



SPONSOR UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2024



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[Jennifer Schorr, VP of Education](#)

[Jason Moore, Senior Director of Education](#)

Mission

The mission of the Education Division of Buckeye Community Hope Foundation is to establish strong public community schools by adhering to quality authorizing practices, ensuring responsible oversight, and setting high standards for school performance.

Vision

The Education Division's vision is strong communities of healthy, well-educated students, and a future in which all students have access to a high quality public education. Ohio thrives as increasing numbers of schools graduate students equipped to assume a positive role in society.



BCHF Board Training



BCHF is offering its Annual Board training to include Ohio Open Meetings and Sunshine Law on Saturday, November 2 from 9AM-11:30AM! The training will fulfill Ohio requirements for community school governing boards and leaders. In addition, we will enhance the training with updates on topics requested by board members in our schools. This virtual, synchronous session will allow you to see, hear, and interact with other Board members from the convenience of your home on a Saturday morning. Register via Frontline if you have not already done so: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=22359&I=4890580>

Updates from DEW

SCIENCE OF READING RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Governor DeWine, in coordination with the Department of Education and Workforce, announced the Governor's Science of Reading Recognition Program. The program recognizes schools that are

demonstrating strong implementation of evidence-based instructional practices aligned to the science of reading and where students are making significant progress. Schools who meet the requirements may apply from Oct. 25 to Nov. 29

- Find more information on the [Department's website](#)

COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANT

- Ohio was awarded a \$60 million Comprehensive Literacy State Development grant from the USDOE.
- Subgrant applications should open early 2025, focus on literacy implementation sites, with emphasis on underserved populations.
- Chart of items needed for the grant can be found [here](#).

INNOVATIVE EDUCATOR ONBOARDING WEBINAR

- When: Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m.
- What: Webinar focused on sharing innovative educator onboarding ideas to recruit and retain teachers.
- The Graham School will provide information about its innovative onboarding program for new teachers.
- [Register to attend the webinar.](#)

EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

[Senate Bill 29](#)

- Electronic monitoring for threats or safety
- Notification requirements to monitoring of school devices
- Does not apply to community schools (at this time).

BCHF Leaders Recognized by Concept Schools

Our VP of Education, Jennifer Schorr, and former Director of Education, Peggy Young, were recognized as Sponsors and supporters at Concept Schools 25 year anniversary. Thank you for having us - we are grateful and honored for this recognition!



Students Receive Laptops for Testing Scores

Congratulations to the lucky students at Horizon Science Academy Youngstown who won laptops during the school's recent testing assembly! These students earned entries into the drawing based on their impressive test scores from last year, and their names were drawn as top prize winners.

The assembly celebrated student achievement with more than just laptops. Other prizes were also awarded, including the chance to dress down every Friday for the entire school year, a dress-down pass until the end of January, and special Writing Wizard t-shirts.

Congrats to all students for their hard work and commitment to excellence on State Tests!



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Global Ambassadors Language Academy hosted a school wide celebration for Hispanic Heritage Month. They celebrated with a parade, songs, dance, and showing pride in the diversity of their community and the many countries that represent Hispanic heritage.



Horizon Science Academy of Lorain hosted their Annual Hispanic Heritage Dinner to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. K-12 students showcased beautiful artwork inspired by iconic Hispanic artists, read poems, and performed songs in Spanish. The dinner also featured performances by Esencia Boricua and live music from Mambo Alto and Hiram Martinez.



The Writing Revolution

By Joni Byus, Accountability and School Improvement Representative

What do 1775 America, 1789 France, and 2017 Hochman and Wexler have in common? They all saw the need for a revolution! The colonists were discontent with colonial rule due to taxation without representation violating their rights. France was dealing with a combination of social, political, and economic factors that had become unmanageable. Judith Hochman and Natalie Wexler's mission through "The Writing Revolution (TWR) aims to enable all students, especially those from historically marginalized communities to become proficient writers, readers, and critical thinkers." For our purposes in 2024, we are going to look closer at how this modern-day revolution can make a difference in our student's success through three of the six TWR principles.

Without explicit instruction, students will not learn to write as they learn to read. Learning to write requires many decisions. These decisions include what to say, how to say it, and the writing conventions to use. This is what you need just to form a sentence! The writing process is incorporated much more easily when we begin to teach it in elementary school. The students can practice spelling and vocabulary as they acquire knowledge. Writing original sentences can check comprehension within the context of what is being taught. Explicit instruction is the way to equip student writing skills!

Connecting student writing activities with subject matter can be used at any grade level! Writing boosts retention and knowledge of the content. This content will determine the level of rigor and challenge to use with writing activities. Research has been consistent in the findings that grammar is best taught within the content. Students often have a difficult time applying grammar rules within context if they've only experienced those rules in isolation. If writing isn't taught within context, the grammar rules may be difficult for students to transfer to other subjects. Connecting is an important key to becoming a successful writer.

What purpose do outlines provide for students? Outline templates assist students in organizing their thoughts and ideas. The outline provides an opportunity for determining what information is important to include. Outlining a topic allows students to develop a flow for their information when practiced out loud prior to writing sentences and paragraphs.

The Writing Revolution (TWR) provides a strategy and framework for ensuring that students can express their information, thoughts, and ideas on paper. It allows students to understand the connection between verbal and written communication. These skills will boost the ability for students to find writing success through explicit instruction, to connect grammar and conventions with writing, and provide outline templates to organize what students are writing. When students have tools like TWR, why would they not take advantage of the information?

This article was written about The Writing Revolution (TWR) using the information from *The Writing Revolution* and written in the form suggested by TWR.

If you'd like more information about *The Writing Revolution*, please contact Joni Byus (jbyus@buckeyehope.org) or Mindy Farry (mfarry@buckeyehope.org).

Brit Seward Accepted into National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Fellowship

Brit Seward, BCHF Accountability and School Improvement Specialist, has been accepted as a fellow into the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM)! NCSM is a premier mathematics education leadership organization. Their leadership in the mathematics education community develops vision, ensures support, and guarantees that all students engage in equitable, high-quality mathematical experiences that lead to powerful, flexible uses of mathematical understanding to affect their lives and to improve the world.

The fellowship program pairs emerging math leaders with experienced mentors who are able to meet and connect at the annual NCSM conference. For Brit, the fellowship is more than a professional development opportunity - it's a chance to enact meaningful change in math education and cultivate an inclusive community of learners.

Inspired by NCSM's mission to equip and empower diverse education communities, Brit applied for the fellowship through an online application process, which required two letters of recommendation. Her selection was confirmed in late summer, bringing with it the opportunity to work one-on-one with her mentor, Christina Lincoln-Moore, a respected educator and co-founder of Black Womxn in Mathematics Education (**BWXME**). Ms. Lincoln-Moore's work centers on disrupting systems of oppression by challenging marginality and privilege within mathematical spaces, and nurturing Black Womxn's mathematical agency while promoting "Black Girl Joy."

Brit's fellowship experience will focus on promoting equitable methods for mathematics instruction. The goal is to move away from traditional models and empower teachers to help their students see themselves as capable "doers" of mathematics.

"If I want to grow as a math leader, having a true mentor is essential," Brit reflects. "It's about being a doer and a learner, fostering a community where we can be honest about our challenges and intentional about our growth."

Brit believes that her fellowship will strengthen her impact in her work at Buckeye. She plans to guide school leaders through rethinking math education, including evaluating their programs, setting clear statements of commitment, and actively pushing for equitable math experiences. This aligns with her work to build a math cohort, pilot her Math Minds monthly newsletter, and deliver her keynote address titled "Tending to the Roots: Confronting Mathematical Growth in Our Schools" at the BCHF annual School Leadership Summit.

Brit's journey through the NCSM Fellowship embodies her bold commitment to empowering students and educators alike, with a clear focus on equity, accountability, and building a vibrant math learning community.

To join Brit's math cohort, register for a session via Frontline: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=22359&I=4816948>



Brit Seward with Soror Christina Lincoln-Moore, Co-founder of BWXME.



Math Minds Monthly

Check out the latest edition of MathMinds Monthly, your monthly dive into the world of mathematics, curated by Brit Seward,

Latest Newsletter

What We're Reading at BCHF

The School Improvement and Accountability team at Buckeye has been reading *Fierce Conversations: Achieving Success at Work & in Life One Conversation at a Time* (2017 revision) by Susan Scott with a goal to help engage in meaningful biannual review and improvement conversations with our school leaders.

From the book: *The master teacher of positive change through powerful communication, Susan Scott wants her readers to succeed. To do that, she explains, one must transform everyday conversations employing effective ways to get the message across. In this guide, which includes exercises and tools to take you step by step through the Seven Principles of Fierce Conversations, Scott teaches readers how to:*

- * Overcome barriers to meaningful communication
- * Expand and enrich conversations with colleagues, friends, and family
- * Increase clarity and improve understanding
- * Handle strong emotions-on both sides of the table

Team Reflections:

"I thought it was great—an insightful and practical guide. The book provides valuable tools for engaging in direct, honest conversations that build and strengthen relationships rather than create conflict. It helps make difficult conversations something to embrace instead of avoid." -**Dane Puterbaugh**

"This was an excellent read, that has given me many professional and personal life-long "takeaways". Susan Scott's seventh principle of "Fierce Conversations" is to let silence do the heavy lifting! When we let silence do the heavy lifting...

- We slow down the conversation, so that insight can occur in the space between words, and we can discover what the conversation really wants and needs to be about."
- Silence is not just the absence of talking, it's an active and generative practice. It's both an inner state of stillness and an *outer stance* of being fully present with another human being, listening deeply.
- Without a space for silence, there is no space for reflection.

I routinely ask myself, how do I/can I create space for silence, pause or reflection with myself and others?" -**Sandra Harris**

Board Member Spotlight



Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) recognizes the important work that governing board members do in supporting their school community. In recognition and support of this hard work, BCHF is highlighting one board member each month in our sponsor newsletter.

This month we are featuring Bert Carter, who serves on the Buckeye Community School board. The mission of Buckeye Community School is: *To create an educational experience through positive relationships that empowers every person the opportunity to overcome personal challenges and pursue one's unique goals.*

Bert has been a board member for three and a half years. Previously, he worked as a mentor for children through job and family services and the court system, which led him to see the needs of kids in the community. He then became a board member of Buckeye Community School.

Outside of being a board member, Bert spends most of his time with family and friends. He also enjoys golfing, and is an owner of thoroughbred race horses.

What have you learned over the years about board meetings, and what changes have you made as a board member that help meetings run more efficiently?

I have learned that while running or being a part of the board meetings, it's important to be engaged and ask questions that also include future proposals. I have not really had to make any changes to our board meetings as I feel they are very proficient and effective.

How do you solicit and retain new board members?

I try to solicit individuals that are involved and understand the community in which our school serves. People that are professionals and work with/or around the kids in our community.

What are some of the proudest moments you have had as a board member?

By far the proudest moments of my service have been the graduation ceremonies. Seeing the kids, so proud of their success and the positive outlook they have for their future is the best reward of all.

What part of the school's mission do you most connect with?

My favorite part of our mission is watching the kids overcome personal challenges. Having worked with our students in the community, I have seen the struggles and hard times many of them have. There's nothing more heartwarming than to see them succeed and grow both as individuals and members of the community. I have seen the positive impact they make on their own families and it is such a rewarding thing.

All of us in the Education Division of BCHF appreciate the commitment to students Bert Carter has shown. We hope, in sharing these stories, others will consider serving as community school governing board members.

November Compliance Update

S.B. 29 Student Data Privacy (effective 10/24/2024):

Does not apply to community schools (at this time).

- Prohibits a technology provider from selling, sharing, or disseminating educational records or using those records for a commercial purpose.
- Requires each contract between a technology provider and school is to ensure appropriate security safeguards for educational records.
- The technology provider must destroy or return all educational records within 90 days of contract expiring.

- Prohibits a school or tech provider from electronically accessing or monitoring a student's activity on a school-issued device as it relates to location-tracking, recording, or student interactions (including keystrokes and web-browsing activity). The exceptions include:
 - a. Non-commercial education purpose.
 - b. Judicial warrant.
 - c. Find a lost/stolen device.
 - d. If necessary to prevent or respond to a threat of life or safety.
 - e. If necessary to comply with federal or state law.
 - f. If necessary to participate in federal or state funding programs.
- A school issued device is defined broadly referring to "hardware, software, devices, and accounts that a school district, acting independently or with a technology provider, provides to an individual student for the student's dedicate personal use."
- Parent/guardian must be notified within 72 hours of a student's device being monitored.
- By August 1st of each year, S.B. 29 will require a school to notify parent/guardian of any curriculum, testing, or assessment tech provider contract affecting a student's educational records. The notice is required to:
 - a. Identify each technology provider with access to technology records.
 - b. Identify the educational records affected by the contract.
 - c. Identify when it is monitoring a school-issued device.

AED / Model Emergency Action Plan

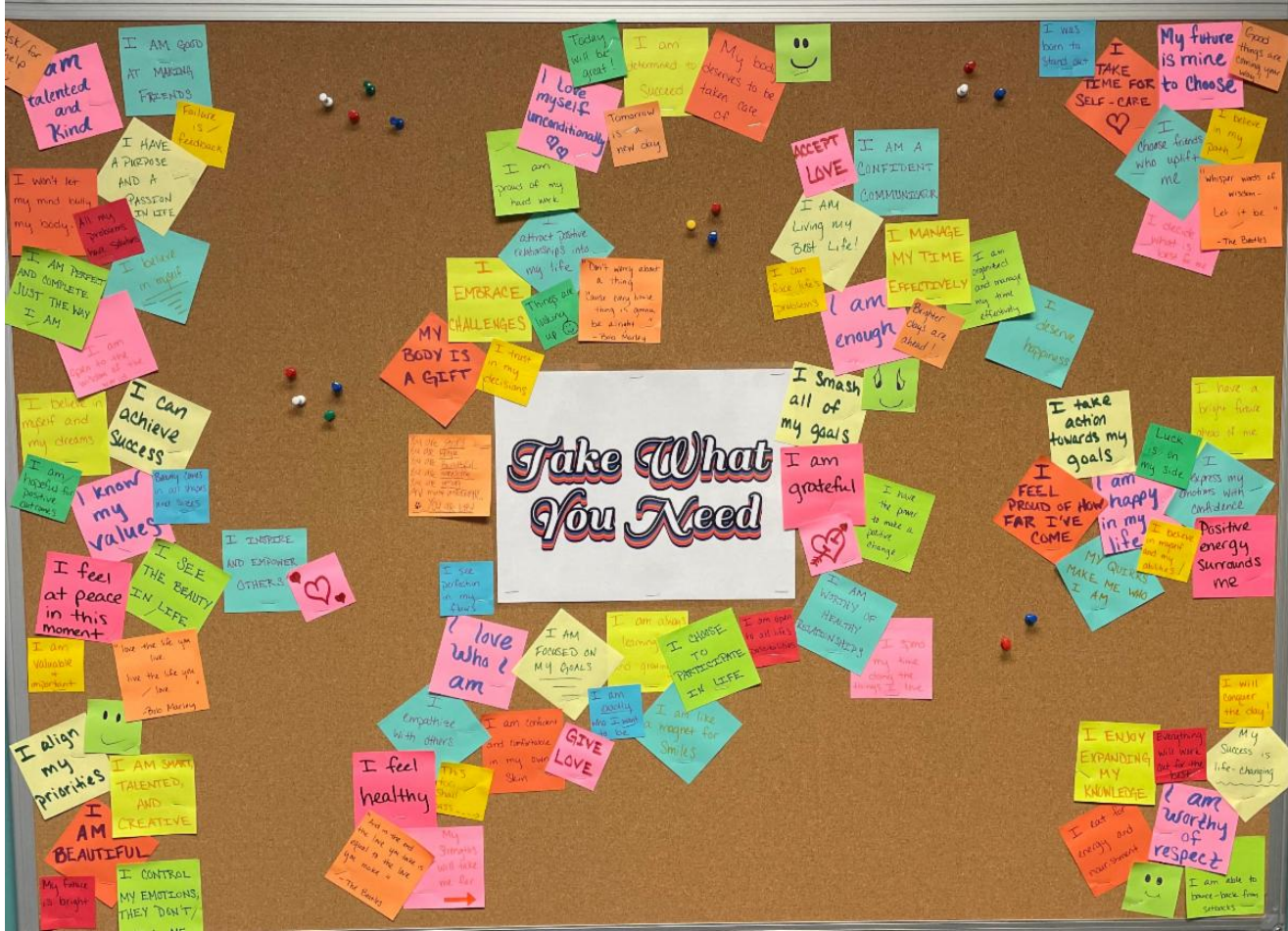
In accordance with House Bill 47 passed by the 135th Ohio General Assembly, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has developed a Model Emergency Action Plan for the Use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) by public and chartered nonpublic schools, youth sports organizations, and municipal sports and recreation locations. The model and other resources are available on ODH's [website \(https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/sudden-cardiac-arrest/model-action-plan\)](https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/sudden-cardiac-arrest/model-action-plan).

Under the new law, which took effect on October 24, 2024, AEDs must be placed in both of the following:

- Each public and chartered nonpublic school.
- Each municipal sports and recreation location, except in townships and villages with populations of less than 5,000.

School Spotlights

Here's a look at the "Take One, Leave One" Board at [Buckeye Community School Springfield!](#) Each post-it note holds a positive word or phrase of affirmation written by students and staff. The idea is simple but impactful: take a message to lift your spirits and leave one to encourage someone else.



Students at **Focus Learning Academy Southeast** took a field trip to Hocking Hills. They enjoyed their time outdoors exploring Old Man's Cave.



Horizon Science Academy Youngstown has been awarded the Gold Recognition Award for the 2024 Ohio PBIS Showcase! This recognition reflects HSAY's commitment to creating a positive school climate and supporting the success of all students. Congratulations to all of you for your hard work and dedication to your students.



The new playground at **Westside Academy** officially opened yesterday! This fantastic addition provides a safe and fun environment for the students to enjoy. The school held a special ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the occasion. Congratulations!



Upcoming Events

Can you believe the busy holiday season is upon on? This is a stressful time for educators as our usual routines may be disrupted. Keep the ship sailing on an even course and join us for some important professional development sessions. Sessions this month will help YOU and your school community remain focused on the importance of consistent, purposeful schooling. We will also integrate some of that wonderful pre-holiday JOY! Register for sessions via the link in the title, or go to BCHF's Professional Learning Opportunities Catalog, [available here](#).

Workforce Literacy Workshops – November 12, 2024 – 2:30 to 4:00 P.M. – Online via Zoom

These sessions continue the amazing work of ten lead schools and their coordinators in developing workforce literacy instruction for students. Anyone is free to join us, however, to continue the work, add to the discussion, and celebrate increased opportunities for our secondary students to become employable and articulate in the workforce.

COHORT: LEADERSHIP – November 13, 2024 – 2:00 to 3:30 P.M. – Online via Zoom

The BCHF Leadership Cohort is designed with school leaders and their priority needs in mind. The cohort will meet 2-3 times each semester with a focus in 2023-24 on building support for inexperienced and non-traditional teachers. Our November session will focus on the school leader's role in ensuring high quality instruction. Join us for another amazing, shared discussion!

IGNITING THE SPARK: TRANSFORMATIVE STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT – November 6, 2024 – 4:00 to 5:30 P.M. – Online via Zoom

Transform your classroom into a hub of active learning! Discover proven strategies and innovative approaches that will awaken students' curiosity and participation. By activating students' background knowledge and fostering lively interactions in your classroom, these practical tools and resources will help you deliver lessons that captivate and inspire. With a new toolbox of engagement tactics that can be implemented immediately, participants will leave the session with the confidence to cultivate a more vibrant and effective learning environment.

WHAT ABOUT US? THE SCIENCE OF READING FOR SECONDARY EDUCATORS (5-12) – November 12, 2024 – 4:00 to 5:30 P.M. – Online via Zoom

We've heard all of the conversations for elementary educators about the science of reading. Little has been said, however, for teachers in grades 5-12. Join our discussion about what the Science of Reading means for all of us at the secondary level in all content areas--not just ELA.

SUPPORTING MATHEMATICS TEACHERS BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER INSTRUCTION – November 19, 2024 - 10:00 to 11:15 A.M. – Online via Zoom

How can you guarantee that mathematics instruction for your teachers and students is relevant and meaningful? This session is designed for leaders who give formal and informal feedback to mathematics teachers. You will learn how to use standards and data to ensure consistent learning expectations before the lesson, observe and collect evidence of high-quality instruction during learning, and give actionable feedback to teachers, individually and as a group, after the lesson.

KEEPING THE FLAME BURNING: STRATEGIES TO MAINTAIN STUDENT ATTENDANCE YEAR-ROUND – December 3, 2024 – 4:00 to 5:30 P.M. – Online via Zoom

Maintaining consistent student attendance is crucial for academic success, yet some periods throughout the school year can be more challenging than others. This interactive session equips you with effective strategies to keep students engaged and motivated, fostering a positive school climate that prioritizes attendance all year long.

Have a story or event at your school you would like to share? Send it to Hana, Strategic Communications Specialist: hchandoul@buckeyehope.org.

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