

What's Happening

www.medina-esc.org

330.723.6393

Fall 2021



College, Tech, and Trade Fair

Greetings! The ESC of Medina County is excited to announce its revised newsletter format. Amidst all the changes we're encountering in our lives, we hope you'll find the changes to our newsletter format helpful! We are including sections for trends and tips in education, highlighting our staff members so you can get to know them better, as well as putting the spotlight on the great things happening in Medina County Schools! We will be publishing our newsletter quarterly and making it available via our website, email subscription, and hard copy. As always, your feedback is appreciated; if there's something we're missing, please let us know! Finally, we wish all of you the best as you continue to do great things for our Medina County students!

TRENDS IN EDUCATION

Trauma-Informed Teaching

How do we handle instruction while our students are facing situations out of their control? Whether it be family issues, illness, food insecurity, or COVID, education is so much more than academics, and our students need to feel safe, supported, and protected.

The past two years have exacerbated the emotional stress and mental health conditions many of our students face. While the pandemic cut off students from friends, their classes, sports, and other activities, it also cut off access to consistent support and protection they felt from being with their teachers.

There is no simple answer to supporting our students who have experienced or are experiencing trauma. The first step is to recognize how that may manifest in our students, and then continue to offer the support, protection, reliability, and safety our students so desperately need.

<https://blog.edmentum.com/trauma-informed-teaching-practices-educators>

TRENDS IN EDUCATION

School Bus Safety Week

National School Bus Safety Week will be observed October 18th – 22nd. This year's theme is, "Be Safe – Know the Danger Zone". The danger zone is considered 10 feet around all sides of the bus. One of the most critical moments of respecting the danger zone is when a student is entering/exiting the bus. School bus drivers are trained in providing instruction to students for safe boarding and unboarding of the bus. Part of that instruction is by following the driver's hand signals.

4500 people a day run the red lights of a school bus in Ohio. Knowing when you need to stop can help protect our students. On a 4 lane road, only the traffic following the bus needs to stop. On a 2 or 3 lane road, all traffic must stop. Additionally, you are not to proceed until the school bus lights are turned off and the bus has resumed motion.

Another way to observe School Bus Safety week is by conducting emergency evacuation drills on the school bus. This provides an opportunity for students to learn the steps to take in case of an emergency. By promoting school bus safety, we can combine efforts with students, parents, teachers, administrators and the community to help ensure the safe transportation of our most precious cargo.

What's Happening

MEET THE ESC STAFF



Name: Brenda Zacharias

Position: Substitute Secretary

Years with the ESC: 41

School District: ESC Main Office

Favorite Part of My Job: Learning new things and working with caring and dedicated educators and support staff

Hobbies: Herb and flower gardening, taking photos, walking and biking at parks, knitting, and playing Solitaire and Rummy games

Fun Fact: When I was younger, I enjoyed square dancing and country line dancing.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Wadsworth, Highland, and RISE Academy have completed PBIS Leadership Training with Christina Delaney, Behavior Specialist and PBIS Coordinator at the ESC. In addition to the training, both districts have begun to develop short-term and long-term district level plans, taking into consideration state mandates and a district-wide approach to PBIS.

Wadsworth and Highland district leadership teams will provide staff professional development to satisfy the November 2, 2021 training deadline for PreK - Grade 3 teachers and administrators, while also training building level leadership teams. Additionally, staff in each district will utilize the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) assessment to collect baseline data on current PBIS implementation.

The shift from the building level approach to a district level approach will provide consistency across districts and will help address student behavior through systems change. When implemented well, students achieve improved social and academic outcomes, schools experience reduced exclusionary discipline practices, and school personnel feel more effective. Through the use of data, outcomes, practices, and systems, PBIS promotes a positive school climate.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 13: College, Tech, and Trade Fair

October 27: Countywide Special Education Directors Meeting and COMPACT Meeting

November 5: PBIS Training - Black River

November 5: Autism Training - Cloverleaf

November 12: CPI Training - Wadsworth

November 24: Countywide Special Education Directors Meeting and COMPACT Meeting

