



## SPONSOR CONNECTION

MAY 2024

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

### Reminders

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  
5/31: Open Meetings & Public Records Trng Verification due to sponsor  
5/31: Board signed COI/Disclosures due to sponsor  
5/31: Calendars/Schedules due to sponsor  
6/3-5: CSS Literacy Academy



### CSS Professional Development Offerings

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

Charter School Specialists will be hosting the 2024 Literacy Academy from June 3-6 in Central Ohio. The event will be focused on the Science of Reading in both K-12 and DOPR schools.

To RSVP for this event, please click on the link below to complete the RSVP form:

[Charter School Specialists Literacy Academy](#)

### Special Education Professional Development and Opportunities

Susan Scarponi, Director of Special Education Program Compliance, will host Special Education Office Hours on May 6, from 12:00 pm -1:00 pm. This informal session is designed for Directors of Special Education to discuss the latest news from The Department of Education and Workforce & the Office for Exceptional Children. It provides an excellent opportunity to ask questions, learn from colleagues, and network.

#### Special Education Professional Development

Charter School Specialists will be offering Professional Development to provide support and guidance in Special Education On May 8. A Virtual Professional Development will be provided by Susan Scarponi from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. The agenda includes:

- Executive Functioning, Wrapping Up, and Looking Forward.

Please email Susan at [sscarponi@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:sscarponi@charterschoolspec.com) for the link to attend either of these sessions.



### Cornerstone High School Student Receives 20k Renewable Scholarship to Capital University

Natalia Benacquista, a senior at Cornerstone High School, embodies dedication and perseverance. Having been a part of the school community since first grade, Natalia's journey is a testament to her commitment to excellence. Her hard work and achievements have not gone unnoticed, as she recently received a prestigious \$20,000 renewable scholarship to Capital University. This scholarship not only recognizes Natalia's academic prowess but also her character and leadership qualities, highlighting her as a shining example for her peers and an inspiration to all who know her. As she prepares to embark on the next chapter of her academic journey, Natalia's unwavering determination promises to propel her towards even greater success in the future.

"I've had several teachers inspire me along the way at Cornerstone. Mrs. Page, Mr. Wolfe, and definitely Dr. Reinert have helped me get to know myself. They have helped me see that I needed to take control of my education. It was time," Natalia said with a smile. "I chose Capital for their criminology program. I am really interested in psychology and the forensics of the profession. My mother has a master's degree in behavioral psychology, and that got me thinking about it."

Natalia's mother, Kianti Scott, is proud of the woman Natalia has become. "Natalia is warm-hearted, out-going, likeable, and driven. She will go far."

Everyone at Cornerstone High School agrees with Ms. Scott. The future is bright for Natalia Benacquista!

### Updated List of Approved Core Curriculum and Instructional Materials in English Language Arts

Newly approved materials have been added to the approved list of prekindergarten and kindergarten-grade 5 core curriculum and instructional materials in English language arts following the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's Phase 2 appeals review. The Department's [list of approved core curriculum and instructional materials](#) includes all submitted materials that met the required criteria.

The Department has posted a list of [additional materials](#) that have advanced to Phase 2 review.

[Information](#) regarding timeline updates and supports for districts and schools in selecting materials is available on the Department's website.

Questions regarding district requirements for high-quality instructional materials in English language arts may be sent to [ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ReadOhio@education.ohio.gov).

## Online Day Plans To Be Adopted By August 1

The school governing authority is required to adopt an Online Day Plan by August 1 on an annual basis. The plan is to provide instruction via online delivery in order to make up hours equivalent to three days in the school year for which it is necessary to close schools for disease

epidemic, hazardous weather conditions, inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the school's operation, damage to a school building, or other temporary circumstances due to utility failure rendering the school building unfit for use.

Each plan adopted under this section shall include the written consent of the teachers' employee representative designated under division (B) of section 4117.04 of the Revised Code.

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3313.482>



### Youthbuild Students Help Indian Lake Residents Affected by Tornado

When YBCCS heard of the devastating tornados that impacted the Indian Lake community mid-March, they wanted to help. They were able to collaborate with an agency who was organizing the disaster relief efforts, called Samaritans Purse. YBCCS has a few staff and students who have close ties with Indian Lake, making their wanting to help even stronger.

A handful of YBCCS construction students, and AmeriCorps Members, Cameron Smith, Elijah Daniels, RayQuan Hill, and Josh Preest, hit the road on April 3rd to spend their day in an Indian Lake neighborhood that suffered tremendous damage. Seeing the damage throughout this neighborhood was life changing; fallen trees, debris everywhere, walls and roofs torn off. Many of the rooms, now exposed to the outside, were frozen in time, seemingly still telling stories of that day.

YBCCS spent the day focusing on a house that lost the majority of its roof. A temporary plywood roof was added. YBCCS helped to re-support the roof to avoid future damage. In addition, to avoid water leaking, a tarp was added to the roof using thin slats of wood and nails.

How did the event benefit students?

After their work was done, each of the students said their day was a 10/10, despite the cold weather and working during their spring break! Seeing the damage and how fleeting life can really be, certainly impacted these students. They left with a new sense of pride knowing they helped someone in need.

Other team members who contributed were Chris Bond, School Director, who even got his hands dirty helping to rebuild the roof! Casey Church, family advocate and AmeriCorps Manager, coordinated efforts and helped with debris pick up. Gabby Tyler, Social Worker at ISBH, helped with debris pick up.

## Legal Department

### Reminders About Executive Session

All Governing Authorities of community schools are required to hold open meetings for public participation. If the Governing Authority needs to discuss a matter outside of the public view, this must be done by using an executive session during a regular or special meeting. To convene in executive session, a Governing Authority must have a member make a motion to convene in executive session and list a specific reason under R.C. 121.22(g). The motion to convene in Executive Session with the specific reason must be seconded and then there must be a roll call vote of each member to convene into executive session. The most commonly used reasons are:

- To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual;
- To consider the purchase of property for public purpose, the sale of property at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property – if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest;
- Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action;
- Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations in state statutes;
- Details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office;

For other reasons, consult the statute linked here: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-121.22>

If a majority of the members vote in the affirmative to convene in executive session, then the Governing Authority may enter the session. The Governing Authority will excuse the public and other attendees and may invite people into the Executive Session. During the Executive Session, the Governing Authority is only permitted to discuss the matter that was specifically designated in the motion to convene. Governing Authority members are not permitted to vote on any issue, and cannot come to a consensus on any item, they are only permitted to discuss or debate the topic or to gather information about the topic. Once the chair of the meeting determines that the executive session is concluded, the members will re-assemble in the public meeting. Since voting is not permitted during an executive session, the members should not vote to end the executive session. The members are not permitted to vote to adjourn a public meeting prior to concluding the executive session.

Charter School Specialists would like to remind all of our Governing Authority members, that part of the Charter Agreement includes that Charter School Specialists representatives are permitted to attend all executive sessions unless the sponsor or Charter Agreement is being discussed. Furthermore, Charter School Specialists staff have extensive knowledge and experience and can greatly add to the board's understanding of a pressing issue.



The month of May tends to signal the approaching end of the school year, but it also means the closing activities for federal grants and the beginning of a new federal grant timeline! All Cohort 1 schools should have submitted their One Plans to DEW by April 30. DEW will begin reviewing the One Plans and start entering comments and using the rubrics in the One Plan. Schools may want to view their One Plans to check on the comments and the approval process for the next two or three months. It will take DEW a few months to have every department involved with federal grants review the Cohort 1 plans.

The FY25 financial grant applications should open mid-June. Schools should complete their consolidated federal funds grant application by June 30, 2024, to get the earliest substantially approved date and to avoid being assigned risk analysis points for submitting the grant application late.

ARP ESSER funds are due to expire on September 30, 2024. Please plan on liquidating these funds by December 1, 2024. (Please note: DEW is seeking approval for late liquidation of ARP ESSER funds from the US Department of Education. The status of the DEW's request will not be known until after the first week in May.)

No revisions to FY24 budgets are allowed after June 30. Keep in mind that all unspent funds from the FY24 original allocation can carry over to FY25 except for Title I funds and ARP ESSER funds. Only 15% of the original and additional Title I allocation (not carryover from FY23) funds may be carried over to FY25. Any Title I funds over the 15% carryover limit will be returned to the State. Any FY25 Title I funds spent from July 1-September 30 can help reduce the amount of Title I carryover and therefore may eliminate a loss of funds per the 15% Title I carryover limit. Schools who have not requested a Title I waiver in the last three years, may request the Title I waiver. Check with the school's federal programs consultant to see if your school is eligible for the Title I waiver.

#### Approaching Deadline

All self-surveys for federal programs must be completed by June 30. The self-surveys are located in the Monitoring App found in the OH/ID program.

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

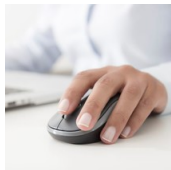
### Ohio Career Technical Education Equipment Grant Program

The purpose of the Ohio Career Technical Education Equipment Grant Program is to award competitive grants to schools to establish or expand CTE programs, with priority for programs that support careers on Ohio's Top Jobs List and establish or expand credentialing programs from the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation Innovative Workforce Incentive Program list.

The Equipment for Ohio's Top Jobs program promotes the expansion of CTE and credentialing programs in Ohio. The Ohio Career Technical Education Equipment Grant Program identifies programs eligible for an equipment, instructional materials, facilities, and operational costs grant.

#### Eligible Applicants

Ohio schools must plan to offer a qualifying CTE program that supports a career on Ohio's Top Jobs List or a qualifying credential program from the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation Innovative Workforce Incentive Program list to be eligible to apply. The next application period will take place in the spring of 2024. Official dates will be announced soon.



### Literacy News and Updates

Madison Avenue School of Arts board of directors attended a Science of Reading training with Charter School Specialists recently. All board members were present and engaged in learning, and left the training with the knowledge needed to continue to support their school as they further shift practices from traditional literacy into structured literacy. Thank you, Madison Avenue Board, for your continued commitment to learning and supporting your school!

#### DEW 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).



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

#### **DEW Announcement on Student Records**

Community schools, not the Department, are required to maintain student transcripts permanently. This requirement continues even as schools experience changes in sponsor, location, name or management organization. If a school



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

#### **Dropout Prevention and Recovery Community School STAR Testing**

All students enrolled in grades 9-12 attending a community school designated as a dropout prevention and

closes, student records must be provided to each student's district of residence.

Recently, the Department of Education and Workforce has received increased requests for student records, including from students who attended a school that remains in operation. Per law, providing transcripts is the responsibility of each school.

The Department can, in cases where a school has closed, confirm whether a student graduated, but they do not maintain student transcripts.

The Department will be requesting that community school sponsors review each school's records retention policy and student record storage to ensure that student records are maintained in an organized and accessible manner.

recovery (DOPR) schools must take the required STAR assessments. Maintaining the DOPR designation and receiving the specialized report card are contingent on administering the STAR assessments to students.

In addition to being assessed upon enrollment, any student whose enrollment spans at thirteen weeks or more must be assessed a second time.

The spring testing window closes Friday, May 24, 2024.

Find additional information about the [STAR assessments](#) on the Department's website.

### **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) School Year 2024-2025**

CEP applications are now open. Schools can complete the CEP election survey with the Office of Nutrition to begin the process. Applications and all required documentation must be submitted by June 30.