

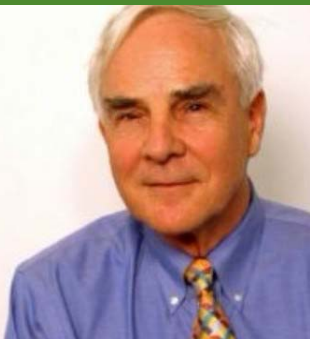
WHERE ADVANCEMENT THROUGH
EDUCATION
Comes naturally!



Greene County ESC Welcomes Acclaimed Author Merrow

The Greene County ESC hosted a presentation from acclaimed author and former NPR/PBS Education Correspondent John Merrow on February 28.

Mr. Merrow, author of the 2017 book Addicted to Reform: A 12-Step Program to Rescue

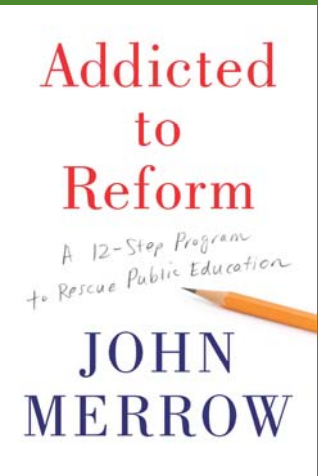


Public Education, spoke to a crowd of about 100 at the ESC, and each person received a copy of his book. During his visit to the area, Mr. Merrow also visited several local schools, including Yellow Springs Schools.

Mr. Merrow's presentation included his views on education and recommendations for all

public schools. He has seen education from many views and is a proponent of "embracing teachers" and "measuring what matters."

In addition to Addicted to Reform, Mr. Merrow is the author of Choosing Excellence, Below C Level, and The Influence of Teachers. He is a winner of the George Foster Peabody Award and his *Learning Matters* program was nominated twice for an Emmy award. In 2012, he won the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education.



A Look Inside...

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More than 600 participants have completed professional development through GCESC.	

Donations to Greene ESC's education foundation are used to focus on student programs. To make a donation, please [click here](#).

Ohio Department of Education Recognizes New Purple Star Schools

The Greene County ESC congratulates Bellbrook-Sugarcreek and Fairborn schools for earning Purple Star designations from the Ohio Department of Education.

Fairborn High School, Fairborn Intermediate School, and Bell Creek Intermediate School were among the 44 schools recognized by the ODE for their commitment to serving military-connected students and families.

“A supportive school environment can have a significant impact on our military-connected students, and we’re happy to see such a great interest in this designation by Ohio’s schools,” said Superintendent DeMaria. “These Purple Star schools provide our children and families with the resources they need to be successful. We’re thankful for their service and honored to continue the important work of improving

services for Ohio’s military families.”

The Purple Star designation for military-friendly schools recognizes schools that show a major commitment to serving students and families connected to our nation’s armed forces. Purple Star awardees receive a special Purple Star recognition to display in their buildings. The Purple Star Advisory Board, formed by the Ohio departments of Education, Higher Education, Veterans Services and Adjutant General, helps decide eligibility.

A Purple Star school will receive the designation for two years. After two years, the school must reapply. The Purple Star emblem was selected because purple symbolizes support for military families.

“With our close proximity to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, supporting military families has always been an important value

for the Greene County community,” said GCESC Superintendent Terry Strieter. “We are proud of Bellbrook-Sugarcreek and Fairborn for being leaders in their commitment to military children and families.”



Greene ESC Welcomes New Tech Coordinator

The Greene County ESC recently welcomed our new Technology Coordinator Paul Osborne. Paul has lived in Washington Court House for about 30 years. He has 2 kids, a 13-year-old son named Riley and a 7-year-old daughter named Zoey. Paul graduated in 2002 from Miami Trace High School and received a Computer Science degree from Southern State Community College. He has worked for the State of Ohio Job and Family Services as a PC Technician, then at Home Depot while he obtained his degree. Paul likes to spend his free time doing anything he can find to keep his kids entertained, such as watching movies, going to the zoo, mini golf, playing PS4, whatever will keep his little family busy. Paul also likes cars and being outside, and has spent the past 20 years building his knowledge on computers and trying to put it to use as best as he can. Paul says he is very excited to be working with Greene ESC and hopes to continue to grow with you all!



GREENE COUNTY ESC PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Where We Learn and Play Together

The Greene County Educational Service Center offers quality, comprehensive preschool services in the school districts of Cedar Cliff, Greeneview, Sugarcreek/Bellbrook, and Yellow Springs. Services include center-based programs, itinerant services, and therapy services. All programs are licensed through the Ohio Department of Education.

The programs adhere to a developmentally-appropriate philosophy and curriculum in accordance with guidelines established by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and aligned to Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards.

Enrollment is open to children ages 3-5 from each community, including children with delays in development. Parent participation is a strong focus of the program. Our program serves a diverse population of children and families. The program is open to children regardless of ability, race, religion or ethnic background. This year, our ESC has served more than 210 students.



Greene County ESC Preschool 2017-2018
Students Served

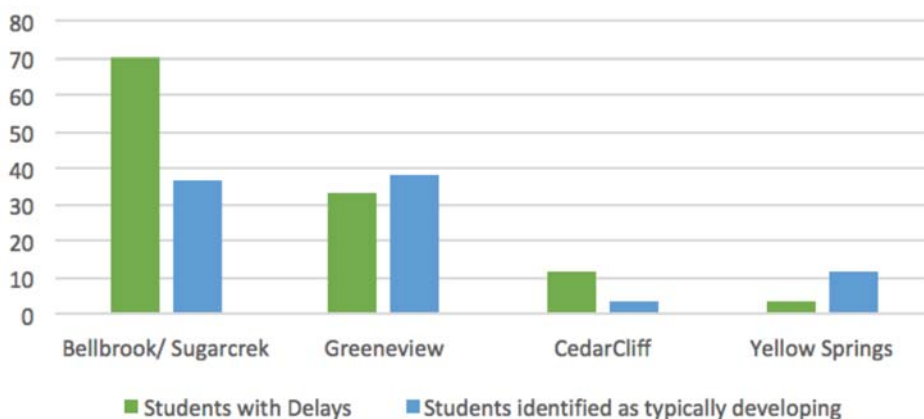


■ PS ■ Students with Delays ■ Students identified as typically developing

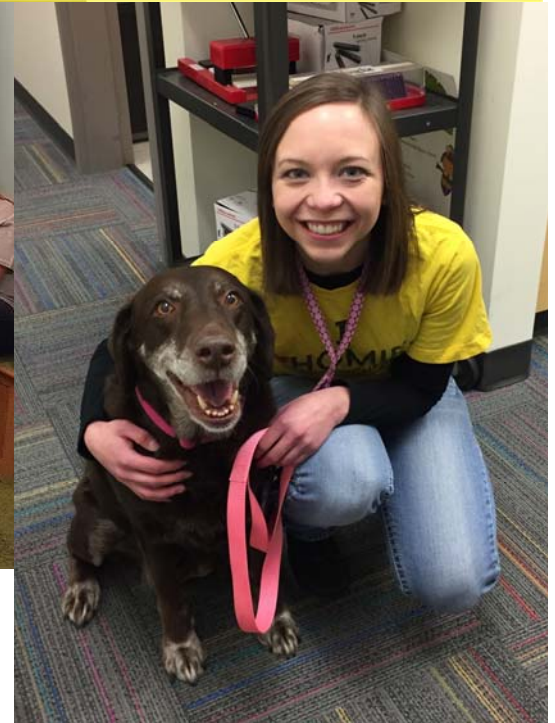
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Center-based or Itinerant Services
- Individualized programs
- Parent involvement
- Community activities
- Developmentally-appropriate instruction
- Therapies and services available as needed:
 - Speech Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Physical Therapy
 - Adapted Physical Education
 - Early Childhood Mental Health Therapy
 - Family Engagement Services

Greene County ESC Preschool 2017-2018



Animal Assisted Therapy Enhances Speech-Language Services



Annie is a 12-year-old Labrador retriever. She was certified through the Dogtors training program in November 2017 for Animal Assisted Therapy and has been working beside Speech-Language Pathologist Kate Schelkoph, MS, CCC-SLP, two days a week since January in Beaver Creek. Although she used to sleep all day, coming to work has been an easy adjustment thanks to the massive amounts of love and attention directed her way. She's the first one students (and staff!) greet every morning, and Miss Kate has come to appreciate that she is now "Annie's Mom." In fact, she quickly realized after seeing the smiles and excitement on the first day that Annie would change the way she provided therapy for the better.

Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) is relatively new to the field of speech-language pathology and occurs when an animal is used

during therapy to address patient goals. Annie and Kate are certified through Dogtors, which uses an 8-week training course that addresses many areas of AAT including animal behavior and communication, pet health, the ins and outs of AAT, patient protection, infection control, working around others, working as a team, and HIPPA regulations. They ended training with a written test for Miss Kate and then a team test where Annie and Kate showed they had the knowledge and skills it would take to be an AAT team.

During the training, Kate knew she needed all the help she could get, but Annie proved to be a natural and has demonstrated an innate ability to sense the kids' needs. For example, on her first day of work in a new classroom, she recognized the apprehension of a student who wasn't able to move like other kids. Before Kate could tell her to "lay down," she

slowly made her way down to the ground as the student approached. Due to her ability to connect in this way, Annie made an instant new friend and the student's fears disappeared. Although Kate always knew Annie would be a special addition to the team, she describes watching this event unfold as "downright cool. Little did I know, this small event was only the beginning!"

As the students got used to having Annie in the classroom and in individual speech sessions, the unique aspect a dog can bring to therapy started to become clear. The following examples are a few of the things Kate has seen happen because of the incredible opportunity to incorporate a dog into therapy:

- Kate was attempting to help a student become motivated to

use an iPad to communicate. Annie came, touched the iPad with her paw, and the student was more than happy to make requests for items and activities. In fact, Kate had so many requests during that session that she couldn't keep track of them all!

- A few students have been able to take Annie for a walk to practice their articulation or expressive/receptive language skills when meeting people in the hallway. They are more than happy to tell people about "their" dog and answer questions about her. Kate says "I would stand on my head every session if it would get them talking as much as they do with Annie, but I just don't compare!"
- One of the most exciting things came from a nonverbal student who, after the second session with Annie, now says "daw" whenever she is present. This individual will now also repeat the "t" sound for "pet" when it's time to pet her. This all came after working



on verbalizing since the beginning of the year with no success until now.

- Kate says she has been amazed by an increase in both verbal and nonverbal communication from some students who will now make their requests known. For example, one student required hand-over-hand prompts and models to request anything, but recently used great nonverbal communication to indicate it was time to take Annie for a walk (grabbed the leash and looked out the door). Of course Kate and Annie were happy to oblige that request! They met a couple adults in the hallway and this student looked at them and then back at the dog as if to say "look at the dog" all the while with a giant smile.
- Kate works with an individual who struggles with getting words out and will sometimes

repeat words or sounds when sharing a story for 5+ seconds. After Kate knew this student was comfortable with Annie, she suggested that Annie would like to hear about the story Kate read earlier, and that she would also love to hear about something fun that had happened

"WE'VE SEEN FIRST-HAND THE POSITIVE IMPACT SHE HAS AND HOW SHE IS ABLE TO REACH THOSE I COULDN'T ON MY OWN."

-KATE SCHELKOPH, MS, CCC-SLP

that day. Kate told this individual she would be doing something else (even though Kate was actually listening to the conversation while writing in a binder to appear distracted). Remarkably, while talking to Annie, the student only experienced two minor disfluencies (no more than 1 second/or 2 repetitions) when retelling the story and zero when talking about the event from the day.

"I could probably go on all day about how Annie has influenced my therapy sessions and has brought a calming influence to both students and staff," said Kate. "Even though there were many things to consider before making the decision to introduce her into a school (mainly fears and allergies), I've been fortunate to have a supportive administration on my team. We've seen first-hand the positive impact she has and how she is able to reach those I couldn't on my own. If you ever have the opportunity to take a chance on a therapy dog (whether you're an administrator deciding if a therapy dog is appropriate for your school or a teacher/therapist interested in the idea) my advice would be to go for it and not look back. You'll be glad you did!"

Greene County ESC Updates

Super Friends Build Social Emotional Skills

GCESC's Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program promotes student success by supercharging social emotional development in preschool classrooms. When schools increase students' SE skills, challenging behaviors decrease. Young children love superheroes and superhero play themes. Too often, this play can become inappropriate or aggressive, and end in tears (for children and teachers)!

One of the ways Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants help children learn and understand how to enter play with peers is to use a Social Emotional curriculum from the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) called Super Friends, a scripted story available on the CSEFEL website. This intervention can transform challenging behaviors into prosocial interactions. The scripted Super Friends stories describe social expectations in pictures children help create. In

addition to the stories, children have opportunities to wear colorful Super Friend capes that encourage and motivate learning new skills. Super Friends helps children enter play with peers, understand social situations, calm themselves, show kindness, trade toys, and develop other essential skills they need to navigate daily interaction with their peers. The strategy fosters a positive classroom climate and promotes healthy relationships that support learning. Plus, both teachers and children have fun using these skill-building tools!

For more information or resources on ECMHC or SEL strategies please contact *Grace Schoessow, Early Childhood Mental Health Program Coordinator at (937) 767-1303, Ext. 1123.*

Engaging Families Early and Often Supports School Success

Consultation focused on Family Engagement is a vital component of our GCESC's Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program. Our



work supports creating educational environments that value family engagement and the connections between school and home. With the high levels of stress on families today, it is important to help parents and early childhood educators understand the connection between healthy social emotional development and school readiness. Our goal is to support healthy relationships between teachers, staff and parents to raise awareness of the importance of family involvement in establishing healthy social emotional development, a cornerstone of school readiness and success. Relationships are key in developing ongoing, strengths-based partnerships between parents or guardians and the teachers who influence and

Greene County ESC Updates

guide their children.

One of the ways we can further parent/guardian knowledge of the importance of healthy social emotional growth is to provide a venue to lead discussions on various common topics that parents face. We use the **Triple P** parenting series to lead discussion groups on topics including fighting and aggression, and developing good bedtime habits. This includes parent workbooks that give ample opportunity to complete exercises/activities, examine their parenting styles, as well as develop, with facilitation at times, new strategies for helping their children develop the skills they will need now and in the future.

For additional information please contact *Beth Smith, Family Engagement Consultant* at (937) 767-1303, ext. 1177 or esmith@greeneesc.org.

Elementary INC Thrives with Routines

The Elementary Intensive Needs Classroom program takes daily walks. The walks are

quite beneficial to our students, and help many of them to burn off excess energy so they can

more effectively focus on their classroom work. The walks are also a great way to for the students to practice using their language skills. During the walks they identify traffic signs, animal sounds, and objects viewed while walking. One student recently discovered an earthworm! He was so excited that he couldn't wait to show this discovery to all of the staff. He then gently returned the earthworm to his grassy home.

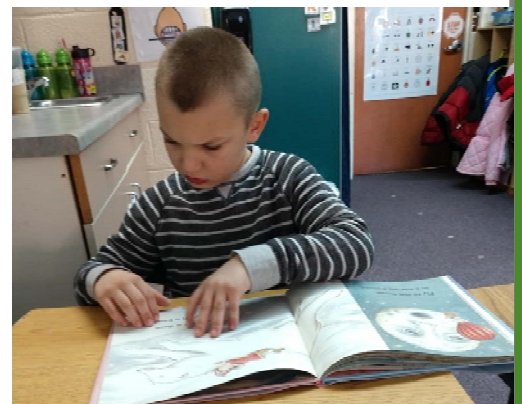
Every day, the Elementary INC students do Circle Time, a scheduled learning and social time in which the students must engage and interact with Mrs. Becky, Mrs. Jill, and Ms. Connie, as well as with one another. Circle Time involves a group teaching activity, and



reading a variety of books covering different topics and ideas. Mrs. Becky reads books to the students, and then asks questions about the stories – the students must use their words or visual cards to provide responses to the questions. Currently, the

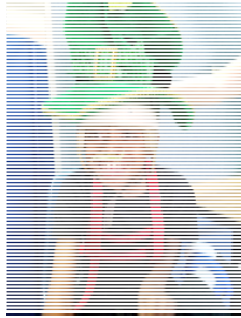
students are working on learning colors, so many of the selections involve stories and illustrations about different colors. When Mrs. Becky is finished reading the books to the group, the individual students have time to read independently. They enjoy rereading the books that Mrs. Becky has presented.

We have been very involved in state Alternative Assessments with our third through fifth graders recently.



Greene County ESC Updates

The students also celebrated St. Patrick's Day with fun pictures!



Middle School INC Expands 'Zones' Tools Use

The Middle School INC students have been expanding their use of the "Zones of Regulation" self-regulation tool by identifying which "zone" (identified by color) they are in across school and community environments. They have also been utilizing strategies for independent self-regulation in conjunction with this behavioral tool.

During language arts time, the students have been exploring and discussing daily current events using the Breaking News feature of "News 2 You." One of their favorite recent news stories was about the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. In addition, the students are preparing for a new season by learning seasonal vocabulary

and learning about changes in the environment that occur in spring. They will be watching for these changes during their daily walks outside.

High School INC Celebrates Transitions

The high school INC had to bid farewell to one of our students in February. This young man completed his programming, and transitioned on to an adult workshop. This student was a member of our classroom for 3 years and although we miss him, we are confident he will do well in his new adult workshop environment, given the growth he achieved in our program. We will be adding another new student after spring break and look forward to helping this student achieve all that he can.

One of our new students, who is non-verbal, responds very well to music. He currently has music therapy once a week, and thanks to a donation of musical instruments provided by Larry and Sharry Johnson of Bellbrook, we are now able to expand this student's music therapy to

benefit him each and every day. We greatly appreciate the kind support offered to this special young man. We enjoy watching him gain so much enjoyment and engagement from these instruments!

We are currently administering the State of Ohio Alternate Assessment to one of our tenth-grade students. Our daily schedules are running like clockwork. Our workshop is still in full swing. Shredding confidential documents is one of the most popular jobs and is also a job that most of our students can do. Our shredding box is almost empty, so if anyone knows of documents that need shredding, please send them our way. Our students also participate in collecting and disposing of daily recycling materials on-site and various cleaning jobs that they have learned to perform.

In terms of academics, our students' capabilities vary tremendously. For those with academic goals, they are able to utilize Chromebooks with access to different online educational programming.

Greene County ESC Updates

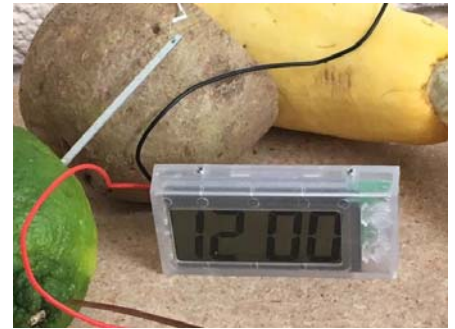
Some of our students are able to read and perform arithmetic functions and they practice daily to sharpen their skills. All students practice working with task boxes, and many enjoy time in our Active and Calming Sensory rooms.

Outdoor Advantage Students Engage in Hands-on Learning

The students have been busy since returning from winter break. In English, Social Studies, and Math, the students have been learning about various ancient myths from around the world. Additionally, they have created their own mythological stories through a writing exercise, through designing and drawing houses that their mythological gods would live in, and by using graph paper and calculating dimensions. Students had to find the area, perimeter, volume, range, and average room size of the different rooms in each of their homes they designed. The students also read the book, "The Red Pyramid" by Rick Riordan, which addresses Egyptian mythology.

In science, the class has been studying electricity and power. They had the opportunity to create their own clocks powered by vegetables! They had to use problem-solving skills and decide how to wire the vegetables in order to get/maintain power to the clock. So far the clocks have worked for over two weeks!

The O.A. students learned about various types of careers and salaries earned for each through the Real World Real Money program. The students chose a career and participated in a simulation run by OSU and the local Extension Office. Each student had to buy insurance, food, and other items needed to live with the monthly salary they would have earned from the job they selected to pursue. There were two "takeaways" from the project that the students learned at the conclusion of the event. The general consensus of the students: 1) It costs a lot to raise children, and 2) They really do not like having to pay taxes!



In the next quarter the students will be going to the Bird Farm, hiking, and going on a bug hunt. They will begin reading a new novel that will align with the next web unit. They will participate in their final anti-bullying seminar and will create an anti-bully pamphlet to reflect their learning.

The Academy of Greene County Prepares Students for Real World

Third Quarter is almost behind us with Spring Break quickly approaching. Though students are gearing up for the End of Course exams, our focus has not been strictly on only academic work. The Academy students participated in the Alcohol Literacy Challenge in February presented to us by GCESC's own Emily Magoteaux, Safe and Drug-Free Schools Coordinator.

Greene County ESC Updates

Real Money Real World (RMRW) was a strong success! RMRW provides young people the opportunity to learn basic money management practices in the classroom and then make simulated lifestyle and budgetary choices similar to those that adults face on a daily basis through a monthly budget and spending simulation, based on salaries that are reflective of career choices. Our students participated in all three parts of the RMRW program which consisted of four classroom lessons, the interactive spending simulation, and the “What Did You Learn” post-evaluation. The spending simulation is the part that all the students looked forward to the most. During the spending simulation, students assume the role of a 27-year-old adult. They select an occupation, monthly salary, and are assigned a number of children they are to raise. Community volunteers staff our booths that represent actual businesses in the community in the areas of housing, utilities,

child care, food, insurance, transportation, clothing, communications, and entertainment, just to name a few. Sponsored by OSU, this event is held for both the Outdoor Advantage and the Academy programs and offers a unique learning opportunity for all. We want to express our appreciation to our community volunteers for all their help in supporting another successful year of RMRW.

Book Reports! Oh, my. Students are required to read two books of their choosing as part of their English credit requirement. Staff wanted students to enjoy reading the books they selected, as well as write engaging book reports that their peers would also find interesting to read. This year, students were required to write “Amazon” style book reviews that have been published on our internal Google drive! This effectively integrates their proficiency with technology standards and their academic content requirements.

Greene County Learning Center Implements PAX

Over the past 3 years, the Greene County Learning Center has implemented the PAX Good Behavior Game in all of our elementary classrooms. Now that the program is fully implemented in the younger classrooms, GCLC is gearing up to implement PAX Kernels into all of the classrooms. Our new program will be PAX Heroes in grades 6-12. Our PAX coach, Sherry Smith, has been the key to our success with PAX. Thanks for all your hard work, Sherry!

GCLC students have participated in a number of activities this year. Our last two events were a whole school BINGO game and a Black History Month gallery walk. In our gallery walk, students researched an historic figure from a specific genre (art, culinary, science, etc.) and told other students what they learned as they walked through their classrooms. Our next two events are a student vs. staff basketball game in March and school carnival in April.

Professional Development

Professional Development Opportunities Abound at Greene County ESC

As of March 2, 2018, the Greene County ESC has offered more than 25 different professional development sessions with more than 600 participants. Session topics offered include:

- Behavior Detective
- CPI
- CPR
- Creating Culturally Competent Classrooms
- Customer Service (Ritz Carlton)
- electronic Teacher and Principal Evaluation System (eTPES)
- Engaging, Appreciating, Understanding Families
- Fun, Fast, Effective Treatments for Speech Sound Disorders
- Guiding Gifted

25+ Sessions Offered
600+ Participants

Learners

- Instant Connect Training
- Ohio Principal Evaluation System (OPES)
- Ohio School Counselor Evaluation System (OSCES)
- Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES)
- PAX Good Behavior Game
- Pediatric Lower Extremity Care and Orthotics
- Promoting Social Emotional Development
- Trauma Informed Care in

Early Childhood

See the newsletter or our website for some of our upcoming professional development sessions, including:

- Supporting English Language Learners
- PAX Good Behavior Game
- Guiding Gifted Learners

Ohio Teacher Evaluation System

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) Evaluator Training will prepare an evaluator of teachers, as defined by the role you serve in a Local Educational Agency (LEA), for effective, high quality and

OTES Training

June 11, 12, 13

8:30am- 3:30pm

Location: Greene County ESC, 360 E. Enon Rd.,
Yellow Springs, OH 45387

Register in STARS (keyword OTES).

To register: <https://dnet01.ode.state.oh.us/StarsV2/Default.aspx>

Professional Development

consistent staff evaluation using the OTES Model, which is aligned to the OTES Framework as adopted by the State Board of Education in November 2011. To become a credentialed evaluator of teachers in the State of Ohio, an individual must be properly licensed or LEA approved as a peer evaluator, participate in the three-day state-sponsored evaluator training and pass an online credentialing assessment. Upon successful completion of the training (attendance for all three days is REQUIRED), participants will have access to the online assessment. The three-day state-sponsored OTES training will provide a better understanding of the OTES Framework, including the Summative Matrix and Model, allow practice of skills such as scripting, evidence analysis/categorizing and coaching, and allow for sharing of resources and best practices in

educator evaluation. Lunch is provided on-site for training participants. If you require special dietary accommodations, please contact the Event Coordinator. Please note: Lunch will be provided.

The \$250.00 registration fee is payable to: Miami County ESC, Miami County ESC, 2000 W. Stanfield Rd., Troy, OH 45373.

Ohio Principal Evaluation System

The Ohio Principal Evaluation System workshop is a specifically-designed professional learning opportunity for teams of

superintendents and their principals which will include reviewing the OPES model, Formative and Summative Assessment, Rubrics, Goal Setting, and the Coaching Progress. 12 ODE contact hours for attending. Lunch is provided on-site for training participants. If you require special dietary accommodations, please contact the Event Coordinator. Attendance for both days of the training is required in order to gain access to the online credentialing assessment. \$125.00 Fee payable to: Miami County ESC, 2000 W. Stanfield Rd., Troy, OH 45373.

OPES Training

June 26, 27

8:30am- 3:30pm

Location: Greene County ESC, 360 E. Enon Rd.,
Yellow Springs, OH 45387

Register in STARS (keyword OPES).

To register: <https://dnet01.ode.state.oh.us/StarsV2/Default.aspx>

Safe & Healthy
Schools Conference

**JUNE
4-5
2018**

Doubletree Hotel Columbus-Worthington
175 Hutchinson Ave.
Columbus OH

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



**Safe Schools
Healthy Students**

A Life in the Community for Everyone
SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
GRANT# 5U79SM061536-04



Ohio | Department
of Education

For further information contact:
Eleanor Garrison, Garrison & Associates at **614.273.1400** or eg@garrisonevents.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2018 Annual OPEC Conference



**Monday June 25 – Wednesday June 27, 2018
at Miami University in Oxford, OH**

The Annual OPEC Conference focuses on creating access, improving quality and making connections within Ohio's prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery support workforce for children, families and communities. The conference will offer a variety of educational tracks and spotlight nationally recognized Keynote speakers.

Registration Fee \$120

Registration fee includes lunch Monday through Wednesday, afternoon snacks Tuesday and Wednesday, and an evening networking reception with hors d'oeuvres on Tuesday!

Lodging

Hotel blocks have been reserved at all local facilities and on-campus lodging will be available. More details on lodging will be provided in early 2018. Follow us on twitter and on the OPEC website for updates! @OPECconference – www.OPECconference.com

