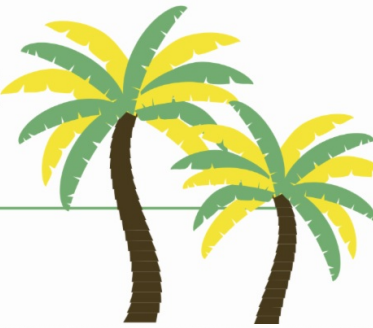




SPONSOR
UPDATE
JUNE 2024



Visit our Website

Jennifer Schorr, VP of Education
Jason Moore, Senior Director of Education

Mission

The mission of the Education Division of Buckeye Community Hope Foundation is to establish strong public community schools by adhering to quality authorizing practices, ensuring responsible oversight, and setting high standards for school performance.

Vision

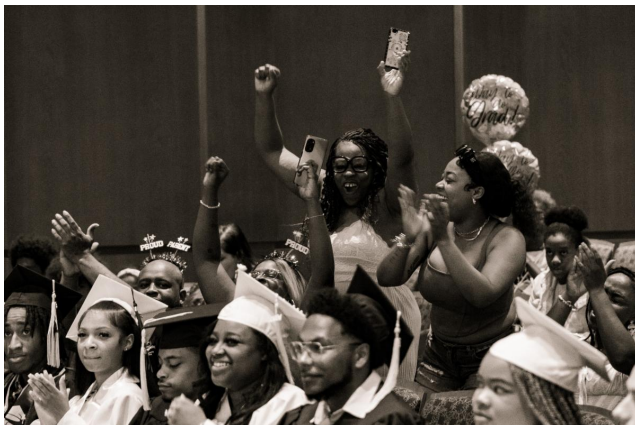
The Education Division's vision is strong communities of healthy, well-educated students, and a future in which all students have access to a high quality public education. Ohio thrives as increasing numbers of schools graduate students equipped to assume a positive role in society.



Congratulations, Class of 2024!

From all of us in the BCHF Education Division - congratulations! Your hard work, resilience, and determination have brought you to this moment, and it's time to celebrate all that you've achieved. As you step into the next chapter of your lives, remember to embrace every challenge and opportunity with the same spirit that got you here. The world is waiting for your unique talents and perspectives. Keep dreaming big, stay curious, and never stop believing in yourselves.

Here's to your bright futures and all the amazing adventures ahead!





BCHF Visits Concept Schools

On May 1, 2024, Jennifer Schorr, VP of Education, Jason Moore Sr. Director of Education, and Joe Calinger, Regional Compliance Representative for Buckeye Community Hope Foundation had the privilege to visit Concept Schools headquarters in Chicago.

Meeting with Sedat Duman, President/CEO, Ali Uslu, Vice President, and Chris Murphy, Chief of Strategic Growth and Communications Officer for Concept Schools strengthened our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and mutual understanding between Buckeye Community Hope Foundation and Concept Schools. BCHF had the opportunity to gain firsthand insights into the operations, philosophies, and strategies driving the management company's approach to education. Our visit marked the significance of the evolving landscape of education, governance, and accountability. It represents our combined proactive efforts to strengthen relationships, foster dialogue, and promote shared goals and values.



2024 School Leadership Summit

Our 2024 School Leadership Summit, *Growing Talent, Growing Minds*, is this week! We will hold the Summit in person on June 5 and 6 in Columbus. The overall goal of the Summit is to equip leaders to cultivate and retain student focused talent.

We are honored to feature two distinguished keynote speakers. Tyler Bastian, founder of Roots Charter High School in Utah, and Brit Seward of Buckeye Community Hope Foundation, will share their invaluable experiences and innovative approaches to educational leadership.

In addition to our inspiring keynotes, the Summit will offer a diverse array of sessions tailored to address the most pressing challenges and opportunities in education today. Whether you're looking to enhance your leadership skills, learn new strategies for talent development, or connect with like-minded professionals, there is something for everyone.

Don't miss this opportunity to grow alongside fellow leaders and make a lasting impact on your school community. We look forward to seeing you there!



2024 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
JUNE 5TH-6TH

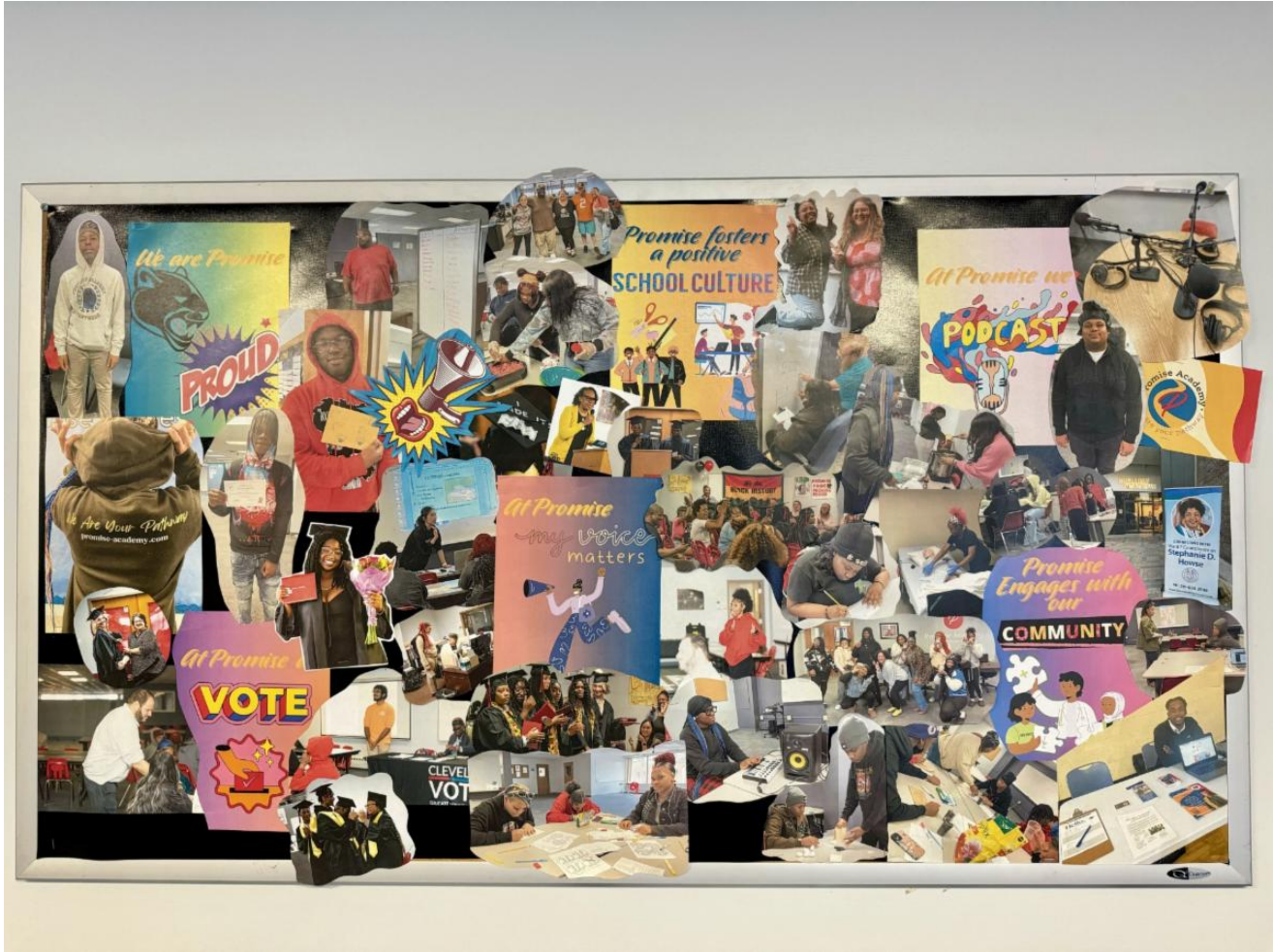
BUCKEYE
COMMUNITY
HOPE
FOUNDATION
Educational Innovation

Celebrating National Charter Schools Week

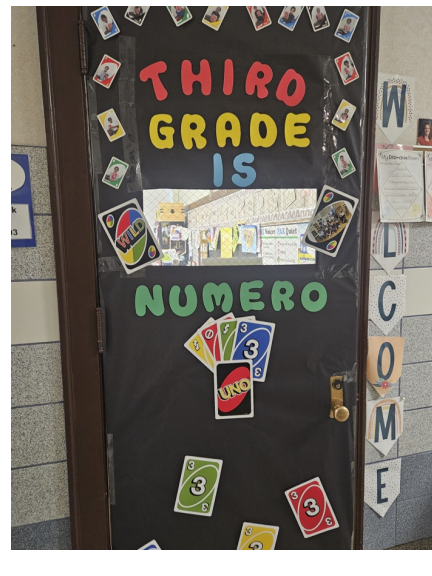
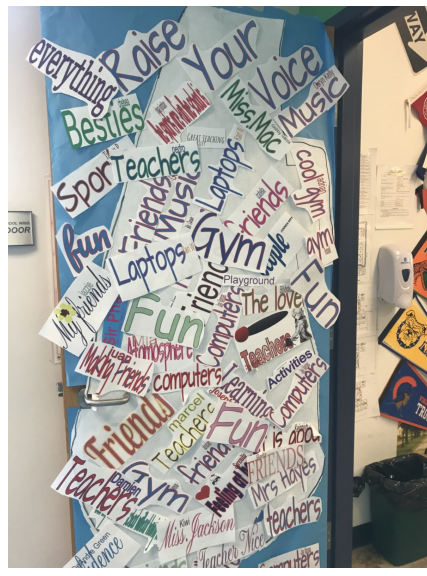
To celebrate National Charter Schools Week, we invited our schools to participate in a door decorating contest to show off their love for their charter school. Students could either decorate their classroom door, or a bulletin board. We received many outstanding entries, and are pleased to announce the winning classroom.

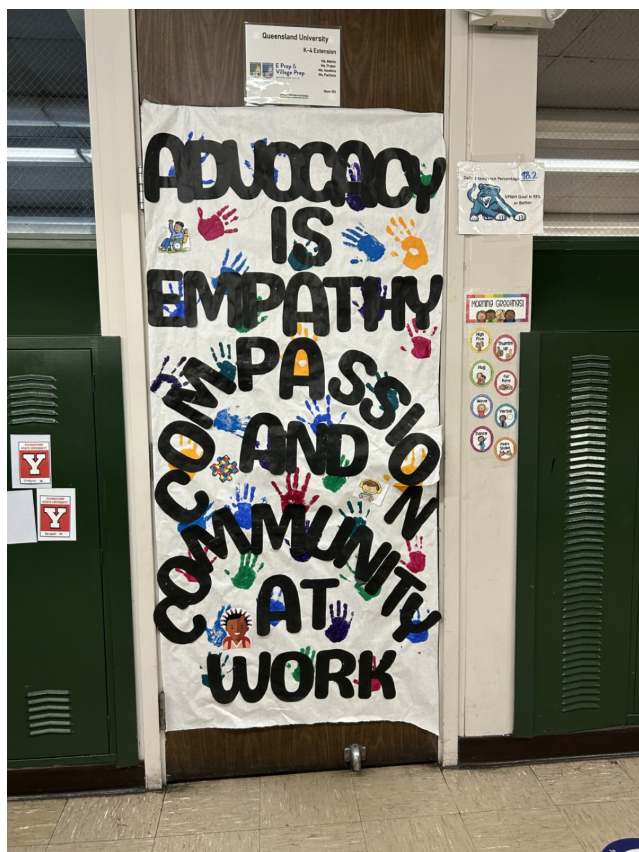
Congratulations to Ms. Muniz & Ms. Edgeson's 9-12 classrooms at Promise Academy! Their bulletin board was a standout, beautifully illustrating why students love their school. It highlighted cherished memories and significant achievements from the school year, capturing the essence of their educational journey.

Thank you to all who participated! Your creativity and enthusiasm were truly inspiring. We loved seeing the vibrant expressions of charter school pride across all entries.

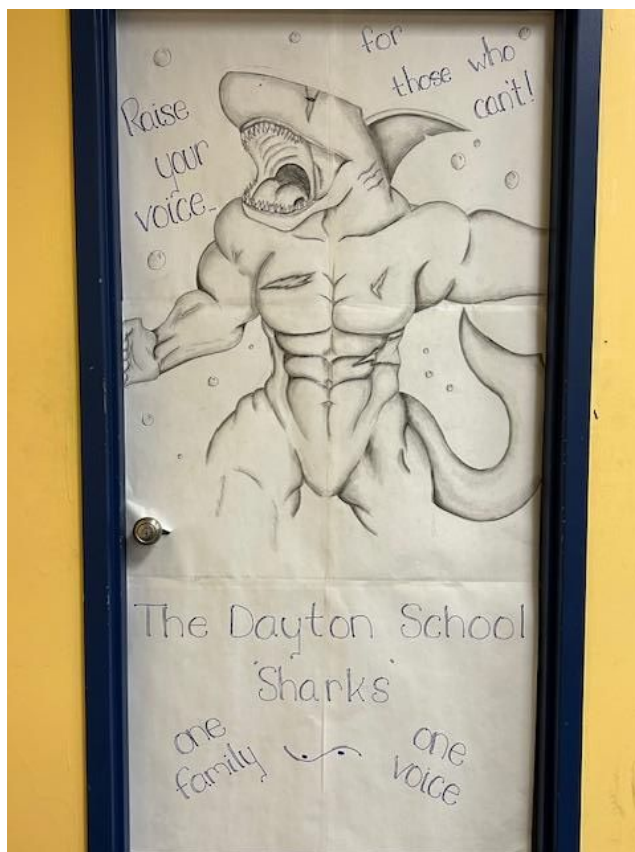


Above: 2024 Winners Promise Academy





Village Prep Woodland Hills



The Dayton School

BCHF's 9th Annual Writing Challenge - Courage!

Writing is a fundamental skill that students will carry with them into the workplace, into college, and even into the military. In order to promote deep, creative thought, each year, Buckeye Community Hope Foundation sponsors a writing challenge. Each school may submit one writing entry per grade level. A panel of educators independently reads and scores those entries, using the Ohio Writing Rubric to score. We are excited to announce the winning entries for the 2024 Writing Challenge!

This year's theme was "Profiles of Courage" and asked all students to reflect on what courage truly meant and to write about examples they saw in the literary texts they were given.

Each school was permitted to submit one student's writing per grade level. All entries were then scored by a team of three educators on the Ohio State Writing Rubric. All of those scores were then used to determine the winners.

ELEMENTARY DIVISION (Grades 3-5)

Overall Third Grade Winner: Jaleel Peoples from Constellation Schools Eastside Arts Academy
Overall Fourth Grade Winner: Yasin Abdibaid from International Academy of Columbus
Overall Fifth Grade Winner: Laura Gyarki from Horizon Science Academy Elementary
The Overall Highest Elementary Entry was Laura Gyarki

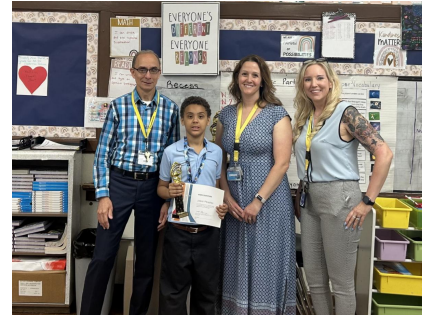
MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION (Grades 6-8)

Overall Sixth Grade Winner: Lily Kleinhenz from Constellation Schools Eastside Arts Academy
Overall Seventh Grade Winner: Amram Hasan from International Academy of Columbus
Overall Eighth Grade Winner: Abena Boynes from Horizon Science Academy Columbus Middle School
The Overall Highest Middle School Entry was Lily Kleinhenz

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION (Grades 9-12)

Overall Ninth Grade Winner: Jacob Meschke from Horizon Science Academy Lorain
Overall Tenth Grade Winner: Arelis Calzadilla from Focus North High School
Overall Eleventh Grade Winner: Julianne Osborne from Focus Southwest
Overall Twelfth Grade Winner: Dimitri Stokes
Overall Highest High School Entry was Arelis Calzadilla

Arelis also was the highest scoring entry of all entries received, regardless of age. Arelis's essay confronted the idea of courage, in all its forms. She spoke of moral courage, physical courage and spiritual courage by reading and reacting to several pieces of literature. Arelis's final sentence sums up her sophisticated view of the world: "...courage comes in various forms, and it is the ability to confront fear and adversity that ultimately shapes our character and defines our journey through life."



The Amazing Shake



Riverscape Career Tech recently hosted "The Amazing Shake," an exciting event designed to showcase the poise, professionalism, and preparedness of their students. This competition tested students through four challenging rounds, each designed to assess their ability to navigate complex scenarios while engaging meaningfully with members of the community.

The competition culminated in a final round where the top three students were interviewed by a distinguished panel of judges. Among these judges was Zoe Plotnick, a BCHF School Improvement Representative, who expressed her enthusiasm for the event.

"Being a judge for The Amazing Shake was a blast," said Plotnick. "The students participating were certainly a force to be reckoned with. They were incredibly charming and it was an absolute delight to get to know them."

Kimaria Ross earned the top spot at the Riverscape Amazing Shake and went on to represent her school at the State Wide EEG Amazing Shake, where she impressively secured 3rd place overall.

All of us in the BCHF Education Division extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the students who participated in The Amazing Shake. Your dedication and exceptional skills promise a bright future ahead.

Ready, Set...Let's Start Again!

By Mindy Farry, School Improvement Representative

It seems as if schools are always either opening up or closing down. Contrary to popular belief, most teachers and especially school leaders do not get a restful two-months to lounge by the pool and relax in the warm, summer sun. School leaders know that this is just the tip of the beginning of the new school year.

Of course, there is still hiring to be done, but once the staff is mostly securely in place, school leaders have a great deal on their minds. This is a perfect time of year to accomplish two very important tasks: engaging teachers in self-reflection and onboarding new staff.

Before teachers can begin to self-reflect, school leaders need to take a close look at the coaching, mentoring, and evaluation of teachers. What has worked? What did not? What elements of the process slipped through the cracks? Do you feel as if your teachers are partners in the evaluation process or merely the receivers of information and ratings? Encouraging teachers to be their own advocates and to engage in the evaluation process is the first step in developing a sense of teacher agency.

During the summer months, everyone can breathe a little easier, and it is an ideal time to engage your staff in self-reflection about their craft. I would advise giving everyone a few weeks to decompress, but then as July looms, send out a reminder to your staff to begin the self-reflection process. A simple, effective way to engage teachers with your evaluation instrument is to simply supply teachers with the evaluation instrument or rubric you use and have them rate themselves on that rubric and justify their ratings with examples. This method serves two purposes: In addition to providing a simple assessment form, teachers must examine the actual instrument and think about where they might be placed on the rating scale. Whatever method you choose, teachers should be able to come away with two to three areas that they feel they might learn more about, improve, or focus on. This, of course will necessitate some gentle coaching. Some high achieving teachers may negate their strengths, while some who are struggling may not be able to see their areas of need.

However, the benefits of self-assessment for teachers far outweigh the time and effort both school leaders and teachers make in beginning this process. Self-assessment encourages reflective practice, evaluation of teaching methods, materials, and interactions with students. This reflection helps identify strengths and areas for improvement, fostering continuous personal and professional growth. Self-assessment fosters a sense of accountability and ownership over one's professional development. Teachers become proactive in seeking out resources, training, and feedback to enhance their skills and knowledge.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards provides resources on their use of teacher self-reflection, which can be found at <http://www.nbpts.org/>. Several states have built teacher self-evaluation into their multiple measures evaluation systems. In Ohio, you can find the Standards for the Teaching Profession at: <https://dam.assets.ohio.gov/image/upload/sboe.ohio.gov/Educator-Standards/TeachingProfessionStandards.pdf>

Many Ohio schools rely on either the OTEs (Ohio Teacher Evaluation System) model, the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teaching: <https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/danielson-teacher-rubric-2013-instructionally-focused.pdf> or the Marzano Evaluation Method: https://www.marzanocenter.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/10/2014_Scales-and-Evidences-20140827.pdf Each of those instruments provide samples of self-assessment forms.

References

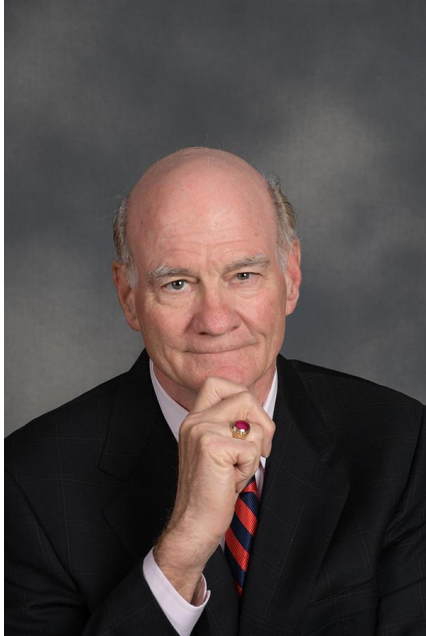
Danielson, C. (2007). *Enhancing professional practice: A framework for teaching*. Alexandria: ASCD.

Korthagen, F., and Nuijten, E. (2022). *The power of reflection in teacher education and professional development: Strategies for in-depth teacher learning*. Milton Park: Routledge.

Board Member Spotlight

Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) recognizes the important work that governing board members do in supporting their school community. In recognition and support of this hard work, BCHF is highlighting one board member each month in our sponsor newsletter.

This month we are featuring David Ditmars, who serves on the Horizon Science Academy Dayton Downtown and Dayton High School boards. The mission of both schools is: *to provide a safe and enriching learning environment where the whole student is nurtured and developed. Our teachers and administrators pledge to support the academic and emotional well-being of each and every*



student. Students will leave our school prepared with skills and knowledge that will give them advantages throughout their future educational and life experiences.

David has served as a board member for over 2 years. Outside of being a board member, he enjoys supporting startup businesses that aim to improve lives.

David is active in his community and has served on the boards of an ex-offender mentoring agency, a city civic association, and a state issues political action committee. He is also a part of a golf league and a road-bike cycling club.

What have you learned over the years about board meetings, and what changes have you made as a board member that help meetings run more efficiently?

I've learned that Horizon Science Academy schools are well-run, follow best practices for public charter schools, and have highly effective, dedicated staff and teachers. Board meetings are well-run with the board chair being supported in reporting all matters for Board consideration, discussion, and approval of actions

appropriate for board review and oversight. The superintendent coordinates with Ohio's Department of Education and regional school operating compliance staff to ensure board members are fully informed of the ongoing performance of academic and administrative/financial responsibilities.

As a board member, I have ensured I attend as many board meetings as possible to be present to establish a quorum for hearing, addressing, and voting on all issues requiring board approval in a timely way. I have attended to issues, asking questions to clarify specific situations that require board input and timely decision-making, such as funding for remodeling and new building projects as well as best-practice resolution of occasional student and teacher behavioral incidents.

How do you solicit and retain new board members?

I've referred people I know who have interests in STEM education, primary and secondary education, and advancing charter schools. Several have engaged with HSA administrators and teachers to provide beneficial assistance in connecting with local businesses offering internships in career paths, funding to support new STEM programs, and supplying new teachers from a nearby university's teacher education department. I also referred a retired cousin who lives in a city in another state where HSA has schools and is interested in serving on a board so she can share her financial management expertise.

What are some of the proudest moments you have had as a board member?

I attend graduations. I was invited to speak about the importance of gaining a good education at a graduation ceremony and to participate in congratulating and handing diplomas to new graduates.

What part of the school's mission do you most connect with?

I connect vividly with the schools' ability to encourage students to engage in learning in an environment where staff and teachers show students they care about them and work together to create a 'caring community' that stimulates students to be energetic in learning and participate in activities as individuals and in teams, learning about their differences and sameness, appreciating the importance of gaining a great education that equips them for success in our society.

All of us in the Education Division of BCHF appreciate the commitment to students David Ditmars has shown. We hope, in sharing these stories, others will consider serving as community school governing board members..

June Compliance Update

Graduation Verification

Congratulations to the class of 2024! Please provide a list of this year's graduates and proof of completion to your sponsor representative or by uploading directly to SharePoint.

Compliance Review

Schools must be current & compliant with all SharePoint items by June 15th, including required board training. If you have any questions regarding which items are still outstanding, please contact your sponsor representative for more details.

Existing Board Member Background Checks

Please make sure that your BCI background checks are up to date. BCI checks should be updated every 5 years for current charter school board members. Questions? Please contact your School Representative.

Summer Lunch Program

Lower-income Ohioans are eligible to receive \$120 to cover meals for kids during summer break. Eligible families with children ages six to 18 are able to receive a one-time payment of \$120. The money will help families purchase groceries for the months of June, July and August. For more information, read here: <https://ohiosummerebt.org>.

Upcoming Events

As we wind down the school year, we want to remind you to read your email and our Frontline catalog for refreshed professional development opportunities beginning in July. Here are some “must adds” to your summer calendar! Register for sessions via the link in the title, or go to BCHF’s Professional Learning Opportunities Catalog, [available here](#).

[2024 BCHF School Leadership Summit!!! – VERY LAST CALL TO REGISTER - June 5 and 6, 2024 – 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. – at Quest Conference Center in Columbus](#)

Don't miss it – register NOW for Buckeye Community Hope Foundation's premier professional development event of the year. We are excited and proud to announce our 2024 School Leadership Summit, “Growing Talent, Growing Minds.” We will hold the Summit in person on June 5 and 6 in Columbus. The overall goal of the Summit is to equip leaders to cultivate and retain student focused talent. Keynote speakers will include Mr. Tyler Bastian of Roots Academy in Utah and Ms. Brit Seward, Math Specialist for BCHF.

[New School Leader Orientation – July 24, 2024 – 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and optional school discipline training 3:00 to 4:30 P.M. – in person in Columbus at BCHF](#)

If you are a new leader or assistant leader, welcome to the BCHF portfolio of schools! This in-person, informal seminar is designed to support new school leaders as they assume responsibilities for the 2024-25 school year. Leaders who would like a refresher are also invited! Topics (10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.) include Sponsor roles and responsibilities; Basics of school finance; Compliance monitoring; and Academic performance and school improvement. An optional module of the training will be included from 3:00 to 4:30 P.M. on school discipline. A light soup and salad lunch will be provided. Please email Carol Young, cyoung@buckeyehope.org with any special dietary requests. If you have a severe food allergy or condition, we advise you to bring a packed lunch.

[SAVE THE DATE!!! – BCHF ALL SCHOOLS MEETING](#)

BCHF will kick off the new school year on September 19, 2024, at the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow at The Ohio State University. We will present vital updates specific to community schools for 2024-25 and follow the morning with our popular Solutions Centers where you can “ask an expert!”

Please also be aware of these essential state-level trainings:

Ohio’s Statewide Teacher Leadership Summit- June 5, Downtown Columbus Convention Center

The purpose of Ohio's Teacher Leader Summit is to bring together educators from schools and organizations doing innovative work to develop teacher leaders. Participants will share their successes, lessons learned, and strategies for overcoming challenges. For more information go to: [2024 Ohio Teacher Leadership Summit \(regfox.com\)](https://regfox.com)

Science of Reading Online Course – Required for ALL Ohio Educators by June 30, 2025

All educators will need to be trained in The Science of Reading and Ohio's requirements for literacy instruction. The online science of reading professional development will also meet requirements for Introduction to Dyslexia. For more information, go to: [Science of reading and dyslexia introductory literacy courses now available | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#)

Ohio's Introduction to Dyslexia for Grades 4-12

Ohio's Introduction to Dyslexia, Grades 4-12 course is now available in the Learning Management System. This free course is one option available to educators to meet the professional development requirements of Ohio's Dyslexia Support Laws. More information on accessing the course through the Learning Management System is available on the [Department's Dyslexia webpage](#).

The timelines for dyslexia introductory training are as follows:

- By the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year: Teachers of grades K-1, including special education teachers. New hires will need to complete the training, or the Science of Reading training, within 2 years of their hire.
- By Sept. 15 of the 2024-2025 school year: Teachers of grades 2-3, including special education teachers.
- By Sept. 15 of the 2025-2026 school year: Special education teachers of students in grades 4-12.

Structured Literacy Certification

Schools are required to have a plan for training structured literacy specialist(s) to oversee dyslexia services within their schools. For more information and acceptable trainings, please see information at the following link: [Professional Development | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#)

Have a story or event at your school you would like to share? Send it to Hana, Strategic Communications Specialist: hchandoul@buckeyehope.org.

BUCKEYE COMMUNITY HOPE FOUNDATION

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