



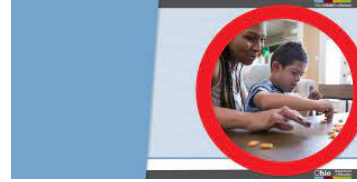
SPONSOR CONNECTION

DECEMBER 2023

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

Reminders

- 12/13: Register for [Principal Chat Series](#) (Career Exploration K-12)
- 12/14: Register to attend statewide [Ohio Materials Matter High Quality Instructional Materials webinar](#)
- 12/15: Deadline to apply for [Career Technical Education Equipment Grant](#)
- 12/29: Annual budget resolutions due to sponsor
- 12/31: Reading Achievement Plans due
- 1/10: Register for [Principal Chat Series \(Professionalism\)](#)
- 1/31: Register for [2024 OLAC and PBIS Showcase](#)



Reading Achievement Plans

Reading Achievement Plans (ORC 3302.13) are required of Districts and Community Schools who for two consecutive years have met both of the following criteria:

- The district or school received a performance rating of less than three stars for the early literacy component on Ohio’s School Report Card;
- 51% or less of the district or school’s students scored proficient on Ohio’s State Test for grade 3 ELA.

Find the [list of community schools](#) who must create a Reading Achievement Plan. The components and expectations of the plan can be found [here](#), along with a template that is due December 31, 2023. Submit questions and plans to readingplans@education.ohio.gov.

Confirm Roster Verification Participation by December 22

Superintendents with current contact information in the Ohio Educational Directory System should have received an email from support@ohio-k12.help on November 27th to [confirm participation in value-added roster verification by Dec. 22](#). The roster verification schedule and resources are available now.

If you did not receive a link please email support@ohio-k12.help

Cincinnati Achievement Academy Board Member, Dr. Mary Webb 2023 Cincinnati Public Schools Educator of the Year



As those in the education sector know, classroom teachers provide education to students in so much more than what is outlined in textbooks and content standards. Quite often, the biggest lessons that students take away from the best teachers are about life. Dr. Mary Webb, who was recently named the 2023 Cincinnati Public Schools Teacher of the Year, is one of those teachers that believes that her students can learn from her life experience, in addition, to the content covered in the courses she teaches.

Dr. Webb, a board member of Cincinnati Achievement Academy and a teacher leading the math department at Withrow University High School, has shown a high level of commitment during her almost 30 years in the classroom. She earned her Ph.D. from Miami University in 2016 after dropping out of high school, serving in the Army, and getting her GED.

The Dr. Lawrence C. Hawkins Educator of the Year Award honors one out of the many committed Cincinnati Public School teachers who have provided exceptional educational experiences through a commitment to their craft.

This year, eighty educators were initially nominated for the award. While being a nominee was an honor, the list was narrowed to fifteen semifinalists, with ultimately only five educators to be considered as finalists before the distinguished title of Educator of the Year was awarded to Dr. Webb this year. In addition to the recognition of her hard work and dedication that comes with this honor, she also received a \$10,000 check.

The awards ceremony took place in May with WLWT-TV anchor Courtis Fuller as host. John F. Barrett, Western & Southern’s chairman, president, and chief executive officer, and Iraetta Wright, superintendent and chief executive officer of Cincinnati Public Schools, attended to honor all of the finalists.

“We are very pleased to recognize Dr. Webb for her dedication to her students and serving as an exemplary role model,” said John. F. Barrett, Western and Southern’s chairman, president, and CEO. “Recognizing educators like Dr. Webb and preparing young people for the future is a focus of Western & Southern in its efforts to help make Cincinnati the best place to live, work and celebrate life.”

“As a District, we are incredibly proud of Dr. Mary Webb and her exceptional care and dedication to improving outcomes for students,” CPS Superintendent and CEO Iranetta Wright told the *Cincinnati Herald* in May. “Dr. Webb goes above and beyond to meet her students’ needs, while engaging them in real-world math application.”

Cincinnati Achievement Academy benefits from guidance and direction from its vested and involved board of directors made up of quality educators, community members, fiscal expertise, and an outstanding Educator of the Year named Dr. Mary Webb!

Author: Yvonne Adkins

We would like to congratulate the new schools that have been approved to open for next year. This year we received several quality applications, and it was a difficult decision. We also would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all the schools that have been approved to have their existing contracts with St. Aloysius renewed. This year, 100% of the schools that were up for renewal met the criteria for renewal.

CSP CMO Grant

The U.S. Department of Education application period for the Charter School Program grant to Charter Management Organizations is open. The grant will be funding management organizations of high-quality charter schools to increase enrollment, add one or more existing grade levels, or to open one or more new charter schools replicating the educational model of an existing high-quality charter school. The deadline for all applications is January 5, 2024. The estimated available funds for this grant are \$122,000,000 and the estimated average award is \$2,500,000 per year up to a maximum of five years. To access more information about this grant, click this [link](#).

Ohio Schools to Watch

The Ohio Schools to Watch application is open for 2024. The program highlights middle-schools that are academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable. To be eligible a school must serve students in any combination of grades 6, 7, or 8. Applications for this designation are due by December 15, 2023. After receiving all applications, the Department of Education and Workforce will review the criteria for determination. Schools that submit the application to the Department of Education and Workforce should also submit to the National Forum's Schools to Watch program. Schools that are approved for Ohio or the National Forum's Schools to Watch program are published on a list that is provided by each department. To access more information about this program, click on this [link](#) and to see the list of designated schools, click this [link](#).

Compliance Update

Auditor of State Compliance Update

In May 2023, the Auditor of State released Chapter 4 of the 2023 Compliance Supplement. Chapter 4 contains compliance items that are only applicable to schools and Chapter 4 has been separated from the other items in the Compliance Supplement because schools operate based on a July to June fiscal year rather than a January to December fiscal year. The Auditor of State will release any updates to Chapter 4 in May of each year so that schools may prepare for the upcoming school year. The Compliance Supplement identifies items that an auditor may be reviewing during an audit. For example, an auditor may be checking to see that all contracts based upon a percentage of FTEs have a true-up provision; the auditor may be performing in-depth student checks; and/or evaluating the reasonableness of an instructional facility contracted by an internet- or computer-based school that is not being used for career technical education. In the upcoming years, Charter School Specialists will be incorporating many of the elements contained in the Chapter 4 Compliance Supplement into its Annual Compliance review. Training will be provided to all schools regarding the elements that are being incorporated into the Annual Compliance Review. The full text of Chapter 4 of the Auditor of State's 2023 Compliance Supplement can be found [here](#).

ORC 3319.073 Compliance - Child Sexual Abuse Training

To satisfy the in-service training requirement on Child Sexual Abuse for School personnel provided by Law Enforcement or Prosecutors, we have reached out to Public School Works (PSW) and Vector who provide training solutions to schools. PSW has indicated that they created a module (M-923) utilizing local law enforcement to satisfy the child sexual abuse training requirement from ORC 3319.073. Vector indicated that the company is in the process of creating a module that meets the legal requirements and it should be available soon. For schools that don't use Vector or PSW, we recommend reaching out directly to local ESCs and law enforcement agencies. While nothing will be collected, the requirement should be met by the end of the school year.



December is a wonderful time to make sure your school is ready for a federal programs audit. Did you know that if your school receives consolidated Title funds, you must provide services to students most at need for not meeting Ohio Learning Standards and the school must evaluate their programs annually? What does this mean? Schools accepting federal funds must have an intervention program for the students needing extra instructional assistance. For Title I funds this can take two forms, targeted assistance and schoolwide Title I programs. If your school is running a targeted assistance program, the school must have a rank-ordered list of students. Students must be served in the order of those most in need. Schools operating a schoolwide Title I program do not need to have a rank-ordered list but should have intervention built within the school day for all students needing added assistance.

At a recent presentation by the Department of Education and Workforce Development (DEW), the Office of Federal Programs informed schools that they must also have a system for evaluating the success of their programs that are supported with federal funds. Schools must be able to show that data from the program was collected and that the program demonstrated success in improving student achievement or the program was revised due to a lack of demonstrated success. There must be data and documentation to demonstrate that a program review has occurred.

Schools should have received their initial final approval for their consolidated funds. This initial final approval will allow the school to submit purchase cash requests. Due to the re-organization of the DEW, the process of final approval for consolidated applications has taken longer than usual. Some schools just received final approval in November. Schools should submit purchase cash requests at least once a quarter. Final Expenditure Reports for last fiscal year, FY23, are also being approved and carryover funds are being loaded into the CCIP system. Please make sure to budget these funds as soon as possible to obtain a substantially approved date. The substantially approved date allows the school to start obligating these funds. Keep in mind that the ARP ESSER III funds expire at the end of this fiscal year. There will

be no carryover of these funds to the next fiscal year.

Cohort 1 schools should be starting to develop their new three-year One Plans. The One Needs Assessment should be open sometime in December. Schools should have their leadership team review and answer the One Needs Assessment questions. Once the One Needs Assessment is completed and entered into ED STEPS, a new One Plan will be created based on Root-Cause analysis. Schools should have their One Plans submitted for review by DEW, no later than April 30, 2024. Charter School Specialists will be hosting a Cohort 1 Root-Cause and Goal Writing professional development on January 19th at the Quest Center in Columbus. Invitations will be coming out soon! All Cohort 1 schools are welcome to attend.

If you have questions or need assistance with Federal Programs, please contact Nannette Sherman at nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.

College and Career Readiness Corner

Grant Opportunity! Ohio Career Technical Education Equipment Grant

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has released the application for the Ohio Career Technical Education Equipment Grant funds. This grant is to award funds to schools to establish or expand Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. Eligible applicants will be any school that is planning to offer a qualifying CTE program that supports Ohio's Top Jobs List. All applications for this grant are due by December 15, 2023. The funds available for this grant are \$100,000,000 and the maximum award per applicant is \$2,500,000. To access more information about this grant, go to this [link](#).

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is offering an opportunity to allow participants to ask questions about the [Ohio CTE Equipment Grant](#) on Thursday, Dec. 7, at 11:00 am via [Microsoft Teams Meeting Link](#). Registration is not required to attend.

Holiday Messaging to Help Schools Maintain Regular Student Attendance

The holiday season typically brings with it concerns about school attendance. Schools and districts can be proactive by communicating early and often with families about dates and expectations. Attendance Works provides [ideas and templates to help with communication](#)

Medical Reporting Requirements Reminder

Ohio law requires schools to report annually the number of enrolled students with diabetes, number of diabetic medication errors, as well as the procurement and administration of glucagon, inhalers and epinephrine. In 2024, [schools will be asked to report information for the 2023-2024 school year](#)