

What's Happening

www.medina-esc.org

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Summer 2022



WELCOME!

Greetings! I hope this summer edition finds you relaxing and enjoying some well-deserved respite from the challenges we all faced this year. While it may sound trite, educators and students alike deserve praise for persevering through the unique challenges of the past two years. Our new “normal” may not be exactly what we envisioned - a return to the past - but out of this may come a renewed look at education as well as academic and social-emotional support. It's up to us as educators to glean the positives from the situations we faced and help both students (and ourselves) grow. Best wishes for an enjoyable summer and a great start to the school year!

TRENDS IN EDUCATION:

SITE Program Collaborates with Stand Up for Downs

The SITE program students benefited from using the Improvaneer Method to increase competencies needed for employment! Kayla Dean, SITE Instructor and Dorothy Davis, Transition Specialist, were awarded transition grant funds to use the method of improvisation to build and develop skills in order to greatly increase social, workplace, and lifetime opportunities for those with developmental disabilities. The \$2,000.00 grant from the State Support Team 8 allowed for the SITE program to host the Stand Up For Downs program. The focus was put on performing in front of others and improvising various work and social functions so that students would learn lessons that will translate into the real world. The SITE students participated in 10 workshops that culminated into performances. To date, The Improvaneer Method teaches improvisation to over 500 individuals with disabilities.

TRENDS IN EDUCATION:

The Virtual Academy student enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year began with 206 students. Students were taught by teachers in a synchronous online platform. Grades K-8 were served with grades 5-8 departmentalized. Our online academy utilized the SAVVAS curriculum. Teachers planned and assigned work after instruction to students and were then available online throughout the school day for assistance and/or intervention. Optional, asynchronous lessons for art, music, physical education, and health were developed by teachers. Additional enrichment and intervention time was scheduled for Fridays as a way for students to receive more individualized attention. The following districts shared their students with the ESC Virtual Academy: Barberton, Black River, Brunswick, Buckeye, Cloverleaf, Highland, Medina City, Oberlin, and Wadsworth City. The end of the year picnic was attended by 215 students and families. We enjoyed the day and said hello to summer together. We look forward to another school year starting on August 16. Click the links for more information about [registration](#), [student handbook](#), and [school calendar](#).

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MEET THE ESC STAFF



Name: Jennifer Gannon

Position: Administrative Assistant, Student Services and Alternative School

Years with the ESC: 16 years

School District: ESC Central Office

Favorite Part of My Job: I really enjoy organizing paperwork and filing documents because I find it satisfying to see all of the information in an organized way. It's also rewarding when I'm able to locate important documents quickly when someone needs them.

Hobby: My adult children are my passion. I have two sons and one daughter. I also enjoy reading and have always been an avid reader. In the summertime, I enjoy Jeep-riding adventures, off the beaten path, and feeling the sunshine on me.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Summer Enrichment Program Celebrates Ten Years Serving Medina and Lorain County Students!

The ESC's Summer Enrichment Program welcomed over 70 students this summer from six Medina County districts and one Lorain County district. Serving students in preschool through high school, the summer enrichment program is a hands-on, engaging program that meets the needs of our students who qualify for extended school year services (ESY).

This year we expanded to a second site! Our main program is held at Windfall School, and our expansion group was held at the ESC! Middle and high school students who benefitted from community based programming spent their time at the ESC.

With a focus on social skill development, social-emotional learning, and self-regulation, students participate in small- and large-group activities centered around weekly themes including, but not limited to, Operation Celebration: I can play fairly; Splashpalooza: I can use a strategy to cool down; Community Explorers: I can do a job. Students who qualify receive speech therapy and occupational therapy, and all students work with intervention specialists on identified IEP goals and objectives. The program is overseen by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and supported by behavior technicians and paraprofessionals.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 1-12: Early Learners Academy - Buckeye

August 3: Paraprofessional Academy

August 4: Fair Honors Ensembles performance

August 10: CPI Training - ABC Therapy

August 12: CPI Training - Cloverleaf

August 15-19: Early Learners Academy - Black River

August 16: First day for RISE Academy students

