



## SPONSOR CONNECTION

APRIL 2024

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

### Reminders

- 4/1: Start & End times due to districts transporting students
- 4/8: Prepare students and community for [2024 solar eclipse](#)
- 4/9: Register to attend monthly virtual [meetups for new program coordinators](#)
- 4/10: Attend [IDEA monitoring and resources open office hours](#)
- 4/11: Register to attend statewide [Ohio Materials Matter High-Quality Instructional Materials webinar](#) (Supporting Diverse Learners through HQIM)
- 4/12: Attend virtual [ReadOhio open office hours](#)
- 4/19: Attend virtual [ReadOhio open office hours](#)
- 4/19: Submit for [2024 Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students](#)
- 4/26: Attend virtual [ReadOhio open office hours](#)
- 4/26: Complete [Spring 2024 District Justification and Assurances](#)
- 4/30: Cohort 1 schools – One Needs Assessment and One Plan due
- 5/1: Submit [grade 3 paper testing resolution](#) for 2024-2025
- 5/1: Attend [IDEA monitoring and resources open office hours](#)
- 5/13: Spring Survey Due
- 5/24: May Five Year Forecast due to sponsor



### CSS Professional Development Offerings

<https://charterschoolspec.com/professional-development-catalog/>

### Office of Community Schools Celebrating Excellence in Education

The Office of Community Schools recently recognized the exceptional achievements of Ohio's community schools in the 2022-2023 academic year. We would like to congratulate the following 2022-2023 Ohio School Report Card awardees sponsored by Saint Aloysius:

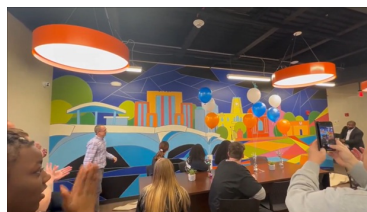
Drop Out Prevention and Recovery Community Schools - recognized for achieving an overall rating of 'exceeds standards'.

- AchievePoint Career Academy - Cincinnati
- Cliff Park High School
- Cypress High School
- Fairborn Digital Academy
- Glass City Academy
- Greater Ohio Virtual School
- Marshall High School
- Randall Park High School
- Towpath Trail High School

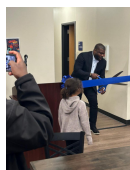
Community schools who met the Momentum Award criteria. The Momentum Award recognizes districts and schools that have improved their Performance Index by 3 or more points from the 2021-2022 report cards to the 2022-2023 report cards AND received a Progress rating of 4 or more stars.

- Broadway Academy
- Cincinnati Achievement Academy
- Green Inspiration Academy
- Groveport Community School
- Klepinger Community School
- Madison Avenue School of Arts
- Orchard Park Academy
- Patriot Preparatory Academy
- STEAM Academy of Warren
- Zenith Academy East

Lists of all of the awardees are available on the [Rewards and Recognition webpage](#).



### Marshall High School - Hamilton Campus Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Celebration



A group of over 75 students, staff, community leaders, a Hamilton City School board member, and the Oakmont Education leadership team took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 22, celebrating the school's first year of serving students and the community. Enthusiastic students provided tours of the beautiful new facility and a mural especially designed for the school was revealed that had a great emphasis on adult special needs artists who helped create it.

School leader and master of ceremonies, Kelven Moss said that "Marshall HS Hamilton is a partnership with Hamilton City Schools to be another option to help educate kids in the City of Hamilton and also help them get a CTE credential, diploma, and high-quality employment to be a game changer in their community. I'm here as a passionate leader of people and ready to help our students and staff become the best versions of themselves."

The school's operator, Oakmont Education, said they were thrilled to celebrate the unveiling of a stunning new mural by InsideOut Studio at the Marshall High School Hamilton Campus Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!

The school has proven popular in the community with over 288 students currently enrolled. The new, state of the art facility provides career opportunities for students in skilled trades, community health, hospitality, and business.

Congratulations Marshall on a highly successful first year!

More information about the school can be found on their website: <https://marshallshs-hamilton.org/>.

### ReadOhio Office Hours

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce will host open office hours for the ReadOhio requirements each Friday 3-4 p.m.

The Department's literacy policy team will take questions on topics including science of reading professional development, high-quality instructional materials, English language arts core curriculum requirements, and reading intervention requirements.

The next office hours session will take place Friday, March 22. Sessions will continue each Friday through April 26. [Join the meeting](#) via Microsoft Teams.

Send questions to [ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov).

### 2024 Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students

The 2024 Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students must be completed online through the AT&AEM Center's [web portal](#) and electronically signed by the school superintendent by April 19, 2024. Students will not be registered if the superintendent does not log on to the web portal to submit their electronic signature.



## DEW Important information on 2024 Solar Eclipse and Community School Busing

If your school plans to be in session on April 8, during the solar eclipse, and depends on district transportation, DEW has released new information that seems to favor the districts. While they are required to transport, if they do not transport that day claiming inclement weather, DEW will consider the district's reason and

most likely not find them out of compliance if a community school files a complaint. (See the full statement below)

We understand that school districts and schools have questions regarding the provision of transportation for students at community schools and chartered nonpublic schools on the day of the solar eclipse, April 8, 2024. The Department knows that many school districts are closing their schools on the day of the eclipse. We have also heard that some community schools and chartered nonpublic schools plan to stay open on that day. While districts may be closed, state law (Ohio Revised Code section 3327.01) still requires that districts provide transportation for their resident students to community schools and chartered nonpublic schools that are open.

Many districts have asked whether the Department will determine them to be out of compliance under Ohio Revised Code section 3327.021 if they do not provide transportation to students at community schools and chartered nonpublic schools on the day of the rare total solar eclipse. The Department understands that during this particular total solar eclipse, Ohio will experience a severe change in the quantity of sunshine, with many parts of the state being in total darkness during the midafternoon, which would be considered to be inclement weather. If the Department receives complaints about districts being out of compliance under Ohio Revised Code section 3327.021, and the districts explain that the transportation was not provided due to the eclipse, the Department may consider that the transportation did not occur due to inclement weather. The effect of this determination would be that the day does not count towards the determination of noncompliance under Ohio Revised Code section 3327.021.

The Department encourages districts to work with community schools and chartered nonpublic schools now to understand each school's plan for the day of the eclipse and other calendar changes that may result from a school's decision to close that day.

Additional solar eclipse guidance is available on the Department's [website](#).

## Legal Department

### St. Aloysius 2024-2025 Approved New Schools

We would like to take a moment to highlight the new schools that have been approved to open for next year:

- Capital City Classical Academy. Capital City Classical Academy plans to open in the Columbus area as a classical school for grades K-8. Capital City Classical Academy will be using a new curriculum model developed by Accel. The curriculum model is expected to be heavily oriented toward the liberal arts, guided by the Western canon, and grounded in Greek and Roman traditions of academic excellence.
- Career Prep Virtual High School. Career Prep Virtual High School plans to open in the Columbus area as a DOPR online school for grades 9 -12. Career Prep Virtual will be replicating the Fusion Ed model that has been utilized in brick-and-mortar schools throughout the state. The education model will be to deliver guided learning through an online platform, complemented with teacher instruction for large classes, small groups, and individual learning, gearing the students towards a selected career pathway.
- Ginn-Thompson School for Girls. Ginn-Thompson School for Girls plans to open in the Cleveland area as a traditional school for grades 6-12. Ginn Thompson School for Girls will be a traditional middle/high school for girls in the City of Cleveland and this model will offer the integration of thinking skills with authentic tasks as a means to stress composition, comprehension, and application of skills for students.
- Heart of Ohio Classical Academy. Heart of Ohio Classical Academy plans to open in the Dublin area as a classical school for grades K-5. Heart of Ohio Classical Academy will be using the Hillsdale Classical curriculum model. The Hillsdale Classical curriculum model bases its education in traditional liberal arts and sciences and provides instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue.
- Huron Sports Academy. Huron Sports Academy plans to open in the Huron area as a traditional school for grades K-8. Huron Sports Academy will be replicating the Accel sports academy model. The sports academy model will use the positive aspects of athletics to sharpen student focus on learning and to teach valuable life skills to students.
- Knox Preparatory Academy. Knox Preparatory Academy plans to open in the Mount Vernon City School district as a traditional school for grades K-5. Knox Preparatory Academy will be replicating the Accel preparatory academy model. The preparatory academy model will use a standards-based curriculum that focuses on the student's individualized growth and customizes student-centered learning.
- New Richmond Preparatory Academy. New Richmond Preparatory Academy plans to open in the New Richmond Exempted Village district as a traditional school for grades K-8. New Richmond Preparatory Academy will be replicating the Accel preparatory academy model. The preparatory academy model will use a standards-based curriculum that focuses on the student's individualized growth and customizes student-centered learning.
- Northeast Ohio Classical Academy. Northeast Ohio Classical Academy plans to open in the Akron area as a classical school for grades K-5. Northeast Ohio Classical Academy will be using the Hillsdale Classical curriculum model. The Classical curriculum model bases its education in traditional liberal arts and sciences and provides instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue.
- Presidents Digital Academy. Presidents Digital Academy plans to open in Summit County as a DOPR online school for grades 9 - 12. Presidents Digital Academy will be replicating the Graduation Solutions model that has been utilized in online schools located in other states. This will be the first school in Ohio for Graduation Solutions. The education model will be a year-round model with engaging content, personal attention, and face-to-face tutoring for each student to pursue the goal of graduation.
- Southeast Ohio Classical Academy. Southeast Ohio Classical Academy plans to open in the Logan-Hocking school district as a classical school for grades K-5. Southeast Ohio Classical Academy will be using the Hillsdale Classical curriculum model. The Classical curriculum model bases its education in traditional liberal arts and sciences and provides instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue.
- Steel City High School. Steel City High School plans to open in the Lorain area as a DOPR school for grades 9 -12. Steel City High School will be replicating the model that the management company Oakmont uses which is a DOPR model that offers Industry Recognized Credentials and Career Technical Education for high school students that creates a direct pathway to post high school employment.

## Reminder on Post-Audit Conferences

As the audits for many of our schools are being completed, we wanted to remind you that Ohio Revised Code 3314.019 requires that all Sponsors must participate in a post-audit conference with the auditor for each school it sponsors. In your Charter Agreement, you do have a requirement that the Sponsor be involved in a post-audit conference call with the auditor. This is a reminder that when the audit for your school is complete, a post audit conference is required to be scheduled prior to the public release of the audit. Some of you may know from experience, the post-audit conference calls are usually very brief and can be conducted virtually with representatives from St. Aloysius and Charter School Specialists on the call. Your treasurer, legal counsel, governing authority members, school leaders and operator staff are welcome to attend. Thank you in advance for reminding auditors and for helping ensure this requirement is fulfilled.

## Continuing Legal Education Webinars

[Registration for May 24, 2024 CLE Webinar – Ohio Revised Code 3314.03 Part 1](#)  
[Registration for August 16, 2024 CLE Webinar – Ohio Revised Code 3314.03 Part 2](#)



There are several important dates/timelines approaching. Desk and Onsite Federal Programs reviews should be completed this month. The One Plan for Cohort 1 schools has a deadline of April 30. Any Cohort 1 schools who would like their One Plans reviewed prior to submitting to DEW, may contact Nannette Sherman, Director of Federal Programs at Charter School Specialists. Schools assigned a self-survey for federal programs must have the survey completed by June 30. This is also the time of year when schools should be checking on their current federal programs expenditures to ensure that they will expend federal grant funds by September 30. All funds should be obligated by June 30 in CCIP and expended by September 30.

A reminder about paraprofessionals working in either federal programs, being paid by federal funds or working at a schoolwide Title I school. All paraprofessionals paid with federal funds, working in a federal program or at a Title I schoolwide school must meet the federal requirements for paraprofessionals. These paraprofessionals must meet the at least one of the following criteria: Have a two year or higher degree from an accredited college or university, have certified transcripts for two years of college coursework from an accredited college or university, or take and pass the state paraprofessional test. Paraprofessionals that have a one-year non-renewable non-degree substitute teacher license are not eligible to serve as paraprofessionals unless they meet the federal requirement criteria. A substitute teacher license, especially a non-degree substitute license does not meet this requirement. The non-degree non-renewable license is only for those individuals that are currently serving in the capacity and role of a teacher. Please ensure that paraprofessionals being paid with federal funds, working in a federal program (Title I, II-A, III, IV, IDEA) meet the stated requirements.

If your school is currently being served as a Title I Targeted Assistance school this year, now is the time to enter a history log into the CCIP log and state the school's intention to move to a schoolwide program. The difference between a Targeted Assistance program and a Schoolwide Title Program is that in a targeted assistance program the only students who can be served are the students from the targeted assistance list, whereas at a schoolwide program, all students can be served in the program and all the Title I funds can be used throughout the entire school. If you are interested in moving to a schoolwide Title I program, click [HERE](#) for requirements.

If you have any questions on federal programs, please contact Nannette Sherman at: [nsherman@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:nsherman@charterschoolspec.com).

## College and Career Readiness Corner

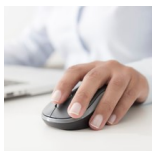
### **Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted Announce In-Demand Jobs Week 2024**

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted, Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, announced on Friday that the seventh annual [In-Demand Jobs Week](#) will take place May 6 to May 10, the first full work week of May. In-Demand Jobs Week celebrates the many top jobs, industries, and skills across Ohio.

In-Demand Jobs Week is designed to promote Ohio's most in-demand and fastest-growing industries through statewide hiring, education, and training events. This year's theme is "Ohio, the Heart of Opportunity," highlighting the various opportunities available now and in the future, right here in the buckeye state. From internships to apprenticeships, and from manufacturing to healthcare jobs, there is opportunity for you in Ohio.

During the week, business, community, and education leaders are encouraged to host events to demonstrate the opportunities that are available in their community and industry. Last year, local events included job fairs, business tours, career signing days, resume workshops, and more. To register your event as an official In-Demand Jobs Week event, click [here](#).

For more information on job opportunities in Ohio and career services, visit [OhioMeansJobs.com](http://OhioMeansJobs.com).



### **Literacy News and Updates**

In accordance with [ORC 3313.6028](#), the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce must establish a list of high quality instructional materials, and schools must use a core curriculum and instructional materials in English language arts and evidence-based reading intervention programs only from the lists established, beginning in schoolyear 24-25. DEW has released **additional materials** to the initial list of [Approved High Quality Material List](#). Answers to Frequently Asked Questions are available [here](#).

Also, in accordance with ORC 3313.6028, schools may not use any core curriculum, instructional materials or intervention programs in grades prekindergarten to five relying on any model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues, including a three-cueing approach, unless a waiver has been granted.

More information about the curriculum selection process, timelines, and Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement, in accordance with the usage of the implications of the Science of Reading, is available [here](#). Questions may be sent to [ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov).

Charter School Specialists is committed to increasing student literacy, providing technical assistance and support as schools shift from traditional literacy practices to those aligned with the Science of Reading, and advocacy for charter schools through this process. To schedule professional development for your staff, governing authority or company, for assistance with strategic planning, or for any other

literacy-related support, please contact Jennifer Heyman at [jheyman@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:jheyman@charterschoolspec.com).

**Literacy Academy**

The Department's seventh annual Literacy Academy is returning live and in-person on June 10-11, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus. Registration will open in spring 2024. Please continue to check the Department's [website](#) for additional information. Send questions to [ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov).

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