

Stark County



Vision

Service

Leadership

STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

PARENT Engagement

ANNUAL
2011-2012
REPORT

Governing Board

The Governing Board of the Stark County Educational Service Center is dedicated to excellence in education through cooperation with its member school districts.



Mary
Olson
President



Richard
Wingerter
Vice President



Gene
Feucht
Member



Jim
Holmes
Member



Jack
Sickafoose
Member

Goals

Collaboration

To increase and enhance learning opportunities for students by improving communication and collaboration within our ESC, the broader educational community, and among other agencies and businesses.

Staff Development

To improve student learning by implementing exemplary staff development programs which enhance leadership capabilities for administrators, teachers, and other staff members.

Technology

To improve student learning, administrative and management functions through technology.

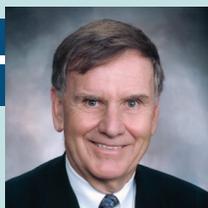
Direct Services

To improve student learning and administrative operations by providing the maximum services to school districts within the resources available.

District Members

Alliance City
Canton City
Canton Local
Fairless Local
Jackson Local
Lake Local
Louisville City
Marlington Local
Massillon City
Minerva Local
North Canton City
Northwest Local
Osnaburg Local
Perry Local
Plain Local
R.G. Drage Career Technical Center
Sandy Valley Local
Tuslaw Local

Administration



Larry
Morgan
Superintendent



Mel
Lioi
*Assistant
Superintendent*



Jeff
Bartholomew
Treasurer



Tamra
Hurst
*Director
Business/Operations*



Mary Jo
Shannon Slick
General Counsel

Superintendent Message



The theme of the Stark County Educational Service Center 2011-2012 annual report is “Parent Engagement.” Parental support of the educational process is important to student success. Concerned parents who are involved in their children’s learning as partners with teachers and other school staff can make all the difference!

This report highlights programs that are supported by the Educational Service Center and demonstrate the many ways parents are involved in their children’s education. As you peruse this report, learn about the Stark County Early Childhood Program’s Parent Policy Council. Find out about the Region 9 State Support Team’s Conference for Families and Educators of Children with Special Needs. Read about the many ways technology has established a remarkable level of communication with parents. As you continue reading, you will learn about the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton’s program with 16 schools and their partners to help families feel comfortable in the school environment. You will also discover information about Stark County Family Council’s Family Advisory Committee.

The Service Center’s work with school districts and families reinforces our commitment to provide shared services to control costs and to provide enhanced opportunities for students and staff. We are meeting district needs by providing quality educational programs, support and services. “Beyond Boundaries: A Shared Services Action Plan for Ohio Schools and Governments,” recently released by the Governor’s Office of 21st Century Education and the Office of Budget and Management, states that Ohio local schools and governments have reached a critical juncture. Service expectations continue to grow and costs are rising faster than the economy. Our school systems and government entities must find ways to reduce costs and improve efficiency. The Stark County Educational Service Center will take this challenge and will lead the way in finding new and more efficient ways to collaborate with both our member districts and our local governments.

I want to personally thank the Stark County Educational Service Center Governing Board, the Educational Service Center employees and all of the Stark County School Districts for their hard work and collaboration in providing opportunities for parents to engage in the important business of educating their children.

Sincerely,


Larry Morgan
Superintendent

Mission

The Stark County Educational Service Center is committed to meeting district needs by providing quality educational programs, support, and services.

Parent Partnerships

Stark County Educational Service Center's Early Childhood Program

Parent involvement and accountability to parents is paramount to the Stark County Educational Service Center's Early Childhood program's success, a program serving children from three to six years old.

Parent involvement comes in many forms. It includes yearly home visits by teachers and teacher assistants, parent-teacher conferences, and a cooperative effort in working on goals set for the children. Many classrooms have parent volunteers who read to the children, interact with them during playtime and snack-time, share areas of expertise with the children, and join them for playground activities. Other parents assist with preparing instructional materials for the art center or creating child-friendly bulletin boards. Parents provide food for special meals including the annual Thanksgiving feast and year-end picnic. At Fairless Elementary School, special volunteer "Grandma Bev" (pictured to the right) assists in the preschool classroom three days a week. This intergenerational experience has been a win-win for all concerned.

Each class has a minimum of two parent involvement days per school year when parents, children, and classroom staff share a specially planned event. This may include having children visit selected

classroom centers, with their parents in tow, together working on the day's activities. There may be a holiday celebration or a special activity such as a visit from the local fire department or they may engage in making and baking a pizza with staff from an area pizza parlor.

Accountability to parents is evident when parents and teachers together develop educational goals for their children, when ongoing communication occurs to share progress made in school and at home, and when assessment results are shared and discussed. Although three- to six-year-olds are a bit young for standardized testing, the preschool uses appropriate assessment tools to document developmental growth of each child in the program. This information is shared with families on a regular basis.

The Stark County Early Childhood Program is proud to not only offer quality preschool education services to children, but to also successfully partner with families as they assist their children in acquiring skills needed for success in kindergarten and beyond.

The Stark County Early Childhood Program is also pleased to have an exemplary Parent Policy Council (PPC). The PPC is comprised of two parent representatives from each of the 20 classrooms. The Council meets monthly, holds fundraisers in support the program, and holds informational programs on topics relevant to preschool parents.

"Grandma Bev" reading to Fairless Elementary School students.



Families and Educators of Children with Special Needs

On Saturday April 21, 2012, the State Support Team for Region 9 sponsored their fourth annual **Conference for Families and Educators of Children with Special Needs** at R.G. Drage Career Center. Approximately 250 parents and educators attended this event and participated in sessions with topics including: *Get Connected! REAL Social Networking for Families and Educators*; *Creating a Meaningful Education*; *Behavior, Coping and Communication*; *Ask the Experts: Successful Secondary Transition for All Students*; *Top 10 Strategies for a Student's Success*; and *iPod/iPad 101: There's an App for That!*

During the Conference the winners of the R.A Horn and Franklin B. Walter awards were presented. **Laura Peshek**, a Jackson Local student, was selected as the regional R. A. Horn honoree for her outstanding academic achievement; and **Lisa Dye**, teacher from Canton Local Schools, was selected as the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Award honoree for our region.

Parents and educators had the opportunity to connect with experts from approximately 30 service agencies at the Avenue of Answers to ask questions and receive information related to supporting children with special needs. This annual event is supported through federal funds from the Ohio Department of Education Office of Exceptional Children.



Keynote speaker

Jennifer Krumins

brought experience as a teacher, author and a mother of three children, one of whom has autism. Her message encouraged the audience to remember that while we don't choose the journey we are on of raising/teaching a child with special needs, we choose HOW we respond to it. She also shared four building blocks which are key to the success for any child/student:

- A. Building Knowledge, Skills and Credibility
- B. Building Relationships (rather than destroying them) and working as a "village"
- C. Choosing Optimism as your attitude toward the journey and modelling the attitude that you want children to learn
- D. Finding the Gift (too often we see only the hardships, problems and challenges.... what are the gifts?)



Parent Communication

Using Technology

To say that communication has been influenced by the technology in today's world does not go far enough. In our highly mobile and connected world, we expect communication to be continuous and relevant. Today our schools maintain continuing communication with parents providing them invaluable information relating to their children.

Rapid Notification Systems

Stark County schools have taken the steps needed to establish a system of rapid notification with parents in the event of emergencies. Using a web based instant communication system, an authorized district employee can contact thousands of parents with one phone call. Parents can receive voice or text messages notifying them of emergency situations, inclement weather school cancellations, early dismissals and important events. Schools can notify select groups of parents based on various student related factors including participation in clubs and athletics, field trips and other school events. Parents can be notified of late team arrivals, changes in practice times, and other critical information. The capabilities for communication are limited only by the creativity of the district employees.

Electronic Gradebook

Electronic gradebook programs have the capability of providing individualized academic information to parents. Using a web based viewer, parents can review their children's grades, attendance, discipline and other bits of data. Parents can keep abreast of their children's academic performance daily. In addition, parents can establish notification (via electronic mail) based on triggers that they establish. For example, a parent can be notified when a student's grade falls below a 'C'. If this situation occurs, the parent receives a message indicating that this condition is in effect. This allows parents to receive information based on criteria that is important to them. Stark County school districts are implementing technology to help students and families work to raise academic achievement.

Digital Academies

Many Stark County schools have established Digital Academies offering students the ability to participate in online courses. Supervised by a qualified teacher, the student takes the course electronically and may proceed at his own pace. If the student masters the material, he can move quickly through the course. On the other hand, if the student struggles with the material, he can repeat the section until he masters the material or he can request assistance with the lesson. The student's parents have the opportunity to view the course material to assist the student in his learning. Online courses enable students to continue instruction on days that school is not in session. It is truly an offering that enables 'anytime, anywhere, anyplace' learning.

Technology has established a remarkable level of communication with parents. We expect that this will continue to evolve in this decade.

Massillon Digital Academy

Online

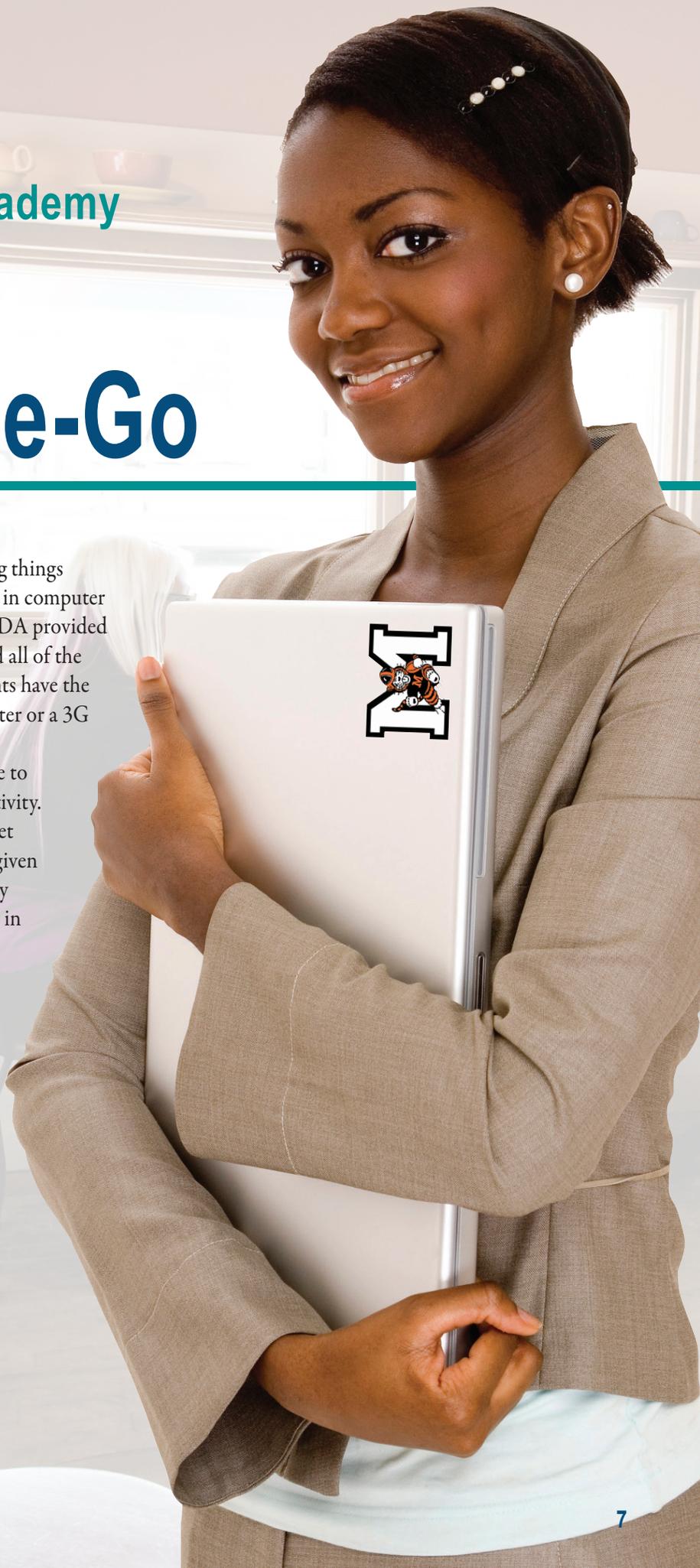
and On-the-Go

Massillon Digital Academy (MDA) is doing things differently this year by offering students choices in computer type and Internet connectivity. In years past MDA provided students a CPU, monitor, keyboard, mouse, and all of the cords that go with those items. This year students have the opportunity to use a traditional desktop computer or a 3G HP 10" netbook.

In partnership with Verizon, MDA was able to procure the netbooks and offer wireless connectivity. With this partnership, students can have Internet access wherever there is cell coverage. This has given students a boost in usage and time on task. They are able to travel and not be tied down to a desk in order to complete work.

MDA still maintains its partnership with Massillon Cable to provide Internet access at home for those students who like to have one place to work. When choosing this option, students are given desktop computers and everything that goes with them.

With this connectivity, Massillon Digital Academy is truly providing 'anytime, anywhere, anyplace' access to online content.



Family Engagement

Not Just a Passing Fad

Even though it is clear that family participation in education matters, schools and districts struggle to develop engagement strategies that work. With the support of the Stark County Educational Service Center, OAESA (Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators), SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids) Ohio, and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, 16 schools are participating in the Ohio Ready School Initiative and are working to effectively engage families in the learning culture of their schools.

These schools focused on strengthening the component of Home, School and Community Connections and reaped the benefits of creative engagement strategies. Activity examples include Family Fun Nights, Spaghetti Dinners, Family Math Challenge Night, Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day, Literacy on the Lawn, Mother-Son Science Nights, and more!

Each school regularly seeks feedback from families and maintains data files to measure the effectiveness of planned engagement activities. Lessons learned were reported by the participating schools and will be used to refine activities for the upcoming school year.

We learned to start smaller and grow. Although we had ramped up for a twice a week lending library, we learned we had to be more inviting and proactive in our planning to gain parent support.

–McGregor Elementary



*Family Night at
Alliance Early Learning School*

We have learned that you do not have to start from scratch when developing an activity or event. Instead, enhance what is already being implemented and grow the activity to the next level.

– Cedar Elementary



Mother-Son Science Night at Franklin School

The value of networking has been our biggest lesson learned. Through community networking, we are able to sustain our programs and improve upon what we've begun.

– Belden Elementary

The belief at our school is that it is important to build relationships with our families in order to help them feel welcome and comfortable in the school environment. This is the first step to engagement and will lead to increased attendance at additional school events that address academic rigor and student learning.

– Sandy Valley Elementary

The lesson that we learned is to be truly effective it needs to be a team effort. Attitudes and beliefs changed as our program evolved.

– Rockhill Elementary

We are learning that flexible, small pieces of changes over time yield a more positive attitude than BIG ideas with little force behind them.

– East Canton Elementary

Stark County Family Council



Working together to promote family and youth engagement and support

Family and Youth Engagement

In 2010 the Stark County Family Council joined the Stark County Educational Service Center. That same year the Council, a collaborative body of public child-serving organizations, voted to establish Family and Youth Engagement as its number one priority. Currently, the Council is in the process of identifying and implementing a variety of strategies to increase family and youth involvement and engagement throughout all of the public systems in Stark County.

From its beginning in 1993 as an Ohio Family and Children First organization, the Council has been committed to including families' voice in every aspect of operations. Families have served as Board and committee members and in key leadership positions, lending wisdom and perspective based upon their real life experiences raising children who have needed community services.



Family Advisory Committee

The Council has established a Family Advisory Committee made up of parents who work in the field of family support with the goal to assist hundreds of families navigate the education and social service networks in the county. The committee promotes the empowerment and education of parents to become effective advocates for their children.

www.
redtreehouse.org



In 2012, the Family Advisory Committee worked with the office of Ohio Family and Children First to establish a statewide website known as the Red Tree House. Families can access information about services, training opportunities, and events that are customized to their personal interests and needs at www.redtreehouse.org. Providers of services and supports throughout Stark County are encouraged to enter their information on this website.



WrapAround Services

Many children come to school with a variety of challenges that create barriers to learning. These issues are often multi-faceted, involving a variety of services and multi-system involvement. To address the needs of these children and families, Family Council has implemented a WrapAround program that works with the family to develop a supportive team of people who work together to develop creative ways to address needs and make sure there are no barriers to a youth's progress and development.

For more information about any of these initiatives, please contact Stark County Family Council at (330) 455-1225.

Administrators'



What Are
Changes You
Would Like To
Make?

On August 3, 2011, the Stark County Educational Service Center sponsored Administrators Conference focused on the theme: *Lead the Change!* As educational leaders in the nation and the state make bold moves to improve student achievement for all students, administrators are faced with the challenge of leading the changes in their buildings, districts and communities.

Following the inspirational keynote address by **Dr. Todd Whitaker**, Professor of Educational

Conference

Over 350 administrators and guests were inspired and entertained by the keynote address of **Dr. Todd Whitaker**, international speaker and author of eighteen educational books. His latest work, *Leading School Change: 9 Strategies to Bring Everybody on Board*, is a simple, practical read for all administrators and teacher leaders who want to lead “change in the direction we choose by applying intentional strategies to maximize the chance of success . . .”

Dr. Whitaker’s nine strategies include:

1. Identify the Change
 2. Make Sure the First Exposure is Great
 3. Determine Who Matters Most
 4. Find the Entry Points
 5. Reduce the Resistance
 6. Harness the Power of Emotion
 7. Look Past Buy-in to Action
 8. Reinforce Changed Behaviors
 9. Fit It All Together
- And finally, remember to LEAD the CHANGE!

Leadership at Indiana State University and renowned international speaker and author, administrators and guests had the opportunity to gain knowledge to help them in their leadership challenges. These participants could choose two of eight different topics/speakers that fit their needs.

Sue Hoffmeyer, consultant at the Stark County Educational Service Center, and **Dale Gallucci**, Stark County Educational Service Center Science Content Specialist, hosted a panel of students who shared their reactions to school activities and subsequent engagement of the students. These students, from a variety of high schools and situations, provided honest reactions to the lessons they participate in every day.

Elaine Barkan, consultant at the Stark County Educational Service Center, as a newly trained Value-Added Leader, shared information on value-added data and its impact for school leaders.

Gail Martino and **Mike Bayer**, consultants at the Stark County Educational Service Center, helped leaders understand the myriad of updates and changes in secondary school options for students. Credit flexibility, dual enrollment, advanced placement, ACT Quality Core, and other programs were discussed.

Dack Warner, consultant at the Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium, offered an overview of the TestingWerks program that houses district testing data for easy access by teachers and administrators. This data is important in planning differentiated lessons, creating remediation lessons, and otherwise meeting the needs of individual students.

Lynne Klunk and **Geri Grove**, consultants for State Support Team 9, shared information about Ohio's early childhood structure, ideas for pre-school testing, use of the KRA-L data for intervention and placement, county practices for transition, and the new Teacher Leader Project.

Joe Hug and **Laurie Langenfeld**, consultants for State Support Team 9, offered help in connecting RTI (Response to Intervention), PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies), and DI (Differentiated Instruction) to improve student achievement. Participants also learned about using data to problem-solve in their building and districts.

Barbara Barthel, Stark County Educational Service Center consultant, helped participants understand the stages of the Resident Educator Program, walking them through the requirements of Year I and the plans for future years. She also shared the support that is offered to mentors and resident educators through the Stark County Educational Service Center.

Dr. Alvin Trusty from the University of Findlay helped leaders understand how to move to the technology world of the future by effectively deploying and managing technology in schools.

Shane Haggerty, president-elect of the Ohio School Public Relations Associations, presented on the topic "*The Life and Times of Social Media in Education.*" The attendees explored why social media matters in educational marketing and communications; how to create a plan, policy, and guidelines for its use; how to implement its usage inside a district; and how to protect the district from social media disaster.



Cheryl DeConde Johnson

Outstanding Achievement Award

in Educational and Pediatric Audiology



Left to right: Cheryl DeConde Johnson, Carrie Spangler, and Pat Henry.

Given by Phonak USA, this award honors educational and pediatric audiologists for their work and commitment to advocate and improve communication as well as academic outcomes for children.

Stark County ESC Audiologist **Dr. Carrie Spangler** was presented this prestigious award at the AG Bell Association Convention in Scottsdale, AZ on June 29, 2012.

Pat Henry, Director Veterans Affairs, Wireless, and Pediatrics for Phonak USA, stated: *“Dr. Spangler’s personal life journey with a hearing loss has equipped her to be an educational audiologist who provides empathy to families and serves as an example of a successful professional to children with hearing impairment, their families, and also her colleagues. Dr.*

Spangler displays unparalleled energy in pursuing her professional objective, ‘to influence students and professionals locally and nationally who work with individuals who have hearing loss through research, teaching, leadership, and innovative development of programs.’”

We congratulate Carrie and commend her for her outstanding work!



2012 Education Celebration

Stark County’s 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement Award winners were announced during the 2012 Education Celebration held at the R.G. Drage Career Technical Center. The event was held in April to recognize educators throughout the county and to honor the members of the All-County Teaching and Rookie Teams.

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Marcia Cussen has been with the Canton City School District since 1983 where she began as a substitute teacher. Since that time, she has served as a Title I teacher, a Title I Resource Specialist, principal at Clarendon Elementary, Director of Government Programs, and in 2007 Marcia became the Chief of Teaching and Learning.



Marcia Cussen
Canton City Schools



Melissa Evans-Knop
Fairless Local

Teacher of the Year

Melissa Evans-Knop has been a teacher in the Fairless Local Schools for 12 years. Melissa currently teaches language arts, science, and social studies to 6th grade students at Fairless Middle School.

72nd Annual Stark County Fair Band Show

2,201 Students

participated in 18 bands representing 17 Stark County school districts in the longest running county band show in the state of Ohio!

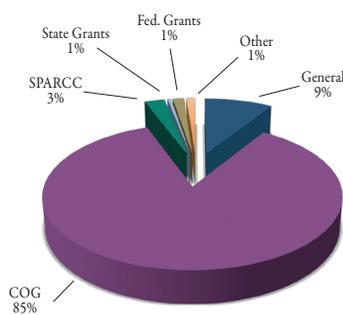


Financial Review

The treasurer is fiscally responsible for an annual budget of over \$197,500,000

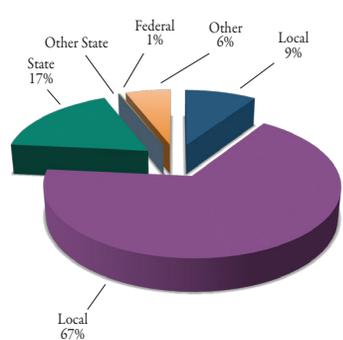
Balance Sheet

The treasurer of the Stark County Educational Service Center is directly responsible for adhering to board policy, state statute, and/or state or federal regulations. The treasurer works closely with the superintendent to report, monitor, and plan fiscal operations.



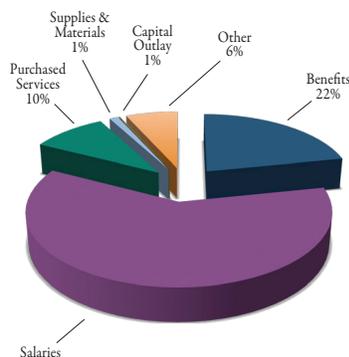
COG	85%	—	\$168,740,845.94
General	9%	—	17,629,597.20
SPARCC	3%	—	5,201,635.69
State Grants	1%	—	895,920.37
Federal Grants	1%	—	2,883,949.86
<u>Other</u>	<u>1%</u>	—	<u>2,245,360.40</u>
Total	100%		\$197,597,309.46

Expenditures by Fund Group



		<u>General Fund</u>	<u>All Funds</u>
Balance 7/1/11		\$ 1,199,179.63	\$ 93,888,567.91
Local Sources	67%	— \$11,822,999.40	\$184,216,107.33
State Sources			
Found.-Local Shares	9%	— 1,655,790.35	1,655,790.35
Found.-State Shares	17%	— 3,052,660.42	3,052,660.42
Other State Sources	0%	— 192.84	944,186.49
Federal Sources	1%	— 36,330.89	2,402,736.57
<u>Other Sources</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>— 1,042,636.00</u>	<u>2,918,000.05</u>
Total	100%	\$17,610,609.90	\$195,189,481.21

General Fund Revenue



Salaries	60%	— \$10,704,029.08	\$ 14,861,567.80
Benefits	22%	— 3,844,049.58	166,176,255.94
Purchased Services	10%	— 1,693,067.81	12,020,240.02
Supplies & Materials	1%	— 196,723.95	1,416,004.45
Capital Outlay	1%	— 18,335.54	135,566.58
<u>Other</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>— 1,173,391.24</u>	<u>2,987,674.67</u>
Total	100%	\$17,629,597.20	\$197,597,309.46

General Fund Expenditures

Ending Balance 6/30/12		\$ 1,180,192.33	\$ 91,480,739.66
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2011-2012 District Superintendents

Serving
60,017
Students Countywide!

Mr. Peter Basil
Alliance City Schools
(330) 821-2100

Mr. Chris Smith
Canton City Schools
(330) 438-2532

Ms. Kim Redmond
Canton Local Schools
(330) 484-8010

Dr. Mona Fair
Fairless Local Schools
(330) 767-3577

Mr. Chris DiLoreto
Jackson Local Schools
(330) 830-8004

Mr. Jeffrey Wendorf
Lake Local Schools
(330) 877-9383

Mr. David Redd
Louisville City Schools
(330) 875-1666

Mr. James Nicodemio
Marlington Local Schools
(330) 823-7458

Mr. Rik Goodright
Massillon City Schools
(330) 830-3900

Mr. Joe Chaddock
Minerva Local Schools
(330) 868-4332

Mr. Michael Gallina
North Canton City Schools
(330) 497-5600

Mr. William Stetler
Northwest Local Schools
(330) 854-2291

Ms. Melissa Marconi
Osnaburg Local Schools
(330) 488-1609

Dr. John Richard
Perry Local Schools
(330) 477-8121

Mr. Brent May
Plain Local Schools
(330) 492-3500

Mr. Larry Morgan
Ms. Cynthia Smythe, Director
R.G. Drage Career
Technical Center
(330) 832-1591

Mr. David Janofa
Sandy Valley Local Schools
(330) 866-3339

Mr. Al Osler
Tuslaw Local Schools
(330) 837-7813

WELCOME

The Stark County Educational Service Center would like to welcome the new district superintendents to the county.



Mr. Chris Smith
Canton City



Mr. Chris DiLoreto
Jackson Local



Mr. Rik Goodright
Massillon City



Mr. Joe Chaddock
Minerva Local

Stark County Legislators

James B. Renacci U.S. Congressman - 16th District
4150 Belden Village Street, Suite 408, Canton, OH 44718(330) 489-4414

Scott Oelslager Ohio Senate - 29th District
Senate Building, 1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor, Columbus, OH 43215(614) 466-0626

Joe Schiavoni Ohio Senate - 33rd District
Senate Building, 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor, Columbus, OH 43215.....(614) 466-8285

Christina Hagan Ohio House of Rep. - 50th District
77 South High St., 13th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215.....(614) 466-9078

Kirk Schuring Ohio House of Rep. - 51st District
77 South High St., 11th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215.....(614) 752-2438

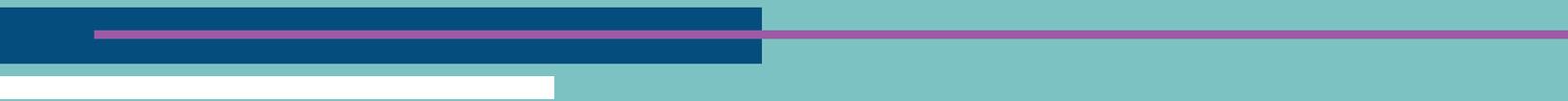
Stephen Slesnick Ohio House of Rep. - 52nd District
77 South High St., 10th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215.....(614) 466-8030

Mark D. Okey Ohio House of Rep. - 61st District
77 South High St., 10th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215.....(614) 466-1464

Deborah Cain Ohio Board of Education - 8th Congressional District
12896 Sunset Circle NW, Uniontown, OH 44685.....(330) 699-3492

Student Enrollment

Alliance City	3,039
Canton City	9,934
Canton Local	2,252
Fairless Local	1,714
Jackson Local	5,873
Lake Local	3,585
Louisville City	3,196
Marlington Local	2,438
Massillon City	4,283
Minerva Local.....	1,982
North Canton City	4,743
Northwest Local.....	2,074
Osnaburg Local	906
Perry Local.....	4,919
Plain Local.....	6,099
Sandy Valley Local.....	1,499
Tuslaw Local	1,481
TOTAL	60,017



*The Stark County Educational Service Center 2009-10 and 2010-11 Annual Reports
were recognized with the OHSPRA (Ohio School Public Relations Association) Mark of Distinction Award.*



Stark County
Educational Service Center

2100 38th Street NW
Canton, Ohio 44709
(330) 492-8136

www.starkcountyesc.org