

LET'S CONNECT CONFERENCE

APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2023
HILTON COLUMBUS/POLARIS
COLUMBUS, OHIO

HOSTED BY



ESC Network
Regional Coordinators

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The Ohio Educational Service Center Association (OESCA) provides support, professional learning and legislative advocacy for Ohio's 51 educational service centers (ESCs) that serve Ohio school districts statewide. OESCA represents ESCs on the state and national levels and partners with the Ohio Department of Education on a variety of projects and grants. oesca.org

Check Your Nametag

The color of your nametag corresponds with your region. Look for colleagues in your region by checking the color on their nametags.



Funding for this conference was provided by an Ohio Department of Education Future Forward Grant and paid for each attendee's \$475 registration fee.



Five Regional Coordinators serve ESCs in northwest, southwest, northeast and southeast regions of Ohio. Regional coordinators provide regional networking, information and assistance to ESCs in their regions and serve on State and Ohio Department of Education project teams.

Regional Coordinators



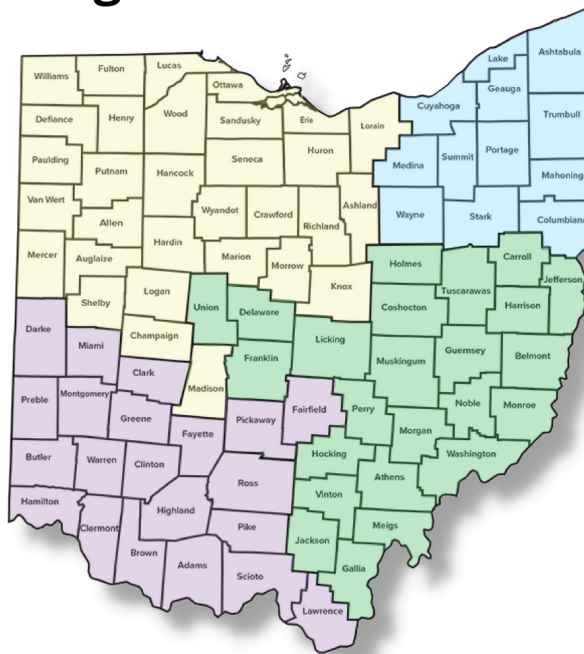
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Schedule

Sunday

5:00-6:00pm Teach Better Grant Recipient Round Table
Vega Board Room

6:00-8:00pm Reception
Polaris Grand Foyer/Patio
Sponsored by **mooZOOM**

Monday

8:00-9:00am Continental Breakfast
Polaris Grand Ballroom

9:00-10:30am Welcome & Keynote Speaker
Polaris Grand Ballroom

Craig Burford, OESCA Executive Director
Stephanie Siddens, Interim State Superintendent

Keynote Speaker: Peter DeWitt, ED.D.
"Why is Collaboration Usually One-Sided?
Six Ways to Connect for Real"

10:45-11:30am Breakout Session 1

11:45am-12:30pm Breakout Session 2

12:30-1:30pm Lunch

1:30-2:15pm Breakout Session 3

2:30-3:15pm Breakout Session 4

4:00-6:00pm Social Gathering
Polaris Grand Foyer/Patio
Sponsored by **ZB Zaner-Bloser**

Tuesday

8:00-9:00am Breakfast & Welcome
Polaris Grand Ballroom

9:15-10:00am Regional Meetings:
Northwest (Yellow Badge) *Gemini B*
Northeast (Blue Badge) *Gemini A*
Southwest (Purple Badge) *Polaris B/E*
Southeast (Green Badge) *Gemini C*

10:15-11:00am Breakout Session 5

11:15-Noon Breakout Session 6

Noon Adjourn

Speakers



Peter DeWitt, Keynote Speaker

Peter DeWitt Ed.D, a former educator and principal, is a nationally recognized school leadership coach, and best-selling author who speaks internationally. DeWitt's areas of expertise are instructional leadership, developing collective efficacy among leadership teams, and fostering inclusive school climates. He also coaches school-based leaders, directors, instructional coaches and teacher leaders as well as school-based leadership teams both in-person and remotely. He writes the Finding Common Ground column and co-created A Seat At the Table for Education Week. petermdewitt.com



Stephanie Siddens, Interim State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education

Stephanie Siddens Ph.D. has been with the Department since 2006. She previously served as the Senior Executive Director of the Department's Center for Student Supports where she oversaw the implementation of the whole child framework, early learning, special education, gifted education, nutrition, prevention education, positive behavioral intervention and supports, social and emotional learning, school climate, behavioral health and school-based health. Her center implemented programs in support of special student populations including students with disabilities, English learners, homeless youth, migrant, foster care and justice-involved youth.



Craig Burford, Executive Director, OESCA

Craig Burford has served as OESCA Executive Director since August 2000. In this capacity, he manages association operations, and directs the policy development and lobbying efforts of the association through its grass roots network. He also serves on the Executive Council of the national Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs), representing state executive directors across the United States.

Monday Breakout Session 1

10:45-11:30am

Lyra Room	<p>**This session has been canceled.** STEAM for Administrators <i>Janna Mino, Mary Ellen Dobransky (Ohio Department of Education)</i> Learn about the core principles of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) education, how to apply for STEAM designation in the state of Ohio, how the Ohio Department of Education's makes these practices equitable and accessible across the state, and supports in place for schools and districts.</p>
Polaris A	<p>Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for English Learner Programs <i>Rossana Torres (Summit ESC)</i> Learn about a methodology that increases the correct identification in disability categories for English Learners with English as a second language instruction under MTSS.</p>
Polaris B/E	<p>De-Implementation: Creating Space to Focus on What Works <i>Dr. Peter DeWitt</i> Learn about de-implementation – reducing or abandoning low value practices or engaging in a more effective replacement action - to focus energy on effective practices.</p>
Polaris C	<p>Business Advisory Councils Bridge Gaps: Collaborative Solutions to Workforce Challenges <i>Curt Bradshaw (Southern Ohio ESC), Ruth Brindle (Clinton County Workforce Collaborative)</i> Learn how one ESC Business Advisory Council tackled critical, multifaceted issues surrounding workforce development by bridging gaps between students and the workforce.</p>
Polaris D	<p>Digital Citizens and Navigating the Digital World <i>Jackie Heinzelmann (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Learn how to support districts, administrators and teachers by embedding digital citizenship into the curriculum. Are we empowering our learners to engage in the digital world positively? Learn how to use existing technology to provide opportunities for students to practice positive digital citizenship skills.</p>
Polaris F	<p>Creating a Student & Family Resource Center <i>Kristin Llewellyn (ESC of the Western Reserve), Abby Begeman (Geauga Family Community Partners)</i> Learn a practical approach to creating a student and family resource center for after school and summer programming - includes specific program offerings and the role of liaison services.</p>
Gemini A	<p>Which Way? Data Way for Rich Literacy Conversations <i>Olivia Weisman, Jennifer Martinez, Jessica Klump (ESC of Lorain County)</i> How do those who support schools help teachers and administrators purposefully analyze their data to drive instruction that promotes learning for all students? Literacy Specialists will share the data analysis process they facilitate with teams that ends with key action steps aligned with the Science of Reading.</p>
Gemini B	<p>Leveraging Partnerships with Area Coaches <i>Beth Walsh-Moorman, Kelly Moran, Dr. Vanessa Karwan (ESC of Western Reserve)</i> Learn how collaborating with local literacy coaches has helped one ESC meet local needs. Presenters will share how they addressed limited resources and challenging demands by purchasing limited days of service from in-district literacy coaches.</p>
Gemini C	<p>How to Move from Balanced to Structured Literacy <i>Aimee Mendelsohn (ESC of Lake Erie West)</i> Moving away from a Balanced Literacy Classroom and incorporating a Structured Literacy approach will take a shift not only in mindsets, but also in expectations, support, and resources. Discover the difference between balanced and structured literacy and what it will take to make this shift.</p>

Monday Breakout Session 2 11:45am-12:30pm

Lyra Room	Teaching Decoding to Adolescents <i>Carolyn Turner (State Support Team 13)</i> The Simple View of Reading is a widely accepted model that explains that reading has two essential components: word recognition (decoding) and language comprehension. Explore ways to teach adolescent readers to decode and comprehend complex texts.
Polaris A	Connecting the Science of Reading with STEAM <i>Natalie Crotte, Lori Bolone (ESC of Lake Erie West)</i> Learn how to use STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Math) to strengthen The Science of Reading across content areas. This session looks at research-based reading development and aligns lesson creation to fortify literacy practice across subject areas.
Polaris B/E	ESC Collaborative Practices: Working Smarter Not Harder <i>Dr. Vanessa Karwan (ESC of the Western Reserve)</i> Learn how two ESCs collaborate to enhance professional development offerings, curriculum support, capacity building and fiscal solvency.
Polaris C	Building Communities of Practice to Transform Systems of Support <i>Tracy Jennings, Kelly Miller, and Heather Sass (Butler County ESC)</i> Ready to provide an exciting professional development experience? Say no to workshops and "sit & get". Participants will learn how to leverage communities of practice to provide a personalized, collaborative experience for attendees.
Polaris D	Supporting Student Wellness through Personalized Learning <i>Missy McClurg, Rachel Glass, Michelle Rogers, Ashley Place, Megan Gross (Mercer County ESC)</i> Social Emotional Learning coaches and Personalized Learning Specialists will help participants identify the data and research supporting implementation of explicit social emotional learning instruction to meet individual student needs, self-awareness and growth and provide strategies and resources for educators.
Polaris F	Wellness From Within <i>Amber Nickels and Cindy Eldridge (ESC of Central Ohio)</i> As the mental needs of students have risen, the anxiety and stress levels of teachers, administrators and school staff has soared. Learn about an innovative approach to improving mental health and wellness by building capacity and meeting staff needs within the school environment.
Gemini A	Revolutionizing Education: How Artificial Intelligence Will Change the Way We Learn and Work <i>Rebecca Dwenger, Jennifer Haller (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Learn about the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) in education. AI involves the creation of machines and software that can think, learn, and solve problems like humans. As AI continues to evolve, it will have a profound impact on education at all levels and will change the way we learn and work in the future.
Gemini B	Lessons Learned in Building District Capacity to Serve English Learners <i>Kelly Miller (Butler County ESC)</i> Multilingual learners are a rapidly growing population across our state. ESC's can build capacity within their teams to foster trusting relationships and offer their expertise to plan for personalized learning, coaching, and training experiences for the districts they serve.
Gemini C	How to Build Conceptual Fact Fluency K-4 <i>Barb Weidus (Math Coach)</i> Using Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics, this session will look at how fact fluency is developed. The session will provide a look at three aligned systems from K-4 that can be used independently, with a textbook series, with Tier 2/Tier 3 interventions or for summer school remediation.

Monday Breakout Session 3

1:30-2:15pm

Lyra Room	<p>Incorporating Complexity and Evidence-Based Practices Through Text Sets <i>Michelle Elia (Ohio Department of Education)</i> Text sets can serve as a means for scaffolding complex text for all learners while also building background knowledge, vocabulary, comprehension, and motivation for literacy tasks. This session will review frameworks for creating text sets and explore examples of existing text sets.</p>
Polaris A	<p>Diversifying and Enhancing Students' Learning <i>Liz Curtis (ESC Of Central Ohio)</i> The resources used in classrooms have the potential to positively introduce different viewpoints, cultures, histories, experiences, and voices. Explore ways to add diverse content to lessons with low prep time and receive tools for getting students involved in curating diverse material lists.</p>
Polaris B/E	<p>Mental Health in Education <i>Cristin O'Riordan (Fairfield County ESC)</i> Learn how to reduce stress and anxiety and increase positivity using scientifically-proven strategies. This session focuses on action and application and focuses on the "whys" behind the strategies to help participants discover what works best for them.</p>
Polaris C	<p>Keeping Talent Local - How Personalized Learning Can Prepare Students in Rural Districts <i>Tammy Metcalf, Tracy Merica, Elizabeth Wolfe-Eberly, Christina Grady-Watts, Cathy Morgan (Ohio Personalized Learning Specialists)</i> How can we ensure our graduating students in rural, high-poverty districts have the skills necessary for equitable access to newly available high-tech employment opportunities? Learn how implementing personalized learning can remove obstacles to learning and help students discover their "why".</p>
Polaris D	<p>Creating and Facilitating Educator Network Meetings <i>Claire Preston (Montgomery County ESC)</i> Learn how one ESC created and facilitates network meetings where educators share best practices, ideas, concerns, and state updates in working with English Learners.</p>
Polaris F	<p>Engage and Challenge Gifted Learners in the Regular Classroom <i>Alison Ciferno (ESC of the Western Reserve)</i> Learn strategies for engaging and challenging gifted and high-ability students in the typical classroom setting. This interactive session will focus on strategies and ideas for engaging all students, with a focus on providing gifted learners with challenging opportunities.</p>
Gemini A	<p>Equitable Access to Learning through Quality Instructional Design <i>Jennifer Sayre, Emily Jablonka (Fairfield County ESC)</i> Whether for online, blended, or as an extension to a classroom, high quality instructional design is vital for any learner to be successful. Learn easy-to-implement steps to make online learning content accessible for all learners in all environments.</p>
Gemini B	<p>The Whole Child Framework: A House ESCs Built <i>Alexandra George, Ashley Mariano (Ashtabula County ESC)</i> Learn how the Community Learning Center model fits within Ohio's Whole Child Framework. Participants will be equipped to centralize ESCs as a resource for cross-systems initiative sustainability, engage with community stakeholders and provide technical assistance.</p>
Gemini C	<p>Pioneering Immersive Virtual Reality in the Math Classroom <i>Laura Drager, Michael O'Shaughnessy (Montgomery County ESC)</i> Virtual Reality leverages best practice techniques to educate students the way their brains are wired to learn – through experience, movement and real-world problems. Learn how one ESC provides training to other ESCs on the implementation of the Prisms math virtual reality curriculum</p>

Monday Breakout Session 4

2:30-3:15pm

Lyra Room	High School Mathematics Pathways Initiative Overview <i>Brian Bickley (Ohio Department of Education)</i> Join the Department to learn more about how Math Pathways (Algebra 2 equivalent courses) provides options for students to create a high school math course sequence that better prepares to meet their college and career goals.
Polaris A	Introduction to Flowlab.io for Game Design using Problem Based Learning <i>Dr. Dean Whitfield (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Learn about a browser-based platform for game design that applies Problem-Based Learning (PBL) to engage students and foster communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. Participants will view the teacher dashboard, discuss classroom workflows, and build their own unique games.
Polaris B/E	Student-Led SEL: More Learning, No Training or Prep for Teachers <i>Carol Isaac (Rock Hill Elementary-Lawrence County ESC), Pasquale Iacono (mooZoom)</i> Are your teachers tired of feeling like a one-person show in their classroom? Are you struggling to convince them to teach SEL? Come learn how student-led Social Emotional Learning (SEL) can transform teaching practices and lighten teacher workload by 75%.
Polaris C	Coaching Cycles - The Link to Teacher Efficacy <i>Caleb Allen (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Participants will gain an understanding of the sources that lead to greater efficacy and apply the understanding of efficacy sources to leverage successful coaching cycles and discuss how coaching cycles have the potential to increase the belief of positive learning impact for students.
Polaris D	Effectively Promoting ESC Services to Districts <i>Allyson Robinson (Ohio ESC Association)</i> It doesn't matter what programs and services an ESC offers if districts don't "get the message". Effective promotion helps ESCs save time and money, increase response from districts, and improve service to schools. Learn how to target audiences, identify what's not working, and implement what does.
Polaris F	Extended Learning: Inspiration and Innovation <i>Jen Baumgartner, Christine Hovest, Barb Buval, Cindy Moore (Allen County ESC)</i> Participants will learn about innovative Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programs one ESC created with Extended Learning Grant funding provided by the Ohio Department of Education. Topics include program selection, funding through "mini-grants" and how to replicate programs in other ESCs and school districts.
Gemini A	Job Coaching Students with Disabilities 101 <i>Jaina Gandolfi and Candace Craig (ESC of the Western Reserve)</i> Well-trained job coaches are essential to the success of students with disabilities at the workplace. Learn about job analysis, site preparation, training, problem solving, data collection, and ongoing supports.
Gemini B	Fostering Belonging, Personalization, and Student Ownership of Learning <i>Dr. Craig West and Allison Curran (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Discover how to use learner profiles as a tool for increased personalization and student ownership of their academic trajectories. By leveraging basic technology, previously siloed or forgotten information can be shared schoolwide and actively used to help students proactively shape their academic narratives.
Gemini C	Community and Career Connected Learning <i>Claire Ramsey (Building Bridges to Careers) and Kristi Leonard-Webber (Ohio Valley ESC)</i> Learn about Problem Based Learning curriculum initiatives that foster successful school-community relationships, inspire student-led career choice through experiential entrepreneurship, and provide professional development for educators and educational leaders.

Tuesday Breakout Session 5

10:15-11:00am

Lyra Room	Supporting Districts with High-Quality Instruction <i>Sherry Birchem, Kerry Martinez, Neeta Agrawal (Ohio Department of Education)</i> Learn about Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies supports for districts on high-quality instruction and work in small groups to outline how Ohio's Learning Standards and high-quality instructional materials support all students.
Polaris A	Transition Tips and Resources from a Parent Mentor and Special Needs Parent <i>Michelle Frygier and Jaina Gandolfi (ESC of the Western Reserve)</i> Discover how to guide families through the postsecondary transition journey, and review helpful resources that can be used to assist families, school personnel, agency partners and other stakeholders interested or involved in a student's transition to life after school.
Polaris B/E	Breaking Down Silos through Interdisciplinary Teaming <i>Chris Gilkey, Kaitlin Carington, Angie Martin, Amy Revalee Carr, Valerie Theile (Hamilton County ESC)</i> When people become siloed in their work it can impede student success. Learn about the importance of a highly effective teaming model and how this has been implemented through an interdisciplinary team.
Polaris C	Human Centered Learning Practices <i>Heather Townley (ESC of Lake Erie West) and Cathy Morgan (Muskingum Valley ESC)</i> Learn how to support educators in making the shift to human centered practices through research, publications, best practices and implementation planning. This interactive session will use research to return to what is most important in schools and classrooms, the humans involved.
Polaris D	Bringing Design Thinking to Schools by Creating a Mobile Innovation Lab <i>Rob Niedermeyer and BJ Thaman (ESC of Central Ohio)</i> Learn how Project Innovation mobile innovation kits are used to bring Project Based Learning and MakerEd to member schools. Participants will view examples of current uses with students, learn best practices and pitfalls to avoid when creating a reservable mobile lab.
Polaris F	Training and Credentialing Regional Data Leads to Support District Data Usage <i>Shannon Ranta and Jeremy Hunter (ESC of the Western Reserve)</i> Learn about training and credentialing opportunities that will enable regional data leads to provide data analysis guidance to districts.
Gemini A	World Café Collaborative Math Networking <i>Frank Carraher and Shannon Ranta (ESC of the Western Reserve), Mallary Mancino (ESC of Lorain County), Steve Miller and Susan Huth (Summit ESC)</i> Learn about developing and leading regional math professional learning networks through the World Café Model. Topics include: setting networking goals, understanding frameworks and refining components.
Gemini B	Developing High Quality Professional Learning for Educators <i>Lindsey Schmiesing (Mercer County ESC), Stephanie Wagoner (Brown County ESC)</i> Learn how two ESCs worked together to develop high-quality professional learning conferences for educators, how feedback is used to plan and organize the day, how technology is used.
Gemini C	Voice Technology is Reshaping Education <i>Rebecca Dwenger and Jess Lauderman (Hamilton County ESC)</i> Learn about an innovative technology that supports student accessibility, executive functioning skills, analysis, learning, and teacher productivity. Participants will learn about voice recognition and conversational AI tools available now, and other uses of this technology.

Tuesday Breakout Session 6

11:15am-Noon

Lyra Room	Updates from the ODE Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies <i>Sherry Birchem, Kerry Martinez, Neeta Agrawal, Sarah Wilson (Ohio Department of Education)</i> Participants will receive updates on initiative and legislative updates specific to curriculum and instruction.
Polaris A	How Personalized Learning Complements and Strengthens Tier 1 MTSS <i>Tammy Metcalf, Tracy Jennings and Heather Sass (Butler County ESC)</i> Learn how using personalized learning as the basis for Tier 1 instruction will lead to fewer learners needing Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. Explore Ohio's Personalized Learning Network along with a discussion of how personalized learning complements the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework.
Polaris B/E	High Level Collaboration Between ESCs and ITCs <i>Dave Clark (Butler County ESC), Jeremy Hunter (Lake Geauga Computer Association), John Mansell-Pleydell (Northern Buckeye Professional Learning)</i> Learn how three organizations came together virtually to create and develop a successful statewide initiative funded by a state-level grant. Participants will learn about best practices developed throughout the conception, writing, creation, revision, deployment, and marketing of the Ohio Learning Community.
Polaris C	Unlock the Power of Purposeful Relationships <i>Ashley Mariano, Andrea Summers, Lillian McCree, Jackie O'Reilly (ESC of Eastern Ohio)</i> Unlock the power of relationships as a catalyst for student academic, attendance, and behavioral success. Review evidence-based relationship and resource mapping strategies and learn how purposeful relationships sustain student success within MTSS and the Whole Child Framework.
Polaris D	Delivering High Quality World Language Instruction Virtually <i>Michele Carlisle (East Central Ohio ESC)</i> Learn how licensed World Language instructors deliver proficiency-based instruction through virtual connections to classrooms statewide. Schedules, curriculum and standards alignment, delivery tips and best practices will be addressed during this presentation.
Polaris F	Trauma and Amygdala Hijacks <i>Elizabeth Kregel (ESC of Lake Erie West)</i> Learn how trauma re-wires the brain and makes it difficult for traumatized students to regulate their emotions. When students become escalated, they often experience amygdala hijacks, which can be scary and frustrating. Learn about interventions to help students de-escalate and return to a learning ready state.
Gemini A	Written Education Plans Done Digitally and Efficiently <i>Michael O'Shaughnessy and Katie Pearson (Montgomery County ESC)</i> Learn how to use Google Workspace for Education's free apps to make creating and updating written education plans (WEPs) more efficient. Topics will include how to use templates and how pre-filled Form URLs can help teachers submit goals and updates.
Gemini B	Identifying and Supporting English Language Learners <i>Alicia Dyer, Elizabeth Curtis and Regina Lukich (ESC of Central Ohio)</i> Learn how to identify and support English language (EL) learners using Ohio-based facts, demographics, characteristics and cultural considerations. This session will cover Federal and State requirements and provide an EL best practices toolkit to participants.

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