



SPONSOR CONNECTION

for Schools Sponsored by St. Aloysius

August 2020

Reminder

- 8/3 | Safer Schools [Webinar: Welcoming Practices: Creating Schools that Support Students and Families in Transition](#)
- 8/6 | Safer Schools [Virtual Question Persuade Refer \(QPR\) Training](#)
- 8/12 | Safer Schools [Annual Emergency Management Test Webinar](#)
- 8/14 – Remote Learning Plans due by 5:00 pm to our office at via email at coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com

Applications for Sponsorship

Applications for sponsorship are available on the [CSS website](#). This includes applications for replicators, new start-up schools and existing/transfer schools. Online training is also available on the website. We encourage you to view the training prior to beginning the application process. Individuals, developers and management companies are all encouraged to apply!

English and Math Student Readiness Toolkits Now Available

As districts prepare for the 2020-2021 school year, the Department is providing a set of [Student Readiness Toolkits for English language arts and mathematics](#) to help educators reflect on their instructional practices and support them in determining each student's acquisition and retention of important knowledge and skills.

Opportunities to Make Up Spring 2020 State-sponsored ACT and SAT Testing

Due to Ohio's ordered school-building closure, some juniors were unable to participate in state-sponsored ACT and SAT tests in the spring of 2020. [The Department is providing opportunities this coming fall so districts can test students who](#)



Meet Mia Kern, Charter School Specialists' Newest Member!

We are pleased to introduce you to our newest team member, Mia Kern. Mia has joined the School Improvement Department as our Education Program Assistant. She will be assisting the School Improvement Team with many tasks and assignments related to supporting the academic improvement efforts of our sponsored schools.

Mia is a recent graduate of The Ohio State University with a dual Master of Public Administration and Educational Policy. She most recently served as an Intern at the Ohio Department of Education working in various capacities.

We are grateful to have her and look forward to watching her thrive here at Charter School Specialists!

[were scheduled to test in spring](#) but were unable to do so.

New Ohio Teacher Evaluation System Updates for 2020-2021 School Year

The coronavirus-related school-building closure required schools and educators to make adjustments surrounding educator evaluation systems. As schools plan for the 2020-2021 school year, new information has been posted to the Ohio Department of Education webpage to assist educators in planning for evaluations, as well as implementation of the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System 2.0. Please refer to the [Educator Evaluation Systems section](#) of the Ohio Department of Education's Reset and Restart webpage.



Important Information About Attendance Considerations for Remote Learning

The Ohio Department of Education and its partners have worked together to publish important information about attendance policies intended to assist schools that choose to adopt remote learning plans for the upcoming school year. The [Attendance Considerations for Remote Learning Plans](#) website poses important questions schools should consider, while highlighting principles and examples. Please refer to [this important information](#) when planning your attendance policies for remote learning.

Charter School Specialists is engaging with ODE on this critical issue and will be providing more information as soon as it is available.

Reminder: Remote Learning Plans Due to Our Office by August 14th



The Ohio Department of Education has extended the deadline for submitting Remote Learning Plans. All remote learning plans should be submitted to our office no later than **Friday, August 14th, 2020** by 5pm. Remote learning plans should be sent to coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com.

We **HIGHLY** recommend that ALL schools submit a remote learning plan for the 2020-2021 school year in the case of another mandated school-building closure. **Failure to submit a plan could significantly impact your school's funding** if online learning becomes required, and there is no remote learning plan in place for your school.

NEW The department is now requiring a remote learning plan form to be submitted with your school's plan. Complete the form by clicking [HERE](#) and send it with your completed plan via email to: coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com.

Remote learning plans should include as much detail as possible and should be reader-friendly and accessible for parents and stakeholders. **Please note that ODE will post and make publicly available all Remote Learning Plans to their website.** An optional remote learning plan template is available [HERE](#). As a reminder, the plans **MUST** include the following:

1. A description of how student instructional needs will be determined and documented;
2. The method to be used for determining competency, granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level;
3. The school's attendance requirements, including how the school will document participation in learning opportunities;
4. A statement describing how student progress will be monitored;
5. A description as to how equitable access to quality instruction will be ensured; and
6. A description of the professional development activities that will be offered to teachers.

If you need further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Porsche Chisley by e-mail at pchisley@charterschoolspec.com



Help Rising Seniors Plan for College and Earn Scholarships from Home

The [College Board Opportunity Scholarships program](#) is open to all students from the class of 2021. When students take the first two steps — exploring college and practicing for the SAT — they'll qualify for \$500 and \$1,000 scholarships just by getting ready for college. Students need to complete the first step by July 31, so they don't miss out on a chance to win \$40,000 for college.



Ohio Department of Education's Reset and Restart Webpage information

Education Planning for Ohio Schools and Districts

Since the ordered school-building closure began on March 17, Ohio's education community stepped up to ensure a student-centered approach to caring, teaching and learning. The entire system turned on a dime to meet the nutritional needs of the whole child through meal deliveries and grab-and-go sites, and through the delivery of remote teaching and learning opportunities that drove education continuity. These efforts were geared toward *challenging, preparing and empowering* students for future success—and they were unparalleled, especially given the challenges that accompany a pandemic.

ODE's webpage intended to spur local-level, partnership-based discussions and decision-making in areas critical to the start of the 2020-2021 school year by sharing a coordinated and collaborative approach for co-designing and framing various considerations in planning the **Reset and Restart** of Ohio's schools.

The guide for schools is available [HERE](#).

Reset and Restart Guidance for Career-technical Education Now Available

As schools plan for the 2020-2021 school year, special consideration should be given for the delivery of career-technical education. During this critical time, career-technical education programs are challenged to keep students, their families and community safe, while allowing students to reach their education and career goals. So that schools may continue providing high-quality career-technical education, guidance has been developed to address challenges specifically faced by career-technical programs in joint vocational school districts, compact school districts, comprehensive school districts, community schools and satellite schools. The guidance is meant to supplement the information provided by the Ohio Department of Education in the Reset and Restart Education Planning Guide for Ohio Schools and Districts and the Health and Prevention Guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health. [Click here](#) to view the Reset and Restart for Career-Technical Education webpage. Questions may be directed to [Leah Amstutz](#), director of the Office of Career-Technical Education.



FDA has identified more than two dozen hand sanitizers that are toxic when absorbed through the skin. **It is urgent** that this information be sent to child care providers, parents, state child care licensing offices, child care professional development agencies, and others who can disseminate this information.

Consumers who have been exposed to a hand sanitizer containing methanol and are experiencing symptoms should seek immediate treatment for the potential toxic effects of methanol poisoning, which can include nausea, vomiting, headaches, blurred vision, permanent blindness, and seizures. Although people of all ages are at risk for methanol poisoning, "young children who accidentally ingest these products and adolescents and adults who drink these products as an alcohol (ethanol) substitute are most at risk."

Please see the full [FDA news update on hand sanitizers with methanol](#) for further information.

Federal Programs

Back to School! Title Funds and ESSER Help Opening Schools

ESSER Funds were provided by the federal government to assist schools during the pandemic. If your school has not yet applied to receive these funds, the school should do so immediately to expend the funds. Schools that are newly opened this school year and those who do not accept federal funds are ineligible to apply for ESSER funds. Only schools who accepted federal Title I funds received an ESSER allocation. These funds can be used for a variety of activities and necessities. Several schools used the funds to purchase sanitation stations for classrooms and hallways. Supplies and technology may also be purchased using these funds. Funds may also be used to support intervention for students who experienced learning gaps due to building closures. These funds have a lot of flexibility. If you have questions regarding allowable activities, please contact Nannette Sherman at nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.



Newly opened schools who have at least 10 eligible Title I students will receive their Title I allocations on January 21. All other schools accepting federal funds should have submitted their consolidated applications. Once the application has been submitted, schools may start encumbering funds. Please keep in mind that the consolidated funds do have more restrictions/guidelines than the ESSER funds. Any school accepting Federal consolidated funds (Title I, II-A, III-A, IV, IDEA, ECSE) are required to complete several activities during the school year. Once school starts, remember to send out the following notices: Parents Right to Know, School-Parent Compact, Internet Policy, Homeless Awareness Policy, and notification if student is eligible to receive Title III-A services. The start of the school is also an excellent time to hold the required Title I Annual Parent Meeting! For a link to all the required activities, click [HERE](#).

Building Equitable Learning Environments

The Building Equitable Learning Environments (BELE) Organization states, "There has never been a more critical time to come together and rebuild the education system into one that truly serves every student". The organization poses a question for all educators: "Will we choose to deliver the educational experiences black, brown, low-income and white children need and deserve – or will we choose to go back to normal, resurrecting learning structures and processes that are undeniably inequitable?"

At this moment in time, we can not go back to the old normal. This time of change in the world calls for teachers and school leaders to reflect on their teaching and leadership practices. Community schools offer the promise of something not readily available at the local district schools. Reflect for a moment on what you believe makes your school a better choice for students and parents?

BELE has developed a framework for schools to use to move forward and provide equitable learning environments for all students. The framework consists of familiar concepts, including the importance of relationships with students, families, and the communities in which the students live. Specifically the framework calls for:

- Families and school staff work in authentic partnerships to develop and advance a shared definition of student success
- Families and school staff build meaningful relationships that foster mutual trust, understanding, and appreciation across cultures and other differences
- Share information and resources and collaborate across schools, families, and community partners in support of student learning and development
- Families and community members co-design and co-govern schools so that policies and practices are equitable and support all students
- Systematically gather and value students' feedback on and input into their learning experiences in school
- Provide frequent, formative, growth-oriented feedback that affirms high academic expectations and support for all students
- Facilitate community building, routines, and rituals that reduce stress, address trauma, promote healing and belonging, and prepare the brain for learning
- Nurture student agency, self-directed learning, and critical consciousness

- Represent, affirm and support students to explore their personal, cultural, racial and academic identities and proactively dispel stereotypes

For more information regarding the BELE Framework click [HERE](#).



Staying Safe Online

Due to COVID-19, kids and adults are online more than ever, often unsupervised in the same space.

Kids and parents should stay alert—people aren't always who they seem in online environments where identity is easy to fake.

Help kids stay safe. Share the following videos with your students and their parents:

- [For Kids: Stay Safe at Home. Stay Safe Online.](#)
- [For Parents: Stay Safe at Home. Stay Safe Online.](#)

Information provided by the [U.S. Department of Justice](#).

**CHARTER SCHOOL
SPECIALISTS**

If you would like to submit an article on the accomplishments of your school, students or staff members, please submit [HERE](#)

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