

Summit Connect

SEPTEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY FALL!

Autumn is now upon us and school districts are getting into gear for the 2017-2018 school year. As staff members begin to plan for their year, it is a great time to think about professional development and opportunities for continued growth.

I am pleased to announce Summit ESC, NEOnet and the ESC Learning Alliance have teamed up to present the 2017-2018 Lifting Leaders Series. These sessions are intended to provide an opportunity for everyone in our member districts to grow, develop their professional skills, network with their peers and hone skills that will benefit students and school districts.

The Lifting Leaders series will provide learning opportunities and support for individuals who are ready to take their next career step in a leadership role or who wish to build upon their existing skills if they are currently in an administrative role.

Sessions are geared toward current or aspiring principals, superintendents and treasurers, as well as individuals who have leadership responsibilities for a department such as food service, public relations, transportation and more. Peer groups have also been established for student resource officers, women in leadership and others.

These sessions are provided through the Summit ESC and will be held in various NEOnet meeting rooms, library settings and local school district, business and restaurant/conference room settings, in addition to the ESC building. Some programs are offered at no cost and others are offered for a fee to offset speaker costs and materials.

If you would like more information about these sessions or would like to sign up, please visit <http://summitesc.org/Events/Registration/Default.aspx?o=1>.

THIS MONTH WE ARE FEATURING TWO OF SUMMIT ESC'S CONSULTANTS:

Our first featured consultant is Science, Health and Physical Education Consultant Dr. Missi Zender-Sakach.

Dr. Zender-Sakach began her career in education in 1989. She has been employed with the ESC Department of Curriculum and Instruction for nearly 20 years. She has been a Science Coach for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE)/Stanford University Performance Assessment Project, was a member of the Ohio Science Standards Writing Committee and is currently serving on ODE's Science, Technology, Engineering Mathematics (STEM) Innovation Working Group.

Dr. Zender-Sakach is actively involved in the field of science education. She has served as the president of the Akron Council of Engineering and Scientific Societies (ACCESS) and is currently serving as secretary. Additionally, she is currently an elected district director and conference committee chair for the Science Education Council of

Ohio (SECO). Most recently, she was elected president of the National Science Education Leadership Association (NSELA).

She received her doctorate from The University of Akron in 2002. In 2013, she received the ACCESS Award and, in 2015, she received the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) Hall of Honor Award recognizing support of the plastics industry.

As a science, health and physical education consultant with the ESC, Dr. Zender-Sakach provides professional development that supports educators in their efforts to be at the forefront of new developments in their fields and to be proactively responsive to the implementation of unique research-based methodologies. To support the performance of colleagues and/or students in the teaching and/or learning of content, she helps districts find resources that provide instructional strategies, lesson plans or curriculum materials that engage students more fully in their areas (e.g., carrying out actual investigations/physical activities,



working collaboratively in groups, leading discussions, coaching peers, immersing educators in STEM research settings, developing interdisciplinary units, engaging in authentic assessment techniques, etc.). Dr. Zender-Sakach provides opportunities for leadership and collaboration that generate collegial networks through which ideas and experiences are shared on an ongoing basis, lessening feelings of isolation across the profession and helping teachers become more aware of applications of science, health and PE concepts and their importance to society.

“The ‘intentional advocacy’ of science, health and physical education requires the commitment of every leader who is determined to make a profound impact on the status of our profession at the local, state and national levels. We must advocate for professional development that enhances efforts of educators to expand content knowledge and self-efficacy, while escalating expertise in effective implementation of hands-on, minds-on approaches to instruction,” she said.

SAVE THE DATES

**EDUCATION CELEBRATION:
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017**

Please join us for this special night where Summit County's Top of the Class educators will be recognized for making a difference in their students' lives.

**LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM:
AUGUST 2018**

Additional details to come.

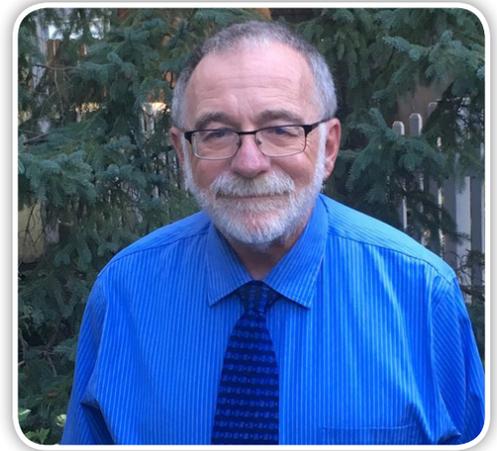
Our second featured consultant is Federal Program Consultant Robert Tromp. He has been with the ESC since June of 2016 and reports directly to Superintendent Joe Iacano.

Tromp has nearly 30 years of experience serving school districts, specializing in federal programs. In 1992, Tromp served as the Title I coordinator for the Streetsboro City School District. In 2000, he was hired by the Ohio Department of Education as a consultant in the Office of Federal Programs. During this time, Tromp assisted over 108 school districts in eight different counties throughout the State of Ohio with their Federal applications in the areas of Title I, Title II-A, Title III, IDEA-B and ECSE. He retired in 2009.

In his current position at the ESC, Tromp prides himself in teaching districts how Federal funds may be used to expand the resources and opportunities available to students and staff.

“I always enjoy seeing first-hand what districts are doing for students and their parents,” said Tromp. “It’s my goal to help districts better serve them.”

Tromp’s consultant services for fiscal year 2018 include assistance in the completion of CCIP components, including budget revisions, as needed; the Schoolwide Planning Process; the Self-Survey/Compliance Document with district personnel; NPDS; and the Comparability Report. He also offers a comprehensive CCIP service including all of these elements that can be completed by June 30.



Tromp also provides assistance with preparation for on-site review or desk review and updates on how legal changes from ODE can affect your district.

All consultant services can be provided to your district at a very reasonable cost. Districts that would like to take advantage of these services can contact Robert by phone at 330.283.0212 or by email at rtromp@SummitESC.org.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

Step Challenge:

Don't forget to fill out your tracker to participate in the Summit ESC Step Challenge. All trackers should be turned into the human resource department on the October 5 and 20. The step challenge will end on Oct. 20.

Stay tuned for information on the next challenge!

Also, remember to keep a look out for the Weekly Wellness Tips from Summit ESC's Professional Development Secretary Debbie Shorter. These are great tips to help you get energize, socialize and become alive!



**SUMMIT ESC's
WELLNESS PROGRAM**

Energize, Socialize, Come Alive!

SUMMIT ESC WISHES N'ECOLE AST BEST OF LUCK

Summit ESC's Director of Professional Development N'ecole Ast has accepted the position of director of pupil services at Woodridge Local School District. Her last day with the ESC was Sept. 22.

Ast has been with the ESC for the past five years. She spent her first year sharing her time between the Medina ESC and Summit ESC. Soon after, she transitioned into a full-time position at the Summit ESC where she served as the director of student services.

As student services director, her responsibilities included overseeing and developing the student services program, staff evaluations and development, budgeting and implementing innovative ideas to solve district needs.

She accepted her role as director of professional development in 2016. Her responsibilities included coordinating professional development based on district requests; planning events including community opiate awareness meetings, the education celebration and the summit leadership symposium; and developing partnerships with other organizations. Additionally, she has chaired and co-chaired on a number of committees such as Young People in Recovery and Summit for Kids School Supplies.



"I have made some great memories both professionally and personally at the ESC," said Ast. "I've witnessed tremendous growth and success by our very talented and devoted team members. The leadership team has always encouraged innovative ideas, new opportunities and developing our own brand of 'thought leaders.' I will be forever grateful for the experiences I have had here and I am thrilled to become a recipient of the Summit ESC's amazing services in my new role at one of our member districts."

The Summit ESC team will be dividing Ast's responsibilities amongst themselves to continue providing member districts with excellent offerings.

"N'ecole was a true asset to our team," said Superintendent Joe Iacano. "She has expanded the professional development opportunities for our member districts and provided great insight. We will truly miss her, but we look forward to continuing to collaborate with her in her new position."

PLEASE JOIN SUMMIT ESC IN WELCOMING DEBBIE SHORTER

The Summit ESC is pleased to welcome Debbie Shorter as secretary of the professional development department.



This is her seventeenth year with the ESC. Prior to accepting this position, she was a classroom assistant within the preschool program. Shorter's responsibilities include sharing news about the professional development department throughout Summit County, as well as assisting in planning ESC events such as the Education Celebration.

Previous to joining the ESC, Shorter worked as a classroom assistant. She also ran a home office for Copley Refinishing and spent time as a Wellness Coach.

"I am excited to take on this new position and partner with districts across Summit County to provide them with the tools they need to deliver excellent educational experiences for their students," said Shorter. "I am committed to proactively finding opportunities that will help our member districts grow professionally."

Shorter is also on the Wellness Committee at the ESC and a Board Member of Strength Heart Ministries, which partners with families and individuals with disabilities in Haiti.

"Debbie continues to be a great asset to the ESC team," said Superintendent Joe Iacano. "I look forward to watching her develop in her new role. I know she will bring new ideas on how we can expand the resources and services available to our districts and proactively equip them to lead."

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Vizzle Training

Presenter: Vizzle Presenters

WHEN: October 3 from 8-10 a.m.

WHERE: Summit ESC (Room 18)

COST: FREE

Mental Health and Trauma Series Part 2: Juvenile Justice 101: Alternative Responses

WHEN: November 4

from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Summit ESC (Room 18)

COST: \$15

Red Flag Implementer Training

Presenter: Rita Aggarwal

WHEN: November 30
from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Summit ESC

COST: \$30 for training; \$300 for Red Flags Kit (optional)

2 Day TEACCH Training

Presenter: Sloane Burgess

WHEN: October 26 & 27

WHERE: Summit ESC

COST: \$200 for training

Collaboration Between Districts using Google

Presenter: Ann Radefeld, North Royalton City Schools

WHEN: October 19

WHERE: NEOnet – 700 Graham Road, Cuyahoga Falls, 44221

COST: FREE

For more information and a full list of additional professional development opportunities, visit www.summitesc.org/Events/Registration/Default.aspx?o=1.

Please be on the lookout for the NEW IEP forms.

The Curriculum and Instruction Department is sponsoring on-demand modules completed electronically by teachers to support gifted PD requirements.

SST-8 UPDATE

SST-8 and Partners Collaborate for 2017 Early Childhood Summit

State Support Team Region 8 (SST-8) is excited to collaborate with Summit Education Initiative, Summit County's First Things First and other regional partners to present the 2017 Early Childhood Summit: "The Early Childhood Effect."

Last year, the event brought together over 530 individuals across Summit County to learn more about the ways in which we can all impact and support families and children in their first five years of life. This year, our early learning team will host two different breakout sessions.

The first session will highlight the work of Akron Public Schools Early Learning Program's implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS). Michelle Smith and Stacey Smith will present "Making the Shift to PBIS: Five Things that Changed for One Program." They will discuss the ways that implementing the PBIS framework has affected their early childhood program.

The second breakout session, "Preparing our Children for the Future; Skills for School and Life Success," will focus on the ways in which educators provide a foundation of learning that children will build upon throughout their

schooling experiences and use to set the stage for a successful life. It will be presented by Dr. Sarah Jackson.

The conference will also host two national presenters: Dr. Dana Suskind, Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at the University of Chicago, Director of the Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program and Founder and Director of the Thirty Million Words® Initiative; and Dr. Rosemarie Allen, Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Metropolitan State University of Denver.

For more information or to register, visit <http://seisummit.org/ready4school17>.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT IS THE SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT EVALUATION SERVICES' ASSESSMENT TEAM

Summit ESC's assessment team works to provide member school districts with specialized evaluation services that help determine the needs of students.

These services include the following:

- *Preschool and School Age Evaluations*
- *Independent Educational Evaluations*
- *Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing Evaluations*
- *Assistive Technology Evaluations*
- *Multi-Cultural Assessments*

All evaluations are provided by Summit ESC staff members who are experienced in areas including psychology, speech-pathology, audiology, physical therapy and occupational therapy. One member of the team is a teacher who specializes in working with students who are deaf and/or hearing impaired.

These staff members are able to bring their extensive knowledge and experience into evaluations to assess the instructional needs of students and provide evidence-based solutions and resources that will help students reach their fullest potential.

Member districts that take advantage of this service will receive access to a sound booth at Kent State University for audiological assessments, ongoing collaboration with hearing device and assistive technology providers, a bilingual school psychologist fluent in English and Spanish and ongoing professional development in evaluation best practices.

Districts have utilized the assessment team to improve their specific knowledge and skills in certain cases, to receive best practice evaluations and practical solutions and recommendations for unique and challenging cases, to fulfill summer evaluation requirements, and to gain assistance in better understanding student needs.

For more information on the assessment team, please visit www.SummitESC.org, or contact **Kristin Fazio** by email at KristinF@summitesc.org or by phone at (330) 945-5600 ext. 513919.

MEET THE TEAM:

School Psychologists:



Mandy Dudiwka



Maria Gaglio



Beth Goodman



Rossana Torres

Speech Language Pathologists:



Chris Webb



Jamie King

HELPFUL TIPS FROM SUMMIT ESC'S PARTNER NEONET

The Summit ESC works closely with NEONet to assist our districts with their technological needs. In each issue of our newsletter, NEONet provides helpful tips about technology in education and/or professional development opportunities to help our districts remain current on the latest technology trends. In this issue, their focus is on NEONet's Technology Integration services.

Technology Integration is a broad term used for the teachers who teach the leaders of tomorrow: our students. It can be difficult to realize the true meaning of what it means to be a technology integration teacher. In the simplest of terms, technology integration is the use of technology in daily instruction to improve student learning. When a teacher is planning a lesson, he or she needs to evaluate their class to see if the technology that is being suggested for the lesson will truly benefit that particular group of students.

NEONet's Technology Integration Specialist JC Williams has put together a list of 10 technology integration methods and strategies that stand out when incorporating technology into the classroom.

1. Instructional Multimedia – Video is exciting to students and introducing it in lessons will make learning much more memorable.
2. Digital Portfolios – Digital folders are a great way to help students keep track of what they have been learning at school. It's also a way for students to take their classwork with them, even after they graduate.
3. Gamification – Most students love games, either digital or physical. It's simple to leverage their love for games by turning the classroom into a game that students will enjoy participating in.
4. Subtraction, Augmentation, Modification and Redefinition (SAMR) – The lower level, substitution, simply means replacing an aspect of your lesson with a technology tool. The highest level, redefinition, requires a complete transformation of the original lesson using technology tools.
5. Professional Development & Support – It's critical to make sure your staff feels valued and respected when you ask them to start adding more technology into their lessons. NEONet offers hundreds of professional development opportunities throughout the year.
6. Feedback – Giving students feedback is crucial in keeping them interested in a lesson. Try using Google Forms and Docs to provide them with instant feedback upon completion and see their interest rise.
7. Collaboration – Google Apps creates the easiest form of collaboration. Let students work with students in another class on a project using Google Docs.
8. Makerspaces – Makerspaces are dedicated rooms that allow students to be makers and creators. Many of these spaces have technology tools used to create and manufacture devices and inventions that the students are challenged with creating.
9. Curiosity – Students are naturally curious, and this curiosity must be fostered in the classroom. Use various websites to give them a safe space to explore.
10. Citizenship – Digital citizenship is essential when students go online and make choices for themselves. Look into Google's "Be Internet Awesome" curriculum to see how you can integrate technology education with digital citizenship.

For more tips or information about NEONet, visit www.neonet.org.