

CMSD SponsorShip



A newsletter for CMSD-sponsored community schools

Contact CMSD

Please direct inquiries on CMSD sponsorship of community schools to:

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In addition to Ms. Klupinski, please continue to contact other key CMSD staff members on these specific matters:

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More information on CMSD's community school sponsorship and other collaborative initiatives related to community schools in Cleveland is available on the CMSD website, ClevelandMetroSchools.org, by clicking on the "Schools" tab on the main menu and then on "CMSD/Charter School Collaboration."



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OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 2016–17 SPONSOR RATINGS

Cleveland Metropolitan School District

EFFECTIVE

Letter from the Executive Director

Happy holidays! The CMSD Charter Schools Office has big news to celebrate—our sponsor rating. On November 15, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) released the ratings for the 2016–17 year, and CMSD received an overall rating of Effective! CMSD received the highest scores possible in the Compliance and Quality Practices categories. We are also proud to note that no other sponsor that authorizes more than two charter schools outperformed us. As a result of our improved rating, we should be able to start sponsoring new schools again once we amend our contract with ODE.

Dates to Remember

This list is not comprehensive but highlights some upcoming events, opportunities, deadlines, and other dates. Schools should continue to rely on other tools as well, especially Epicenter.

DEC. 1

CMSD Partnership Application released
Available at:
ClevelandMetroSchools.org/Page/6142

DEC. 11

CMSD All-Sponsored School Meeting
From 1–4 pm. 2nd Floor Cafeteria,
East Professional Center

DEC. 19

Partnership Applications Due

JAN. 11

Cleveland Education Compact Meeting
From 2:30–4:30 p.m. Location TBD

JAN. 18

Study the Network

This is an immersive experience that engages participants in a live learning environment combining classroom observations, practical videos, focused activities, time for reflection and discussion, and inside access to our network of high-performing, urban public charter schools. For more information, visit schoolperformanceinstitute.org/what-is-study-the-network

FEB 9

David Osbourne, Author of “Reinventing America’s Schools: Creating a 21st Century Education System at the City Club”. Noon. City Club of Cleveland. For more information, visit cityclub.org/events/city-club-forum--2

This accomplishment can be attributed to a variety of different factors, including increased capacity at the Charter School Office, major improvements to the evaluation process by ODE, and the hard work of our sponsored schools, particularly the operations directors, who helped gather and submit over 300 compliance items.

Now, CMSD will no longer be on a quality improvement plan with ODE, and we will be able to start sponsoring new schools again once we amend our contract with the department.

For more details on the sponsor ratings, please see [page 3](#). The only bad news is that pretty soon, we will start gearing up to do this all over again. ODE is still making change to the rubrics for the 2017–18 evaluation. Once they are finalized, CMSD will begin submitting documentation for this year’s process.

This month, on [page 7](#), *SponsorSHIP* features a profile on Near West Intergenerational School. You’ll find our legislative update on [page 5](#). We will return with staff profiles in our next edition.

Thank you for choosing CMSD as your sponsor, and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

—Stephanie

Stephanie Klupinski,
Executive Director of
Charter Schools,
CMSD



A Closer Look at the Sponsor Ratings

The sponsor (also known as authorizer) environment varies greatly state to state. Some places, like Hawaii, only have one sponsor. Other states only have one type of sponsors. For example, in Maryland, county school boards are the only authorizing option. Ohio is notable for the number and variety of sponsors we have. Charter schools can choose from districts, educational service centers, public universities, the state department of education, and certain nonprofit organizations.

There are obvious benefits to charter schools with so many choices, but Ohio’s system also produced some serious quality control issues. Now, we are one of the few states to have a comprehensive sponsor review system that annually reviews all charter sponsors and offers benefits and sanctions depending on those results. A sponsor rated poor loses its ability to sponsor, as does any sponsor that receives an ineffective rating three years in a row.

In 2016–17, 21 out of 45 sponsors were rated either ineffective or poor. The majority of those were school districts that only sponsor one school. But interestingly, two of the three sponsors that received the highest possible rating on the sponsor evaluation system were also school districts (Zanesville and Findlay). The other exemplary sponsor in 2016–17 was Tri-Rivers Educational Service Center. Each of those exemplary sponsors authorizes only one school.



There are only 14 Ohio sponsors, including CMSD, that authorize more than two schools. The chart below shows how those sponsors fared on last year’s results. Sponsors are rated in three categories: Academic (based on the performance of all sponsored schools that have been opened more than two years); Compliance; and Quality Practices.

SPONSOR	NUMBER OF SPONSORED SCHOOLS IN 2016-17	ACADEMIC POINTS (OUT OF 4)	COMPLIANCE POINTS (OUT OF 4)	QUALITY PRACTICES RATING (OUT OF 4)	OVERALL POINTS	OVERALL RATING
Buckeye Community Hope Foundation	48	1	4	3	8	Effective
CMSD	11	1	4	4	9	Effective
ERCO	22	1	4	2	7	Effective
ESC of Central Ohio	6	1	4	3	8	Effective
ESC of Lake Erie West	55	1	4	3	8	Effective
Kids Count of Dayton	6	1	0	2	3	Effective
North Central Ohio ESC	14	1	4	2	7	Effective
ODE (Office of Community Schools)	28	1	4	2	7	Effective
Richland Academy	3	2	4	3	9	Effective
St. Aloysius Orphanage	54	1	4	4	9	Effective
Thomas B. Fordham Foundation	13	1	4	4	9	Effective
Tri County ESC	3	2	4	1	7	Effective
University of Toledo Sponsor	47	1	4	4	9	Effective
Warren County ESC	3	1	0	1	2	Poor



Legislative Update

The Ohio House Education and Career Readiness Committee recently heard testimony in support of legislation inspired by Chardon High School, which experienced Ohio's deadliest school shooting in 2012.

Chardon High School teacher and coach Tim Armelli, and former school coach Frank Hall—both present during the shooting—offered their unique perspectives reflective of their personal experiences.

"House Bill 318, I believe, is a necessity in moving to this end and providing Ohio's children with the protection they deserve," Armelli said.

Current law authorizes contracting for the services of school resource officers—typically individuals employed as police officers of municipal corporations, townships or other political subdivisions; however, it does not specify their qualifications, training or duties.

House Bill 318 would require all new school resource officers to complete a peace officer training program approved by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission. They would also be required to complete at least 40 hours of school resource officer training through either the National or Ohio Association for School Resource

Officers or another certified training program that includes instruction regarding relevant skills, tactics and strategies to address the specific nature of all of the following:

- School campuses;
- School building security needs and characteristics;
- The nuances of law enforcement functions conducted inside a school environment, including understanding student psychological and physiological characteristics, de-escalation techniques, and behavior management strategies;
- The mechanics of being a positive role model for youth;
- Providing assistance on topics such as classroom management tools to provide law-related education to students and methods for managing the behaviors sometimes associated with educating children with special needs;
- The mechanics of Ohio’s laws regarding compulsory attendance; and,
- Identifying the trends in drug use, eliminating the instance of drug use, and encouraging a drug-free environment in schools.

The legislation would also permit school resource officers to provide services related to district and school comprehensive emergency management plans, and to make arrests, conduct searches and seizures, carry a firearm and exercise other police powers in accordance with the standards and requirements applicable to all Ohio peace officers.

School resource officers would be required to arrest and detain (until a warrant is obtained) a person found violating a state law, municipal ordinance or township resolution.

The bill would prohibit school resource officers from asking school employees to conduct searches for law enforcement purposes or initiating or participating in physically invasive searches without serious and immediate threat.

“Throughout Ohio there currently exist confusion and inconsistency in the term and training of school resource officers,” Armelli said. “Local school officials can use the term ‘school resource officer’ as they see fit. They can determine what training, if any, a school resource officer needs. We need to set a standard by which the people in our buildings, with the task of protecting our children’s lives, are held to a high standard of moral, ethical and legal responsibility.”

Chardon Mayor Nancy McArthur also testified in support of the legislation.

“The results of having an SRO are not necessarily something that can be measured, graphed, or documented,” she said. “But those of us in Chardon know that having an SRO in our public schools contributes to our students’ physical safety, their mental health, and to their growth as contributing members of our society.”

Hearings will likely continue to be held on H.B. 318 before the House Education and Career Readiness Committee takes action to approve the legislation before it is potentially subject to a vote by the full House chamber. If approved by the House, the bill will be sent to the Senate for further consideration.

Those of us in Chardon know that having an SRO in our public schools contributes to our students’ physical safety, their mental health, and to their growth as contributing members of our society.

—Nancy McArthur,
Mayor, Chardon

School Profile

Near West Intergenerational School



At Near West Intergenerational School, age is just a number.

The CMSD-sponsored charter school places students in multi-age classrooms where the emphasis is on mastering core skills at each student's own pace. Teachers work with students one-on-one and in small groups to meet their individual needs.

"We have students who come to us behind and then learn from the older students," Principal Molly Toussant said. "Then they become leaders."

Near West Intergenerational, true to its name, also brings the children together with adults for mentoring and service.

Each day, some of the school's 35 adult mentors work with individual students in reading or math. But the pairs might also achieve their goal—mutual respect and understanding—by engaging in conversation.

"Our mentoring program is not meant for tutoring," said Molly Mizisin, Near West's enrollment and community relations coordinator. "The intent is for students to spend time one-on-one with that adult, building a relationship."

Once a month, every classroom takes its relationship-building on the road, traveling to a nursing home or facility for adults with disabilities. There, students join the adults in playing games or making arts and crafts.

Near West Intergenerational School is at capacity with 238 students. Another 79 are on a waiting list.

Re-enrollment for current families and early enrollment for new families begins January 1. Preference is given to siblings of current students and Cleveland residents. Open registration for all families is on a first-come, first-served basis depending on available spots when early enrollment ends the first week in February.

Near West is a member of the three-school Intergenerational Schools network, which partners with CMSD. The school opened in 2011 and leases the District's former Kentucky School, located on Terrett Avenue near the intersection of West 38th Street and Franklin Boulevard.

