



The **ESC** Connection

Summer 2008

A quarterly newsletter published by the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County.

From the Superintendent...

**Educating
Serving
Communicating**

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EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE ESC GOES ON CALL TO MEET YOUR NEEDS!

Change is happening and it's all good! We're changing how we communicate with you! As a result of improved communications, we want you to think of the **ESC** first as the "come to" place for all your educating, serving and communication needs.

This e-newsletter is a new link that will explain what's happening within and away from the **ESC** campus and around Cuyahoga County. You are invited to participate! Your input is valued and needed! *Linus Pauling* said..."The best way to get a good idea is to get a lot of ideas!"

Every quarter, you'll see the **ESC** Connection covering programs, professional development workshops, grant information and other news. We want you to let us know topics that peak your interest – call us or send me an email at Harry.Eastridge@esc-cc.org.

In this issue you'll see coverage of several grants we have received as well as information on a few of our continuing programs. We hope you take a few minutes and glance through it.

The **ESC** Connection is for connecting with you and our partners' needs now and in the future. I trust you to let us know what you are thinking.

- Are we servicing your needs?
- Should we be doing something that would help you do your job more effectively?
- You are a leader and an inventor of quality work – how can we help you maintain that quality?

The **ESC** is committed to standards and expectations for both ourselves and our partners.

This communication is in response to the need for bridging gaps between all educators, employees, and students working and learning in Cuyahoga County and Northeast Ohio.

Please help us help you – I look forward to hearing your comments and/or suggestions.

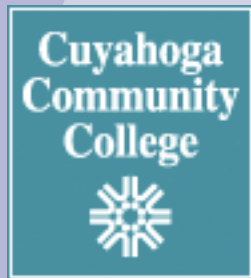
Dr. Harry Eastridge

Grants & Initiatives

Dual-Credit Program Helps High School Students Receive College Credit

The Dual-Credit program has been created in collaboration with Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) through a two-year \$500,000 grant award from the Ohio Department of Education. Through this program, qualified high school instructors in math, science or foreign language receive adjunct faculty status at Tri-C and support from a Tri-C faculty mentor.

As a team, the instructor and mentor implement the Tri-C math, science or foreign language course on the high school campus so that eligible students can receive dual credit for both high school and college. The classes selected for this program are included in the Ohio Transfer Module so that students receiving the credit can transfer the credit to any Ohio public institution of higher education. We are finishing the first year (2007-2008) with four schools and 40 students and are beginning the 2008-2009 year with six schools and nearly 100 students.



"This program provided benefit for some of our calculus students during the 2007-2008 school year. It made our students more aware of the requirements and rigor of college level work and also instilled in them the confidence and competence to succeed. The district will continue to examine the potential of such ventures in the future as we continually review our student needs as they relate to curricular offerings," said North Royalton High School Principal Carol Moehring.

The districts involved for this past school year were **Olmsted Falls, North Royalton, East Cleveland** and **Warrensville Heights**.

Next year the districts will include **Olmsted Falls, Warrensville Heights, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, South Euclid/Lyndhurst** and **Cleveland Metropolitan**.

Alternative in Mathematics (AiM) Licensure Program Helps Teachers Earn Certification

The Ohio Department of Education provided \$250,000 for



two years for the Alternative in Mathematics (AiM) Licensure Program. This program offers currently licensed teachers that live or work in Cuyahoga County a chance to prepare for a 7-12 Mathematics licensure within twelve months. This program is a collaboration with Ashland University and the SMART Consortium and is geared towards teachers with strong mathematical backgrounds that are teaching in another field. Classes are held at the ESC campus or online and participants engage in field work throughout the year. These courses prepare teachers to take the PRAXIS II licensure exam for 7-12 mathematics. This two-year program is designed for a cohort of ten teachers per year and we are currently reviewing applications for our second year cohort.

Teachers from the following districts participated:

- Cleveland Heights/University Heights**
- Cleveland Metropolitan**
- Elyria City Schools**
- Madison**
- North Ridgeville**
- North Royalton**
- Olmsted Falls**



Teaching American History

The Sounds of History

The Sounds of History is a professional development project funded by a Teaching American History grant that offers history teachers opportunities to improve their teaching by engaging the grand narrative of American history by listening to, and not just looking at, the American past. *Sounds* engage teachers and their students in a rich multimedia experience, where teachers become experts at using sound in the classroom. There are 75 teachers participating in the *Sounds* project from **Cuyahoga, Lake, Summit, Ashtabula, Geauga, Portage, Medina** and **Lorain** counties. Teachers learn how to edit sound, create audio clips from presidential tapes and use them to make historical events come alive in their class room. The audio files and lesson plans created by the teachers will be made available to all teachers on the *Sounds* website.

Constructing, Consuming, Conserving

Building on the success of our previous Teaching American History grant, the **ESC** partnered with Cleveland State University and the Western Reserve Historical Society for this \$1 million grant for three years from the U.S. Department of Education. This grant, subtitled *Constructing, Consuming and Conserving*, will be recruiting 25 school districts to participate with one history teacher each in 4th, 8th, and 10th grades. These 75 teachers will work with CSU, WRHS, master teachers and guest historians to investigate local primary sources and artifacts through three eras that focused on constructing, consuming, and conserving. Knowledge gained from these local experiences will allow for a broader understanding of these eras throughout the United States. Activities of this grant will include evening speaker sessions, content-related workshops, book discussion groups and a summer institute to incorporate digital media in the development of history lessons. With a three-year commitment, participating teachers will receive a membership to the WRHS and participant classes will have an opportunity for a field trip to one of Western Reserve Historical Society's sites.

Cuyahoga County P-16 Council

The **ESC** convened a group of Cuyahoga County stakeholders from education, business, government, economic development and community organizations to submit a proposal for a Cuyahoga County P-16 Council. This \$10,000 planning grant from the Ohio Partnership for Continued Learning will allow the Council to begin collecting data to address gaps in key transition points from birth through post-secondary education and the workforce. The initial activity of this grant will be to conduct a summer forum to increase awareness of other P-16 initiatives and begin discussions and workgroups for studying the gaps and resources around these key transition points in Cuyahoga County.

Inquiry-Based Science Professional Development Planning Grant

The **ESC** was awarded a \$15,000 planning grant through the Ohio Department of Education for developing professional development around inquiry-based science for middle school teachers. We are excited to have **Cleveland Heights-University Heights , Garfield Heights , and Warrensville Heights** school districts join us in this planning phase. Other partners include Cleveland State University's College of Education and College of Science , the Greater Cleveland Education Development Center, the SMART Consortium, NASA Glenn Research Center , and the Northeast Ohio Science, Health and Innovation Coalition. Together, this partnership will develop embedded professional development for middle school science teachers around inquiry-based science, as well as develop support for students, parents, and guidance counselors in fostering successful career pathways for students. The final product of this planning grant will be a proposal to ODE for a \$250,000 implementation grant for the 2008-2009 school year.



ON THE HORIZON

Safe Schools and Healthy Students

In partnership with several community agencies, juvenile justice and law enforcement, the **ESC** and five school districts submitted a Safe Schools and Health Students proposal to the U.S. Department of Education for \$6 million over five years. If funded, this program will implement services to address the following areas: school safety and violence prevention; alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention; social, emotional and behavioral supports; mental health services; and early childhood social and emotional learning programs.

Cuyahoga County Chinese Language Initiative

In partnership with the North Ohio Technology Association and Cleveland State University's Confucius Institute, the **ESC** submitted a proposal for a five-year, \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to implement Mandarin Chinese language and culture instruction in local elementary and middle schools. If funded, through distance learning and co-teaching, sixth grade teachers will work with a teacher of Mandarin Chinese to incorporate instruction of Mandarin Chinese, immersion of the language into some content teaching, and connections to community organizations and schools in Taiwan and mainland China for cultural awareness. After planning and training in the first year, a cohort of ten sixth grade classes will begin the program and will be followed through the next three years up to ninth grade while new cohorts of sixth grade are included. Additionally, plans for implementing aspects of the program in early elementary school will be explored and a summer conference will be held as one aspect of the teacher professional development.

TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP for High School Students

The **Educational Service Center** of Cuyahoga County in cooperation with Hyland Software headquartered in Westlake, Ohio sponsored three workshops for high school students this past year. This hands-on technology experience for high school students was held at the corporate headquarters of Hyland Software in Westlake.

The 13 districts representing more than 65 students that chose to participate in this event needed to have an interest in a possible career in technology. Students were either self-taught in programming or had received some instruction in computer programming or any other field of technology. The students shadowed programmers and/or software testers at Hyland Software.

A tour through the facility was given as well as an informative introduction given by a member of the Software Team at Hyland Software. Students then paired with an employee from Hyland to shadow and work with for the remaining time. There was a working lunch (provided by Hyland Software) with time for students to ask questions as well as get answers.



"It was such a good experience for the six Independence High School students that attended this technology workshop," said Carrie Ciofini, technology teacher. "They all enjoyed the atmosphere of the company and three of the students were inspired by their experience and are now doing independent studies in C++, a programming language."

This was a no charge event and was provided as an opportunity as part of district's contracts with the **ESC** Gifted & Talented Consortium.

Channel Stress, Handle It!



The Gifted & Talented Consortium's Annual Stress Conference, **Channel Stress, Handle It!** was held in various meeting rooms at the **Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County** campus on April 23, 2008. **Bedford, Fairview, North Olmsted** and **Lakewood** students met faithfully with Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Educational Service Center personnel to make this a very successful conference for high school students. Approximately 200 students attended this event that included more than 10 breakout sessions, breakfast, lunch and a speaker to end the conference.

Breakout session topics included T'ai Chi, massage therapy, music therapy, pilates, nutrition, drum circle, improvisation, laughing, art therapy, martial arts, and line dancing.

In Art Therapy, Jane McKelvey of the Beachwood Counseling Center, had a fun introduction into the therapeutic affects of a paint brush and easel. Students had an opportunity to express themselves through creative expression with this stress-relieving workshop.

Lisa Siciliano of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History conducted a session on improvisation. The workshop explored the basic concepts of improvisational theater while encouraging participants to explore their creative side by making unique and entertaining choices and working together to achieve a goal.

Many thanks to the Health Advisory Committee of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History for sponsoring this event.

Members: Dr. Richard Fratianne, Dr. Ted Castele, Dr. John Clough, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marrapese, Ms. Mary Lou Stricklin, The Ohio Permanente Medical Group, Mr. Steve Ellis, Mr. Bill Ryan, The Kreiger Fund of the Cleveland Foundation.

Production team members included students from **Lakewood High School:** KC Grane, Ben Gallovic, John Kearney, Meredith Ross, and Kathy Baylog. **Fairview High School:** Lediana Goduni, Matt Gulas, Kristen Hasselschwert, April Homolak, and Molly Troxell. **Bedford High School:** Iyonna Hill, Jessica Alpert, Joshua Blackwell, Danielle Danko, Charnetta Epps, Ciera Sears, Candace Steward, Samantha Travarca, Michelle Bellitto, and Heather Keister. **North Olmsted High School:** Hannah Brown, Suzanne Neforos, Philip Tomko, Ann Tomko, Patrick Tomko, and Douglas Sebring.



Seventh Grade “Explore the Arts” Workshop

This past March, seventh grade students were able to attend an “Explore the Arts” workshop at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood sponsored by the Gifted & Talented Consortium of the **Educational Service Center**.

Approximately 130 arts-motivated students were provided an opportunity to explore a variety of cultural arts experiences in an actual art setting and to meet peers with similar interests in the arts. Students rotated through five workshop activities such as dance, theater, mime, creative dramatics, music, and technical.

Arts relevant vocabulary activities were performed in the classroom prior to attending this workshop to enhance the students’ arts experiences.

Districts that participated include **Bay Village, Brecksville/Broadview Heights, Brooklyn, Cuyahoga Heights, Fairview Park, Garfield Heights, Independence, North Royalton, Westlake** and **South Euclid/Lyndhurst**.

Superintendent Presents Leadership Workshop for Juniors and Seniors

Superintendent Dr. Harry E. Eastridge presented a Leadership Workshop for high school juniors and seniors hosted by the Gifted & Talented Consortium this past October. Students were given examples and activities designed to promote quality leadership so they may be able to take these various techniques back to their own high schools. The workshop covered leadership styles, developing personal relationships, reaching consensus, team building and organizational skills. This four hour workshop also included a continental breakfast and lunch for students and teachers.

Fifth Annual Northeast Regional Academic Games Competition

The fifth year of our academic competitions was very successful. Each year, the **ESC** Gifted & Talented Consortium comes up with names for the competition—the first year was Propaganda, followed by Mr. President, two years of Equations and one year of ON Words. Some of these games are played by students who compete at a national level. We adjust the rules to meet the needs of the students, districts and time constraints. Next year, we will hold competition with Mr. President in January to coincide with the Presidential inauguration.

Districts Participating this year:

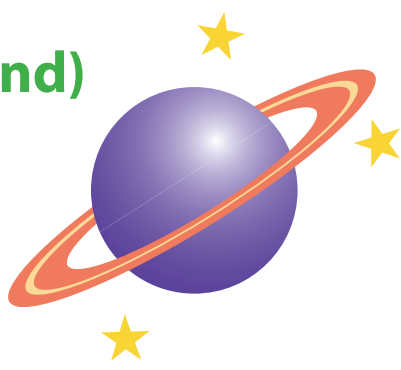
Bay Village	Maple Heights	Beachwood
North Royalton	Bedford	Olmsted Falls
Fairview Park	Rocky River	Garfield Heights
Westlake		

Spring Brunch and Recognition Program

The **ESC** hosted the Annual Spring Brunch and Recognition Program on April 25th, 2008 at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven. This event was a time to celebrate the contributions and achievements of youth with disabilities and outstanding educators, paraprofessionals, parents and peer role models. Time and donations were graciously contributed by schools and community partners from across the county. Forty-five awards were presented to students, educators and parents from **Bay Village, Bedford, Berea, Brecksville-Broadview Heights, Cleveland Heights-University Heights, Cleveland Metropolitan, Cuyahoga Heights, Euclid, Garfield Heights, Mayfield, North Olmsted, North Royalton, Parma, Positive Education Program, Shaker Heights, Solon, South Euclid-Lyndhurst, and Strongsville** school districts.

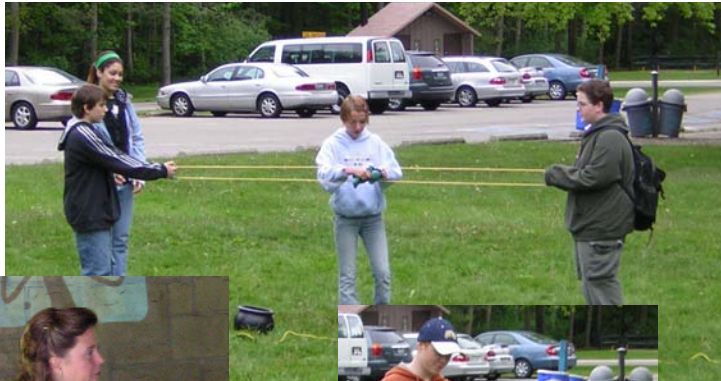


“Lost (& Found) in Space Adventure”



“Lost (& Found) in Space Adventure”...GPS/Compass Strategies was the final workshop given by **ESC** for the 2007-08 school year. The seminar gave the gifted eighth grade students in districts, etc. a chance to develop skills in using a GPS and compass, and strengthen their logical reasoning strategies. Held at the Cleveland Metroparks Shelter House at the South Chagrin Reservation in Chagrin Falls, this workshop involved finding one’s way in an unknown area using a GPS/compass.

Districts that participated included **Bedford, Garfield Heights, Brecksville/Broadview Heights, North Olmsted, South Euclid/Lyndhurst, and Warrensville Heights.**



Thacker Joins Board of Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County



Tom G. Thacker II, has been appointed to the Governing Board of the **Educational Service Center** of Cuyahoga County. Thacker is currently a Vice President/Financial Advisor for Citi-Smith Barney in Cleveland.

Thacker also is a Board Member and Past President of the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce. He is a Past Board Member and Past Vice President of the Cuyahoga Heights School District as well as a Past Board Member of the Greater Cleveland Council Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of the Rockwell Springs Trout Club – Member and Beaver Creek Sporting Club.

Thacker received his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He received his B.A. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Thacker resides in Valley View with his wife, Dr. Holly L. Thacker, and sons Stetson 16, Emerson 14 and Grayson 11.

Let Us Help Plan Your Retreat!

ANNUAL SCHOLARS ACADEMY
presents

BRIDGING THE GAP

BETWEEN REALITY AND VISION

August 7-8, 2008

The Bertram Hotel and Conference Center
800 North Aurora Road
Aurora, Ohio 44202

Keynote Speakers:

Stephen G. Peters

Keynote: Friday, August 8, 2008

"Teaching to Capture and Inspire All Learners"



Stephen is a VISIONARY and like so many other visionaries is guided by his spirit. Stephen has extraordinary ideas and a wonderful gift of inspiring those around him. His story of how divine inspiration guided him to create the Gentlemen's Club, a fast growing program for at-risk and borderline males in public schools, will save the lives of countless children who will then have a profound impact on the world and those around them. In his book, *Inspired to Learn: Why We Must*

Give Children Hope, Stephen not only outlines his vision for the children in our schools he goes on to share how he and his staff turned their vision into operational strategies. His second book *Do You Know Enough About Me To Teach Me* is being used throughout the U.S. as an effective tool for reaching disadvantaged and at-risk youth. He is also a contributing author for the newly released book *Engaging Every Learner* which is deemed the soul of educational leadership. Mr. Peter's latest book *Teaching to Capture and Inspire all Learners* (published by Corwin Press) will serve as a catalyst for changing and sustaining school culture. Mr. Peters is President/CEO of The Peters Group and partner with CASENEX, LLC an on-line professional development company.

Stephen has been a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal and director of secondary education. He has been involved in the education field for over twenty years and most of his experiences have been in schools that made significant growth in short periods of time thus, resulting in both National and State Blue-Ribbon distinction.

Peters has served on panels as an education expert with former U.S. Secretary of Education, Dr. Rod Paige in Washington, D.C. The focus of this nationally televised town meeting was education reform and effective intervention strategies for at-risk youth.

His revolutionary mentoring and self-empowering program, The Gentlemen's Club, has been featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show as well as "America, America," which broadcasts to two million viewers in Portugal and Brazil.

Tentative Agenda

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

- 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Registration
9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Welcome
10:00 - 12:00 noon *"Failure is Not an Option: Six Principles That Guide Student Achievement in High-Performing Schools"*
Scott Taylor, Principal,
Crestwood Elementary School
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch and Networking
1:00 - 4:30 p.m. District Break-Out Sessions
6:00 p.m. Social followed by dinner
8:00 p.m. Hospitality suite w/cash bar

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

- 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast buffet
(for overnight guests only)
8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. *"Teaching to Capture & Inspire All Learners"*
Stephen G. Peters, CEO,
The Peters Group
11:00 - 11:30 a.m. Closing Remarks
11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch and optional departure
12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Breakout session optional and available for districts upon request

To Register:

Call or email Nina Stein at
216-524-3000 or
nina.stein@esc-cc.org

Costs will be:

\$100 Thursday, August 7, 2008 only
\$50 Friday, August 8, 2008 only
\$150 Full conference
Meals are included

Scott Taylor (Replacing Alan M. Blankstein)

Keynote: Thursday, August 7, 2008

"Failure Is Not an Option: Six Principles that Guide Student Achievement in High Performing Schools"



Scott is the principal of Crestwood Elementary School in the Lindbergh School District in St. Louis County, Missouri. Under Scott's direction, Crestwood has made exceptional gains on state achievement tests. In 2006-07, Crestwood was listed on three Missouri Top 10 lists...3rd Grade Math, 4th Grade Math, and 5th Grade Math. In 2005-06, Crestwood appeared on two Missouri Top 10 lists and their total-school Mathematics score was the top score in the state. Crestwood Elementary scored in the Top 10 in Missouri in both Communication Arts and Mathematics for the 2004-05 school year. Crestwood's subgroup scores have also shown excellent growth and are ranked at or near the top of the state. Scott has presented workshops at the local, state and national level. He presented at the NAESP convention in 2006, 2007, and 2008. His educational articles have been published locally and nationally as well. Scott is a recent recipient of the "St. Louis Distinguished Principal of the Year Award" and was also a "Teacher of the Year" for the Fort Zumwalt School District. Scott has been a principal for the last ten years. His wife and four children reside in St. Peters, MO.

North Coast Leadership Forum

The purpose of the NCLF is to encourage building leaders to become more aware of their leadership capacity and gain a deeper understanding of school leadership and its relationship to school improvement. Furthermore, participants are given an opportunity to explore school leadership through shadowing individual school leaders and to experience interactions with successful school leadership teams.

- This is an “ought to be” selection process where district superintendents nominate participants for the program through recommendations from school administrators.
- Local districts and the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County underwrite the cost of the program. (University credit is available for participants at their expense.)
- An advisory committee including superintendents and representatives from five local colleges and universities helped formulate the program syllabus. These colleges and universities included: Notre Dame, Cleveland State, Baldwin-Wallace, John Carroll, and Ursuline.
- Program participants meet with the program facilitators once a month from August through June. (Three meetings are scheduled at school sites.)
- Time away from classroom and other duties is limited (3 release days).
- The program provides feedback to participants about their leadership potential and opportunities for leadership, as well as leadership skills.
- Through participation in NCLF, future school leaders:
 - Explore the nature and relationships involved in the “culture” of schools.
 - Apply processes for decision making and problem solving in leadership settings.
 - Experience school leadership in a variety of settings through interviews and “shadowing” of respected school leaders.

- Develop a Leadership Experience Journal to reflect on their ongoing leadership experiences and efforts.
- Develop and implement a Teacher Leadership Project within their district.
- Share their leadership projects in a final presentation format.

The program uses several resources such as Casebook and School Reform, the September 2007 issue of Educational Leadership focusing on Teachers as Leaders and a variety of other readings are assigned to and presented by the participants throughout the program. The focus of the program is to study the impact of building leadership from both the teacher and principal level. This is an “ought to be” program to stress that building leadership can positively influence student learning. Leadership can be expressed within specific departments, across an entire school, and sometimes beyond the individual school level. Opportunities in three areas of the framework are specifically address: School-wide Policies and Programs, Communications and Community Relations, and Teaching and Learning.

This year we had participants from Parma, Rocky River, Berea, Mayfield, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, and Positive Education Program.

NCLF participants of 2007-2008



North Coast Academy Graduation

North Coast Academy held its final graduation ceremony at Randall Park Mall on May 28, 2008. Twenty-five students from **Beachwood, Cleveland Heights, Chagrin Falls, Shaker Heights** and **Solon** Schools completed their academic coursework and will be eligible to receive their diplomas from their school districts. These graduates raised their average GPAs from 1.38 to 3.08. Their future goals include proprietary programs, two and four-year post-secondary programs, part-time and full time work; some of the graduates will also be balancing parenting.

Four North Coast Academy graduates were selected by Scholarship America to receive Dusenbury Scholarships and Simon Youth Foundation Scholarships. All of these scholarship awards are renewable until the student completes their degrees for up to four years. \$90,000 will be awarded over four years.

Jeff Duraj of the **Cleveland Heights-University Heights** City Schools was awarded a \$7,000 scholarship, which will be renewable for three years. Jeff will attend Cleveland State University. He plans on pursuing a degree in computer technology, engineering or science.

Brittany Jackson is also from **Cleveland Heights**. She plans to pursue a degree in nursing at the University of Akron in the fall. She has worked in the healthcare field throughout her enrollment at North Coast Academy. Her \$7,000 renewable award will cover most of her tuition.

Khristen Logan previously attended **Cleveland Heights** High School. Khristen didn't think she could afford to begin college at a four-year institution. She had planned to attend Cuyahoga Community College until she was notified that she was another of the \$7,000 scholarship winners. The Dusenbury & SYF Scholarships will allow her to attend Cleveland State University. She plans to major in International Business Management.

Image Offutt went to school in the **Solon** City School District and intends to earn her associate's degree in nursing. She has been accepted into a local program in where she will center her studies in geriatrics. She has received a \$1,500 renewable Simon Youth Foundation Scholarship to pay for her tuition.

North Coast Academy is looking forward to moving to its new location for the 2008-2009 school year above Sears at Richmond Town Square. Watch for the announcement of its Grand Opening this fall.

Regional Advisory Council

House Bill 115 established the Educational Regional Service System (ERSS) and required a coordinated, integrated and aligned system to support state and school district efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement services. The system consists of 16 ERSS regions. Cuyahoga County was named Region 3, in the ERSS, and it is the only region that services a single county.

The bill establishes an advisory council and five specialized subcommittees for each of the 16 regions. The system went into effect July, 2007. Each region must have a Regional Advisory Council

Background:

Each Regional Advisory Council must have five

advisory council subcommittees. The subcommittees are responsible for making recommendations to the regional advisory council regarding the implementation of state and regional educational initiatives. The five subcommittees are:

School Improvement Subcommittee	Pamela Smith
	Cleveland Metropolitan School District - Chair
Education Technology Subcommittee	Roy Norris
	WVIZ - Chair
Professional Development Subcommittee	Terry Butler
	Tri-C - Chair
Special Education Subcommittee	Kathe Shelby
	SST3 - Chair
Data Acquisition Subcommittee.....	John Mitchell
	LNOCA - Chair

The group has met three times during this school year. The Subcommittees are meeting and are expected to bring their recommendations/suggestions to the Council.

The North Coast Quality Collaborative

The North Coast Quality Collaborative was formed several years ago to focus on a systems approach to continuous improvement to produce quality student success. In addition to the Cuyahoga County **Educational Service Center** and the State Support Team Region Three the following schools districts are members: **Beachwood, Berea, Jackson Local, Mayfield, Orange, South Euclid-Lyndhurst** and the **Polaris Career Center**.

During the 2007-08 school year the focus of the North Coast Quality Collaborative was on the "World in Transition". Four workshops were developed in conjunction with the Cleveland Council on World Affairs and Cleveland State University's College

of Education and Human Services. The day-long seminars included the following topics:

- Global Perspectives and Education; Latin America
- The Middle East
- Asia: China and India
- Curricular Resources; Teaching About Global Issues

Also, in partnership with the Cleveland Council on World Affairs and the Ohio Schools Council the North Coast Quality Collaborative sponsored a conversation with thirteen Ministers of Education from Saudi Arabia and many superintendents from the Cleveland area. In addition, a group of students from area high schools had an opportunity to meet with our guests from Saudi Arabia following the superintendent's meeting. The Ministers of Education were touring and exploring various educational programs across the United States.



Rose-Mary Center Graduation Held at Center

The Rose-Mary Center, a residential treatment center providing educational and therapeutic services to 40 children located in Cleveland, held its graduation ceremony at the **Educational Service Center** on May 30. The Class of 2008 had two graduates, Whitney Gibson and Curtis Shaw.

The center is an ICF/MR provider specializing in the care of children and young adults diagnosed with mental retardation and other disabilities. The Center provides an array of services outlined on individually developed treatment plans. A professional staff, including nurses, occupational, physical and speech therapists, work with families, habilitation and education staff and volunteers to facilitate services. Facilities include one of the few multi-sensory rooms in Ohio.

An education program is operated by the **Educational Service Center** of Cuyahoga County. Specialists certified to work with multiple handicapped children staff six classrooms. Each classroom can have up to eight students and is staffed with a minimum of one teacher and two assistants. An individualized Educational Plan (IEP) is developed for each child and reviewed quarterly. The curriculum also incorporates community training.

Several classrooms have been designed to incorporate TEACCH methodology, although the school program utilizes a variety of methods. A Work-Study Coordinator, Physical Education Teacher and Art Therapist provide additional needed services.

Students who reside in the residential center, as well as community, attend the day school program. School districts of residence pay separate tuition to the ESCCC. Currently, 21 Ohio school districts are being served by the **ESC** school program. Occupational, physical and speech-language therapy may be provided under separate contract directly with Rose-Mary Center.

Community referrals for the school program should be directed to Mrs. Lisa Adler, Supervisor of the Rose-Mary Center School. She can be reached at (216) 621-3451. The Rose-Mary Center School program has changed its location to OLA/St. Joseph, 2346 West 14th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

◀ Lisa Adler, Director, Darcy Edelman from Mayfield City Schools and Whitney Gibson

▼ Graduate Curtis Shaw gives his mom a rose after receiving his diploma.



◀ On the way to his graduation is Curtis Shaw (Cleveland Metropolitan) and Whitney Gibson



▶ ESC's Steve Rogaski congratulates Whitney on his significant achievement.

▲ ESC's Steve Rogaski, Denise Hanson (Aide), Shelly Benson (teacher), Lisa Adler, Director, Curtis Shaw, Helen Koss (Aide) and Whitney.

Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County Awards Humanitarian Scholarships

The **Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County** presented its annual Humanitarian Awards to students from **Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, and Richmond Heights** Local School Districts. One student from each middle and high school received the award, presented by a member of the ESC Governing Board at each honoree's recent award assembly. Recipients are nominated by their own schools' administration for demonstrating outstanding character and service to the community throughout the past school year. In addition to a cash award of \$500 at the high school level and \$200 for middle school, the six students each received a personalized plaque, starfish pin, and starfish keychain. The starfish represents a short story about one person making a difference.

This year's "ESC Humanitarians":

Recipients from Cuyahoga Heights Schools

The ESC recognizes **Connor Dague** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Cuyahoga Heights Middle School**. Connor is known for superior academic achievement, however, he is never too busy, nor too proud, to lend his time to help another student with a problem, either by lending an ear, giving advice, or problem solving with them to find a solution to an issue. Connor even has gone out of his way to help new students adjust to school at CHS. He has done this humbly without expectation of something in return. He truly embodies the characteristics of a humanitarian.

The ESC recognizes **Steven Stankiewicz** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Cuyahoga Heights High School**. "Steven has been very active in his community of Brooklyn Heights assisting in food drives, home days and other service projects, but where Steven truly makes a difference is in his commitment to the United Cerebral Palsy Camp where he has served as a role model and assisted campers with computers, art, music, pool activities as well as socialization and conversation," said ESC board member

Tom Thacker, who presented the awards at both schools.

◀ ESC board vice-president Carol Fortlage presented I.H.S. graduate, Halle Buffington, the Humanitarian Award.



Recipients from Independence Local Schools

The ESC recognizes **Danielle Kohut** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Independence Middle School**. In presenting the award on June 4, Carol Fortlage said "The award recognizes Danielle for her selfless service and caring for others. Her 8th Grade teachers have singled her out as most deserving of this award, and here's what they told the ESC about her: *Danielle Kohut has a gentle spirit with a tenacious core. She is IMS' steel magnolia. Her compassion, care, and concern are demonstrated by her selfless acts. She can be found any day helping other students, teachers, and staff. She calmly yet tenaciously pursues everyone's best interests while maintaining a high level of performance.*"

Every day, an old man walked the beach with a pail, picking up starfish that had been washed in by the tide. He kept throwing them back into the sea.

One day a young boy stopped the old man and asked, "Why do you throw the starfish back? It doesn't matter. They will only wash up on the shore again tomorrow."

The old man picked a starfish out of his pail, threw it as far as he could into the sea, and said, "It mattered to that one."



The ESC recognizes **Halle Buffington** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Independence High School**. "Halle went out on her own and raised over \$1,000 in the cold of winter to buy the materials for "no-sew" fleece blankets to be donated to foster children through the Children's Services Center. She exhibited leadership by involving others in the implementation of the project. Halle undertook this project AFTER she had already completed her required service hours. Halle completed over 280 hours of community service – SEVEN TIMES the school's graduation requirement of 40 hours," said ESC board vice president Carol Fortlage, who presented the award.

Recipients from Richmond Heights Schools

The ESC recognizes **Vania DePerio** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Richmond Heights Middle School**. "Vania possesses outstanding leadership qualities and displays these in an academic atmosphere. She has been an asset to her classroom with her uplifting personality, cheerfulness and positive attitude. She is friendly, outgoing, and always has a kind word or smile for those around her," said ESC board president Tony Hocevar, who presented the award.

The ESC recognizes **Mui D. Choi** as the 2008 Humanitarian from **Richmond Heights High School**. His principal presented the award recognizing Mui as a motivated self starter who single-handedly founded the recycling club at the high school. He also helped launch the Key Club at the high school once again and held fundraisers to raise money for a hunger center, Ronald McDonald House and Wigs for Kids.