



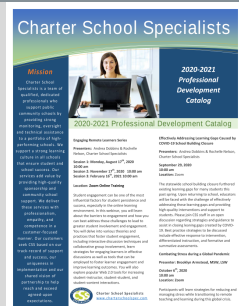
SPONSOR CONNECTION

for Schools Sponsored by St. Aloysius

June 2021

Reminder

- 6/3 | Save the Date: [Heading to Kindergarten Transition Summit](#)
- 6/7-8/6 | [Restraint and seclusion data collection](#) window
- 6/9 | Save the date: [2021 Teacher Leadership Summit](#)
- 6/11 | Submit [emergency medical waiver applications](#) for assessments
- 6/18 | Kindergarten Readiness Assessment data appeal window closes
- 6/23 | Register for [INFOhio's Instructional Materials Matter conference](#)
- 7/1 | [Nonrenewable temporary licenses expire](#)



CSS is currently soliciting suggestions for our professional development offerings for SY2021-2022. Is there a particular PD training you would like CSS to offer or a suggestion? If so, please send comments to Mia Kerns via email at mkerns@charterschoolspec.com.



YB Columbus Community School Fiesta on 5th

YB Columbus Community School hosted an open house, for their community partners, to experience the house that they are beginning to renovate and sell to a low-income family. The house rehabilitation at 3134 E 5th Ave, is just one example of how YBCCS empowers youth through hands-on career tech training and community-based construction projects.

YBCCS's projects, funded by the Dept of Labor, strengthens neighborhoods, impacts the



Amira Thomas, School Director of Oakmont Education's Randall Park High School, has been selected by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools for their **30 Under 30 Changemakers Award**.

The award honors 30 exceptional young leaders who are using their ideas, talents, and platforms to advance education as changemakers in their community and nationwide.

As the new Director of Randall Park High School—a dropout recovery school in Cleveland, Ohio—Amira Thomas lives every day by the motto, “We rise by lifting others.” She started volunteering at a young age and never stopped—allowing her to build relationships with families who need clothes, food, and shelter. When she stepped into her role as school director, she quickly established partnerships and engaged her scholars in community service. Through programs and partnerships with local organizations, Randall Park High School has provided scholars with hot meals, toiletries, clothing, and toys for the holiday season. While Amira’s efforts reach far and wide, she remains focused on her top priority: providing her scholars with a career pathway. Her latest plans include matching Randall Park scholars with employers who offer internship programs that will lead to employment.

[Click HERE](#) to see the full list of award recipients.



Horizon Science Academies BIG WIN in the Supreme Court of Ohio

On May 19, 2021, the Supreme Court of Ohio made a ground-breaking decision related to the Quality Community School Support (QCSS) Program administered by the Ohio Department of

industry by boosting diversity in the workforce, while closing skills gaps and filling labor demand. The YBCCS graduating class of 2021 will include 15 construction students with 14 NCCER, 6 PreApprenticeship, 8 OSHA 10, 15 Green Training and 15 CPR certifications for a total of 73 Certifications. All students will receive job placement from one of YBCCS's many partners.

Education. This decision reversed the Department's initial rejection of twelve Horizon Science Academy Community Schools on a technicality of the operator being a foreign corporation and not licensed with the Ohio Secretary of State. The Court ordered ODE to provide grants of up to \$1,750 for each economically disadvantage student and \$1,000 for all other students attending the 12 Horizon schools across the state. Click [HERE](#) to read the article from Court News Ohio.

Virtual Mentor Academy: Registration and Certificate Changes

Beginning this spring through the fall, Educational Service Centers (ESC) and state trainers will host training sessions for new mentors. The two-day Mentor Academy training may be taken virtually or in a face-to-face meeting (when appropriate). Dates for training opportunities will be posted in STARS. New mentors who wish to register for the virtual mentor training will complete a two-step registration process. It is important that mentors register both in STARS and with the ESC offering the virtual mentor training. Information on how to do the two-step registration will be provided in STARS. This is a new process— please alert your new mentors. The mentors will be required to register with the ESC to initiate contact with the state trainers. State trainers will provide information on how to access the asynchronous training content located in the Department's Learning Management System (LMS) and prepare participants to access the Virtual Meetings.

Another change will be the type of certificate awarded to the new mentors. Mentors will not receive a certificate for each day of the training. Certified mentors will have one certificate indicating they successfully completed the Mentor Academy training. Certificates of partial completion will NOT be offered.

Summer 2021 Pandemic EBT Program Data Submission

Recently, the United State Department of Agriculture approved P-EBT benefits distribution to all Ohio free or reduced-price meal eligible students in summer 2021. ODE requests your assistance in identifying students to receive this important benefit this summer.

The P-EBT program provides families who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, formerly known as food stamps. The daily benefit amount is \$6.82 (the federal reimbursement rate for breakfast, lunch and snack). In summer 2021, each free or reduced-price meal eligible student will receive \$375 dollars, equivalent to 55 days of benefits.

The summer P-EBT is not dependent on student's remote education status. All free or reduced-price meal eligible students qualify for the benefit. The Ohio Department of Education is requesting schools and districts submit a comprehensive list of students meeting certain criteria that can be found [HERE](#) along with instructions for submitting the data.

Charter School Board Resources

Charter School Board Effectiveness Survey

Adopted from Board on Track

	Yes	No	Don't Know
1. I know the key charter promises we have made to our authorizer/sponsor and our community.			
2. I know how we measure our Charter promises.			
3. Our board meetings start and end on time.			
4. Our meetings are well facilitated by the board chair.			
5. We comply with Open Meeting Law.			
6. We have a job description that details the roles and responsibilities of the full board.			
7. We have individual performance expectations for board members that are written down and hold each trustee accountable to those.			
8. Our board is large enough to have several active, well-functioning committees, who dive into substantive strategic issues and bring information back to the full board for further discussion and decision-making.			
9. Our board consistently demonstrates a clear understanding of the difference between governance and management.			
10. Our Superintendent/School Leader and board chair partner to shape the board meeting agendas and the overall work of the board for the year.			
11. We have a strong partnership with our School Leader/Superintendent that is built on mutual trust and respect.			

Great charter schools are achievable when great boards are involved. Charter school boards are responsible for ensuring the school lives up to the promises it has made to the community and to the charter authorizer. Charter schools with strong academic outcomes have engaged, trained, and informed board members who believe in a shared vision and mission for the school. According to a recent Fordham Institute [study](#), ***“board members of high quality schools are more likely to participate in training, engage in strategic planning and meet monthly.”*** High quality schools are also more likely to conduct effective board meetings using best practices. The [National Charter School Resource Center](#) offers a variety of resources and trainings to support board effectiveness. Additionally, Charter School Specialists has developed a quick survey, adopted from Boards on Track, to help our charter school boards identify their collective areas of strength and areas for growth. We encourage each board to review, complete and discuss the [survey](#) and let us know if there is any technical assistance our staff can provide.

Serving on a charter school board is an excellent way to have a substantial impact in your community. We are happy you have decided to serve in such a poignant role and look forward to continued collaboration.

Board Resources:



Specific Vendors Prohibited from Federal Funds

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2019 prohibits the head of any federal agency from procuring contracts with or issuing grants to entities that use equipment or services from **Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, ZTE Corp, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company** (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities), as a substantial or essential component of any system or as critical technology as part of any system.

Entering into agreements with the following companies or their subsidiaries for telecommunications equipment and/or services is prohibited, as doing so could place schools at risk of losing federal grants. For a complete list of prohibited entities and their subsidiaries, click [HERE](#).

What Can Schools Do with ESSER II and ESSER III ARP Funds?



All schools that received Title I funds in FY21, should have received ESSER II and ESSER III ARP funds. These funds are considered available from March 13, 2020. The ESSER III ARP funds are significant, and therefore it is imperative that schools plan out how these funds will be spent.

- Schools may want to spend funds on personnel; however, these are one-time funds. Schools will be responsible to fund these positions after the federal funds are depleted.
- Schools must reserve 20% for the purpose of learning loss.
- Coordinating preparedness and response efforts with public health departments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.
- Repairing and improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environment health hazards. **Schools may repair or replace HVAC systems.**
- Planning for or implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning.
- Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities.
- Providing mental health services and supports.
- Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs.

The Ohio Department of Education should be releasing the Return to In Person plan requirements soon. Please make sure that there is an opportunity for public comment regarding the schools Return to In Person plan, as this is required by ESSER III ARP. If you have questions or need assistance with ESSER III ARP, please feel free to contact Nannette Sherman at nsherman@charterschoolspec.com or 740-607-9174.

Special Education Profile Updated with Additional Indicators

[The Department has updated the 2020-2021 Special Education Profile for each school district and community school to include additional indicators.](#) The new indicators include four-year graduation rates, dropout rates, preschool outcomes and more.



[3314.035 Publication of Names of Members of Governing Authority.](#)

This is a reminder that governing authority members are to be listed on the school's website.



Career-Technical Middle School Programming Waivers Due Sept. 30

[Districts that choose not to provide career-technical education programming to students enrolled in grades 7 and 8 must complete steps to opt out by Sept. 30](#)

Open Meetings and Public Records Training and Disclosures/Conflict of Interest

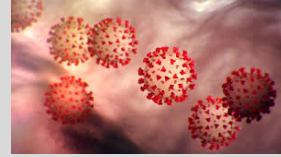
This is a reminder that board members should have submitted their disclosures/COIs to the sponsor by now and completed their annual Open Meetings and Public Record Training. If these

The website should be updated promptly when there is a change in membership.

have not been completed, please do so as soon as possible and submit to Carla Isaac by email at cskaggs@charterschoolspec.com

Covid-19 Reporting

The Ohio Department of Health issued a [K-12 reporting order](#) for all student and staff COVID-19 cases. This order is specific in the requirements and is attached for your review. The requirements began September 8, 2020. To our knowledge, there is no duty to report any cases that occurred prior to September 8.



The most important steps for all schools are:

1. Name a COVID-19 Coordinator to facilitate reporting of information.
2. Within twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of a student, teacher, staff member or coach who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19, notify parents/guardians of the COVID-19 case.
3. Within twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of a student, teacher, staff member or coach who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19, report the case to the local health department.
4. Copy your sponsor at coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com when reporting to the local health department.

Forms for notification and reporting can be found [HERE](#). If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

CHARTER SCHOOL SPECIALISTS

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

Charter School Specialists | 40 Hill Road S, Pickerington, OH 43147

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