

Summer 2013

An e-newsletter published by the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County

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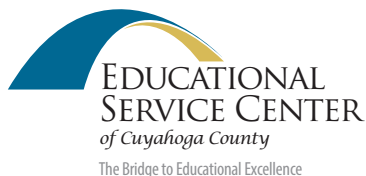
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#### ESC Connection

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## Northeast Ohio Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Showcase (STEM)

By Bob Mengerink, Superintendent

In this time of uncertainty and change within the educational community, the time is always right to celebrate and highlight the accomplishments of our districts, teachers and the entities who have sought to bring about innovation and engaging Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) educational resources and products to their regions, districts and classrooms. Recently, more than 100 educators gathered together to celebrate, highlight, share and network the exciting STEM work that occurred across the state throughout the 2012-2013 academic year.



The Northeast Ohio STEM Education Showcase is a collaborative event among NASA Glenn Research Center Education Office, the Battelle Memorial Institute, North Point Educational Service Center, and the



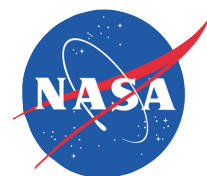
Tri-County (Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Lake) Educational Service Center Consortium.

Cleveland State University (CSU) hosted the STEM Education Showcase for Northeast Ohio educators on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the CSU Julka Hall and Atrium.

This event showcased the work of teachers from Northeast and Central Ohio who created and implemented innovative, instructional strategies for students in grades K-12 this past school year.

Delivering the keynote presentations were NASA Glenn Center's Director James M. Free, associate administrator of education and former astronaut Leland Melvin, and Battelle's corporate vice president Eric Fingerhut.

Continued on page 7



# International Education

## Innovation Book Series and Conference

A book series focusing on Innovation in Education was hosted at area high schools in early Spring—**Berea, Aurora, and Cleveland Metropolitan School District's** Collinwood High School. Participants read and discussed books that highlighted educational reform throughout the world, including Yong Zhao's *World Class Learners*, Tony Wagner's *Creating Innovators*, and Sir Ken Robinson's *Out of Our Minds*. Student participants provided their thoughts on what is significant for their educational experiences at the book discussions and at the April 15<sup>th</sup> conference, *Flip Your World! Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship without Borders*, held at Baldwin Wallace University's Center for Innovation & Growth.

The conference highlighted best practices by global business leaders, educators from K-12 and higher education institutions, and community and cultural representatives with the purpose of enhancing content

knowledge and global perspectives for participants to improve teaching and learning. The keynote presenter, Ram Ramakrishan from Eaton Corporation, focused on the academic and cultural skills necessary for success as global citizens, but also the creative capacities that are necessary for innovation. The book discussions and conference were funded by a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, and educators who attended the conference were eligible for mini-grants highlighting innovative teaching practices or community collaborations to extend what teachers learned. Student participants from high schools and universities expressed that for many this was a first-time opportunity to attend a professional conference and to network with business and community leaders.

### Book Series



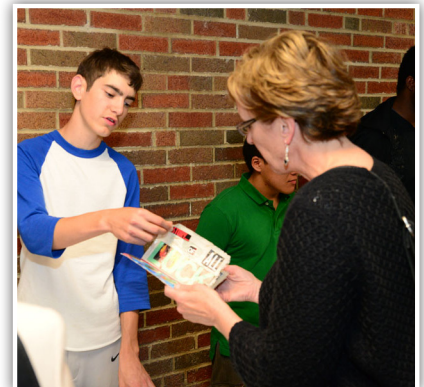
### Flip Your World! Conference



## Ohio-Ontario Cultural Exchange Project

During Spring term, **Richmond Heights Secondary Schools** art students and their teacher Mary Nichols-Bronfield enhanced literary and artistic skills in a cultural exchange project with students and teacher Kevin Locke from the Walkerville Academy for the Arts in Windsor, Ontario. Ohio students became authors and illustrators as they created handmade books about the topics of diversity and equity. First they learned the process of making Western-style and Eastern-style handmade papers at the Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory and Educational Foundation in Cleveland, and they then learned to bind their books. Their essays,

poetry and illustrations provided personal statements about the themes. Students from Ontario, Canada, created drawings that illustrated their personal cultural identities. The teachers exchanged the students' work for exhibits in Ohio and Ontario that were shared with community members on May 15<sup>th</sup>. A reception of foods from different countries added to the cultural sharing. The project was funded by a mini-grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation through the Kent State University Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education.



## Global Teacher Institute for Ohio Educators

The ESC of Cuyahoga County will host the fourth statewide Global Teacher Institute—Fostering Innovation in Education—at the Dr. Harry E. Eastridge Professional Development Center on August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Keynote speakers include Dr. Brad Mitchell of Battelle for Kids, who will speak about the Global Learning Collaborative comprised of educators from the highest-performing school systems around the world, and Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland, Mr. Jurček Žmauc, who will discuss Global Education and Economic and Cultural Development. Breakout sessions will explore innovative pedagogical strategies, such as International Baccalaureate, NextGen Innovation Lab Network, Asia Society/International Schools Studies Network, as well as developing community connections with business and cultural partners, study abroad, and community and global resources. Registration is \$50 for both days. Registration is online at [www.esc-cc.org](http://www.esc-cc.org), then click on Professional

Development/Calendar of Events. Scholarship assistance for transportation or lodging for educators from beyond the Northeast Ohio region is offered by The Ohio State University Office of International Affairs; apply at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPH3Z5B](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPH3Z5B). Institute partners also include Kent State University's Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education and Battelle for Kids as well as partners in the Developing Global Citizens for Northeast Ohio network. Learn, network and collaborate with educators and community representatives statewide at the Global Teacher Institute.

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Coordinator of 21st Century Learning

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216-901-4243



## Believe It To Achieve It! 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Recognizing Excellence in Education for Students with Disabilities Awards - May 17, 2013

### 2013 Outstanding Student Achievement Award

The Outstanding Student Achievement Award was established as a means of acknowledging achievements of school-age children and youth with disabilities in Cuyahoga County. Presented by: Meghan Shelby, Consultant, State Support Team - Region 3.

**Keynote Presentation by:**  
**Karen Gaffney**, President,  
Karen Gaffney Foundation



**Justin Bachman**  
Solon High School  
Solon City Schools

**Sarah Stevens**  
Olmsted Falls Middle School  
Olmsted Falls City Schools



**Tyler Stiles**  
Guidestone, Berea

**Ivan Childers**  
Brooklyn High School  
Brooklyn City Schools

**Ronald Toombs**  
Columbus Intermediate School  
Bedford City Schools

**Darnelle Crenshaw**  
Lakewood High School  
Lakewood City Schools

**Shawn Widzinski**  
Independence High School  
Independence Local Schools



**Devin Mathews**  
Miles Park School  
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools

**Matt Yako**  
North Royalton High School  
North Royalton City Schools

**Ryan Meese**  
Rocky River Middle School  
Rocky River City Schools



**Clifford Pleasant**  
Bedford High School  
Bedford City Schools



### 2013 Outstanding Peer Achievement Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor students with or without disabilities who have established positive relationships and who have assisted others students with disabilities, and have been exemplary role models. Presented by: Jackie Lawson, Consultant, State Support Team - Region 3



**Paul Karthan**  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools

**Deryk Trautman**  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools

**Hannah Kho**  
Olmsted Falls Intermediate School  
Olmsted Falls City Schools

**David Urse**  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools



**Kyle Rolland**  
Olmsted Falls High School  
Olmsted Falls City Schools



## 2013 Outstanding Educator Achievement Award

These educators and educational teams are the exemplars in designing instructional strategies and programs. They have been recognized for their work in one of the following categories of achievement.

Presented by: Sharon Humphrey, Consultant, State Support Team - Region 3



**Kevin Aufmuth**  
Brookridge Elementary School  
Brooklyn City Schools



**Gina Babinec**  
Emerson Elementary School  
Lakewood City Schools



**Susan Folta**  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools



**Lorraine E. Gordon**  
Miles Park Elementary School  
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools



**Karen Haseley**  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School  
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools



**Siasia Jackson**  
Frederick Roehm Middle School  
Berea City Schools



**Mary Jonela**  
Royal View Elementary School  
North Royalton City Schools



**Erin Macsurak**  
Greenview Upper Elementary School  
South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools



**Doreen "Terry" McLellan**  
Olmsted Falls High School  
Olmsted Falls City Schools



**Cathy Norris**  
North Royalton High School  
North Royalton City Schools



**Hillary Pettigrew**  
Brooklyn High School  
Brooklyn City Schools



**Joe Raso**  
Shiloh Middle School  
Parma City Schools



**Jayne Reitz**  
Falls-Lenox Primary School  
Olmsted Falls City Schools



**Cindy Richards**  
Royal View Elementary School  
North Royalton City Schools



**Valerie Smith**  
Solon High School  
Solon City Schools



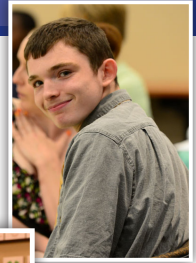
**Kelly Tesar**  
North Royalton High School  
North Royalton City Schools

**Kay Veith**  
Brookpark Memorial Elementary School  
Berea City Schools

## 2013 Outstanding Media Honor Roll

The Outstanding Media Honor Roll was established by the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) to recognize fair and balanced education reporting and exemplary service to our community.

**Kim Wheeler**  
WKYC-TV  
Cleveland, Ohio



# Professional Development

## Northeast Ohio Quality Matters (QM) Consortium

**July 8-29 session** - Online (limit 60 registrants)

**July 15 session** - Online (limit 40 registrants)

*Orientation for online sessions will be conducted online*

**August 5 blended session** - face-to-face

(AM or PM - limit 20 registrants each)

August 5-26, 2013 - Online

*Orientation will be conducted face-to-face at:*

ESC of Cuyahoga County

5811 Canal Road, Valley View, Ohio 44125

Professional Development Contact Hours: 15

Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses. QM is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach and continuous improvement in online education and student learning. Building on the foundation and the strength of existing relationships developed across educational services centers, agencies and school districts, the Northeast QM Consortium is a strategic partnership among the ESC of Cuyahoga County, the Geauga, Lake and Lorain Counties Educational Service

Centers, Ashland University, the Northern Ohio Research and Training Technology Hub (NORT<sup>2</sup>H) and WVIZ/PBS ideastream<sup>®</sup>. It was developed to increase the awareness and expansion of quality online and blended learning in schools. In February 2013, the ESC and the Northeast Ohio QM Consortium were awarded a grant by eTech Ohio and the Ohio Department of Education to offer and deliver training in the QM standards and rubric to the schools and educators in the northeast region. During summer 2013, educators will participate in the *Applying the Grades 6-12 Quality Matters Rubric Course*.

Register on-line at [www.esc-cc.org](http://www.esc-cc.org)

For additional information about QM, please contact:

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216-901-4244



# Professional Development

## Northern Ohio's 3rd Annual Early Learners Institute: Register Today!

On August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, early education educators will have a chance to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Early Learners Institute. It will be held at the Dr. Harry E. Eastridge Professional Development Center in Valley View. Participants will hear from national experts, learn about the latest research-based early learning strategies, and be provided with opportunities to explore proven practices that create and support a successful early learning environment.

[Click here](#) for a registration flyer.

For registration questions please contact:

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216-901-4229

**Sue Coughlin**

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216-901-4230



## Grants

### High School-Higher Education Alignment Project

The remediation rate in Mathematics and English for high school graduates who are entering freshmen in Ohio's public colleges and universities is 41%, comparable to the remediation rate across the United States in those subject areas for entering college students. The ESC of Cuyahoga County leads a consortium of five school districts, a career center, and representatives from four universities in a pilot project funded by the Ohio Department of Education in cooperation with the Ohio Board of Regents to help alleviate remediation in Mathematics and English for entering freshmen at Ohio's public colleges and universities. This three-year project, now beginning its final year, involves administrators and Math and English faculty from **Cuyahoga Valley Career Center**, and the school districts in **Beachwood, Hudson, Olmsted Falls, Strongsville** and **Solon**, as well as faculty and administrators from Baldwin Wallace University, Cleveland State University, Cuyahoga

Community College, and Ursuline College. Participants have defined areas of concern for their specific institutions and action steps to help alleviate remediation in Math and English by increasing understanding about placement and admissions testing and higher education faculty expectations, by aligning Common Core curriculum and assessments between high schools and colleges, by better educating students and parents about the transition and academic and financial obligations, as well as preparing students with affective attributes and non-academic skills that will enhance their transition experiences and result in higher persistence and graduation rates. A goal for the third year is teacher preparation for alignment to the new Common Core standards for teaching and learning. The ESC will work with its partners in the project to enhance professional development for in-service and pre-service teachers.

## Northeast Ohio Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Showcase (STEM)

Highlights of the STEM displays included:

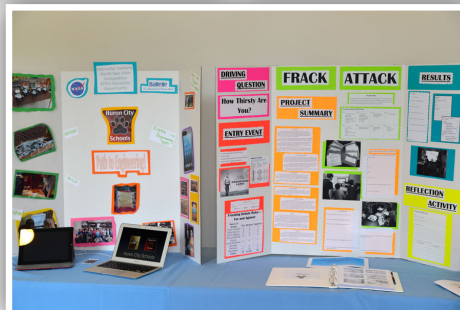
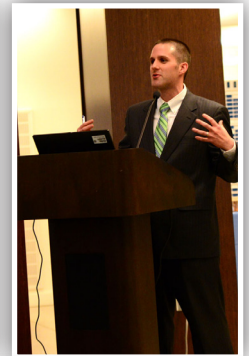
**Parma City Schools** - Exploration of the Moon's Surface: A trans-disciplinary unit with teams of students designing, creating, testing and refining a vehicle to explore and sample the moon's surface.

**Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools** - English STEM proposal: Creation of best practice lesson plans and a writing contest to promote the incorporation of STEM in English courses.

ESC of Cuyahoga County- Exploring and Launching Project-Based Learning: Eight Essentials for Getting Started: A three county initiative designed to train administrators and teachers in the eight essentials of project-based learning, provide high quality professional development learning experiences, generate interest in NASA and the aerospace

industry and provide opportunities for students to explore and succeed in STEM education.

Other participants in the year long project were: Birchwood School, Fairport Harbor Schools, Fairview Park City Schools, Firestone High School, Hope Academy East Campus, Alphaport, Inc., Lakewood City Schools, Ledgemont Local Schools, Olmsted Falls City Schools, Riverside Local Schools, Warrensville Heights Schools, Bluffton Schools, Clyde Local Schools, Edison Schools, Lakota Local Schools, Kenston Local Schools, Mahoning County Educationl Service Center, Monroeville Local Schools, Norwalk Middle School, Norwalk Catholic Schools, Stark County Education Service Center Strasburg-Franklin Local Schools, Perkins Local Schools, Sandusky City Schools, Tuscarawas Valley Schools, Vermillion Schools, Woodlands Intermediate School, and Willard City Schools.





# Gifted & Talented Consortium News

## Student Seminars 2013-2014

GPS Workshop	Middle School	October 1 and 2	Leadership Workshop	High School	October 23
Equations	Grades 4-8	TBD (February)	Peaceful Solutions	High School	November 13
Beck Center Outreach	Middle School	March 5	Financial Literacy	High School	TBD
Academic Super Bowl	Middle School	TBD	Public Speaking	High School	February 4

## First Annual Middle School Academic Super Bowl

The first Academic Super Bowl for middle school students sponsored by the ESC of Cuyahoga County was held on April 18th at the Dr. Harry Eastridge Professional Development Center. Over 50 students from **Bedford, Lakewood, Fairview Park, Rocky River** and **Westlake Schools** participated in this event. Teams had practiced since January answering questions using buzzer systems in science, mathematics, language arts, and

social studies. Three team head-to-head competitions, computer questions, and individual team events determined the six teams that would participate in the final round. Westlake took home the district tournament trophy and the individual team champion medals were presented to the tying first place teams from Westlake and Rocky River.



## Ohio Online Learning Program

The ESC of Cuyahoga County's Ohio Online Learning Program has been in operation since August 2012. This program is one that allows students to re-enroll in their resident school district from other online schools and also participate in extracurricular activities. In partnership with the National Network of Digital Schools, districts now have access to the award winning Lincoln Interactive online curriculum with over 250 courses offered online. There are currently over 30 school districts participating in the program representing six counties. This year, the program had 25 seniors who graduated.

As a result of this expansion, Online Program Specialist, Angela Love joined the ESC of Cuyahoga County providing much needed expertise and support in the day to day operations. She was previously employed with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District where she spent over 13 years working with staff, students, and parents in the Office of ADM and Attendance. She works

with all districts involved in the online program as well as a liaison to Lincoln Interactive program personnel to ensure quality and seamless delivery of services.

Districts that may be interested in taking advantage of this unique opportunity will be provided Student Learning Advocates who work directly with students and parents providing academic and technical assistance. All full time students are provided a laptop and printer/scanner/copier combination with wireless capability allowing learning to take place anywhere, anytime. Onsite training is also provided for district personnel on enrollment procedures.

Summer school enrollment opportunities are now available for students wanting credit flex or credit recovery courses. For more information, visit [www.ohionlinelearning.org](http://www.ohionlinelearning.org) or call toll free at 855-491-9660.

## Thirty-Five Youths Graduate from North Coast Academy, Three Earn College Scholarships

Simon Youth North Coast Academy at Richmond Town Square Sears held a graduation and scholarship presentation on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> to honor the perseverance and accomplishments of 35 teens. The ceremony was held at the Richmond Town Square – Macy's Corridor. North Coast Academy is run by the ESC of Cuyahoga County, which supervises the educational efforts and purchases the computers, on-line curriculum and other materials used in the daily instruction of the students.

Three of the students have also been selected as Simon Youth Foundation Academy Scholarship recipients.

- Grace Thompson has received a Simon Youth Foundation Academy Scholarship valued at \$7,700 over two years. She also received a scholarship from College Now of Greater Cleveland.
- Alexander Frazier has received a Simon Youth Foundation Academy Scholarship valued at \$31,000 over four years. Alexander's scholarship was donated by the Warren and Zoanne Dusenbury Fund of the Cleveland Foundation.
- Nathan Simon has received a Simon Youth Foundation 'Best in Class' Scholarship valued at \$40,000 over four years.



The scholarships are awarded to individuals who have worked tirelessly to earn their diploma, and seek to pursue their dreams in post-secondary education. SYF is a national non-profit dedicated to providing educational and career development opportunities to youth.

## North Coast Academy Graduation continued

"We are so excited to honor these amazing kids," said Kate Miller, area director of marketing and business development. "Their dedication to their future inspires all of us."

"The partnership between the ESC of Cuyahoga County and the Simon Youth Foundation has been critical to helping students at-risk of dropping out of high school achieve the credits for their diploma in a setting that meets their needs in a smaller school computer based environment," said Rena Wertheim, North Coast Academy director. "Simon Youth Foundation has added to the experiences of these students by providing funding to the school for such things as field trips to local colleges. This partnership has helped 470 students graduate over the years."

The graduate speakers who shared their personal, inspiring stories included Tyah Higbee and Laurynn Roebuck of **Shaker Heights Schools** and Nathan Simon

of **Beachwood Schools**. Heidi Solomon, coordinator of Youth Ability, a division of Jewish Family Services delivered the address to the graduates.

The following school districts participate in the Simon Youth North Coast Academy: **Beachwood, Chagrin Falls, Euclid, Garfield Heights, Mayfield, Nardonina, Orange, Richmond Heights, Solon, South Euclid/Lyndhurst, Twinsburg and Warrensville Heights.**

"Anything is possible with education, and Simon Youth Foundation is committed to igniting this kind of hope in students," says J. Michael Durnil, Ph.D., President and CEO of SYF.



## Parmadale News

By Kevin Wering

The faculty at Parmadale has been busy during the 2012-2013 school year and is poised to continue its efforts in the 2013-2014 school year.

Several faculty members engaged in a weekly professional development series, that began last August, which focused on the Common Core State Standards and technology, *Digital Learning & Collaboration*, and are now ready to implement their newfound knowledge and skills in the 2013-2014 school year. The participants worked closely with the rest of the faculty and have successfully aligned the Parmadale curriculum with the Common Core State Standards. Furthermore, the curriculum offers our students a variety of opportunities to engage in academic material in a meaningful way while using technology and 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills.

The faculty at Parmadale has also successfully completed a series of peer observations. These observations gave each member of the faculty an opportunity to observe one another during classroom instruction. Teachers were also given an opportunity to pair together in order to coach one another on areas of strength through collaborative lesson planning and reciprocal observations. Our team plans to continue to develop ways to work collaboratively with one another as we wrap up the current academic year and move into a new one.

Our two Resident Educators, Ms. Williams and Ms. Bonezzi,

continue to develop and grow professionally. Through participation in the ESC's Resident Educator program along with guidance from their mentors, Ms. Snyder and Ms. Nemeth, our Resident Educators are officially halfway through their Teacher Residency requirements and headed towards successful careers.

Our faculty would like to thank Ms. Bonezzi, Ms. Carroll and Ms. Huntz for their continued professional achievements and contributions to our school program. Ms. Bonezzi will be awarded a Master of Education degree in Early Childhood Special Education along with a license in Early Childhood Special Education during the summer of 2013. Ms. Huntz and Ms. Carroll, after attending a professional development session, applied for and were awarded a "Flip Your World" grant in the amount of \$500. Ms. Huntz will use the grant to purchase culturally-responsive literature and hands-on learning materials that will enable our students to learn about "Adaptation and Change" using 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills. Ms. Carroll will train her students in lab skills with the use of digital microscopes.

The Parmadale faculty has had a busy and productive year. On a daily basis we search for new ways to engage our students and provoke them to grow academically and as individuals. We are excited to get started on this important task as a new year begins again in August of 2013.

For more information, please contact:

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440-843-5544

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## College and Career Ready through Curriculum Design

By Erin Green and Aireane Curtis, SST-3 Consultants

ESC of Cuyahoga County curriculum consultants have been diligently focused on providing high quality curriculum support to districts, with the goal of preparing the teachers for successful Common Core and Ohio Revised Standards implementation. Through delivery of professional development, both embedded in districts as well as services and ongoing series offered at the ESC, the consultants have assisted participants in understanding and implementing Common Core standards in math and English language arts and the Ohio Revised Standards in science and social studies. This typically involves processes such as providing an overview of the changes of the new standards and assessments, demonstrating the increased rigor and expectations of the standards, assisting teachers with mapping and pacing guides, aligning resources with district needs, and modeling higher level thinking skills

and effective teaching strategies that can be utilized in the classroom by the teachers. Over the course of the 2012-2013 school year, the consultants have facilitated curriculum development in 25 districts and community schools both in and around Cuyahoga County and have delivered services to teachers through ongoing series of trainings offered. The ultimate goal of the curriculum consultants is to effectively prepare teachers for these historic changes in new content standards, rigorous lesson design and differentiated delivery, reading and writing inclusion throughout all content areas, and college and career readiness expectations for students. Effective implementation by teachers in these areas will help ensure that all students are graduating college and career ready.

## Graduation at Rose-Mary Center School

Congratulations to Coddy! He graduated on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Sherell Brown from Euclid City Schools was present for the ceremony as was the ESC. Coddy became a student at the school in April, 2011. He is transitioning to an Adult Activity Center. A reception followed the ceremony with cake and punch.



Kathy T, Classroom Teacher; Lisa A, Spec. Ed. Supervisor; Denise W, Classroom Assistant; Sherell Benton, Administrator, Euclid City Schools; Steve Rogaski, Dir. Pupil Services ESC; Dr. Christine Krol, President, ESC Governing Board; Dorothy B, Classroom Assistant; and Anthony Miceli, Vice President, ESC Governing Board member surround Coddy as he proudly holds up his Certificate of Completion. (l to r)

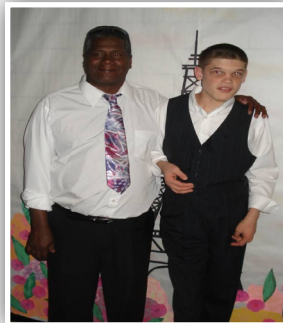
## First Annual "Stroll & Roll"

The first annual "Stroll & Roll" fundraising event was held on April 19<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. The playground fundraising committee headed up the event and planned the stroll with all students and staff through the Tremont neighborhood. Points of interest included Community Based Training destinations, such as the library, recycle center, ice cream shop, Civilizations, and numerous other sights. After the stroll, everyone came to the gym for refreshments. The stroll raised approximately \$500 toward purchasing new playground accessories.

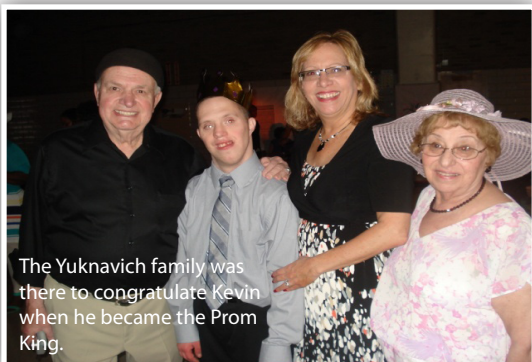


## Springtime in Paris Formal

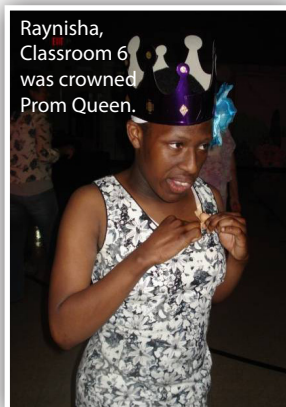
The annual spring formal was held at the Rose Mary Center School on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1-2 p.m. The students dressed in their formal attire and had lunch in the beautifully decorated gym. Eddy the DJ provided the music. Many parents and families were here to join in the fun. The decorations were made by the students and Mary Alice added her incredible talents to transform the gym into Paris in the Spring.



Kendall and Michelle (Classroom 2 Assistant) share a quiet moment in front of the "Arc de Triumph".



The Yuknavich family was there to congratulate Kevin when he became the Prom King.



Raynisha, Classroom 6 was crowned Prom Queen.



Denise, Lena, and Melissa stop in front of the Cafe for a photo moment. (Classroom 7)

## ESC Honors Students with Humanitarian Award

The ESC of Cuyahoga County recently named several area students as recipients of their annual Humanitarian Awards. Recipients were nominated by administrators in their schools for showing leadership and community service as well as possessing great character during the 2012-2013 school year.

One student from each middle and high school in the communities of **Cuyahoga Heights, Independence** and **Richmond Heights** received the scholarships and award. The awards were presented by ESC board members during their

individual schools' award assemblies during the months of May and June.

In addition to a cash award, students received a personalized plaque, starfish pin and starfish keychain. The starfish is the symbol of a story of the impact one person can make in a community.

### This year's ESC Humanitarians include:

#### Recipients from Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools

##### Amanda Keller, eighth-grader at Cuyahoga Heights Middle School

It was stated that Amanda shows positive attitude towards many people including her classmates, school, and community. "Many of the students she associates with model her kind of behavior. Amanda is generous and compassionate; she is somebody who seeks to improve the lives of other people." ESC board member Frank Mahnic presented the award.



##### Veronica Zelinski, graduating senior at Cuyahoga Heights High School

It was stated in her entry that "Veronica is a woman of great character, strong leadership, unyielding integrity and purposefulness. What her resume cannot convey is the gentle, caring nature that she brings to everything she does. She is a wonderful young lady." Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools' board member Holly Thacker presented the award.



#### Recipients from Independence Local Schools

##### Maria Sagi, eighth-grader at Independence Middle School

Maria's entry commented on how she takes interest in multiple clubs and tries to look for any opportunities to help out others. "She is leaving us a legacy of humanitarianism and school spirit that will inspire others for years to come. Our school is a better place today because of Maria Sagi." ESC board president Christine Krol presented the award.



##### Alyssa Synek, graduating senior at Independence High School

It was stated in her entry that "Alyssa has demonstrated her positive concern for others through completing five times the required community service hours." She has volunteered for the Independence United Methodist's Youth mission trips, the Volleyball Summer Camp, "The Summer Scurry" race, among many other activities. ESC board member Carol Fortlage presented the award.



#### Recipients from Richmond Heights Schools

##### Javier Hinton, eighth-grader at Richmond Heights Middle School

Javier's entry stated, "He is a positive, motivated, and confident young man, who always seems to see the good in everything—a true optimist." It also said that "He shows tremendous character in turning the other cheek to those who treat him poorly, and displays patience and understanding to those students who need extra assistance and understanding." ESC board vice president Tony Miceli presented the award.



##### Ileshia Hodge, graduating senior at Richmond Heights High School

Ileshia's entry stated, "Ileshia Hodge is personable, mature, and a caring young woman. She has participated in Student Council and as a sixth grade camp counselor. She plans on pursuing a career in nursing after graduation." ESC board member Tony Hocevar presented the award.



## Educational Office Professionals Of Ohio 2013 Professional Awards “Pursue Your Path”

At the Annual Awards presented by the Educational Office Professionals of Ohio (EOPO) this past May, the 2013 Administrator of the Year and Educational Office Professional of the Year were awarded. Peers and staff nominated a fellow colleague or boss from across Ohio.

The 2013 Jacquelyn Myers Office Professional of the Year was awarded to Katherine G. H. Reichley, CEOE, from Otterbein University. Katherine’s title is Professional Education Unit Coordinator. As stated by the person who nominated her, she is an “outstanding colleague and friend.” Numerous recommendation letters truly inspire that Katherine goes well above and beyond serving the college and community environment. Five administrators and Katherine’s husband attended to recognize her for her professional and civic accomplishments.

The 2013 Educational Administrator of the Year Award was awarded to Darla Wagner.

Darla is the Assistant Principal at Ballard Brady Middle School in the **Orange City School District**. Darla was enthusiastically nominated by her administrative assistant for this award because she has “never worked with a more talented, generous and intelligent administrator” having the perfect blend of teacher and leader. “She is the heart and soul at Brady Middle School” here in Cuyahoga County. “Mrs. Wagner is focused on excellence and has a positive outlook and optimistic spirit which prevents her from ever giving up on a student or believing that a student doesn’t have a strong desire to be successful.” In Darla’s words upon why she left the classroom for an administrative position – “If we don’t get people in administrative positions who understand and can support good teachers, some of the best people will continue to leave the profession.”

Each recipient received recognition at the award luncheon and an engraved plaque.

More info on the Educational Office Professional of Ohio can be found at [www.eopo-oh.org](http://www.eopo-oh.org).



Leanne Long, EOPO Award Chair and Katherine Reichley, Ohio Office Professional of the Year



Leanne Long, EOPO Award Chair and Darla Wagner, Assistant Principal, Brady Middle School, Orange City Schools and Ohio Administrator of the Year

## Chamber State of the Schools Luncheon Features Superintendents

The Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce held its annual State of the Schools luncheon on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Independence. More than 150 business, civic, school and community leaders attended. Presenting were **Independence Local Schools** Superintendent Steve Marlow; **Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools** Superintendent Edwin Holland; **Cuyahoga Valley Career Center** Superintendent Celena Roebuck; and ESC of Cuyahoga County Superintendent Bob Mengerink.

All the superintendents stressed the importance of working with their local business community to help educate the workforce of tomorrow. The chamber also presented three \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from Independence High School, Cuyahoga Heights High School and Walsh Jesuit High School.

The ESC is partnering once again with the chamber in planning the fourth annual golf outing at Astorhurst on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Money raised will go towards the 2014 high school scholarships.



L-R: Independence Local Schools Superintendent Steve Marlow; Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools Superintendent Edwin Holland; Cuyahoga Valley Career Center Superintendent Celena Roebuck; and ESC of Cuyahoga County Superintendent Bob Mengerink.