



SPONSOR CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 2024

Latest News for St. Aloysius Sponsored Schools

REMINDERS

NOVEMBER

- 11/6: Attend professional development webinar on [Identifying Turnover Trends & Unlocking the Power of Total Rewards](#) (Ohio Human Capital Resource Center)
- 11/8: Register to [administer Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey](#) (superintendents, principals, and designees)
- 11/8: Complete [district data roll-up of affiliated community school performance data](#)
- 11/8: Attend fall [office hours for Ohio's State Test administration](#)
- 11/13: Register for [Principal Chat](#) (Career Planning K-12)
- 11/13: Attend professional development webinar on [182 Days of Onboarding and Beyond](#) (Ohio Human Capital Resource Center)
- 11/20: Attend [Cybersecurity Pathway Design Lab \(High schools\)](#)
- 11/22: Fall Dropout Prevention and Recovery [community schools extended Ohio's State Tests window closes](#)
- 11/22: Attend fall [office hours for Ohio's State Test administration](#)
- 11/26: Attend professional development webinar on [Thriving, Not Surviving: Strategies for Work-Life Integration/Prioritizing Action with an Impact-Effort Matrix](#) (Ohio Human Capital Resource Center)
- 11/30: Deadline to [complete Consolidated School Report](#)
- 11/30: Deadline for 5 year forecasts to be submitted to ODEW by sponsor

DECEMBER

- 12/1: Submit [STEM/STEAM designation intent to apply form](#)
- 12/6: Attend fall [office hours for Ohio's State Test administration](#)
- 12/11: Register for [Principal Chat](#) (Parent Community Engagement)
- 12/20: Application deadline for [College Credit Plus Teacher Credentialing Grants](#)
- 12/31: Signed Budget Resolution or minutes due to ODEW by sponsor
- 12/31: Submit [Reading Achievement Plans](#)

24-25 Governing Authority and School Leader Timeline

<https://charterschoolspec.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Governing-Authority-and-School-Leader-Annual-Timeline-24-25.pdf>



Governing Authority Trivia Corner!

Welcome to our November 2024 Governing Authority Trivia Corner! Thanks to all of you that answered the three (3) questions correctly in our October contest. Your names will be entered in a drawing and the winner of the drawing will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card and their name will be mentioned in the December Sponsor Connection.

So let's play again! Here are the three (3) questions for November:

1. True or False – A board member will be able to complete the required open meetings and public records training by going to the Charter Schools Specialist website.
2. What is the minimum number of board members a community school must have to be compliant with



Department of
Education &
Workforce

Addressing Attendance Related to Religious Expression and School-Sponsored Extracurricular Events

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has new guidance for addressing attendance related to religious expression days, school-sponsored extracurricular events, and cocurricular activities.

Religious expression days

Over the summer, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 214 into Ohio law, effective Oct. 24, 2024. The House Bill created a new section in the Ohio Revised Code regarding guidelines for how schools will accommodate student absences due to sincerely held religious beliefs and practices. This language does not replace existing requirements for students to be excused for religious purposes. It does, however, allow parents to notify schools of up to three days for their child to be excused for religious expression.

1. In addition to being excused, all the following are true for these three days:
2. Parents must communicate the dates to the school within 14 days of the beginning of the school year.
3. The school must work to accommodate any conflicts the missing days have with academic requirements.

None of the days may count toward the “excessive absence” thresholds that schools communicate to families under [Ohio law](#).

Schools and districts must adopt and communicate a policy with families and students. The recommendation is to notify school communities about the need to create this policy and that it will go fully into effect next school year. In the meantime, districts and schools are encouraged to work with families in good faith by setting a deadline for when parents can make these requests during this school year (for example, 14 or more days after they are notified this year).

School-sponsored extracurricular events

Schools and districts may have a policy to consider in-state, school-sponsored extracurricular events as part of the instructional day. Sometimes students must miss instructional time to participate in a school-sponsored extracurricular event such as a sports tournament or arts competition. School or district policy may allow these types of events to count as the student being “present,” and would therefore not count toward the chronic absence calculation. The policy should only apply to events sponsored by the school.

Co-curricular activities

Co-curricular activities (for example, field trips and events connected to credited courses like music performances) are included in the school or district's graded course of study and are school-sponsored instructional opportunities. Students participating in co-curricular activities should be marked “present” for purposes of attendance.

Visit the Department's website for more information on [religious expression days](#) and [school-sponsored](#)

statute and the school's charter contract (choose one)? A) 3 B) 5 C) Depends on the school's bylaws D) There is no minimum.

3. True or False – In order to meet quorum a community school board must have (1) one more than half of the board members present.

You can enter the contest by clicking on this link <https://forms.office.com/r/gdB3fAzKH2> or email your answers to fstoy@charterschoolspec.com. Be sure and submit your response by November 30, 2024. And good luck! Winner will be announced in the January Sponsor Connection.



CSS 2024-2025 Professional Development

Click the link below to access the CSS PD Catalog:
[Professional Development Catalog 2024-2025](#)

[extracurricular events.](#)

Contact Ohio's Attendance Advisor Patrick Hickman at attendance@education.ohio.gov with any questions.



WorkKeys Assessments Scoring Update

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is updating the "Workforce Readiness" score for the WorkKeys Assessments. Updated scoring will be effective for the 2024-2025 school year for students utilizing WorkKeys as part of their pathway to high school graduation.

Governor's Science of Reading Recognition Program Recognizing Schools Implementing Practices Aligned to the Science of Reading

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, in coordination with the Department of Education and Workforce, is pleased to announce the Governor's Science of Reading Recognition Program to recognize schools that are demonstrating strong implementation of evidence-based instructional practices aligned to the science of reading and where students are making significant progress.

PreK-12 schools, including public, community, and chartered nonpublic schools, are eligible to apply, and each school must apply as an individual building. Review the [Application Guidelines and Instructions](#), which outline the requirements for the recognition. The application period is Oct. 25-Nov. 29.

Visit the [Recognition Program's webpage](#) for more information.



Professional Development Opportunity

EdWeb.net offers virtual professional development opportunities for individuals. Membership to edWeb is free. Webinars usually last an hour, and participants will take a short quiz and earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Each month there are several webinars offered. For example, on November 7th the webinar is entitled, "Building Reading Fluency: The Power of Practice in the K-2 Classroom. November 13th there is a webinar on "Raising Attendance Through Community Partnerships. These webinars are live and provide a platform to learn and collaborate with other educators, parents, and board members. If you cannot attend the live webinars, they are recorded and available for viewing. Certificates for the CEUs are available within 24 hours. For a listing of the webinars click here: <https://home.edweb.net/webinars/>

Compliance Highlight 1: Title IV

Title IV Funds: The intent and purpose of Title IV funds is to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of schools and local communities to provide access to well-rounded educational opportunities, improve school conditions for student learning, and improve the use of technology to improve achievement and digital literacy. These funds can be used to support a variety of activities including Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS), music and art programs, robotics, athletic programs, and school safety. Schools may also use these funds to provide field trips for students to provide them with a well-rounded education. Keep in mind that field trips must be for educational purposes. Federal law states that no more than 25% of the time at a field trip can be entertainment. For ODEW's current guidance on field trips click here: (Insert Link Here)

Compliance Highlight 2: The End of First Quarter & The One Plan

As the first quarter of instruction ends, schools should be reviewing student data and the progress on their One Plan goals. Imbedded within the One Plan system is a method to report student progress and the level of adult implementation. Once schools enter their data, the system will graph the progress from the start of school until the end of first quarter. Schools can monitor how well their interventions are working and make any adjustments needed. Using the reports generated from the One Plan, schools can see the school's progress and note areas where more support may be needed. If the school team decides they need to add or change anything in the One Plan based on the progress monitoring, they can create a revision to their One Plan. The link to entering data can be found in the One Plan under the Reports menu and Report Results. Schools are encouraged to share their school's progress with all the stakeholders.

If you have any questions regarding federal programs, please contact: nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.

College and Career Readiness Corner

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is offering a College Credit Plus Teacher Credentialing Grant to help high school teachers obtain the necessary qualifications to teach college-level courses through the College Credit Plus (CCP) program. This initiative allows students to earn college credits while still in high school, reducing future tuition costs and accelerating their academic progress. Teachers who receive CCP credentials not only enhance their professional skill set but also play a key role in delivering college coursework, supporting student success in both academic and career pursuits.

For schools, this grant helps expand CCP offerings, particularly in districts where access to college courses may be limited. With more credentialed teachers, schools can increase the availability of college courses on-site, reducing the need for students to attend off-campus classes. This aligns with efforts to boost college and career readiness. The application deadline for this grant is December 20, 2024. For more details, please refer to this link (<https://higherred.ohio.gov/initiatives/access-acceleration/college-credit-plus/ccp-resources-secondary-schools/ccp-secondary-teacher-credentialing/ccp-teacher-credentialing>).

Special Education Professional Development Opportunities

Charter School Specialists will be offering several opportunities to provide support and guidance for Special Education. Virtual Professional Development—all sessions are 12:00-1:00:

- November 21, 2024 Special Education Profiles and Indicators, Meaningful Parent Participation, and Navigating Difficult IEP Meetings
- February 27, 2025 Discipline, Avoiding Costly Mistakes, and Corrective Action Plans
- April 24, 2025 To Be Determined

Special Education Virtual Office Hours will be held the first Tuesday of each month from 12:00-1:00. These informal sessions provide Directors of Special Education, Intervention Specialists, and Administrators the opportunity to discuss the latest news from The Department of Education and Workforce & the Office for Exceptional Children. They are opportunities to ask questions, learn from colleagues, and network.

Session dates are: November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, and May 6.

Please email Susan at sscarponi@charterschoolspec.com for the link to attend any of these sessions.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



Glass City Academy Students Attend Annual Ohio Carpenter's Joint Apprenticeship Open House

On October 3, 2024, 30 students from Glass City Academy attended the annual Ohio Carpenters' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center Open House in Rossford, Ohio. This event is particularly exciting for Glass City Academy students, as it offers them the chance to explore various trades, including welding, floor laying, tiling, pipe fitting, forklift operation, and insulation. Students engaged in friendly competitions to complete tasks such as laying flooring and testing their steady hands in welding. Lunches

were provided by the Ohio Carpenters' Union for GCA's students and staff chaperones. All together, GCA's students spent over four hours at the event.

As many of the attending students are approaching graduation, they were encouraged to network with potential employers and inquire about apprenticeship opportunities and requirements. The Ohio Carpenters' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center is a highly anticipated field trip for Glass City Academy, and it's an experience that students frequently discuss and look forward to as they near graduation.



Westwood Preparatory Academy – Necco Center Fall Fest 2024

On October 10th, Necco Center, part of the Westwood family of schools, celebrated its 18th Annual Fall Festival at its Pedro, OH campus. Necco Center serves male students aged 9 to 22 who are diagnosed with various disabilities, including Autism and Bipolar Disorder. Many of these students require assistance with their physical needs and are unable to perform daily tasks independently. Some are non-verbal, and all experience behaviors that impact their ability to function autonomously at home and school.

The event, attended by CSS's Molly Wheatley, was a collaborative effort by staff and community partners, who came together to create a memorable experience for students and their families. The campus's newly renovated gymnasium was festively decorated for fall, and attendees enjoyed a fall-themed lunch and a photo booth.

Students had the opportunity to engage in a variety of fun activities, such as pumpkin decorating, horse-drawn hayrides, caramel apple making, and fall-themed crafts. There was also face painting, and live music performed by local bluegrass group, The Frog Pond Band. Additionally, students enjoyed visiting and petting llamas brought in by Good News Llamas.

The day was full of joy, excitement, and cherished moments, bringing joy to the students and their families.

Cornerstone Academy Partners with Inspireducation to Ensure its Seniors Have Many Opportunities to Succeed After Graduation

Cornerstone's graduating class of 2024 truly excelled. Some of the highlights from the 2024 graduates include:

- Institutional Non-Need Based Scholarships (Merit Aid) for One Academic Year: \$717,944
- Institutional Non-Need Based Renewable Scholarships (Merit Aid) Over Four Years: \$2,871,776
- Total Need-Based Aid (Grants and Scholarships) for One Academic Year: \$314,933
- Application Data: 183 applications submitted; with 122 acceptances
- 57 colleges the graduates applied to including: Miami University, University of Akron, Ohio University, University of Toledo, Capital University, University of Cincinnati, Bowling Green State University, Otterbein University, Kent State University, Wright State University, Youngstown State University, Columbus State Community College, The Ohio State University, The Ohio State University at Newark, University of Dayton, Baldwin Wallace University, Case Western University, Xavier University, Ohio Dominican University, Cleveland State University, Cedarville University, Central Ohio Technical College, Ohio Wesleyan

University, Shawnee State University, Wittenberg University, University of Kentucky, Northern Kentucky University, Thomas More University, Eastern Michigan, University, University of Michigan, Calvin University, University of Indianapolis, Purdue University, Bradley University, Howard University, Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, University of Virginia, Hampton University, Florida A&M University, Towson University, Stetson University, Morgan State University, University of Maryland, North Carolina A&T, State University, North Central State University, North Carolina Central UniversityPenn State University, University of Memphis, Baylor University, Louisiana State University, Rasmussen College, Southern New Hampshire University, Grand Canyon University, Bellevue University, Franklin University, Chamberlain University, Aveda Institute

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