



Early Childhood Professions

News about a Career-Technical Education Program from the Six District Educational Compact



Early Childhood Professions students

Students participate and compete at state FCCLA conference

Students in the Early Childhood Professions Career-Technical Education Program attended the Ohio FCCLA State Leadership Conference at the Ohio Expo Center in April.

The State Leadership FCCLA (Family, Career, Community Leaders of America) Conference is the largest event of the year for students in Early Childhood Professions. Attendees participate in competitive events, attend leadership training, get involved with service learning, network with fellow members and advisers, and visit the college and career expo.

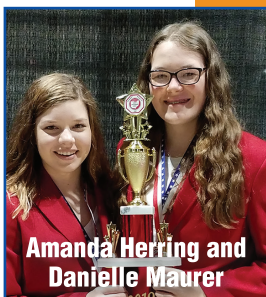


Audri Johnson

Audri Johnson, Stow-Munroe Falls, received a Gold Rating in the Language and Literacy Event. She created and taught a language and literacy lesson that included a book and related activity.

Cassidy Shaffer, Cuyahoga Falls, received a Gold Rating in Curriculum Unit Development and was awarded second place in the state competition. She created a preschool self-concept curriculum unit and in her presentation told judges how she implemented this curriculum in her preschool internship with ASCA Head Start.

Amanda Herring, Stow-Munroe Falls, and **Danielle Maurer**, Hudson, received a Gold Rating in Event Planning and were awarded first place trophy in the state competition. They planned an ice cream social for children attending Summit Preschool in the David Bacon building. Children participated in ice cream related learning activities followed by enjoying ice cream sundaes they made.



Amanda Herring and Danielle Maurer

Power of One event focuses on individual goals



Power of One winners from left, Cassidy Shaffer, Cuyahoga Falls; Amanda Herring, Stow-Munroe Falls; Danielle Maurer, Hudson; Emma Razor, Stow-Munroe Falls; Sydnee Smith, Stow-Munroe Falls; and Alyssa Germano, Hudson.

Early Childhood Professions students took part in the Power of One educational program and then were recognized at the state FCCLA Leadership Conference. The Power of One event helps students find and use their personal power. Members set their own goals, work to achieve them, and enjoy the results.

According to instructor **Jody Morris**, "The skills students learn in the Power of One help them now and in the future—in school, with friends and family, in their future at college and on the job."

This event requires students to set goals as they tackle personal projects and explore careers.

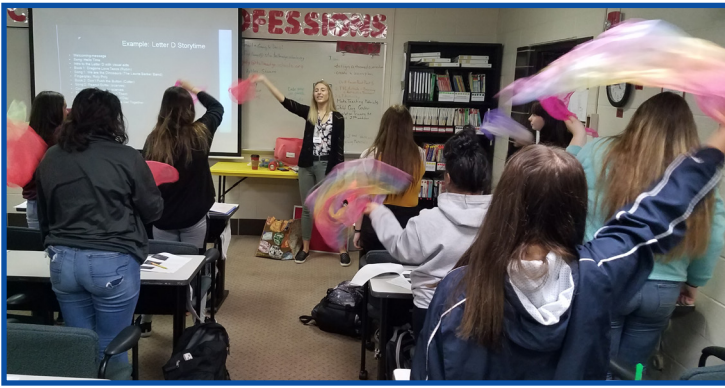
Students who received the Power of One Award at the State FCCLA Leadership Conference include **Cassidy Shaffer**, Cuyahoga Falls; **Amanda Herring**, Stow-Munroe Falls; **Danielle Maurer**, Hudson; **Emma Razor**, Stow-Munroe Falls; **Sydnee Smith**, Stow-Munroe Falls; **Alyssa Germano**, Hudson; and **Elaina Schimer**, Hudson.



Six District Educational Compact

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Kara Overfield uses scarves to add interest to children's books.

Making story time interactive with help of Children's Librarian

Kara Overfield, Tallmadge Branch Early Childhood Librarian, shared ways to tell stories and make them fun for all ages of children with Level I students in Early Childhood Professions. Overfield demonstrated unique storytelling techniques using flannel boards, shaker eggs, scarves, songs and dances to help engage children with the storytelling experience.

Students implemented what they learned as they present circle time in the preschool lab classrooms. During circle time, they read a story and do a related activity.

Madelyn Dolezal, Tallmadge, says, "Kara Overfield showed me many interactive ways to tell stories that I can share with the preschool children at David Bacon School and at my future internship."

According to **Skye James**, Tallmadge, "I thought it was a good learning opportunity and it gave me many ideas on how I can branch out during my storytelling."

Oliva Janotka, Hudson, notes "It was beneficial to learn about the job requirements and responsibilities of an early childhood librarian."

About our internships

In Level II of the Early Childhood Professions Program, students intern at various preschools and childcare centers. All students are participating in paid internships, where they gain valuable experience working with young children. They help carry out the routines, manage behaviors and present lessons they have created. These internships allow students to gain the necessary hours needed to acquire CDA's (Childhood Development Associate Credential), which allows them to have opportunities to work as directors, childcare teachers or assistants.

Field experiences offer insights to future employment

Level I students in Early Childhood Professions took part in a number of field experiences at different locations. These included observing students in Kindergarten classes at Dunbar Elementary and in classrooms at ChildScape Learn and Grow Preschool. Students had many amazing learning experiences including observation of the Infant One, Infant Two, Toddler, Preschool and Kindergarten classrooms.

Hudson student **Charlotte James** states, "In discussion with **Crystal Copoes**, Assistant Director at Childscape Learn And Grow Preschool, we learned the importance of classroom ratios, Step Up To Quality, preschool curricula and contributions toward volunteer hours applicable to obtaining the CDA."

Charlotte continues, "In the Dunbar Kindergarten classrooms, we noted the differences in working with preschool and kindergarten children, which include maturity levels, levels of independence and a quicker pace of activity transitions in the kindergarten classrooms."

According to instructor **Jody Morris**, "These field trips are invaluable in connecting theory to real-world experiences. Our students will continue to visit Dunbar Elementary and ChildScape Learn and Grow this school year, as well as Small Steps-Big Strides Childcare, All Around Children and Absorbent Minds Montessori School in the spring. This is a great opportunity to learn about employment in the career field and differences among early childhood programming."

"I have really enjoyed interning at Head Start! I have learned how to manage challenging behaviors and had the opportunity to present a variety of lessons that I created."

**Molly Longfellow,
Cuyahoga Falls**

"I love when I am teaching and the children keep asking if they can do my activities again and again!" **Sheyenne Heeter,
Roosevelt**

"I am grateful for the work experience and also the hands-on experiences I have had in the preschool setting where I am interning." **Ashley Statts,
Stow-Munroe Falls**