

SUMMER 2021

THE ESC CONNECTION

A DIGITAL MAGAZINE OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OF NORTHEAST OHIO



Hats off to the
Class of 2021



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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dr. Bob Mengerink, *Superintendent*

Dear Colleagues,

As you all begin your summer, I hope you are all able to reflect on this past school year and find some positive aspects of the challenges you faced. This may be the new skills you have learned in technology or creative ways of expanding learning options for students. It could be the reminder of how we can and should lean on colleagues for support. Perhaps it is a greater appreciation for understanding and addressing the non-academic needs of students. It might be realizing how adaptable we really are at accepting changes. Or maybe it's remembering to slow down and prioritize what is most important for our students, ourselves and our families. Whatever it is, you should all be proud of how you have taken these challenges, led with grace and continuously identified solutions for your students, parents and community. While there will always be challenges and controversy ahead in leading and transforming schools, my sincerest wish for you this summer is to do those things that will allow you to recharge yourself both physically and mentally while remembering that you are truly our unsung heroes.

As you work towards next school year, please don't hesitate to let us know if there is anything you need.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob

Cover photo: On Monday, May 24, 2021, Bay High School held its 95th Annual Commencement Exercises to honor the Class of 2021. We offer best wishes to the Class of 2021.

Photo courtesy Bay Village Schools



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THE *New Normal* OR THE *New Now*

by Stephanie DeMichele, ESC Learning Designer & Instructional Coach

“I couldn’t wait to get back to normal; and now I’m not sure what normal looks like,” she nervously revealed on the eve of her school reopening after almost a year online.

This teacher isn’t alone. Scores of teachers have asked, “Can we go back? Should we go back?” and even more frightening: “How do we go back?”

My response is always the same: Let’s consider the New Now. At the core of the New Now is our shared experience of living through a pandemic and navigating it together. While it was admittedly difficult to connect with our students and colleagues in online environments, it was what we had, it was all we had, and the universality of pandemic teaching and learning, I’d argue, forged bonds we didn’t know could exist. Basically, we’ve been in the same boat, trying to find the best way to row it.

Yes, as difficult, draining, and demoralizing pandemic teaching could be, we held on to each other, and that is what will propel us into the New Now: relationships.

When re-thinking instructional design, consider nurturing a relationship in which we allow students to take on more responsibility for the path and pace of their learning, building in more choice, voice, and creativity. In turn, you get to be the facilitator you’d hoped to be.

Assessments, too, could benefit from the give-and-take of relationships. What if we provided more feedback and less points? What if we allowed students to revise, grow, and do-over while we coach them as an invested partner?

As we begin to come together again, it is the shared experiences and the natural human need to connect that I hope will inform our New Now educational practices.

TEACHERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (TVI) TEAM GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

On March 12, two visually impaired young ladies and their service dogs went on a college visit with Amy Yoho, teacher of the visually impaired (TVI), Sue Delvecchio, life skills coordinator, and Keith Lemison, orientation and mobility specialist. The TVI team gave the girls the assignment of arranging the visit with the admissions office of Baldwin Wallace University (BW). They met the morning of the visit at a local restaurant to relax, get the jitters out and plan questions for the visit. Then they were off to the admissions office where each girl met on her own with a counselor to ask questions and hear about the process. After the meetings, they were given a tour by a senior student at the university. The TVI team hung back within earshot and noted how the girls became more comfortable and engaged in questions and conversation with the guide. They asked questions about the math

(if they offer it in Braille), transportation, security, food service and campus life. Neither girl wanted to go to BW when they started the outing, but by the end, one would consider it and the other was sold! Next stop...Kent State to get a feel for a large campus.



Art and the 3 Rs

PEP Hopewell principal Rick Gurski, art teacher Adrian Eisenhower, and team associate Ryan Cress knew it was important to provide a way for students to process the difficult emotions brought on by the pandemic. That's why, despite COVID-19 restrictions that made an in-person art show impossible, the team still wanted to provide an opportunity for students to create art that reflected their feelings about the pandemic and present it virtually.

"Many students use art as a means to all three R's [regulating, relating, reasoning]. The initial thought

behind this was to provide students with a sense of normalcy," said Gurski. "Our students were able to utilize this as both a therapeutic activity as well as a means of closure, so to speak, now that school is back in person."

Students were given a broad prompt to produce a piece of artwork to reflect their emotions about the pandemic and school closures. They had access to a myriad of supplies provided by Eisenhower and Cress, as well as what was available in the school's art studio.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROMOTIONS FOR 3 E STAR PROGRAM IN EAST CLEVELAND CITY SCHOOLS

The 3 E STAR program (PreK and K-2) in the East Cleveland City Schools, located at Prospect and Caledonia, had a productive and engaging year despite the pandemic. 3 E stands for East Cleveland City School District, Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio and Early Childhood. STAR stands for the conscious discipline strategy of “Stop, Take a Deep Breath and Relax.”

We are celebrating both our preschoolers who are moving on to kindergarten, and our kindergarteners who are moving on to first grade. Both cohorts had promotion ceremonies in May. We are so proud of our students and our families.

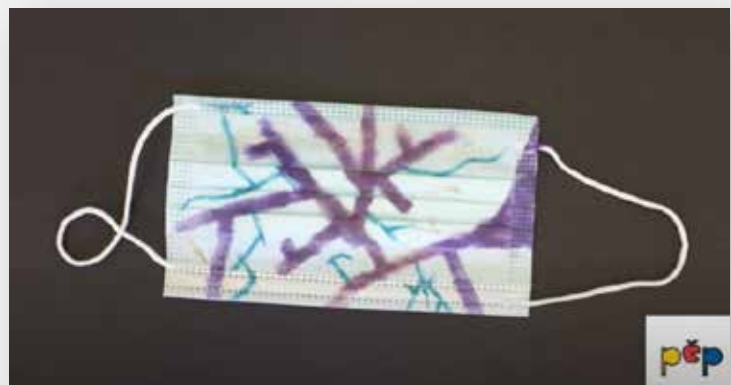
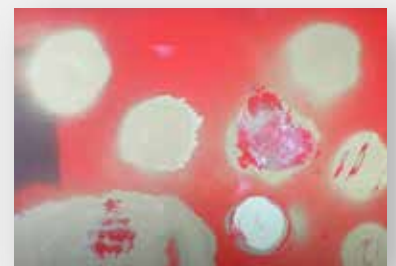
Laurie Albright
Special Education Supervisor
ESC of Northeast Ohio



[Click here](#) to watch PEP Hopewell's Virtual Art Show video

“What struck me was how absorbed the students became at times,” said Eisenhower. “We had moments of flow and non-verbal expression, when our kids quietly let their hands work and did not question or doubt themselves. This mindset can be hard to find with everything going on in our world and in our lives.”

Marilyn Mauck,
Chief Instruction & Achievement Officer
PEP Cleveland
mmauck@pepcleve.org



Developing IT Talent IN NORTHEAST OHIO

The ESC of Northeast Ohio hosted the virtual Developing IT Talent Forum on May 14 for the education and business communities to learn about existing challenges and opportunities in the Information Technology sector in our region. In Northeast Ohio, there is a dearth of trained IT talent for the high-demand jobs in that sector. Courtney DeOreo, Executive Director of RITE, and Craig Platt, Managing Director of the newly organized Workforce Connect IT Sector Partnership, provided information about how their roles at the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) are supporting IT educational programs for both high school and college graduates, while

working directly with businesses to align workers and employers. As the intermediary organization engaged in talent development, the IT Sector Partnership provides programs and resources for development of the NEO IT Ecosystem. During the program, the University of Cincinnati School of Information Technology provided one possible solution for accelerating IT pipeline preparation through its Early IT Program that provides dual high school-college credit. Working collaboratively, creative solutions by educational and business organizations can impact the increase in the IT pipeline to satisfy the workforce needs for the future of our region.

ESC'S STUDENT WELLNESS DEPARTMENT

The ESC of Northeast Ohio's Student Wellness Department is entering its third year of the five-year Project Prevent grant. The department also focuses on various grant initiatives and partnerships with schools and youth-serving organizations.

The department served 41 school districts during the past year, during which time much of the focus was on supporting and assisting districts and community partners with the challenges of the pandemic. The Student Wellness Team's activities included technical assistance on mental health frameworks, PBIS training, coaching on social/emotional learning under the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) framework, embedded district supports, navigation to county and local system referral processes, and the provision of resources for families and districts. Some of the focus was on topics such as transition planning, absenteeism, trauma-informed care, truancy, and suicide prevention.

Professional development offered included a six-part series on various prevention education topics and PBIS team training in collaboration with State Support Team 3. The department launched a regional community of practice for mental health providers and 8 ESCs. Two other notable endeavors included the regional coordination and implementation of Northeast Ohio's Handle with Care (HWC) and the appointment of a Family and Community Support Liaison. Both further the mission to provide appropriate interventions, resources and support services for vulnerable youth and their families in the area.

To find out more information about any of the above activities or programming, please contact Kristine Kozlowski, Project Assistant, kristine.kozlowski@escneo.org.

NEW ONLINE VERSION OF 2021
Summer and Beyond
DIRECTORY IS NOW AVAILABLE!

State Support Team Region 3 (SST3) offers the 2021 Summer and Beyond Directory as a resource to parents, family members, and school district/community school personnel about extended opportunities around the Cuyahoga County area. Each school year SST3 collaborates with local agencies, camps, and community partners around summer activities for students with disabilities. Many of those agencies and organizations offer continued academic skill-building, therapeutic and social-emotional supports throughout the year to assist students with disabilities to become independent and self-sufficient.



[Click here](#) to view the 2021 directory.



Pictures taken from our local agencies, camps and community partners website.

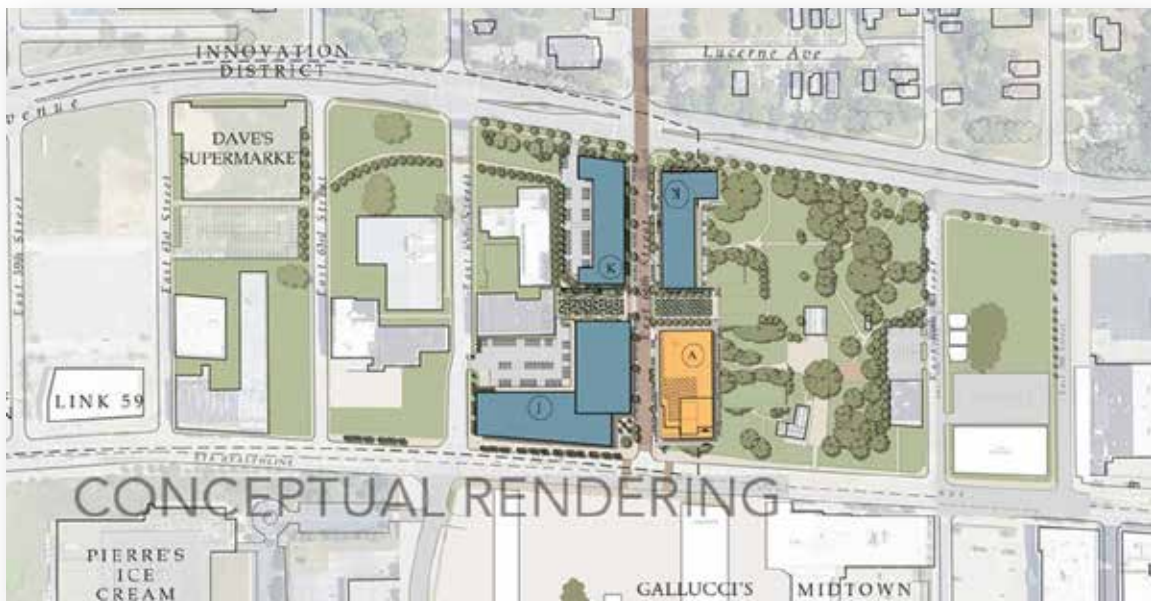
NORTHEAST OHIO BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

CLEVELAND INNOVATION DISTRICT

The ESC of Northeast Ohio Business Advisory Council learned from founding members of the Cleveland Innovation District on May 6 about the extraordinary education and healthcare partnership that will bring 20,000 jobs to our region over the next 10 years. The “district” will not have one central area where it will function, however much of the research will take place at the Cleveland Clinic’s new building on its east side campus which will house its Global Center for Pathogen Research & Human Health.

Julie Jacono of the MetroHealth System, Jonathan Wehner at Cleveland State University, and Dr. James Young of the Cleveland Clinic discussed how the project, supported by state funding, capitalizes on the renowned medical research organizations in our region, including University Hospitals, and brings together university partners, both CSU and CWRU, to provide advanced training in healthcare, engineering, information technology, and data analytics.

The Cleveland Innovation District is modeled on the original Cincinnati Hub and the newly-formed Columbus district. The statewide innovation centers will provide entry level jobs, and certificate-based upskilling, as well as jobs for employees with advanced degrees. The groups are promoting STEM-focused education for K-12 and college students. They are considering innovative models for in-person or virtual curriculum delivery, including partnering with IBM for certificate-based education for Qubit, a new domain supporting high speed data analytics for quantum computing.



The Ohio Online Learning Program provides online summer school **credit recovery** opportunities to school districts throughout Ohio!

Student Learning Advocates will be here all summer to support your students.

What are you doing this summer to get ahead?

Summer 2021 Credit Recovery Course List

EDGENUITY CREDIT RECOVERY COURSES

English (Part A & B for all)

English Language Arts 6, 7 and 8
English Language Arts 9, 10, 11 and 12

Mathematics (Part A & B for all except Trigonometry)

Math 6, 7 and 8
Pre-Algebra
Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II
Pre-Calculus
Financial Math
Trigonometry
Concepts in Probability & Statistics

Science (Part A & B for all)

Science 6, 7 and 8
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Physical Geology
Physical Science
Environmental Science

Social Studies

Social Studies 6, 7 and 8
American Government - Semester only

Economics & Financial Literacy – semester only
American History - Part A & B
Contemporary World Issues – semester only
Modern World History - Part A & B

Electives

Art History A & B
Comprehensive Physical Education

LINCOLN LEARNING SOLUTIONS CREDIT RECOVERY COURSES

English (Part A & B for all)

American Literature
British Literature
English Language Arts 9 and 10
Short Stories – semester only
Technical Writing – semester only

Mathematics (Part A & B for all)

Algebra I
Algebra II
Applied Mathematics
Business Math
Calculus
Consumer Math
Geometry
Pre-Algebra

Science (Part A & B for all)

Astronomy
Biology
Chemistry
Earth Science
Environmental Science
Fundamentals of Ecology
Physical Science

Social Studies

1960s America – semester only
Civics and Government – semester only
US History 1 (middle school) Part A & B
US History II (high school) Part A & B
World History Part A & B
World Cultures

Elective

High School Health – semester only

NEW this summer!

Booster Courses (ELA and math) for grades 6-12
Summer Starts (reading and math) for grades K-5

Courses subject to change for 2021-2022 school year.

ENROLL HERE!

www.OhioOnlineLearning.org

WHERE STUDENTS GET THE BEST OF
BOTH WORLDS



For questions,
call 216-901-4213
or 216-236-5569

Sponsored by:



PASSPORT School Program

Guiding Extraordinary Individuals Toward a Future of Hope

For information, contact:

Lisa Adler, Director

lisa.adler@escneo.org

440-688-1280

Congratulations, GRADUATES!

All five graduates will be transitioning to an adult day provider.



Haley joined the Passport School Program in 2013. She smiles as she helps deliver the mail and greets people on Fridays with “Happy Friday”. She loves to listen to music, play with “Alphabet Town” and her doll who she named Chamenay. Haley loves lunchtime, interacting with other students, and ranch dressing on everything. Richmond Heights will be presenting her diploma.



Ryan joined our program in 2009. Ryan has been working on daily living skills such as sorting, and following appropriate mealtime behavior. Ryan loves to whistle, and he can be heard whistling in the hallways. His favorite activities are riding the adaptive tricycle, and being pulled on the scooter board. East Palestine Schools will be presenting his diploma.



Rocketta has been a student here since 2011. She enjoys going to gym and the vestibular room. Rocketta is a rock star and loves listening and dancing to rock music on the boom box. She has been working on daily living skills such as cleaning up after herself and sorting utensils and laundry. Cleveland Metropolitan Schools will be presenting her diploma.



Ky'Shawn (East Cleveland) and Robert (Cleveland Metropolitan) are also graduating and were featured in the previous newsletter.





Welcome Ja'Meela, who is a Cleveland Metropolitan student and is in Rob's classroom. Rob works with her on activating a communication device to say "Hello"



Haley, Brad and Cody celebrate Kishan's winning at Uno.



Kishan and Civia, SLP, work on vocabulary words as they categorize animals and food items.



Morning circle with Mary, Rob, Dae'Shon and Mark. Students discuss the weather, calendar and schedule for the day's activities.



Rob's side kick, Nicholas has been hanging around since Christmas time, sometimes taking time off to go fishing. The class counts his catch when he gets back.



Gabe is working on gross motor development with Retta, PTA by riding the Rifton adaptive bicycle in the hallway.



Check the data! More spring like days than winter, Buckeye Chuck is the winner, Sorry Phil! Class buddy, Nick is in the foreground, whose hotdog and cookie intake is closely tallied during math class.



For information, contact:
Mary Wideman, Program Administrator
mary.wideman@escneo.org
330-732-8249

Virtual Graduation Ceremony

As we prepared for graduation, our situation at Capstone Academy posed some unique challenges as compared to traditional school settings. Our program is housed within a residential facility and the building continues to be closed to visitors and students remain quarantined on their residential units. Since we were unable to gather in-person, we needed a creative solution to celebrate this milestone event. We decided to create a virtual graduation ceremony. Through a series of video segments, we recreated the format of how our in-person graduation is structured. We are grateful to all of those who participated in the creation of the ceremony as well as the technical assistance provided by Charlene Paporizos, ESCNEO Communications Coordinator.

Our virtual ceremony began with “Pomp and Circumstance” playing while videos of the graduates putting on their graduation gowns were shared. All three of our graduates were introduced and commencement speakers shared a special story or a memory of each student, followed by a photo slideshow of each student played with their favorite song. The Capstone Academy Program Administrator reflected on the graduates’ accomplishments over the years, and the Hattie Larlham Community Integration Coordinator gave a heartfelt speech welcoming students into the next phase of their lives. Before the graduates were released, videos of the students having their tassels turned were shared. Moving the tassel from right to left symbolizes the wearer has passed from one level of learning to another. We wish Emily, Max, and Zachary the best as they enter adult services!



Emily



Maxwell



Zachary



CROSSROADS DAY TREATMENT CENTER

Robin Kline, ESC Supervisor
Crossroads Day Treatment Center
Robin.kline@escneo.org

As the school year comes to a close, I would like to acknowledge the staff at Crossroads Day Treatment Center who returned to full in person learning at the start of the school year in August feeling it was in the best interest of the students they serve.

With many safety protocols in place there were very few interruptions or incidents relating to COVID-19. Social distancing, mask wearing, individual student supply assignments, virtual staff and parent meetings, and other well thought out safety measures ensured that students were able to attend school daily and not lose valuable in person

academic and therapy time. Although weekly off site trips had to be cancelled they were replaced by other onsite meaningful and engaging activities that could be done safely.

It was especially impressive to see how well the students honored the safety measures that were asked of them both in the classroom and on their transportation.

Teachers are looking forward to next year when they can hopefully begin to reimplement some of the activities that needed to be cancelled this year.



HELP ME GROW UPDATE

Help Me Grow has launched new interactive Community Resource Directories on our website, helpmegrow.org! Users can now search for providers by service area, category, county, keyword, or zip code on the new online platform. Our directories are ADA compliant, and capture a variety of early childhood services and resources available in all 88 Ohio counties. Users can search for providers in the following areas: assistive technology; audiology; autism services; baby supplies; CenteringPregnancy; early childhood mental health; family counseling; family training; lactation support; maternal depression; occupational therapy; parent education; physical therapy; safe sleep; sign language; smoking cessation; social work; speech language pathology; special instruction; and more.



Community Resource Directories

A catalog of Early Intervention, Home Visiting, and family support services in Ohio's communities.

Find providers and services in your area:

Hearing, Audiology, and Sign Language • Medical, Health, and Nursing • Nutrition and WIC • Parent Groups • Pregnancy and Parenting Supports • Psychological, Social Work, Mental Health, and Counseling • School Districts • Therapy and Assistive Technology • Vision • **and more...**



Categories include:

- Assistive Technology
- Audiology
- Autism Services
- Baby Supplies
- CenteringPregnancy
- Early Childhood Mental Health
- Family Counseling
- Family Training
- Lactation Support
- Maternal Depression
- Occupational Therapy
- Parent Education
- Physical Therapy
- Safe Sleep
- Sign Language
- Smoking Cessation
- Social Work
- Speech Language Pathology
- Special Instruction
- **...and more**

Search by:

- Service
- County
- Keyword
- Category
- City
- Zip Code

Our directories capture a variety of early childhood services and resources available in all 88 Ohio counties.



Ohio Department of Health



Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

www.helpmegrow.org/directories

Serving as Help Me Grow Central Intake, Bright Beginnings is committed to connecting Ohio families to Early Intervention, Home Visiting, and family support services so young children can have the best possible start in life. The Community Resource Directories are available at helpmegrow.org/directories.

With families and professionals alike still doing their part to stop the spread, it can be difficult to deliver family support and information while also social distancing. Serving as Help Me Grow's Central Intake and Referral, Bright Beginnings has been working to bridge those gaps with two key communications:

Pregnant women and families who sign up for Home Visiting will receive an OHBaby kit during their first in-person or virtual home visit. Packed with resources for every kind of parent, the OHBaby kit offers tools, information, and resources to welcome the newest member of their family!

Do you know a family expecting a child who could use extra support? Getting connected to Home Visiting also is a great first step for families who have questions about how to have a healthy pregnancy and ensure positive child development.

Physicians often need support and tools to ensure families get connected to community resources outside of the medical setting. Enter the Benefits of Home Visiting kits!

The kits include everything medical professionals need to refer their patients to Home Visiting, including: information on the benefits of Home Visiting; posters for waiting rooms; referral cards; magnets with how-to-refer messaging; Help Me Grow promotional items; and more.

Bright Beginnings had the opportunity to work with the JCR Imagine Program and Deepwood



Learn more about what Home Visiting can offer families at www.helpmegrow.org/HomeVisiting.



Industries, Inc., through the Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities on the kits' assembly. The kits are being distributed to OB/GYN offices across Ohio, providing medical professionals with the tools and resources needed to talk about Home Visiting services with their patients.

Learn more about Home Visiting offers families at www.helpmegrow.org/HomeVisiting.

2021 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Recognizing students, peers & educators

For the past 42 years, the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Northeast Ohio and State Support Team – Region 3 recognize students with disabilities, peers, and educators with the annual Excellence in Education Awards. Because of COVID-19, the annual recognition brunch has not been held in-person the past two years, but a video has been created to celebrate and honor these incredible individuals, along with the great things that are happening in special education in Northeast Ohio.

Recipients this year also received a yard sign and certificate.

The **Outstanding Student Achievement Award** acknowledges achievements of school-age children and youth with disabilities in Northeast Ohio.

The **Outstanding Peer Achievement Award** recognizes students without disabilities who have established positive relationships and who have assisted other students with disabilities, serving as exemplary role models.

The **Outstanding Educator Achievement Award** honors educators who are the exemplars in designing instructional strategies and programs.

The **2021 R.A. Horn Outstanding Achievement Award Recipient from SST Region 3 is Grace Mangano of Cleveland Heights-University Heights High School**. This award is presented to one exemplary student receiving special education services and support from each of Ohio's 16 State

Support Team regions. The award was established more than 25 years ago by the Ohio Department of Education.

The **2021 Franklin B Walter Outstanding Educator Award Recipient from SST Region 3 area is Kerry Sheldon of Fairview Park City Schools**. This award is presented to one educator from each of Ohio's 16 State Support Team regions, who has made extraordinary contributions to the education of students with disabilities.

In this year's video presentation, Chanelle McCloud, also known as the Teacher Wellness Guru, shared an inspirational message to this year's award recipients. The message was meant to encourage both the educators and students to discover and develop the very best part of themselves through the rain and the rainbows. McCloud has spent more than a decade in the classroom and an additional five years in other educational settings. She serves as CEO of Professional Inspiration, the company she founded 10 years ago that hones in on the source that drives individuals to push harder toward their desired results as they bring purpose to the surface.

2021 EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

Recognizing Students with Disabilities, Educators,
and Peers in Northeast Ohio School Districts



[CLICK HERE](#) to watch the video tribute.



This event gives us a chance to pause amidst all of the hecticness of a school year and truly just be thankful for special people in this world. I know that in my 50 years as an educator, it is students and staff, such as those recognized here today, that have made me not only a better educator or administrator, but also a better person. They have forced me to reflect on how I might lead or inspire, but also how I treat others. How I can show compassion. How I should never give up on myself or others, even when it's hard.

- Bob Mengerink, Superintendent, ESC of Northeast Ohio

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE RECIPIENTS . . .

Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools

Marco Vizzini - Student

Brooklyn City Schools

Amran Mengasha - Student
Joseph Madison - Peer

Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools

Betsy Race - Educator
Grace Mangano - Student

Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools

Elena Papparizos - Educator
Fiona Navarra - Student

Euclid City Schools

Stacie Spears - Educator
Kristen Schutte - Educator
Jayden Brentley - Student

Fairview Park City Schools

Kerry Sheldon - Educator

Independence Local Schools

James Vanek - Educator
Kevin Patterson - Student
Grace Malvic - Student

Lakewood City Schools

Elizabeth Rogel - Educator
Lisa Wiegand - Educator
Rachel Vuyancih- Educator
Matthew Munn - Student
Corey Workman - Student

Lincoln Park Academy

Rosalind Dubose-Butler - Educator

Maple Heights City Schools

Amy Bennett - Educator
Jayden Smith - Student
Rachel Wagner - Peer
Rianna Carr - Peer

North Olmsted City Schools

Ellen Murphy - Educator
Jacob Yaeger - Student
Maria Ciocan - Peer

Olmsted Falls City Schools

Megan Monachino - Educator
Michael DiFilippo - Student
Kailey Hochevar - Peer

Richmond Heights Local Schools

Timothy King - Educator

Rocky River City Schools

Patricia Wagner - Educator
Cheryl Bohrer - Educator
Theodore Lehtinen - Student

HUMANITARIAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

The ESC of Northeast Ohio named several 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 2020-21 school year. One student from each middle and high school in the communities of **Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, and Richmond Heights Local Schools** received scholarships and awards. In addition to a cash award, students receive a personalized plaque, starfish pin, and starfish bookmark. The starfish is the symbol of a story of the impact one person can make in a community.

Cuyahoga Heights Middle School **Tamir Julious, 8th grade**



Tamir has always displayed an intrinsic motivation to achieve. He has consistently stayed organized, self-motivated and engaged in daily lessons. He is logical and reflective during class discussions. His

opinions are honest. Tamir is fair and straightforward. He is a positive role model for his peers on a daily basis. Tamir shows determination on the court, perseverance in his school and athletic activities, and loyalty toward his friends and our school community. He is someone his friends can count on for encouragement, a funny comment, or an easy hello. Having a conversation with Tamir always brings a smile to our days. Tamir is a leader at school through his daily actions and the kindness he displays toward all students.

Cuyahoga Heights High School **Jonathon Nejman, Senior**



Jonathon is a man of few words, but many positive actions. In school, he is honest, respectful, and strives to be his best. He is a quiet leader, who does things the right way. In the time of COVID-19, Jonathon joined forces to help create a podcast with

Mr. Kovitch in order to have students connect with the school. This podcast inspired everyone to get out and be active in a time when everyone was staying inside. Teachers, coaches and classmates have shared countless times when he has gone out of his way to do something, without recognition. Often, being soft-spoken creates the opportunity for many of his good deeds to go unnoticed. Never looking for recognition, Jonathon continues to do his best and make those around him better.

Independence Middle School
Samuel Crooks, 8th grade



Sam consistently works above his potential in all academic classes. He is involved in numerous activities including WEB, basketball, track, and cross country. He is kind, compassionate, friendly, caring, and always has a smile

on his face. His conscientious and empathetic nature makes him wise beyond his years. He shows tremendous strength and courage in and out of the classroom.

Independence High School
Makenna McGhee, Senior



Makenna is someone that models kindness and courtesy as a rule. She actively avoids recognition. Her positive spirit is a product of an altruistic attitude. The positive impact she has made on Independence

High School will be here long after her graduation. The faculty are appreciative and thankful for the legacy of kindness and respect that she has left in our school.

Richmond Heights Secondary School
Angel Dinh, 8th grade



Angel is on student council and always willing to serve her community. She is kind, helpful, a stellar scholar and exceptional human being. She never hesitates to put others' feelings before her own. Her empathy is beyond

compare. She's a leader but never one to seek the spotlight; instead, she prefers to stand back and help others excel. Angel is a member of the Rise Up after school program and participates in academic and culinary activities, as well as Art Club through our partnership with Arts Inspired Learning. She is a member of the Diversity Club and always seeks out a way to make the best out of any situation.

Richmond Heights Secondary School
Rayna Williamson, Senior



Rayna is studious, hard-working and punctual. She is a College Credit Plus and Excel TECC student. Rayna is a member of the National Honor Society and Excel TECC National Technical Honors Society. She was

granted the Northwood University Junior Business Student of the Year Award. She has been a part of DECA, Diversity Club and Richmond Heights Volleyball Team (serving as a starter and co-captain). Rayna has always managed her time well and often used her sense of humor to bring levity to any situation. She never shies away from challenges. She also was the ESC Starfish recipient her eighth-grade year and fulfilled her potential in receiving the honor yet again her senior year.



We build bridges for ...

Educators, Districts, Agencies, Organizations, Universities & Colleges,
Students, Adult Learners, Families & Communities, Businesses

CURRENT CLIENT DISTRICTS:

Akron Public Schools
Aurora City Schools
Barberton City Schools
Bay Village City Schools
Beachwood City Schools
Bedford City Schools
Berea City Schools
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools
Brooklyn City Schools
Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools
Chardon Local Schools
Cleveland Heights-University Heights
City Schools
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools
Crestwood Local
Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools

East Cleveland City Schools
Euclid City Schools
Fairview Park City Schools
Garfield Heights City Schools
Independence Local Schools
James A. Garfield Local Schools
Kenston Local Schools
Kent City Schools
Kirtland Local Schools
Lakewood City Schools
Maple Heights City Schools
Mayfield City Schools
Mentor Exempted Village Schools
North Olmsted City Schools
North Royalton City Schools
Olmsted Falls City Schools

Orange City Schools
Parma City Schools
Ravenna City Schools
Revere Local Schools
Richmond Heights Local Schools
Rocky River City Schools
Shaker Heights City Schools
Solon City Schools
South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools
Streetsboro City Schools
Strongsville City Schools
Twinsburg City Schools
Warrensville Heights City Schools
Westlake City Schools
Wickliffe City Schools
Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools

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