

Quality Service on a Personal Level

ESC

SCOOP

SEPT 2023 • A newsletter from the Fairfield County Educational Service Center

Message from Marie



STAYING STRONG AMIDST CHANGE: OHIO HB 33 AND OUR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY EDUCATION

Dear ESC Staff and stakeholders,

Change is an inevitable part of progress, and as we navigate the ever-evolving landscape of education, we want to keep you informed about the latest developments that might impact our work. Recently, Ohio House Bill 33 (HB 33) has brought about changes to the structure of the State Board of Education, raising questions about how these changes might influence our district's mission and goals.

Understanding Ohio HB 33: A New Chapter for Education Governance

Ohio HB 33, signed into law on July 4th, 2023, marks a significant shift in how education is governed in our state. The new legislation revises the composition and responsibilities of the State Board of Education, aiming to enhance accountability, transparency, and overall effectiveness in shaping Ohio's educational landscape.

DID YOU KNOW?

The ESC facilitates the Business Advisory Council for the 8 public school districts in Fairfield County.

For every \$1 in state and local funds, ESCs provide \$7 - \$11 in cost savings and funding.

Under the new structure, the following changes will include:

- Renames the Department of Education (ODE) as the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW).
- Creates the position of the Director of Education and Workforce, who is appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and is the head of DEW.
- Establishes within DEW the Division of Primary and Secondary Education and the Division of Career-Technical Education, each of which is headed by a Deputy Director appointed by the Director with the advice and consent of the Senate.
- Transfers most of the powers and duties of the State Board of Education (SBE) and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to DEW.
- Retains the SBE's and state Superintendent's powers and duties regarding educator licensure, licensee disciplinary actions, school district territory transfers, and certain other areas.

Staying the Course: Our Commitment to Quality Services

While change can sometimes be unsettling, we want to assure you that despite the shifts in Columbus and the State Board of Education, our dedication to providing quality services on a personal level remains unwavering. Our district's core mission has always been to serve our students, their families, and our community with excellence, empathy, and innovation.

We recognize that amidst changes, our focus must remain on the vital work of serving our districts and the children they entrust us with. Our educators, support staff, and administrators are the heartbeat of our district, and your dedication to our students' growth and success is what truly matters.

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Fairfield County
Educational Service Center

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Embracing Change, Sustaining Excellence

As we adapt to the evolving educational landscape, we encourage you to view these changes as opportunities for growth and collaboration. While the State Board of Education undergoes its transformation, we can continue to make a lasting impact by nurturing a culture of learning, inclusivity, and student-centered education right here in our district.

In the face of change, our commitment to quality services on a personal level remains unshaken. We are dedicated to fostering an environment where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, and where every member of our staff feels supported and empowered to make a difference.

Thank you for your dedication, resilience, and unwavering commitment to our students and our district. Together, we will navigate these changes while upholding the values that define us.

Stay strong, stay focused, and let's continue to provide the outstanding education our students deserve.

Wishing you a great start to this academic year,



Marie C. Ward, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Reasons and Recommendations for Password Complexity

By: Austin Dennis,
Technology Supervisor

For most websites and applications today, when you are asked to create a password, you are given strict guidelines about minimum requirements. The standard requirements today are a minimum of eight characters in length with a combination of at least one uppercase letter, lowercase letter, special character, and number. This may seem frustrating, especially when you have to remember all the individual, complex passwords for every single account of yours across the internet. Today, I want to explain the reason why passwords are required to be so complex, and what the danger is of bypassing these requirements.

There are multiple different types of attacks against passwords today that a hacker may use to break into your account. The simplest attack against a password is guessing. For example, say that you have a dog named "Froto" and you were born in the year 1980. If you're like most people, I may be able to guess your password is some variation of Froto80, Froto1980, Froto80!, etc. If your password is made up of a pet that you have an entire Instagram account dedicated to and the year that you were born, there are probably hundreds of people who could guess that information. Maybe you don't use a pet in your name, but if your password is made up of something that other people around you could easily discover through social media, it could be discovered.

Additionally, there are computers that can guess your password as well, such as a dictionary attack, which uses a wordlist of the most common passwords over and over again until it finds a match against yours. If you're currently using a password within the top 10,000 most commonly used passwords, this attack will successfully discover your password. Here's a list of the top 10:

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. 123456 | 5. 12345 | 9. 111111 |
| 2. 123456789 | 6. qwerty123 | 10. 1234567890 |
| 3. qwerty | 7. 1q2w3e | |
| 4. password | 8. 12345678 | |

If you'd like to know if a password you use has ever been breached, check out this website:
<https://haveibeenpwned.com/Passwords>

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TIME IT TAKES A HACKER TO BRUTE FORCE YOUR PASSWORD IN 2023					
Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
7	Instantly	Instantly	1 sec	2 secs	4 secs
8	Instantly	Instantly	28 secs	2 mins	5 mins
9	Instantly	3 secs	24 mins	2 hours	6 hours
10	Instantly	1 min	21 hours	5 days	2 weeks
11	Instantly	32 mins	1 month	10 months	3 years
12	1 sec	14 hours	6 years	53 years	226 years
13	5 secs	2 weeks	332 years	9k years	15k years
14	52 secs	1 year	17k years	202k years	1m years
15	9 mins	27 years	898k years	12m years	77m years
16	1 hour	713 years	46m years	779m years	5bn years
17	14 hours	18k years	2bn years	48bn years	380bn years
18	6 days	481k years	126bn years	2tn years	26tn years

 > Learn how we made this table at hivesystems.io/password



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Lastly, a brute-force attack tries a list of every possible combination of passwords until it finds a match. Fortunately, you can make your password complex enough that your password won't be discovered for the next 26 trillion years. Importantly, even the minimum requirements for a password in current websites are still able to be brute forced within five minutes. In short, the larger the quantity of characters and the more variety of those characters, the less likely a password will be breached. If you reuse that password on different websites, an attacker could easily log on as you to any other website. However, remembering fifty different passwords that are 18 characters long with a mixture of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters can be nearly impossible. This is where a password manager can be extremely useful.

A password manager helps generate a completely random password for you for each application or website you use. The password will usually look something like this: "P@ (Urw6Ddsfgj3J." The password manager automatically stores these securely, and you'll never have to remember it again. From that point forward, every time you open the page to a website you have an account on, you'll either copy and paste your password from your password manager, or you may even have a password manager that automatically inserts your password into the browser for you. If you have a Google account, Google has a built-in password manager that works great. To find it, go to your Google account, search "password" and the password manager should pop up. Set it to allow, and from that point forward, every time you click create password on a new website, it will suggest a strong, complex password for you. Additionally, Google will notify you immediately if any of your passwords have been exposed in a data breach.

Mental Health • 5-4-3-2-1

By Cristin O'Riordan, Coordinator of Mental Health & Competency-Based Education

A few weeks into a new school year often brings moments of overwhelm. When emotions get overwhelming, they can take over. It doesn't matter where you are, when you start to feel that overwhelming (physically and/or mentally) feeling you need to bring yourself back to the present moment. If you try to push it away, it will just get stronger. As part of the Be Well video series, this strategy can help you acknowledge the feeling and ground yourself - anytime and anywhere!

It won't suddenly make everything go away, but it brings you back to the present so that your brain is no longer jumping and you can think clearly. This allows you to figure out if whatever caused the overwhelming feeling is worth the energy. And if so, what is just one thing that you can do to move forward? Often though, once our reasoning brain kicks in, we realize that it isn't and we can let go.

[5-4-3-2-1](#)

For more videos, check out the series on the [ESC Staff Matters page](#). If you are looking for more in-depth practice and information on how to support your own and others' mental health, please take a look at the mental health [PD courses](#) being offered. Personalized cohorts can be arranged. Please reach out to Cristin O'Riordan for more information (co'riordan@fairfieldesc.org).

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Austin Dennis



Austin Dennis joined the ESC in 2023 as a Technology Supervisor. In this role, he ensures the proper functionality and

security of all the technology used by the ESC and its employees. His work includes creating materials to help bring awareness to security related issues within the organization, testing all the infrastructure on a regular basis to ensure it is up to date and working correctly, and helping anyone with their tech related issues.

Austin has a bachelor's degree in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance from Western Governors University and is working towards his master's degree in the same subject. In addition to the degree, he currently holds more than 10 different IT and Cybersecurity certifications. When asked about his professional passions, Austin shared, "I really enjoy helping people learn more about technology and cybersecurity. I specialize in playing the role of an adversary and test systems by using the same methods and tools a hacker would. I have a growing LinkedIn profile where I share cybersecurity content and a YouTube channel where I post videos explaining how I do what I do."

In his personal time, he shares that he focuses on family, "At home, I try to be the best husband and father I can be to my wife and our three children. Most evenings we get the chance, we're out walking around Rising Park and the Fairgrounds. We are faithful Christians and very involved in our church. Last but certainly not least, we are HUGE Cincinnati Bengals fans."



Professional Learning & Leadership Team

Staci Peters, Coordinator of Professional Learning & Leadership
speters@fairfielddesc.org

Jen Sayre, Director of Applied Technology
jsayre@fairfielddesc.org

Caitlin Hughes, Gifted Coordinator/
Homeschooling
chughes@fairfielddesc.org

Cristin O'Riordan, Coordinator of Mental Health & Competency-Based Education
co'riordan@fairfielddesc.org

Heidi Deyo, Technology Integration Specialist/Gifted
hdeyo@fairfielddesc.org

Professional Development Opportunities

EVALUATION SYSTEM TRAININGS (Register through STARS)

9/5 - 9/7	OTES New Evaluator Training
9/11 & 9/18	Resident Educator Mentor Training
9/20	OSCES
9/26 & 10/3	Resident Educator Mentor Training

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

9/25 - 10/13	Mental Health for Educators
10/16 - 11/3	Embedding Mental Health Strategies
10/30 - 11/17	Improving Student Grit

[Register Here!](#)

ANYTIME, ANYWHERE PD COURSE

- InnevAto EDU Teacher Training
- Introduction to Mindfulness in the Classroom
- Introduction to Growth Mindset
- Introduction to AI for Teachers
- Introduction to Depth of Knowledge Questions
- Introduction to Technology Integration

[Register Here!](#)



THANK YOU

TO FAIRFIELD 2-1-1 AND POST BRANDS!

On August 17, the Fairfield County Educational Service Center received a donation of school supplies from Fairfield 2-1-1 and Post Brands. The donation will ensure students throughout ESC classrooms in Fairfield County have the necessary school supplies to have a great year! Thank you to Fairfield 2-1-1 and Post Brands for their generosity.



Celebrating a Year of Success and Growth with InnevAto EDU's Student Courses

By: Jen Sayre, Director of Applied Technology

We are thrilled to announce that our student online learning program, InnevAto EDU, has completed its first year with resounding success and is gearing up for an even more exciting second year. Over the past year, InnevAto EDU has blossomed, exceeding expectations and making significant strides in the realm of online learning.

A Year of Achievements: Doubling Our Catalog and Expanding Partnerships

InnevAto EDU had an extraordinary debut year, marked by remarkable growth and accomplishments. One of our most significant achievements was the expansion of our course catalog. We more than doubled our offerings, introducing honors courses, credit recovery options, and three levels of Spanish. This expansion allowed us to cater to a wider range of student needs and preferences, empowering learners to pursue their educational goals at their own pace and on their own terms.

Moreover, our dedication to building strong relationships with school districts in Fairfield County is clear. By keeping to our core value of providing quality service on a personal level, our partnerships with local schools have deepened, enabling us to provide high-quality online learning options to a broader student population. Beyond the confines of our county, we proudly ventured into new territories by establishing a partnership with a career technology center (CTC) and an Educational Service Center (ESC). Additionally, we have emerging relationships with additional CTCs and ESCs. These partnerships have facilitated the spread of our innovative online education approach to even more eager learners.

Embarking on a New Chapter: Middle School Courses

As we set our sights on the second year of InnevAto EDU, we are excited to unveil our latest endeavor: the development of middle school courses catering to grades 6 through 8. Building upon our successful high school offerings, we are committed to crafting engaging and enriching online learning experiences that cater to the unique needs and interests of middle school students. By expanding our curriculum to include this critical age group, we hope to empower even more young minds with the tools and knowledge they need to thrive academically and beyond.

A Bright Future Ahead

The success of InnevAto EDU's inaugural year and the enthusiastic response from students, teachers, and administrators have reinforced our commitment to innovation and excellence in online education. As we head into our second year, we are grateful for the opportunity to continue serving the educational needs of students both near and far. Our journey is far from over, and we look forward to the challenges and triumphs that lie ahead as we strive to make quality education more accessible and convenient for all.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated team, our valued partners, and the entire InnevAto EDU student learning community for being a part of this incredible journey. Together, we are shaping the future of education, one online course at a time. Stay tuned for more updates, course releases, and exciting developments as we embark on this new chapter. Here's to another year of learning, growth, and success with InnevAto EDU! Learn more at InnevAtoEDU.org.



Employees Recognized at ESC Opening Day

By: Will Kirby, Assistant Superintendent

The Fairfield County ESC recognized the following employees for their years of service to the agency. The ESC is very appreciative of the amazing work that all of our employees do on a daily basis and is happy to recognize the following employees for reaching the following benchmarks of service to the agency:

3 YEARS

- Ashley Conley
- Katie Hanna
- Matthew Newcomer
- Tina Shuster
- Laura Staten
- Nicole Suttles

5 YEARS

- Erin Ballinger
- Kathleen Boelky
- Cathy Burden
- Rachael DeLaTorre
- Heidi Deyo
- Katherine Dickerson
- Jennifer McKinnon
- Noach Newcomer
- Samantha Reef
- Amelia Trantina

7 YEARS

- Douglas Dearth
- Christine Hines
- Jamie Kilbarger
- Joelle Knoblauch
- Amy McNeal
- Lyndi Schwab
- Rhonda Spaulding
- Sarah Truitt
- Lynn White
- Shelley Wilson
- Courtney Woollard

10 YEARS

- Tara Comer

15 YEARS

- Angela Black
- Jennifer Crook
- Tamara Scholl

20 YEARS

- Julie Collins

25 YEARS

- Kathleen Stallard
- Laura Steele



PARENT GUIDANCE

MENTAL HEALTH SERIES



In response to parent concerns about student health and well-being, Fairfield County ESC is partnering with ParentGuidance.org to deliver presentations developed by licensed therapists. This series will be virtual, interactive, and is designed to help parents and caregivers support students. Registration, attendance and interactions are kept totally anonymous from other viewers.

TIME: 7:00-8:00 PM via Zoom

To Register Early...scan the QR code or click the link

MON. AUG 14, 2023

"Helping Your Child with Homework"

<http://cookcenter.info/Aug14Frld>



MON. SEP 11, 2023

"Your Child's Anxiety"

<http://cookcenter.info/FrldSep11>



MON. OCT 9, 2023

"Your Active Child: ADHD"

<http://cookcenter.info/Oct9Frld>



MON. OCT 23, 2023

"Building Your Child's Confidence"

<http://cookcenter.info/Oct23Frld>



MON. NOV 13, 2023

"What Parents Need to Know About Suicide Prevention"

<http://cookcenter.info/Nov13Frld>



MON. DEC 11, 2023

"Depression: You're Not Alone"

<http://cookcenter.info/Dec11Frld>



MON. JAN 8, 2024

"School Avoidance"

<http://cookcenter.info/Jan8Frld>



MON. JAN 22, 2024

"How to Motivate Your Child"

<http://cookcenter.info/Jan22Frld>



MON. FEB 12, 2024

"De-escalating Cycles of Conflict"

<http://cookcenter.info/Feb12Frld>



MON. MAR 11, 2024

"Everyday Happiness"

<http://cookcenter.info/Mar11Frld>



MON. APRIL 8, 2024

"Establishing Healthy Boundaries"

<http://cookcenter.info/Apr8Frld>



MON. MAY 13, 2024

"Social Media - Protecting Your Child"

<http://cookcenter.info/May13Frld>



For registration information, contact
Cristin O'Riordan at co'riordan@fairfieldesc.org



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