Ohio School Boards Association Honors Board Members with Award of Achievement

The Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) honored Cuyahoga Heights Local School Board Members Reno Contipelli, Kenneth Perk and Ron J. Krzynowek as well as ESC of Cuyahoga County Governing Board Member Frank Mahnic, Jr. with the 2011 OSBA Award of Achievement during its spring conference. The OSBA Award of Achievement is presented to a very select group each year. Of more than 3,400 board members in Ohio, only 81 received the honor this year. Recipients are honored for earning continuing education credits received when attending seminars, workshops and conferences throughout the year. In addition, credits are awarded for leadership positions such as president, delegate, and serving on boards and state committees.

Northwest Ohio College Fair for Students with Learning Differences

Students and families are invited to the Northwest Ohio College Fair for Students with Learning Differences being held at two locations in the county. On Tuesday, October 11, 2011, colleges, universities, and other post-high school training programs will have representatives at the Holiday Inn in Strongsville. On Wednesday, October 12, 2011, colleges, universities, and other post-high school training programs will have representatives at Corporate College in Warrensville Heights. Both programs are from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Attendees may talk with postsecondary representatives and participate in breakout session. Topics include: rights and responsibilities in preparing for postsecondary education; panel discussion of high school to college transition; how parents can help their children prepare for high school; college representatives’ panel discussion highlighting strategies to get the most from the college experience.

There is no cost to attend these events. The format and speakers’ topics will be the same at both college fairs. This is a great opportunity for families to begin preparing for the transition from the entitlement of a free public education to the world of higher education where eligibility determines assistance.

For more information call, Terri McIntee at 216-446-3819.

ESC’s Summer and Beyond Fair

Hundreds of families were able to explore the various camps, activities and programs available for their children this summer thanks to the 13th Annual “Summer and Beyond Fair” for students with disabilities. The fair is sponsored by the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County in collaboration with The Arc of Greater Cleveland and the Northeast Ohio Parent Mentor Project. Held at St. Michael’s Woodside Party Center in Broadview Heights this past February, exhibitors from camps and organizations from around Ohio were present to talk with attendees about what they have to offer to children and youth with disabilities. Organizations offer not only recreational opportunities but also academic and therapeutic choices throughout the year for students with disabilities.”

“Families want their children to experience all aspects of childhood,” said Terri McIntee, a Family and Community Involvement Consultant with the ESC of Cuyahoga County. “Many local and regional agencies and
Jennifer Wisniewski was the 2011 Humanitarian from Independence Middle School. Her entry states, “Jennifer always has a positive attitude that has a wonderful effect on her classmates and staff members. She is always ready to help any teacher carry out a task.” She demonstrates a high level of participation in class. Jennifer is also very helpful to her fellow students that are having difficulty with an assignment. She can always be counted on to put aside her own responsibilities to help out others. Jennifer is a walking example of ‘blue devil pride’ every single day at I.M.S.” ESC President Carol Fortlage presented Jennifer with her award.

Sara Dela Vega was the 2011 Humanitarian from Richmond Heights High School. Her entry states, “Sara will be another of my many former students who will fulfill their promise of tomorrow by becoming an outstanding success. Sara has aspirations of becoming a doctor. Doubtless, she will. And while I marvel at her academic achievements, it is the essence and personality of Sara that I admire most. She is kind, compassionate, caring, gentle, and humble. Without ever calling attention to herself, she is an example of what is good about America’s young people.” ESC Board Member Tony Miceli presented Sara with her award.

Sara was another of my many former students who will fulfill their promise of tomorrow by becoming an outstanding success. Sara has aspirations of becoming a doctor. Doubtless, she will. And while I marvel at her academic achievements, it is the essence and personality of Sara that I admire most. She is kind, compassionate, caring, gentle, and humble. Without ever calling attention to herself, she is an example of what is good about America’s young people.” ESC Board Member Tony Miceli presented Sara with her award.

Students Enjoy Learning at Beck Center for the Arts Program

The ESC of Cuyahoga County sponsors a field trip twice a year to the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood. Students have a chance to learn about the various fine arts. They have a chance to participate in classes such as classical voice, clay, improvisation, dance, acting, drums, and drawing. Students from Independence and Richmond Heights Local Schools were among those that attended.