

# HERE We Grow

MONTHLY HEADLINES FROM THE ESC OF LAKE ERIE  
WEST COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CENTER



## DIRECTOR'S HEADLINES

### Significant Improvements to Safer Ohio School Tip Line

What has changed?

- **New Reporting Options:** Tips can now be reported through calling, texting, using the new Safer Ohio School Tip Line app, or using the new web-form.
- **Multiple Users:** Schools determine who receives notification of tips and those people have access to a dashboard, where they can read the tips, provide updates and report actions taken.
- **Immediate Notification:** Tips can be received by multiple people and the system has text and email options for notifications.
- **Crisis Response:** The tip line will now be answered by crisis response professionals that will be able to assist someone through crisis.
- **Accessibility:** Tips can now be received in 10 different languages.
- **Case Management:** The dashboard allows for easy auditing and annual reporting of tips to comply with Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.6610 requirements.
- **Faster Processing:** Tips will be directed to the county 911 centers if the tip warrants law enforcement intervention. They will no longer be contacted by the state fusion center when a tip comes in.

### Building Hope Impact Awards

APPLY NOW! Building Hope has opened up applications for \$175,000 in grant awards that will be presented to charter schools that excel in Community Engagement, Educational Innovation, Student Empowerment and Charter Leadership. Three awards will be presented in each category in the amounts of \$10,000 or \$20,000.

Application Window: October 23 - November 30, 2023.

To apply click here <https://buildinghope.org/impact/grants/>

### MORE INSPIRING READS THIS MONTH:

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### OUR MISSION

"The ESCLEW Community Schools Center is a student-centered authorizer of charter schools, advancing quality educational opportunities throughout the state of Ohio"

# School Spotlights

## CONSTELLATION SCHOOLS: STOCKYARD COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY Annual Father's Walk

The annual Father's Walk event is designed to enhance the engagement of fathers in their children's education. The school leaders believe fathers play a crucial role in fostering a collaborative partnership that can contribute to a more positive school culture and bolster academic success.

This event extends an open invitation to the students, welcoming any male role models that have had a positive impact in their lives. In the absence of a male figure, they extend the same warm welcome to female role models. During the event, refreshments of donuts and juice were provided. The event saw a significant turnout, with attendees expressing enthusiastic appreciation.



## SUMMIT ACADEMY AKRON MIDDLE SCHOOL Welcoming the Opportunity of a New Building

Starting the year off in a new clean building has increased staff and student morale, while providing more space for creative programming and increasing enrollment possibilities. Teachers and students spent their first week of school getting to know each other by playing meaningful and relevant team-building games.

## SUMMIT ACADEMY- YOUNGSTOWN Going Country

Students from kindergarten through fourth grade had an opportunity to leave their daily urban setting and explore what the country had to offer. Students went to either Countryside Farms in Lowellville, Ohio or Iron Mills Farmstead in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. For many of the students, this was their first time experiencing fall themed activities such as hay rides, pumpkin picking, and going through a corn maze. A highlight for those visiting Iron Mills Farmstead was watching pigs race!



# ESCLEW Book Club

## Headlines

Written by Julie Kadri

### ***To Lead is to Teach:***

### ***Stories and Strategies from the Classroom to the Boardroom***



*Author Jim Mahoney divides his book into two parts. Part I is a short memoir of his growing up and formative experiences as an educator. Part II includes compact lessons informed by the author's experiences and thoughts and practices of current writers, thinkers, and researchers. At the end of each chapter are three actionable pieces that can be used by practitioners to introduce, reinforce, or teach the topic of that chapter.*

### **Part I Life Story – Chapters 7-12**

#### **Losing**

In Chapter Nine, Jim shares the story of a large-scale, and ultimately unsuccessful professional development he planned as an administrator at East Muskingum Schools. The following day he sat down with his superintendent, Larry Miller, feeling humiliated. Instead of berating him, his superintendent asked two questions. First, "If you were doing this over, what would you do differently? And second, "What did you learn?" Jim Mahoney says the advice he received from Miller has stayed with him ever since: "Remember, there are no failures, just lessons."

#### **Winning**

After reflecting on multiple mistakes early in his career and the tragic death of his daughter, Jim Mahoney shares about the success he experienced working with schools as their superintendent and as the founding CEO of a non-profit, Battelle for Kids. He drew an analogy between succeeding as a CEO and a winning as a coach. He says, "Did I want to win games? Yes, every game I coached at any level. But I always believed that winning was a byproduct of doing other things right – creating cultures of hard work, focusing on effective practices, building team chemistry, and the like." When describing a particularly effective staff he was proud of, Jim said, "These weren't just the right people, but people who did things right. And they created a culture that attracted and kept people. On purpose."

## November Google Classroom Discussion Board Question: Making Mistakes

Mistakes are a difficult and unavoidable part of growing as a successful human, teacher, and leader. Consider how you handle mistakes with students in your classroom, with staff at school, and with multiple stakeholders in the boardroom. Do you have a strategy that works well when talking with people and helping them learn from their mistakes?

To participate in the discussion board, please use a Gmail address to sign-in to your Google Drive account. Navigate to Google Classroom, click the plus sign in the upper right corner, and select Join Class. Our class code is **2jibhol**. If you intend to participate and have never used Google Drive, I am happy to help you set up an account.

# Governing Authority Headlines

Written by Julie Kadri

### State Board of Education Update

After issuing a temporary restraining order (TRO) to block the Ohio Department of Education transition, a Franklin County judge approved the dissolution of the TRO allowing the transfer of the state education board's powers to shift to a governor-appointed individual. Governor DeWine appointed Jessica Voltolini, former Chief of Staff at the Ohio Department of Education to serve as interim director of the newly formed Department of Education and Workforce. The state has asked the court to dismiss the case for lack of standing. Plaintiffs have 14 days from the last hearing on October 20th to object to the denial of the preliminary injunction.

# Academic Services Headlines

Written by Kristi Hayward

## ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Every year, the ESC of Lake Erie West (ESCLEW) produces an Annual Performance Report for each community school it oversees for use by the school and other stakeholders. The report summarizes the school's academic performance, legal compliance, financial health and sustainability, and organizational and operational performance according to the most recent data available and past data over the contract term.

ESCLEW is committed to promoting high-quality education for public school students in Ohio. This Annual Performance Report is produced in order to:

1. Provide timely information to the community school on its performance relative to the standards and expectations established by applicable federal and state law and the charter contract.
2. Identify the school's strengths and any areas needing improvement.
3. Provide information that enables the community and the public to understand the school's performance, including its fulfillment of public obligations.

These annual evaluations were emailed to school leaders and governing authority members in October. The last page highlights the school's performance summary and prospects for renewal. The prospects for renewal section is for reference only as a preliminary calculation and does not guarantee renewal. Renewal determinations and subsequent contract terms are based on each school's renewal application. Prospects for renewal are based on the assumption that the school will continue to produce consistent levels of performance as documented in the data trends of the previous sections of the report.

# Academic Services

# Headlines

Written by Kristi Hayward



## ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS - CONTINUED

The 2022–23 Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West’s Community Schools Center Sponsor Annual Report is a combination of all sponsored Community School’s Annual Reports and will be provided to all school stakeholders in early November. ESCLEW is required to provide a written report to all parents of students enrolled in sponsored schools and the Department of Education and Workforce by November 30th of each year.

The 2022–23 Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West’s Community Schools Center Sponsor Annual Report is required to be posted to the schools’ websites by November 30, 2023, to serve as notification to parents of students enrolled at each school.

The 2022–23 Annual Performance Report goal determination was based on the 2022–23 Performance Framework Accountability (Attachment 11.6) goals. Under the requirements of the 2022–23 Performance Framework goals, schools were required to show an increase in the School Report Card ratings to meet the goal for the year.

Beginning with the 2023–24 school year, the Performance Framework goals will follow the new evaluation guidelines in which schools will be required to earn at least three stars on the School Report Card to meet the goal.

The Regional Technical Assistance Educators (RTAE) will be reviewing the current evaluation metrics and progress towards meeting those goals throughout the year during monthly site visits as well as at governing authority meetings. The RTAE will also share the PBIS Technical Documentation with schools during site visits to ensure all schools are aware of the correct EMIS codes that are required moving forward to ensure schools are meeting this goal.

If you have questions regarding your school’s Annual Performance Report or the current Performance Framework goals, please reach out to your RTAE or Kristi Hayward, Academic Services Team Leader.

# Compliance Headlines

## ITEMS OF NOTE

### School Safety Drills and Emergency Management Test Reminders

- Per [ORC 5502.262](#), schools shall conduct at least one Emergency Management Test (EMT) by **December 31st** of each year. The EMT After-Action Report shall be submitted/documentated using the School Safety Plans Portal via [OH|ID](#). **After completing an EMT, you have 30 days to document the exercise.**
- Per [ORC 3737.73\(D\)](#), schools shall conduct school safety drills, in conjunction with the police chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer, **at least three times during the school year**. Advance written notice shall be provided to law enforcement not later than seventy-two hours prior to the date the drill will be conducted and shall include the date and time the drill will be conducted and the address of the school. In addition, a theoretical school safety drill shall be conducted with faculty and staff.
- Not later than **December 5th** of each year, the principal or person in charge shall provide written certification by mail, facsimile, or electronic submission of the **date and time each school safety drill** required under division (D)(1) of this section **was conducted during the previous school year**, as well as the **date and time each drill will be conducted during the current school year**, to the police chief or other similar chief law enforcement officer of the municipal corporation township, or township or joint police district in which the school or institution is located.

Please see the [School Safety Compliance Requirements – Guidance and Resources LiveBinder](#) for more details pursuant to the Emergency Management Test requirements. **Access Key: safety**

## November 2023

Compliance Requirement	Due Date	Type	Responsibility
<b>Monthly Financial</b>			
Financial Reports - October	November 15	Submission	Linda
<b>Board Submissions</b>			
Approved Governing Authority Meeting Agenda	2 Weeks After Meeting	Submission	Regional Rep
Approved Governing Authority Meeting Minutes	2 Weeks After Approval	Submission	Regional Rep
#105 Policy Governing Academic Prevention and Intervention Services - <b>This submission requires annual review</b>	November 30	Submission	Kristi
#111 Policy on Career Advising - <b>This submission requires a review and update every 2 years (Grades 6+)</b>	November 30	Submission	Kristi
#902 Grade Promotion and Retention Policy	November 30	Submission	Kristi
#903 Policy on Parental Involvement in Schools that Includes Foster Caregiver	November 30	Submission	Julie
<b>School Submissions</b>			
Special Education Policies and Procedures (FY24)	November 30	Submission	Special Education Specialist
#S-609 Annual Report	November 30	Certification	Julie
#513 Un-auditable Community School	November 30	Submission	Julie

# Special Education Headlines

Written by Jessica Bair and Heather Tester

## **OHIO'S ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH THE MOST SIGNIFICANT COGNITIVE DISABILITIES (AASCD) SPRING ADMINISTRATION RESOURCES**

The following AASCD Administration resources are expected to be available in the [Resources](#) section of the [AASCD Test Portal](#) on November 2, 2023:

- AASCD Test Administration Manual (AASCD TAM)
- AASCD Supplemental Instructions for Paper Testing Manual (AASCD SIFPT)
- Updated TA-Alt Certification Course:
  - Edits have been made to the course to reflect the new TA Interface layout. There are no changes to the course regarding policy or procedure.
- New Embossed Tactile Graphics Training Video:
  - This short video provides information on the policies and procedures around administering embossed tactile graphics for students that are blind or have visual impairments.

## **AASCD On-Time Order Window**

The AASCD on-time order window is open in [TIDE](#) November 21-December 6. District test coordinators place orders under the "Paper Orders AASCD Spring 2024" administration task in TIDE. All orders are subject to Department approval.

## **Notable Item**

The Ohio Department of Education released an updated copy of the testing accessibility manual. It can be found [here](#).





# Special Education Headlines

Written by Jessica Bair and Heather Tester

## Operating Standard Revision Highlights

### Evaluation-O.A.C. 3301-51-06

**(\*note the district now has a timeline of 30 days which was not specific in the past)**

Evaluations for children who transfer educational agencies in the same state:

(a) An educational agency has thirty days from the date the prior educational agency's evaluation was received to either:

- (i) Accept the evaluation from the prior educational agency; or
- (ii) Obtain consent for a reevaluation.

(b) Reevaluation under this section must be conducted within sixty days of parent consent.




## Special Education Ratings Released

Every year, districts and community schools in Ohio receive a federally required rating on the performance of their special education program, known as the Special Education Rating.\* The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (the Department) calculates this rating using final Education Management Information System (EMIS) data, which results in one of four possible ratings — Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention or Needs Substantial Intervention. Ohio receives an annual rating from the U.S. Department of Education based on the same four categories.

The 2023 Special Education Rating is primarily based on final special education program data for the 2021-2022 school year. The Special Education Profile received in January 2023 includes the data used to calculate the rating. The overall rating calculation will include only compliance indicators, just like last year. The department will also provide a projected rating which includes all the same indicators plus results, specifically indicators 1 and 2. These results indicators will be included in the overall rating beginning in 2024. For more information visit the department's website [HERE](#).

# Professional Development Headlines

Our fall 2023 Professional Learning Newsletter is now published. Please take a few moments to read about the upcoming professional learning available as well as consultation services that are always available and ongoing.



PL Catalog  
Fall 2023

## Here We Grow

**TOGETHER WE GROW STRONGER**

**MISSION**  
The mission of the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West is to provide quality resources and services that meet the unique needs of our partners in the educational community.



ESC of Lake Erie West  
Community School  
Professional Learning  
Resources

Please visit our Professional Learning Website to discover additional face-to-face and virtual learning.

# ESCLEW Staff

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## COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CENTER

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## IN NEED OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE?

Contact your school's regional technical assistance educator (RTAE) for direct support related to on-site visits, governing authority updates, compliance, academics, and more.

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