

IN OUR SCHOOLS

ABOUT THIS PAGE

This weekly page is focused on the 16 Montgomery County public school districts involved in Learn to Earn Dayton, a

collective impact initiative committed to ensuring that children in the Dayton region are ready for kindergarten, third-grade reading proficient, and college and career ready.

Today: Montgomery County Learning Center

MONTGOMERY COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

Program offers help to listen, learn and lead

In a world where public education is being held in the crosshairs of partisan policy and strongly held and loudly vocalized social beliefs, it remains that students have the greatest stake in their own education. The adults surrounding the educational system most certainly are also valued and important stakeholders, but it is our students who often find themselves in the epicenter of the adult decision-making process. Yet, Student Voice has been absent in many cases as decisions are being made about their own education, their future.

Clearly our education system is made up of highly trained and highly qualified professionals. Their expertise is sound and rooted in best practices and educational research.



Superintendent Shannon Cox, Montgomery County Educational Service Center

They also love our children. They wake up each day to ensure our students have the best opportunity to access highly effective learning in the safest learning environments we can offer.

Our parents and caregivers also have only the best interest of their children at heart, as they engage in educational activities and conversations. No one knows their children better than a parent or guardian, when it comes to an adult's perspective.

However, including Stu-

dent Voice in developmentally appropriate ways actually exemplifies a few vital components of our educational system. When we ask students to be engaged in their own learning, they have a deeper learning. When students have a voice in their school environment, the educators and parents engage in very authentic experiences that yield student centered outcomes. When we listen to students, really listen, our priorities become evident and clear. When students are actively involved they develop leadership skills and shape their own value of future partnerships and collaborative relationships. And of course, when students are allowed and encouraged to use their own agency, the school culture becomes a place where all stu-

dents feel they belong.

The Montgomery County Educational Service Center is pleased to announce the creation of the Montgomery County Student Advisory Delegation. The purpose of the Delegation is to give Student Voice to the overall education practices within our county-wide education system, to elevate student collaboration with the adults in decision making roles regarding education, and to provide students the opportunity to share their agency as learners in our county education system.

The Delegation will initially be made up of thirty two (32) high school students. Each Montgomery County public district will be represented by two students serving as the delegates for their school dis-

trict. Each district will initially have one (1) Junior and one (1) Senior delegate. District delegates may be chosen based on an established designation (e.g., Board of Education Student Member, Student Councilperson, Class Officer, etc.) or a district process established to identify an appropriate choice of student Delegate to represent their district. It is fully expected that the Delegation will grow more broadly in the future. The Delegation will meet on a quarterly basis with informal and optional activities in between each formal meeting.

Our greatest resource for a healthy and bright future is our students of today.

MCESC



Marion Stout, director of Human Resources

Profile Marion Stout

Marion Stout, director of Human Resources with the Montgomery County Educational Service Center (MCESC) is the recipient of the William L. Hunter Award presented by the Ohio Association of School Personnel Administrators (OASPA). It is awarded to an active member of OASPA who has made significant contributions to improving school personnel work and the betterment of education in general.

"I am humbled to receive this honor," Stout said. "It's a tribute to the wonderful folks I work with and have had the honor of working with during my thirty plus years in education."

Stout began her education career in 1990 with the Troy City Schools where she served 26 years as Business Manager/Director of HR. She then spent a year with the Miami County ESC where she also worked jointly with the MCESC before becoming the full-time director of HR at the MCESC for the past four years.

"Marion works tirelessly on behalf of the MCESC and her commitment to our staff and students is inspiring," said Shannon Cox, Superintendent of the MCESC.

Stout, a member of the MCESC administrative team has a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Pittsburgh and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Boston University. She has been a member of The Future Begins Today since 2005. She continues to serve as treasurer of the Ohio Association of School Personnel Administrators since 2003. She is past president of the Troy Kiwanis Club 2000 – 2016.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEARNING CENTER



K-2 students at the Montgomery County Learning Center experience music twice a week at Learning Center West thanks to students from the University of Dayton's Music Therapy program.



Learning Center West received a visit from Special Neat Treats. Joel Wegener started the business with his two children, both of whom have Down Syndrome. They dished out ice cream for the kids.



Equity Fellows brings together educators, students and community members working to identify and eliminate practices that perpetuate inequities. This month they met at the MCESC to continue the work.



MCESC kicks off WHYAPPLY initiative

The WHYAPPLY initiative is underway. #WhyApply Day kicked off Sept. 17, celebrating the college application season, with educators around the Miami Valley wearing their college gear, including those at the MCESC. Beginning the college application process early is crucial.



Kroger Wellness Experience in Cincinnati featured a Q&A moderated by MCESC Superintendent Shannon Cox (right) with Melissa Schlinger, VP at Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), and event founder, Jewel.

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