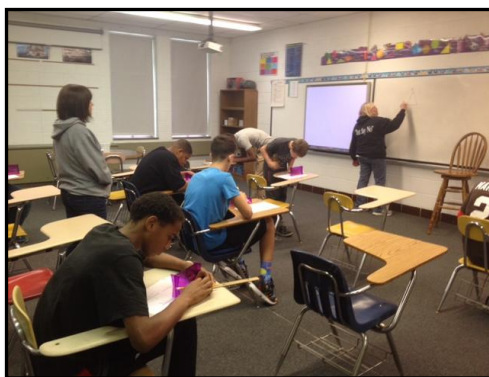
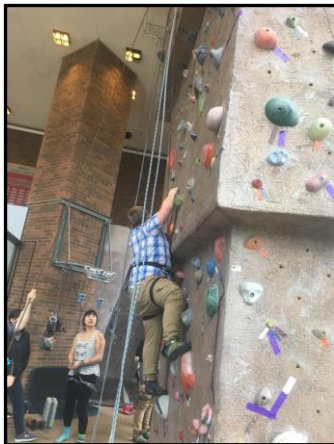
**GOALS:**

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 highly qualified, 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 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 rock wall climbing, bowling, fishing, excursions to Cleveland Aquarium, Black River Cruise and Great Lakes Theatre.

**Academic Growth**

	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
Reading Growth	2.0%	.4%	1.16%	3.1%	2.4%
Math Growth	1.9%	3.3%	1.6%	2.83%	1.67%

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





# Academic Challenge, Art, Music & Spelling

Project Coordinator  
Debbie Hunt



## ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

### Grades 5 - 8

Preliminary 1 - Nov. 14, 2017  
Preliminary 2 - Nov. 15, 2017  
Finals - Dec. 6, 2017

Preliminaries were held at First Baptist Christian School and Finals at the ESC. No cost event to any Lorain County educator, including non-public and charter/community schools.

### Grades 5 & 6

**75**

Participating Students

**10**

Participating Schools

### Grades 7 & 8

**76**

Participating Students

**11**

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

**139**

Participating Students

**19**

Participating Schools

### High School Exhibits

**109**

Participating Students

**10**

Participating Schools

### Teacher Exhibits

**10**

Participating Teachers

**9**

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. **Feb. 6 & 7, 2018**

**12**

Participating Students

**5**

Participating Schools

### Solo & Ensemble Contest

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

**932**

Participating Students

**29**

Participating Schools

**Feb. 24, 2018**

### Honors Choir & Band Festival

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

**203**

Participating Students

**10**

Participating Schools

**April 18, 2018**

## SPELLING

### ESLC Elementary Bees Grades 3 - 6

**97**

Participating Students

Grades 3 & 4 - May 4, 2018  
Grades 5 & 6 - May 18, 2017

**28**

Participating Schools

Location: Midview MS



### ESC/Chronicle Telegram Bees Grades 7 & 8

**63**

Participating Students

Preliminary 1 - March 9, 2017  
Preliminary 2 - March 16, 2017  
Finals - March 23, 2017

**18**

Participating Schools

Location: Avon MS

# Special Projects



Project Coordinator  
Debbie Hunt

## Academic Programs

Program	Students	Teachers	Schools	Description
<b>Delinquent Education Programs</b> June 5, 2017 – June 4, 2018	99*	7	34	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.  *99 is an unduplicated count as many students go from one facility to another and recidivism is high in this population.
<b>Homeless Education Program</b>	903	34 LEAs 10 Charter	37	Title 1 - Supported by McKinney-Vento Grant for Erie, Huron and Lorain counties.

## Professional Development

Event	Attendees	Personnel	Districts	Description
<b>Agency Cross Training</b> Oct. 27, 2017	82	55	13	Two Seminars each year sponsored by the Manager's Group. Various agencies present: Nord Center, Children Services, Ohio Guidestone, Bellefair JCB, Applewood, LC Juvenile Courts, LC Board of Development Disabilities and LC Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services
Apr. 27, 2018	67	56	6	
<b>Liaison/EMIS Seminar</b> Sept. 21, 2017	72	6	23	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.
<b>Pupil Transportation Appreciation &amp; PD</b> Oct. 12, 2017	153	0	11	Awards banquet and professional development for Lorain County school bus drivers.
<b>School Safety Seminar</b> Jan. 12, 2018	35	14	7	Train-the-Trainer seminar covering all topics of ODE & HB requirements.
	<b>Applications</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Districts</b>	
<b>Nordson Grant</b>	69	27	12	Total amount awarded was \$12,000 in various grant-amounts according to each request.



# Young Authors Program



**Director of Professional Development & Curriculum Instruction**  
 Moira Erwine

On May 16, 2018, over nine hundred students and chaperones from the following eleven districts and three parochial schools participated in the 36th Young Authors Program held at the Lorain County Community College Stocker Arts Center.

Amherst  
 Avon Lake  
 Clearview  
 Columbia

Elyria  
 Firelands  
 N. Ridgeville  
 Oberlin

Perkins  
 Sheffield  
 St. Jude  
 St. Mary

St. Peter  
 Wellington

Grade 3-6 students started writing their books in September. They chose to submit their book as a writer or artist and teachers submitted one per grade level for each category to the Educational Service Center for judging. A total of 38 writers and 38 artist books were submitted in March. Volunteer educators and artist teachers judged submitted books for the final eight Best of Show awards using a rubric for each category.

In February, artist, Jim Gill, from the Center of Arts-Inspired Learning, scheduled 39 district classroom visits to inspire and teach students how to illustrate their books.



The daytime conference on May 16 consisted of a presentation to the students by author, Laurie Wallmark and awards. The ESC awarded each Best of Show nominee with a medallion as recognition for his or her efforts in writing or illustrating. The finalist from each grade was awarded a trophy and their book was displayed at the finalist table at the Open House that evening. Open House was open to the public for families to look at the displays of books by each participating district, written by each student that attended the conference.

We extended our thanks for the generous support of the Community Foundation for funding the featured author, Laurie Wallmark, and classroom visits by artist, Jim Gill.

Of course, we would be remiss if we didn't recognize the hard work, guidance, and support provided by the teachers, school leaders and the volunteer judges.

Best of Show  
 Writer  
 Finalists  
 Grades 3-6



Best of Show  
 Artist  
 Finalists  
 Grades 3-6



# 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

June 2017 - May 2018

2,413

Self Paid



1,347

Invoiced



3,760

Total Printed



## ON-SITE ACTIVITY

June 2017 - May 2018

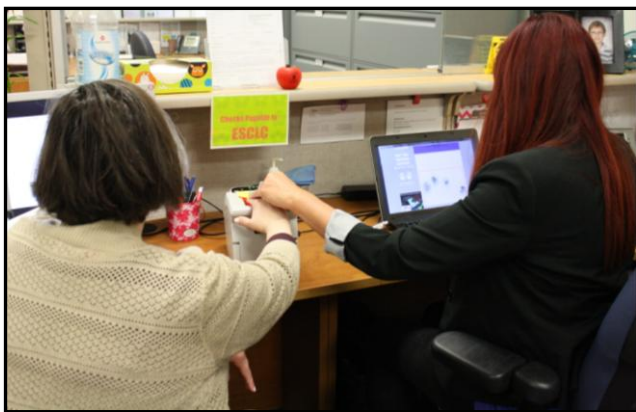
6

Visits



280

Total Number Printed



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

# Substitute Services



## Substitute Recruiter

Pam Gamble

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

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

Our annual Job Fair was held in January 2017 and provided seven districts, and the Lorain County JVS, with an opportunity to meet and interview 66 candidates.

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

## ESC Districts

Amherst

Avon

Columbia

Detention Home

Keystone

Lorain County Academy

Midview

## ESC Substitutes

**447**

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

**479**

Registered Substitutes



**18,598**

Substitute Placements



**82**

NCSSA Interviews Conducted



# Other Services



## ANTI-VIRUS Youth Education

### Superintendent

Greg Ring

Over 2,000 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, Avon Lake, Clearview, Keystone, Firelands, Elyria, Vermilion and Wellington districts.

The program focuses 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.

## 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 the whole child. The ESC collaborated on professional development offerings with LCBMH, LCHD in November. Districts across the county sent food service, school nurses, wellness teams, counselors and psychologists to sessions relating to social emotional health, addictions, food service and safe routes to school.

## Paraprofessional Assessment

### Director of Academic Programs & Services

Jody Weidrick

The ESC of Lorain County became a test site for the Paraprofessional Assessment in December 2014. The test created by ETS, measures the reading, writing and basic math competencies of practicing and prospective paraprofessionals. In accordance with the No Child Left Behind Act, the Paraprofessional Assessment can be used to certify teacher's aides and assistants in the instruction of these subjects to school children. Fifty prospective and/or practicing paraprofessionals took the test between July 2017 and June 2018. Ninety-eight percent passed the assessment with the required passing score of 456 or more.

# Leadership



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