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OLENTANGY SCHOOLS BECOMES FIRST OHIO DISTRICT NATIONALLY ACCREDITED FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Olentangy Schools has achieved national accreditation through the Council on Accreditation (COA), becoming the first school district in Ohio to receive this distinction.

The accreditation recognizes the district's comprehensive student mental health and wellness services, including case management, crisis intervention, mental health treatment, and prevention-focused coaching, support, and educational services.

Following the district's certification as a behavioral health provider through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services in 2024, the accreditation reflects Olentangy's continued commitment to providing high-quality, accountable, and student-centered mental health services for students and families.

"Olentangy Schools has created a model for how districts can successfully integrate high-quality mental health supports into the educational experience," said Director of Wellness Dr. Allisha Berendts. "This accreditation strengthens our credibility, expands future funding opportunities, and most importantly, reinforces our mission to facilitate maximum learning for every student."

The process began in February 2025 and concluded with a rigorous on-site review where evaluators assessed more than 400 standards related to service quality, financial practices, human resources, risk management, administration, and service environments. Due to the district's exceptional ratings and findings, Olentangy Schools received expedited accreditation approval with no corrective action plan required — an achievement within the accreditation process.

"Receiving national COA Accreditation validates the outstanding work our staff has done to build a comprehensive, student-centered mental health program," said Board of Education President Brandon Lester. "This recognition reflects our commitment to supporting the whole child and ensuring every student has access to the services and resources they need to flourish both academically and personally."

COA Accreditation, a service of Social Current, is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations in the United States and Canada. More than 2,000 organizations have either achieved accreditation or are currently engaged in the accreditation process. To learn more about COA Accreditation, visit [Social Current's website](#).

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Olentangy Schools is the fourth largest school district in the state of Ohio with 28 schools, located predominately in Delaware County. Olentangy's mission is to facilitate maximum learning for every student.