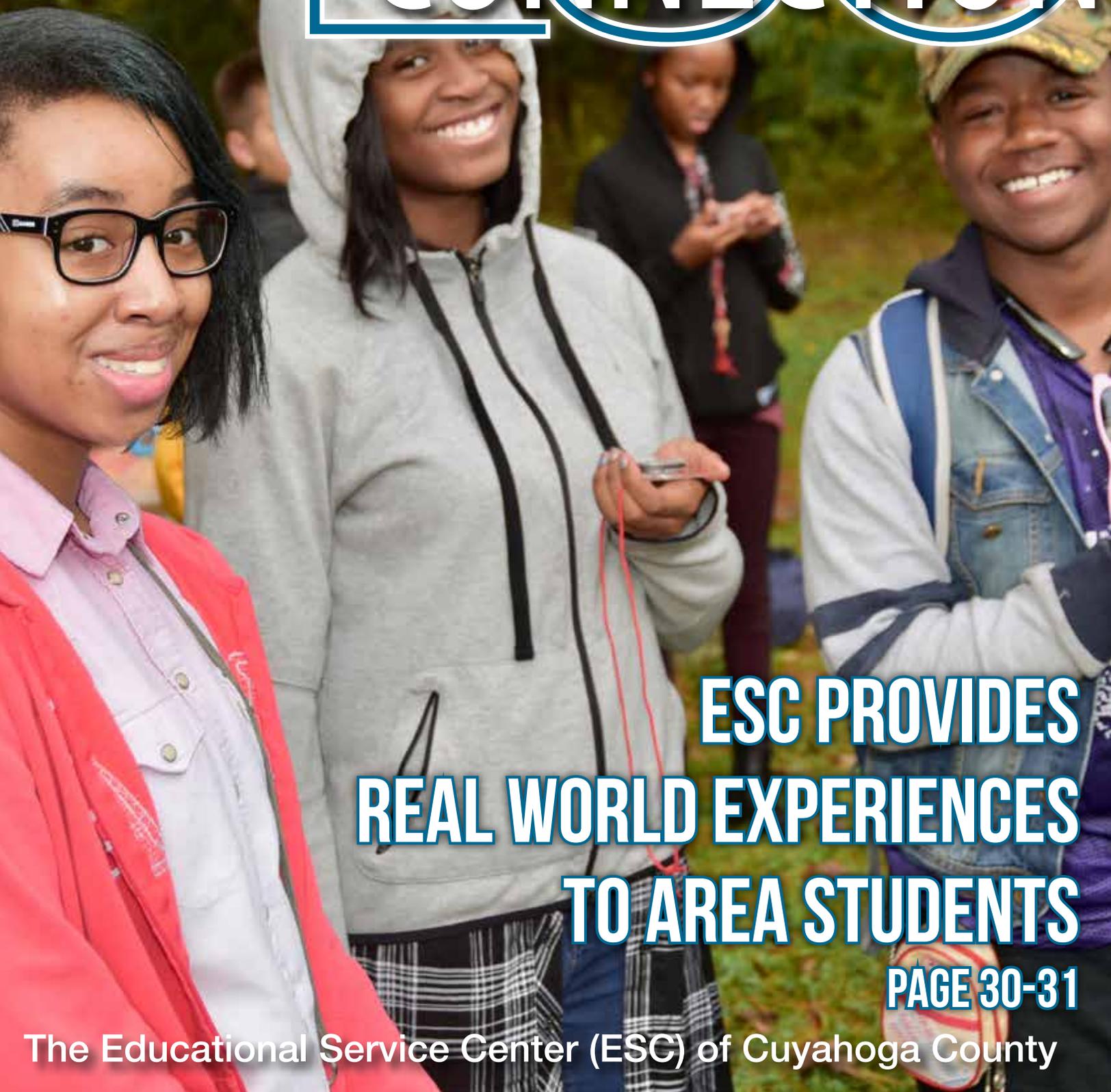


# The ESC CONNECTION

FALL 2017



**ESC PROVIDES  
REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES  
TO AREA STUDENTS**

**PAGE 30-31**

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# Superintendent's Message

By Dr. Bob Mengerink, *Superintendent*



Dear Colleagues,

It's hard to believe it's already time for the second quarter of this school year. As you will see in this newsletter, our team has been working hard at the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County to create unique programs and learning opportunities for educators across Northeast Ohio. Northeast Ohio is home to the most diverse landscape of school districts and students in the state whose needs can vary significantly. The administrators and educators that serve these students deserve programs and services that genuinely meet these needs and our mission is to search for and create solutions for any need. We are not limited to any list of programs or services in a newsletter or brochure and we have the capacity to respond quickly to develop or scale up services customized to the diverse needs of districts throughout the region. Our team thrives on the opportunity to serve. Please know that you can reach out to any of us at any time for anything from a simple answer to a question to a more complex challenge you may be facing. As always, we truly look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Bob



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We Build Bridges For . . .  
Educators • Districts • Agencies • Organizations  
Universities & Colleges • Students • Adult Learners  
Families & Communities • Businesses

# First Ring Superintendents' Collaborative

## Leadership Academy

The First Ring Superintendents' Collaborative Leadership Academy is a professional development program for teacher leaders. It promotes collaboration with learners; provides opportunities for learners to utilize communication and problem-solving skills; encourages self-directed learning; and provides learners with the skills and processes of leadership. The second meeting of the school year was held at the ESC on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The group will continue to meet monthly throughout the school year.

For information about the First Ring Superintendents' Collaborative contact:

Joe Bergant,  
Director  
[Joe.Bergant@esc-cc.org](mailto:Joe.Bergant@esc-cc.org)  
216-524-3000



# Capstone Academy

The Capstone Academy program is housed within the Hattie Larlham residential facility in Mantua, Ohio. This nonprofit agency provides medical, recreational, and vocational services to children and adults with significant developmental and physical disabilities as well as profound medically fragile conditions.

Serving 32 students from throughout the state, Capstone Academy collaborates with over 20 school districts to provide services for students in grades K-12 (ages 5-22) with the most profound multiple disabilities. Through individualized learning plans and instruction, and attention to social, personal, and vocational needs, this educational program provides students with an opportunity to experience success.

To most effectively meet the educational needs of this student population, Capstone Academy focuses on innovative teaching methods and a multidisciplinary approach. The curriculum incorporates content, concepts, and activities that foster cognitive, language, physical, and social-emotional development through the integration of multiple disciplines that allow students to experience personal and academic success.

Capstone Academy utilizes whole group, small group, and one-on-one instruction, as well as assistive



An open house was held on Friday, September 29 at the Capstone Academy, located in the Hattie Larlham facility in Mantua. ESC administration and board members attended.

technology, to ensure that students have an opportunity to experience success. All students follow a weekly schedule consisting of classroom-based learning in Math, Science, Social Studies, English Language Arts, Music, Art, Adapted Physical Education (APE), Vocational Skills, and multi-sensory integration. Related services, such as speech therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy, as well as necessary modifications to adaptive equipment, enhance the learning experience of each child. It is this emphasis on an integrated team approach and the extensive use of adapted technology that makes the Capstone Academy program distinct.



2017/2018 Capstone Academy Staff

Back row (L to R): Lawson Wideman, Jessica Beale, Erin Mallahan, Mary Ellen Cirjak, Wiley Smith, Nichole Ziats, Richard Vilt, and Vicky Hannahs.  
Front row (L to R): Mary Wideman, Jessica Rhodes, Maria Golden, Bridget Dantimo, Diana Warner, Laura Phelps, Kristina Braden, and Barb Mellinger.

# Cuyahoga County Project AWARE Ohio

Cuyahoga County Project AWARE Ohio is entering year four of a five-year grant. The mission of the Project AWARE Cuyahoga Community Management Team is to work across systems to improve physical, mental, and educational needs and increase access to appropriate resources and services for youth.

Project AWARE technical assistance and guidance include:

- Support and evaluation for sustainable behavioral and mental health practices for all students in four priority districts: **Parma, Lakewood, Euclid, and Cleveland Heights-University Heights**;
- Professional development on the topics of behavioral and mental health strategies for youth;
- The System Navigator to assist with connecting students, families, and districts to local and county systems and the services available.  
[Denise.Pietrzak@esc-cc.org](mailto:Denise.Pietrzak@esc-cc.org);
- A regional coach for districts seeking to strengthen their Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

(PBIS) framework through utilization of fidelity measures to apply for the State Recognition.

[Caitlin.Metheny@esc-cc.org](mailto:Caitlin.Metheny@esc-cc.org);

- Youth Mental Health First Aid training available in your district/community. For current dates offered, refer to [www.esc.org](http://www.esc.org) and select calendar of events under professional development.  
[Jennifer.Esposito@esc-cc.org](mailto:Jennifer.Esposito@esc-cc.org).

Day to Liv: YMHFA Collaborative trained 30 instructors in June 2017 and 120 Berea-Midpark High School staff in August. The First Aid Responders received certification to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health and connect to appropriate resources. Additional trainings will be offered to the 16 school districts involved in the Day to Liv YMHFA Collaborative.

Helpful Resource: Kognito Ohio Campaign for Hope: Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative. Access free trainings at: <https://ohio.kognito.com/>. Create an account, select training POV, and enter the enrollment key: ohiospf.

## Reading Achievement Plans (RAP)

Districts across the region may be required to create a Reading Achievement Plan (RAP) based on their district report card. According to Ohio law, districts that meet the following criteria on the past two consecutive report cards issued for that district or community school are required to submit a Reading Achievement Plan to the Ohio Department of Education by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

1. The district or community school received a grade of “D” or “F” on the K-3 Literacy Improvement Measure; and
2. Fewer than 60 percent of the district’s or community school’s students scored proficient or higher on the state’s grade 3 English language arts test.

Districts and community schools that are required to create and submit a Reading Achievement Plan will be identified after the release of the Ohio School Report Cards. Districts and community schools were contacted at that time and provided more information on the submission process. We will hold technical assistance sessions at the Educational Service Center on October 11<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Heather Miller  
Consultant, ESC and SST-3  
[heather.miller@esc-cc.org](mailto:heather.miller@esc-cc.org)  
216-901-4291

# ESC School Program Has a New Home

The ESC School Program is a special education program operated by the ESC of Cuyahoga County. Twenty-two students, 5 to 22 years old, with multiple disabilities, autism, non-verbal language skills, medically fragile and/or behaviors that interfere with daily functioning can attend from school districts throughout Ohio. This past summer, the ESC School Program moved from the W. 14th Street location in Tremont to a new location at

8200 Cedar Rd in Chesterland (Metzenbaum Center). The facility provides a well-suited accessible school environment for their students with special needs. The program has access to sensory and therapy rooms, an adaptive swimming pool, large multi-purpose rooms, an outdoor adaptive playground, hiking trails, and pavilion. An Open House and Basket Raffle fundraiser were held on October 11<sup>th</sup> at the facility.



Rob's classroom is studying about seasons and appropriate dress for seasons while they enjoy the great fall weather outside by the adaptive playground.



Several parents have come to visit. Delana's mother surprised her and her class with a birthday party at the beginning of school.



The vestibular room (sensory and therapy) is being utilized by Julie's classroom.



# Disrupting Poverty Network

Six districts—**Bedford, North Olmsted, Orange, Painesville City, Waterloo, Wickliffe**—have teams of administrators and teachers working with ASCD author and scholar, Kathleen Budge, Ph.D., to consider ways of understanding and helping to alleviate the effects of poverty for students and families within their districts. Educators participated in a Poverty Simulation during May, and then engaged in training workshops during June and September at the ESC of Cuyahoga County.

Kathleen Budge is co-author with William Parrett of *Turning High-Poverty Schools into High-Performing Schools* that provides a framework and 16 strategies for raising awareness and developing action plans to address specific needs within districts. Districts are conducting equity audits to reflect on current practices and to identify actions they might implement at the district, building and classroom levels.

The Disrupting Poverty Network pilot project is funded in part by The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation.

For information, contact:

Paula Kucinic, Director of Professional Development and Instructional Technology

[paula.kucinic@esc-cc.org](mailto:paula.kucinic@esc-cc.org)

216-901-4244

or

Nadine Grimm, Coordinator of 21st Century Learning

[nadine.grimm@esc-cc.org](mailto:nadine.grimm@esc-cc.org)

216-901-4243



MARTHA HOLDEN JENNINGS FOUNDATION





# Historical Thinking Skills



On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Daisy Martin, Ph.D., historian and scholar from the Stanford History Education Group (<http://sheg.stanford.edu/>), presented a workshop at the ESC of Cuyahoga County. Educators attending the workshop were from

**Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Independence Local,**

**Kirtland Local, Maple Heights, Perry, Orange, North Olmsted, and T2 Honors Academy.**

Prof. Martin is co-author of *Reading Like a Historian: Teaching Literacy in Middle and High School History Classrooms*. Workshop participants received a copy of the book. The text and curriculum engage students in historical inquiry focusing on a central historical question

featuring sets of primary documents designed for groups of students with diverse reading skills and abilities. Participants are creating curricular units for classroom implementation.

Prof. Martin also met with Cleveland State University's history students and pre-service social studies educators in their Historical Studies and Methods class. She served as a consultant on the Teaching American History grants that were co-directed by the ESC and CSU's History Department, and is currently a consultant on the ESC's Competency-Based Education pilot project.

This program is funded in part by a grant from Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



# Congratulations to National History Teacher of the Year



Sara Ziemnik, history teacher from **Rocky River High School**, is the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History National History Teacher of the Year. The Gilder Lehrman Institute is one of the nation's leading organizations dedicated to K-12 American history

education. The recognition comes with a \$10,000 award, co-sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Preserve America, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, to promote the importance of quality history education by an exceptional American history teacher.

Earlier this year, Sara was named the 2017 Ohio History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute. State awardees were then nominated for the national award. The National History Teacher of the Year award will be presented by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Eric Foner on November 8<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony in New York City.

Sara is a master teacher, currently teaching college-level AP American History. During her 17 years with Rocky River Schools, she has been an honors and AP teacher, department chair, district teacher of the year, James Madison Fellow and a presenter at numerous national conferences. She earned her master's degree in history from Cleveland State and participated in the ESC and CSU Teaching American History program that provided extended professional development for enhancement of history content and historical thinking skills.

Congratulations to Sara Ziemnik on her achievements.

# GLOBAL EDUCATION

## Global Water Challenge

During September, Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Environmental Education Center and the Nature Conservancy hosted educators and students at the park's Lipscomb campus for the EarthEcho Water Challenge. The purpose of the global event is to promote understanding about the importance of maintaining healthy waterways for public health, business, and industry. Students from elementary, middle and high schools, including from **Akron Public Schools**, tested water from the Cuyahoga River and streams in the park. EarthEcho is tracking longitudinal data provided by students and scientists from around the world to monitor water resources. The keynote presenter was Philippe Cousteau, grandson of oceanographer and ecology advocate Jacques Cousteau, who emphasized the importance of raising awareness among young people as the next generation of conservation leaders.



## Global Arts and Culture: Japanese Origami

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI) Coordinator to Ohio, presented a hands-on origami workshop and the significance of the art form in Japanese culture. The Japanese first used paper during the sixth century. While other cultures engaged in various forms of paper folding, it was the Japanese who first discovered the possibilities associated with using paper as a medium for art. Butterflies, boats, and cranes are some of the popular designs used for formal ceremonies and gift giving in Japan. There is a traditional story that says if a person folds 1,000 paper cranes, they will be granted one special wish.

Mr. Haruhide Osugi is one of four coordinators representing JOI in the United States. JOI is a grassroots program administered by the Japan Foundation Center of Global Partnership and The Laurasian Institution that sends Japanese coordinators to conduct community outreach and cultural activities about Japan. This is the second year that Mr. Osugi is in Ohio and sharing his expertise with educators through workshops at the ESC of Cuyahoga County. Educators from **Avon, Cleveland, Berea, Lakewood,** and **Shaker Heights** schools were among the participants.



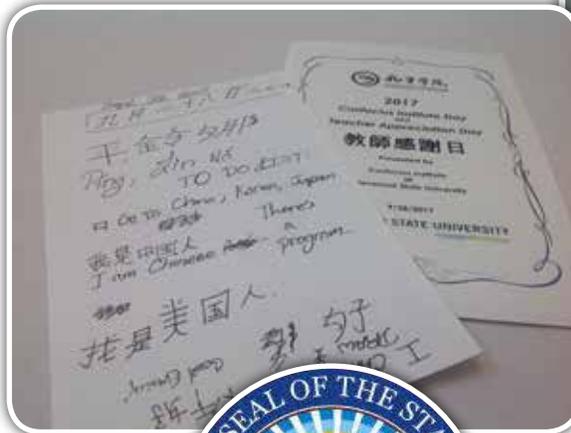
# CSU Confucius Institute's Teacher Appreciation Day

Cleveland State University's Confucius Institute hosted the annual Teacher Appreciation Day on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Chinese Mandarin language teachers and approximately 200 students from area middle and high schools attended the event. Students and teachers shared cultural activities, such as making lanterns, painting masks, and calligraphy. Students from **Akron's STEM High School, Brooklyn, Cleveland, Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Copley-Fairlawn, Euclid, Hudson, Oberlin, Ravenna, Shaker Heights, and Westlake** were among participants and presenters.

Ryan Wertz, Director of World Languages at the Ohio Department of Education, shared statistics about the increase of Chinese language teaching and learning

in Ohio. Chinese currently is taught in more than 107 districts and community schools in Ohio with approximately 11,000 students learning the language.

Ohio is one of 25 states that awards a Seal of Biliteracy on high school diplomas beginning with the class of 2018 for students who can demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and at least one other language. It is viewed as a statement of accomplishment that helps to signal evidence of a student's readiness for career and college, and for engagement as a global citizen.



# *R*esident Educator Mentor Academies

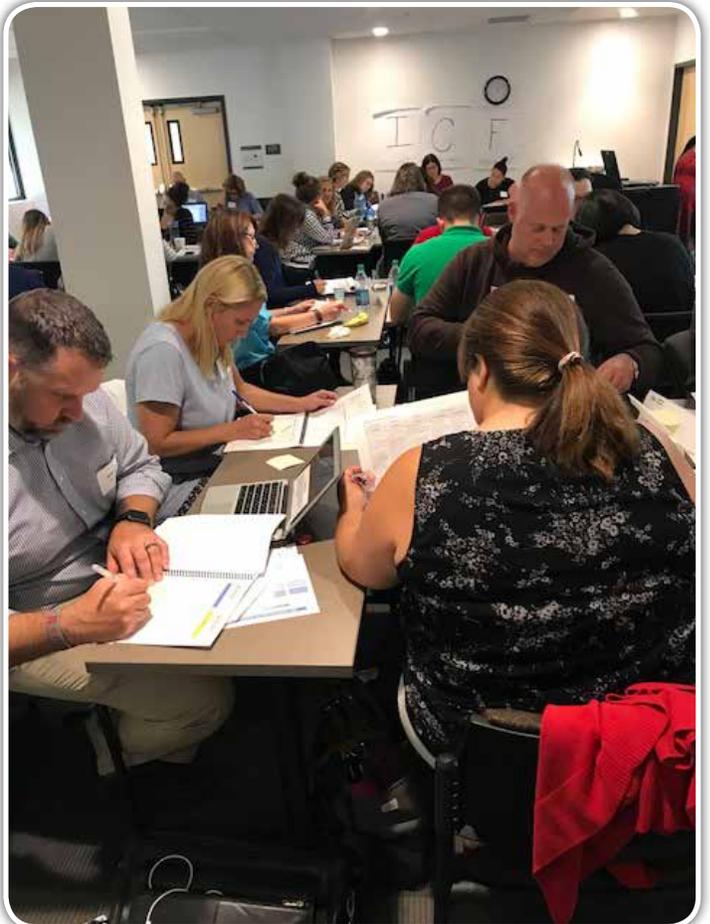
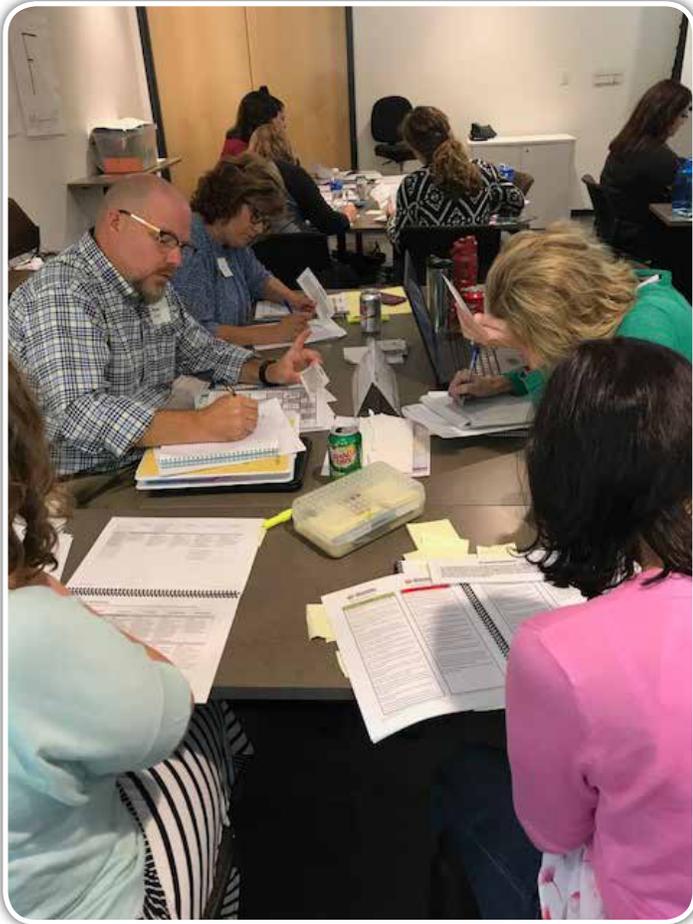
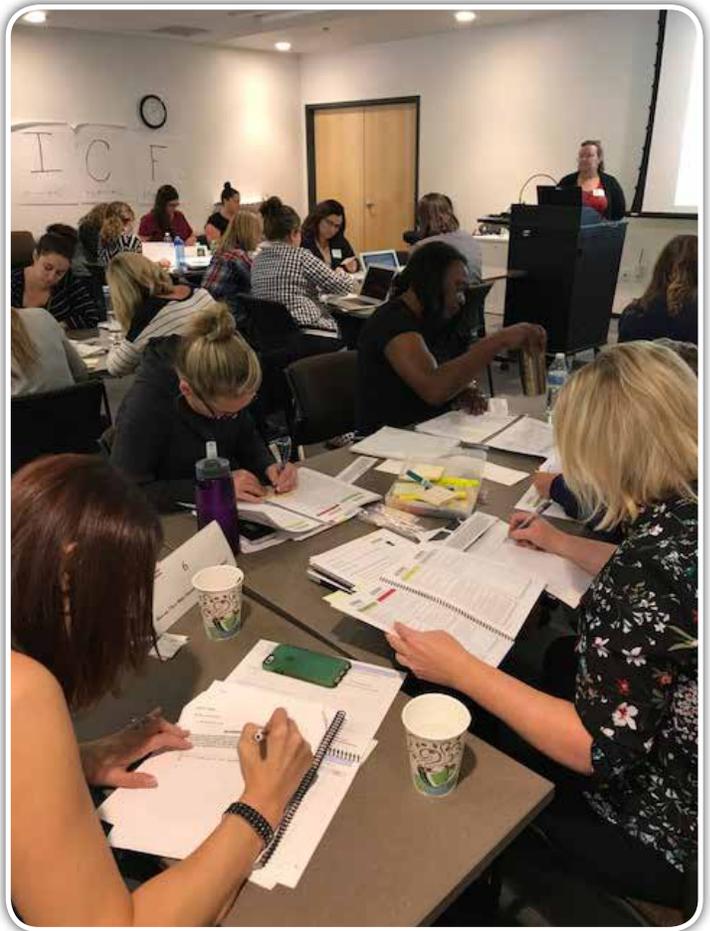
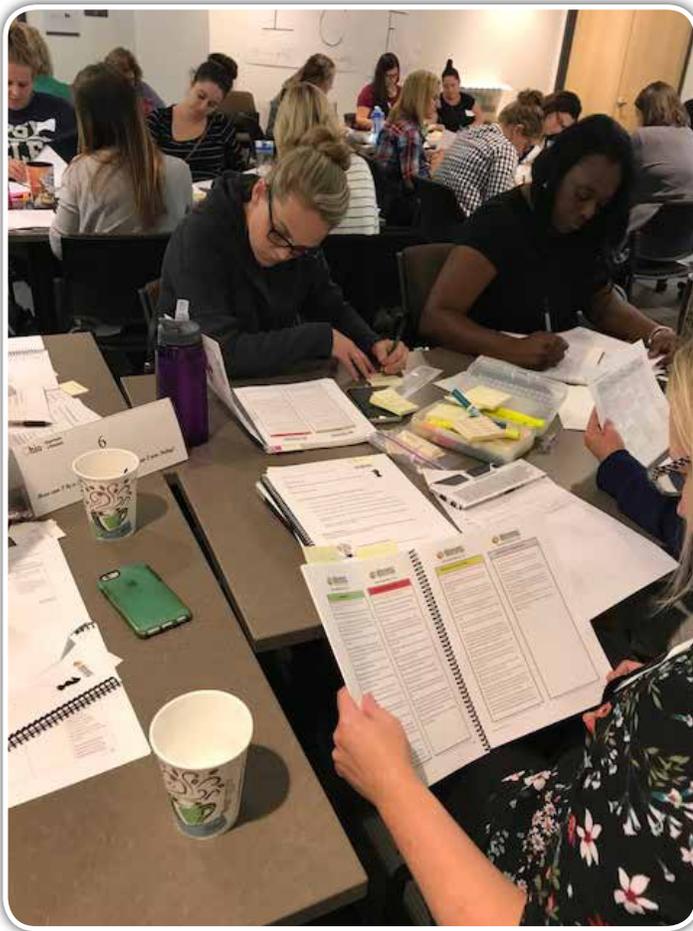
The ESC of Cuyahoga County continues to provide assistance for surrounding districts and charter/community schools in supporting their beginning teachers participating in the Ohio Resident Educator Program. Changes to Resident Educator Summative Assessment for the 2017-18 school year significantly restructured and streamlined the assessment and have had an impact on the program itself.

While Resident Educators are still supported by state-certified Mentors during their first two years, the summative assessment in Year 3 now consists of a single comprehensive task showcasing their understanding and skills regarding the components of the teaching and learning cycle. Areas formerly assessed in the other tasks of the summative assessment are now addressed with Focused Mentoring I (Communication, Collaboration, and Professional Growth) and Focused Mentoring II (Formative and Summative Assessment).

The ESC's Resident Educator Program provides Resident Educators, Mentors, and Program Coordinators with support navigating the changes in the program. Specifically, the ESC offers training for Mentors to acquire state certification through participation in the Resident Educator Mentor Academies. The program also offers support for Program Coordinators and Mentors through regular program meetings. Resident Educators are offered options for professional development opportunities based on their assessed areas of need, specifically aligned with targeted areas of practice assessed in the RESA task and OTES evaluations. This year, additional professional development is being offered to Mentors to help support their work with their resident educators regarding Focused Mentoring I and II.

Please contact Kathleen Scott at [Kathleen.scott@esc-cc.org](mailto:Kathleen.scott@esc-cc.org) (or call 216-252-2512) for further information about the ESC's Resident Educator programming and support.





# Competency-Based Education

The ESC of Cuyahoga County coordinated a pilot project on Competency-based Education (CBE) for which six districts—**Bedford, Kirtland Local, Maple Heights, Orange, Perry-Lake, and Springfield City**—are implementing performance-based assessments (PBAs) during Fall term. Students in classes for 6th grade math, 8th grade science, algebra I, and American history will participate in tasks designed by their teachers to increase their content knowledge and life skills in critical thinking, communication, and collaboration.

A goal of CBE education is to better prepare students for college, the workforce, and for lifelong success.

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, K-12 and higher education faculty and administrators met at the ESC to learn about an innovative CBE pathway model from the University of Cincinnati. The program certifies high school teachers in instructional technology to teach high school computing courses that will prepare students for accelerated college credit and internships in businesses.

For information, contact:

Nadine Grimm, Coordinator of 21st Century Learning

[nadine.grimm@esc-cc.org](mailto:nadine.grimm@esc-cc.org)

216-901-4243

University of  
**CINCINNATI**



# Octavofest 2017

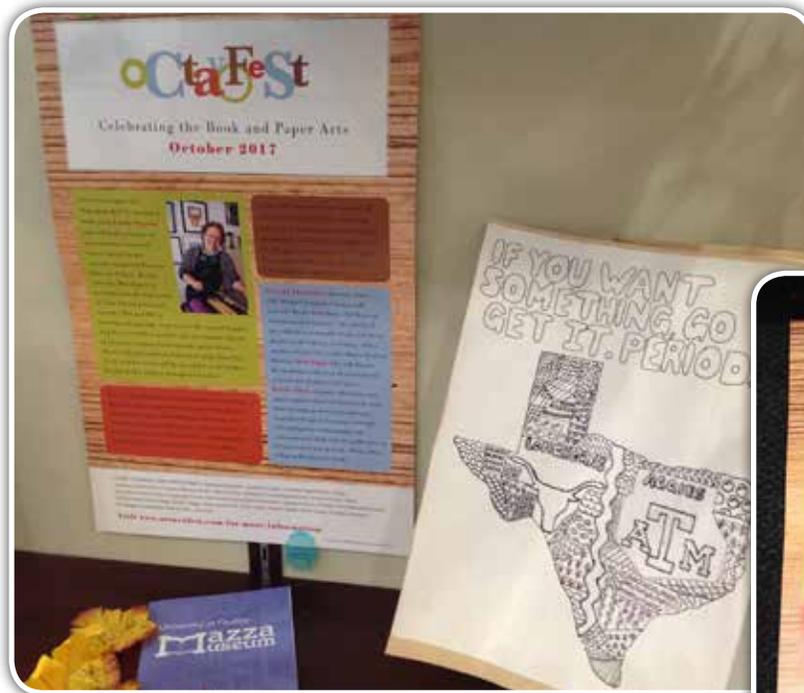
The ESC of Cuyahoga County collaborates with more than 20 community organizations, universities, and libraries presenting Octavofest annual events. Octavofest celebrates the book and paper arts. This year the ESC hosted several Fall Octavofest events for educators and students.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, in an origami workshop with Japan Outreach Coordinator Mr. Haruhide Osugi, educators created boats, cranes and other symbols of Japanese paper art. On October 27<sup>th</sup>, 18 juniors from **Maple Heights High School** enjoyed lunch and made a presentation about the handmade books they had created during a year-long enrichment course in which they visited cultural institutions throughout Northeast Ohio to enhance their skills of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. The books have been exhibited this Fall in the ESC lobby art cases. Book author and artist Emily Martin attended the event and responded to the students' presentations, viewed their artistic books, and recognized the project for its creative and cognitive capacities.



On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Ben Sapp, the director of the University of Findlay's Mazza Museum provided a keynote address for the Literacy Cooperative of Cleveland's annual conference held at the ESC for pre-K to grade 2 teachers from the First Ring suburban districts.

Educators learned about the Mazza Museum's mission to promote literacy through activities, workshops, storytelling, and original art and illustrations from its vast collection of children's books.



# SC NORTHCOAST BUSINESS ADVISORY NETWORK

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the ESC of Cuyahoga County hosted the first Northcoast Business Advisory Network meeting of the year. The topic was “Prescription for a Healthy Northeast Ohio: Developing the Pipeline for Health Information Technology Delivery in NE Ohio.”

Members of the network had the opportunity to hear about a group of regional companies, school districts and universities that are committed to developing the local pipeline and availability of highly skilled Health IT talent to support a growing and robust Health IT industry for Northeast Ohio.

Throughout the past two years, Ann Radefeld, Curriculum Facilitator for North Royalton City Schools, has been an active member of an organization called HIT in the CLE (a health IT talent initiative) working through BioEnterprise and generously funded through The Cleveland Foundation.

You can get more information about this group on their website <http://hitinthecle.com/>. Ms. Radefeld and representatives from HIT in the CLE including software developers, data scientists and health organizations will be coordinating initiatives, objectives and career pathways that will benefit the students and economy of Northeast Ohio.



# NETWORK FALL MEETING



# HIGHLIGHTS OF FALL PROFESSIONAL DEV

## Northeast Ohio English Language Learners Collaborative

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Northeast Ohio English Language Learners (NOELL) Collaborative met at the ESC to network and discuss issues and topics related to English Language Learners. Those attending included teachers, tutors, central office administrators and other educators.



# DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

## Resident Educator Program

The Ohio Resident Educator Program provides new teachers with opportunities to reflect on how their instruction and assessment practices impact student learning. This system of support includes working with a state-certified mentor. The ESC of Cuyahoga County is pleased to offer Resident Educator Mentor Trainings in support of Resident Educators and their mentors. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, an academy was held at the ESC and participants were introduced to mentoring in Ohio's program, with particular emphasis on the Mentor/Resident Educator relationship.



## Don't Miss our Upcoming Events . . .

The ESC of Cuyahoga County lists all of its professional development workshops and events on the homepage of [www.esc-cc.org](http://www.esc-cc.org).

Be sure to check often as new events are continually being added.

If you have an idea for a future event, please contact Paula Kucinic, Director of Professional Development and Instructional Technology at [paula.kucinic@esc-cc.org](mailto:paula.kucinic@esc-cc.org).

A screenshot of the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County website homepage. The page features a navigation menu with items like 'About Us', 'Human Resources', 'Professional Development', 'Professional Services', 'Programs', 'Regional Services', 'SSTs', and 'Utah's Unid'. There is a 'State Support Team' logo in the top right. The main content area includes a 'News &amp; Updates' section with several articles and an 'Upcoming Events' section with a calendar view. The 'Upcoming Events' section is circled in red and shows events for October 11 and 12, 2017.

## Impactful Integration Network

The ESC of Cuyahoga County's Impactful Integration Network seeks to make a true meaningful impact in the digital lives of area learners. On October 11<sup>th</sup>, the group discussed how to transform both culture and pedagogy when it comes to digital learning. Grade, building, and district-level teams of teachers, instructional coaches, technology integration specialists, curriculum directors, IT specialists and administrators attended. During the four one-day sessions, educators will explore current trends, implement building/district action plans and build confidence in a command of digital learning. Attendees will develop a capstone project showcasing growth and mastery.



## Gifted Network

The ESC of Cuyahoga County Gifted Network met on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Facilitated by Beth Wilson-Fish, Gifted Education Consultant and Coordinator, this network is designed for educational leaders who desire learning more about gifted education in Ohio, including Ohio law, gifted program models, assessment and reporting, and staff professional development opportunities. This initial meeting addressed questions and topics for future meetings, including upcoming round table discussions focusing on specific topics of interest to our educational leaders.



## Northeast Ohio Science Specialists Network

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, the Northeast Ohio Science Specialists Network met at the ESC of Cuyahoga County to share best instructional practices, discuss transitioning to the implementation of the revised Ohio Science Learning Standards, utilizing NGSS Phenomena to launch units and continue discussing their commitment to K-12 inquiry and STEM activities. This session was led by Bob Glavan, ESC mathematics and science curriculum consultant and Amy Roediger, Mentor High School science teacher.



## Ditching the Textbook

If you are familiar with the “Ditch that Textbook” blog or book, you may already know a little about Matt Miller. His workshop on September 29<sup>th</sup> gave educators “plug and play” ideas for their classrooms that will add some “engagement and electricity” back into class. Miller has more than a decade of experience in the public school classroom and is a Google Certified Innovator and PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator. He is the creator of the popular “Ditch that Textbook” blog and author of *Ditch that Textbook: Free Your Teaching and Revolutionize Your Classroom*.



## Northeast Ohio School Counselors Network

The Northeast Ohio School Counselors Network met on September 26<sup>th</sup>. This network is for elementary, middle and high school counselors and social workers who are interested in networking and discussing issues as they relate to advocating for students at each level. At this meeting, Kendra Quinlan, Revere Middle School (**Revere City Schools**) and Michelle Pruchnicki, Hillcrest Elementary School (**Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools**) were the facilitators.



## Northeast Ohio Mathematical Specialists (NEOMS) Network

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, the Northeast Ohio Mathematical Specialists (NEOMS) Network met at the ESC of Cuyahoga County. This network is for passionate math specialists, coaches, and teachers who are interested in learning together for the sole purpose of advancing mathematics instruction. The regional facilitator of this meeting was Mike Lipnos, math instructional coach.



## Developing a Skill Set for Encouraging High-Quality, Project-Based Learning Experiences

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, teachers, administrators, coaches and other educators interested in developing a skill set for encouraging high-quality, project-based learning (PBL) experiences came together at the Mentor Schools Paradigm. Project-based learning is one of the hottest topics in education today. It adds the context and meaning needed for students to think deeply and truly engage with content. Now more than ever, students need to cultivate the success skills of collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and innovation in

order to be competitive in both college and career and educators need support to build collaborative classroom cultures. Our goal at the ESC of Cuyahoga County is to create a PBL network to share resources and support, explore questions, and offer authentic experiences that model the PBL mindset and methodology. Together, we have the opportunity to provide students in Northeast Ohio with skills that make their knowledge of content marketable as they seek admission to college and/or the workplace. We believe that we are stronger together! Thank you to the presenters: Larry Luciano, Jennifer Harris, and Lou Sangdah of **Mentor Public Schools**.



## EMIS Academy

The ESC launched a new initiative called EMIS Academy on September 7<sup>th</sup> through its new office of Online Learning and EMIS Data Support in partnership with Connect Information Technology Center. EMIS Academy is designed as an opportunity for school districts to identify individuals who are interested in becoming EMIS Coordinators. EMIS has become extremely complex and requires dedicated individuals with experience to ensure accuracy in data quality and funding. This initiative offers a year-long course whereby participants not only get

instruction on all aspects of EMIS reporting, but receive hands-on experience in the midst of a full EMIS reporting cycle.

The classes are facilitated by experienced EMIS professionals who understand current EMIS practices as well as providing context to its evolution over the last 20 years. Most classes will be held weekdays, however some evenings and weekends may be required. Once complete, individuals will be able to understand and perform all tasks associated with EMIS reporting with certification and continued support through the ESC.



## Regional Technology Network

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, the ESC's Regional Technology Network met to discuss current topics and share resources as they relate to educational uses and applications for instructional technology. The primary focus of the network emphasizes the integration of technology into the curriculum. Technology, Curriculum and Instruction Directors, teachers and other interested educators attended.



## Pupil Services/Special Education Administrators Professional Learning Community

The ESC's Pupil Services/Special Education Administrators Professional Learning Community met on September 7<sup>th</sup>. This professional organization is open to all Northeast Ohio school district central office administrative professionals to collaborate, examine, and share effective practices, expertise, and resources related to pupil/student services, special education, and related financial topics.



## The New Can-Do Statements

How can teachers help learners develop their cultural knowledge and communication skills while maintaining use of the target language? This summer the newly created Can-Do Statements for Intercultural Communication and the newly updated Can-Do Statements for Language were published by NCSSFL-ACTFL.

On August 11<sup>th</sup>, educators had the opportunity to explore these new Can-Do statements and how they provide a framework for goal setting, lesson building, and student reflection. Participants were able to self-assess their own intercultural competence in English and in a target language and reflect on how they integrate cultural opportunities for their learners. Then, they used the new Can-Do Statements to create sample cultural lessons, activities and reflections in the target language, aligned to their learners' proficiency level. This course was led by Kathy Shelton, World Language Education Program Specialist for the Ohio Department of Education.



## Changes in Ohio's Gifted Operating Standards

The recent changes in Ohio's Gifted Operating Standards recognize the importance of regular classroom teachers working with gifted students to obtain professional development hours in gifted education. ESC held sessions to address important topics necessary to ensure success for gifted students in our schools on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. Facilitators of these sessions all have gifted endorsements and concrete experiences with gifted students, including teaching

classes, coordinating programs, and guiding students throughout their K-12 educational experiences.

This beginning session was designed as an introductory course on the characteristics and identification of students, including social and emotional needs, cognitive traits, and Ohio law and program options for serving our gifted population.



# GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROG



## GPS Workshop

Students from **Bedford, South Euclid-Lyndhurst** and **Richmond Heights Local Schools** attended a middle school student seminar at Jackson Field in the Chagrin Reservation on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Students were instructed by a naturalist at the park on the theory and use of a handheld GPS unit. After the instruction on the GPS, students in teams of four and five searched for eight different waypoints in the woods. They also completed an exercise in triangulation. This is an annual event for districts that are a part of the Gifted Consortium of the ESC of Cuyahoga County.

For information about Gifted and Talented programs, contact:

Steve Rogaski,  
Director of Human Resources and Pupil Services  
[Steve.rogaski@esc-cc.org](mailto:Steve.rogaski@esc-cc.org)  
216-901-4210

# RAMS



Students from South Euclid-Lyndhurst



Students from Bedford



Students from Richmond Heights

# What is Bright Beginnings?



formerly Help Me Grow of Cuyahoga County

Bright Beginnings provides **family support, developmental screenings,** and age-appropriate **activities** to prepare children for preschool.

We also provide early intervention services for families who have **concerns about their child's development.** Research shows that **80%** of the brain is developed by the time the child is 3 years old. Our goal is to support parents as their child's first and most important teacher.

The ESC of Cuyahoga County welcomes the staff of Bright Beginnings to our headquarters at 6393 Oak Tree Blvd. in Independence.



## Enrolling Families with Children Birth to Age 3

### Early Intervention

The Early Intervention program addresses concerns about a child's development by completing a developmental evaluation and assessment at no cost, providing services in the home and community through a team of professionals answering questions, and connecting families to resources.

### Parents as Teachers

The Parents as Teachers program is an international, evidence-based home visiting program offered at no cost to families that provides parents with knowledge and tools that support the health and development of young children at every stage.

[www.brightbeginningskids.org](http://www.brightbeginningskids.org)



@BrightBeginningsKids



@BBKids216

### **Bright Beginnings**

(formerly Help me Grow of Cuyahoga County)

6393 Oak Tree Boulevard, Suite 201

Independence, OH 44131

Phone (216) 698-7500

Fax (216) 391-6106



# OHIO ONLINE LEARNING PROGRAM

WHERE STUDENTS GET THE BEST OF  
BOTH WORLDS

## A FLEXIBLE PROGRAM & HIGH QUALITY COURSES

- Flexible program options for customizing curriculum
- Participation in district sports and extracurricular activities
- Computer and course materials provided at no cost
- Diploma from resident school for each graduating student
- Offering a full K-12 curriculum
- Over 250 core and elective courses
- Accredited and NCAA Approved
- Support of a Student Learning Advocate for each participating student



## CONTACT US

-  (216) 901-4213
-  [www.OhioOnlineLearning.org](http://www.OhioOnlineLearning.org)
-  Ohio Online Learning Program
-  @oh\_learn
-  [oolp@esc-cc.org](mailto:oolp@esc-cc.org)

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