



## SPONSOR CONNECTION for Schools Sponsored by St. Aloysius

February 2022

### Reminders

- 2/10 | Register for [New Coordinators Academy](#)
- 2/22 | Summer Learning and Afterschool Opportunities Grant due
- 2/24 | Register for [Federal Programs Monthly Topics Session](#)
- 2/28 | Apply for Ohio Attorney General's [School Safety Grant](#)



Click on the icon above for the current CSS Professional Development Catalog

### Amplifying Graduation Pathways: \$1 million for programs supporting alternative demonstrations of competency

Nonprofit organizations, career-technical planning districts, registered apprenticeship training providers and institutes of higher education can apply for [grants to assist targeted school districts developing alternative demonstrations of competency](#). The deadline to apply is Feb. 4.



### 2022 SuccessBound Events

**Event I** is scheduled for Friday, February 25 at Corporate College East from 9 am – 12pm

The main focus of this event will be businesses 'selling' the educators on their company in a speed-dating style, sharing a bio of their business, exchanging business cards with the schools and sharing information on all that they are willing to do to partner with the schools. Examples of what the businesses could offer may include classroom speakers, company tours, mentorships, job shadowing, employment, summer work based learning, tuition reimbursement, etc.

#### Who should attend:

- Business Advisory Councils will be sent information about these events in advance with an invitation to participate.
- Career readiness coordinators, CTE Directors, school improvement directors, career placement people.

**Event II** A two hour interactive student 'job fair' type event will be hosted by colleges in your area. This event will occur in April, dates TBD and more details to follow.

The goal is to get students with resumes in front of businesses to glean information, possibly land an internship or summer or long-term employment. Businesses would have the ability to interview students on the spot if they choose. In addition to the businesses present, regional partner colleges will have a representative on hand to answer questions about post-high school education and careers.

**Event III** This will be a one-hour virtual meeting to determine both successes and where help is still needed. Business opportunities not scooped up by the schools at this point will be highlighted in the next Tech Prep newsletter for further exposure. The [www.nextwork.org](http://www.nextwork.org) site will be promoted as the site where remaining work opportunities will be posted. Successful new partnerships will also be highlighted in the Tech Prep newsletter.

### Enrollment and Attendance Monitoring Count and Submission Date Reminder

The Auditor of State requests that sponsors continue to monitor the enrollment and attendance for each of their contracted schools. Designated school personnel are to have documentation uploaded by the submission dates below. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Dimoff at [cdimoff@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:cdimoff@charterschoolspec.com).



#### Count Day

February 8, 2022  
March 17, 2022  
April 22, 2022  
May 30, 2022

#### Submission Date

February 15, 2022  
March 24, 2022  
April 29, 2022  
June 6, 2022

### A Little Goes A Long Way

Giving back to your community means investing in the growth and well-being of those within it, and representatives from both Buckeye Community School and Greater Ohio Virtual School are taking strides to invest in the future of their students through the creation of food programs that aid both their students and those in surrounding communities.

Buckeye Community School's food program is in its first year and is continuing to thrive. Ran by Winnie Brewer, Buckeye's food program currently services the London, Marion, and Mansfield areas with 350 students a week participating in the program and growing. The program started through a relationship she held with another district and after meeting with school principal Steve Vanderhoff about launching a program of their own. The program allows for delivery of multiple meals at a time to students as well as for students attending in person to have the ability to eat multiple meals a day through various federally funded programs. Teachers will also assist in the delivery of meals to students when participating students live near them. When asked about how others can contribute to this program or volunteer to help, Ms. Brewer said it was her hope that students who have participated in this program will want to give back to the community that has done for them. "The great thing about this program is it gives kids who have participated a sense of pride and a want for involvement to give back to their community. It would be great to see our students even running this program themselves one day." Buckeye Community School, in partnership with the Mid-Ohio Food Bank, is also helping others through community markets and monthly produce giveaways. A pantry ran by Buckeye Community School Marion will be opening in March 2022.

Greater Ohio Virtual School's food program is also within its first year and was inspired to start their program after a small gesture went a long way. Shawn Lenney, Executive Director for Greater Ohio Virtual School, said that the inspiration came from seeing the student response to a snack table set up in one of their hallways. "We had a table of snacks set up in the hallway for students and as the day went on, students who had already been to the table would come back and ask for more for themselves as well as for family members that may have arrived to pick them up from school because they were hungry too." Together with the school's Resource Coordinator, Sommer Bradds, Mr. Lenney and Ms. Bradds have been able to help over two hundred families and counting gain access to food and other wellness supplies. Through their program, funded by both COVID relief funds and donations from the community, the school has been able to stock their fridge in the Student Lounge with microwavable meals for students, feed over eighty people at Thanksgiving, and provide boxes of food to families who have been unable to obtain WIC benefits to purchase items like milk, eggs, and more. Along with being able to provide these resources to students, Ms. Bradds wanted to make sure that students who were struggling were praised at school for coming forward and asking for assistance. "For students that are needing these resources, school isn't always a happy place for them because they are typically also struggling in their studies as a result of not having everything they need," she said. "I always make sure that for our school's Student of the Month, one of our students who has come forward to us saying they needed help is recognized as a Student of the Month. It doesn't have to be a recognition for academics, we make sure to praise them for their bravery and honesty in being able to come forward and say they need help."



For schools who are thinking of starting food programs for their students and surrounding areas that do not know where to start, Ms. Brewer said it does not matter what your starting place looks like. "There are schools without cafeterias and kitchens that have asked about how to start their own food programs, and I tell them to start small and watch it grow. Even if you do not have a kitchen, schools can use outside vendors and refer to helpful resources on the Food and Nutrition page on the Ohio Department of Education's website to help get started. A little can go a long way."



The New Year has been off to a slow start tackling Ohio's top policy issues at the Statehouse. The legislature had planned to convene for committee meetings and session on January 19<sup>th</sup>. However, after the Ohio Supreme Court struck down the state legislative and congressional maps, both chambers were forced to cancel their meeting while the redistricting commission meets to once again draw new maps that will meet the Court's constitutional standards. Despite the inactivity in the legislature, Dave Cash and his staff from Charter School Specialists continue to work with the Batchelder Company to execute our political strategy for the New Year. Later this month, Dave will travel with the Batch Co team to Senate President Matt Huffman's fundraiser in Amelia Island, Florida to help support senators who have championed school choice priorities.

A new law enacted in the state budget that enables ODE to fine school districts for "consistent or prolonged" failure to provide busing to charter and private school students is unconstitutional and was implemented in an arbitrary fashion by the department, Groveport-Madison Schools allege in a lawsuit. In the lawsuit, filed in Franklin County Common Pleas Court and assigned to Judge Michael Holbrook, Groveport Madison said ODE's move to deduct nearly \$700,000 from its state funding "will have a disastrous, and irreparable, impact" on the district's ability to transport students.

On the legislative front, Dave Cash and the Batchelder team are meeting with Senator Theresea Gavarone who serves as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review to discuss how to best hold ODE accountable for their discriminate policies toward charter schools brought to light last year. Dave and the Batch Co will also be meeting with the Ohio Senate majority's advisor on education policy to discuss the caucus's priorities for 2022. Lastly, we appreciate the support of all of our sponsors as we look to continue our success in 2022 and we sincerely wish you a happy and healthy beginning of the New Year.



## February Federal Programs

### ESEA Consolidated Monitoring Review

All schools should have received notice on the type of monitoring review they will be required to complete. Check the consolidated application's history log for the notification. If your school was assigned an ESEA Consolidated Grants Self-Survey, the survey is typically due prior to May 30<sup>th</sup>. If your school was assigned a desk/on-site review, you will want to collaborate with your consultant to set-up a time to review documents. When uploading evidence/documents in the monitoring system, remember to upload them in the corresponding question. This will help save time during the review.

### Cohort 2 Training

ODE is hosting training for Cohort 2 schools for the One Needs Assessment and the One Plan. The training will cover part of the New ED STEPS Program which will be used for FY22-23. To check for dates and locations go to the Training App in CCIP and enter "federal" as Key Word.

### Ohio Association of Administrators of School Federal Programs (OAASFEP) Conference

The OAASFEP conference will be held March 23rd and October 24th. Federal funds may be used to attend the OAASFEP spring and fall conference. For more information please click [HERE](#)

### Targeted Assistance Title I Moving to Schoolwide

If your school is a Targeted Assistance Title I school and interested in moving to a schoolwide Title I program, you must enter a history log note notifying the federal program's consultant of the intent to go schoolwide in FY22-23. You should have a committee comprised of teachers, classified staff, administrator, and community members. You will need to have agendas and notes of meetings as evidence of planning for the schoolwide program. A year of planning is required, although ODE has allowed newly opened schools to use the remaining 5 months of school as their planning period since the school did not receive Title I funds until January.

If you have any questions or need assistance with federal programs, please contact Nannette Sherman at 740-607-9174 or [nsherman@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:nsherman@charterschoolspec.com).

## Modified Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion criteria announced

[Recent emergency legislation changed the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion criteria for the 2021-2022 school year.](#) Among these changes, students in third grade can no longer be retained based solely on academic performance in reading. Also, decisions about promotion or retention must be made in consultation with parents or guardians.

## New school hiring requirements

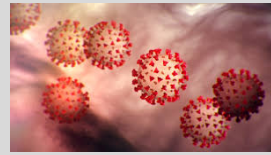


[The Ohio General Assembly recently updated hiring requirements for school employees under Ohio law.](#) The update requires school districts and chartered nonpublic schools to check the Educator Profile database before making hiring decisions. Certain language also must appear on employment applications for school districts and chartered nonpublic schools.

Believe it or not, we are still collecting COVID-19 cases for our schools. Currently, we are actively lobbying for a temporary remote learning option for the 2021-2022 school year. The cases you report will help us in pushing for this option!

Please continue with the steps below:

1. 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.
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, report the case to the local health department.
3. Report all student or staff member cases to your sponsor at [coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com).



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***