



Early Childhood Professions

News about a College Tech Prep Program from the Six District Educational Compact



Level II students pose with members of the Magic Theater Company

Learning to make story time fun with the help of children's librarian, local theater company

Level I Early Childhood Professions students met Tallmadge Branch Library's children's librarian, **Jill Redman**. She provided suggestions on how to make reading a fun and memorable experience for children.

Through the use of props, dress-up clothes, felt story pieces, music and puppets Redman inspired the students to reflect on their own storytelling style. The students then used her books, storytelling materials and suggestions to develop upcoming presentations for the preschool lab.

Level II students had the opportunity to see *The Little Mermaid* and the Magic Theater Company present the story of Ariel to children from the Head Start Preschool Program. Participants said they enjoyed seeing how the children responded to the costumes and performance, which inspired the ECP students to reflect on their own reading style and techniques.

About our internships

Level II students in Early Childhood Professions College Tech Prep are working at internships throughout Summit and Portage County. Most are working at paid positions in childcare centers and preschools.

Instructor **Jody Morris** prepares the students for early childhood professions by teaching them how to plan, prepare and teach lessons and handle daily routines at these internship sites.

"It's great to see the children smile when they accomplish a new skill that I have taught. The excitement on their faces is priceless."

Hannah Lynch, Cuyahoga Falls

"My favorite thing about this program is the impact I have on the children's lives and being able to be a positive role model to them."

Gabby Mitchell, Stow Munroe-Falls

"I love being a part of this career program because I am constantly moving, interacting and building relationships."

Cailey Lear, Tallmadge

"I love being a part of the child's everyday life."

Courtney Graham, Stow-Munroe Falls

Students take honors at FCCLA competition

Students in Early Childhood Professions College Tech Prep are members of the Ohio FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) chapter and compete in events.

In the spring of 2017, **Melissa Sincel**, Tallmadge, received a Gold Place rating in Curriculum Unit Development at the FCCLA Regional and State Career Development Event.



Melissa Sincel



Courtney Graham

In addition, Melissa was elected to the Ohio FCCLA Region 2 Executive Council for the 2017-2018 school year.

Courtney Graham, Stow-Munroe Falls, received a Gold Place rating in Language and Literacy at both Regional and State competition and received third place honors.

"My favorite part of the day is walking into the classroom and hearing the children scream 'Miss Sarah is here! What are we going to do today'? Knowing the children are excited to learn and that I am their teacher, is one of the best feelings in the world."

Sarah Copperman, Hudson



Six District Educational Compact

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Early Childhood Professions Level I students tour Childscape Learn and Grow.

Field experiences include visits to area daycare centers, schools

In the Early Childhood Tech Prep program, students travel to different locations for field experiences.

This year, they have taken several trips to ChildScape Learn and Grow in Tallmadge, which is a daycare for infants ages 6 weeks up to children ages 12 years.

Seeing ChildScape is a great learning opportunity because students get hands-on experience observing children who have different learning abilities and needs. ECP students rotate between several classrooms to learn about the daycare's operational procedures, which include daily routines and curriculum.

In addition, ECP students traveled to Dunbar Primary School in Tallmadge to observe and work alongside the kindergarten teachers. They helped identify the educational needs of a kindergartener, which gave them insight into students enrolled in the preschool lab as they help prepare these children for their next educational step.

While in the Dunbar classrooms, ECP students had an opportunity to interact with the children by playing games, assisting with classroom learning activities and reading books. These field experiences provided insight into career opportunities that are available.

Emma's story: My Personal Hook to Early Childhood Professions

By Emma Razor, Stow-Munroe Falls

When considering which College Tech Prep Program to enroll in, I think that one of the biggest factors in making your decision can easily be overlooked—that is your own emotional connection to the program itself.

Two years ago, I had no idea what path I wanted to take. One day, I heard an announcement on the loudspeaker at my high school that College Tech Prep Program orientations would be taking place. I felt like it was a sign that I had been looking for.

It really was the hook that I needed to set me on the path of what I am called to do. The Early Childhood Professions Program is now something I am passionate about completing.

In the ECP Program, we are given all of the guidance and resources we need to succeed. In addition, the experiences we are acquiring here make me feel not only accomplished, but genuinely happy. Working with young children and becoming someone who will make an impact on children's lives is fulfilling. The feeling it gives me is one everyone should have the chance to experience.

I urge anyone who may be interested—whether you think you know what you want to be or not—to take the first step by visiting our Early Childhood Professions program. You will not regret it.



Emma Razor



From left, Danielle Maurer, Hudson; Amanda Herring, Stow-Munroe Falls; Sydnee Smith, Stow-Munroe Falls; Elaina Schimer, Hudson; and Alyssa Germano, Hudson.

Partnering with Summit Preschool

In collaboration with Summit Preschool, which is located at the David Bacon building in Tallmadge, students have the opportunity to work with teachers **Katie Leigh** and **Jamie Aken** on a daily basis.

As part of the experience in the onsite preschool lab, students make lesson plans used to teach at circle time. These include reading a book, doing a related activity with the children, singing songs and participating in play-based learning environments.

The Early Childhood Professions program puts up interactive bulletin boards in the hallways that incorporate activities that the children can do while walking by.

During October of 2017, students planned a Halloween party, which included Halloween decorations and activities, such as Trick or Treating.