



Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center (MVESC) staff members have worked tirelessly to continue bringing services and resources to children, educators, local agencies and community businesses during the COVID-19 outbreak. Our departments have been working diligently to support our districts in their efforts to serve the academic and social/emotional needs of their students and staff. We have been working with the local hospital in Muskingum County to provide emergency childcare services for their staff members. We also have been providing learning opportunities for parents and students to access from their homes. We are proud to share some of the great work happening at the MVESC during this very difficult time.

### **Center for Innovation and Data Services**

Our staff continue to pull and compile data for each of our member districts in the areas of attendance, behavior and course completion. We are refining our web applications related to the graduation point tracker student enrollments and attendance. With a focus on continuous learning, we recently completed training on a data acquisition app called Jitterbit that gives us more options for pulling data from various ITCs. We continue to explore AI (Artificial Intelligence) and machine learning applications to provide our districts with greater access to student data. Finally, through grant funds, we are acquiring a mobile Zoom room that will give us more flexibility to deliver instruction, professional development and peer-to-peer instruction.

### **Center for Leading and Learning**

Immediately following the closure of schools, we began to see a flood of resources on social media that parents and teachers could use as they tried to provide learning opportunities for students at home. Our staff members created a resource page on the MVESC website ([www.mvesc.org/569](http://www.mvesc.org/569)) to collect quality, vetted resources anyone can use. The resources are organized into four categories:

- 1) Resources for Teachers - Information listed by topic and grade level for teachers to gather ideas in lesson and unit planning.
- 2) Resources for Parents - An organized list of activities and virtual field trips teachers can send to parents that support academic and social emotional learning.
- 3) Resources for Students - A series of free student sessions on kindness sponsored by the MVESC Kindness Crew grant, courtesy of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation.
- 4) Professional Learning for Educators - Professional learning sessions via Zoom or Schoology covering a variety of topics (do we need to list what these are or is my sentence enough?)

This resource page is ever evolving as we continue to find and research great opportunities for our students, parents and educators. The live distance learning options we have offered have been a customer favorite. Our Kindness Crew classes attracted nearly 60 participants in our rural area, which shows families at home want learning they can engage with, that gives them the opportunity for feedback and offers personalization for their children.

### **Parent Mentor**

Our parent mentor is communicating with families in her districts by phone, text and email regarding services during the school closures and helping them understand these changes. She is participating in virtual meetings and webinars from state and local organizations to keep up with the most current information on serving students with disabilities and preparing information for future parent trainings. As the statewide Parent Mentor Council Chair, she is staying in communication with parent mentors across the state and working on preparations for OCALICON 2020.



## **Preschool**

Our Preschool Department began preparing for school closures as soon as they were announced. In alignment with each local school district, our teachers prepared packets and sent them home with students on the final day in session. Since the closure, our teachers are keeping in contact with families by using technology in a variety of ways. They have been sending printable resources and online resources to families. They also have posted videos of themselves reading books, leading songs and doing other circle-time activities. These videos have been posted on ClassDojo or through Facebook sites. Additionally, they have been reaching out individually to families by phone or through other communication methods, such as Remind or ClassDojo. Preschool administrators have been working with districts to maintain compliance for ETR and IEPs by holding phone conferences and Zoom meetings. They also are closely following updates and the latest guidance regarding the preschool arena and sharing information with families about community resources, including food distribution by school districts and community organizations.

## **School Psychology**

The School Psychology Department continues to work with member districts to provide needed supports for staff and students. Prior to the closure of schools, our psychologists began gathering all current cases so they could complete psychological reports within mandatory timelines. They are managing report writing at home through online ETR/IEP programs within each district. As they navigate through new procedures for meeting with parents, they have begun to hold some meetings using telephone conferences and Zoom formats. These communication tools also are being used to stay in contact with school teams and support personnel. Our school psychology interns are creating projects for students around issues of COVID-19. During this time, the school psychologists also are working on professional development activities, both mandated training and webinars available online.

## **State Support Team 12 (SST 12)**

SST 12 is offering support to educational entities by providing virtual technical assistance, hosting peer networks to promote the sharing of ideas and distributing educational resources and Ohio Department of Education guidance as it becomes available.

## **Student Services**

Our Student Services Department personnel are working collaboratively to navigate and support the individualized educational procedures established by our member districts (school-age services in 14 school districts in five counties). Prior to the closure, intervention specialists prepared and sent home two to three weeks of lessons. Families currently receive communications through phone calls, email and the use of apps, such as ClassDoJo. Teachers upload video lessons, read-aloud materials, educational and food-bank resources, and home activities to support academic and social emotional skills for students with disabilities to these app formats daily.

For our alternative education programs, students continue to access lessons daily through online programming. General education teachers and intervention specialists are supporting the students and families by monitoring of the work and making phone calls to families, as needed.

Occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists and our teacher of the visually impaired support lessons provided by general education and intervention specialists, while also reaching out to families to offer support, providing lessons, creating google classrooms and producing fun and engaging videos.



### **Student Services (continued)**

Directors, intervention specialists and therapists are participating in webinars to prepare and develop a plan for the delivery of services through safe and secure teletherapy formats. Our team continues to meet compliance of ETRs in-process and IEPs through telephone conferences, Google hangouts and Zoom formats. We document all communication to families on the optional form, “Attempts to Obtain Parent Participation,” provided in district ETR/IEP software programs. Paraprofessional interpreters for the deaf work in partnership with general education teachers and intervention specialists to offer resources and supports to help students access the lessons in home or online. Social workers and student advocates are communicating with families and students through phone calls and email. A social-emotional support page created on Facebook gained 384 members in only one week.

### **Technology**

Our Technology Department staff are providing support via TeamViewer that they use during normal circumstances, as well. They are supporting our teachers and staff members who are remoting into their work desktops through a VPN (Virtual Private Network) system, which is allowing our MVESC team to continue work from their homes as seamlessly as possible.