



North Central Ohio
Educational Service Center

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

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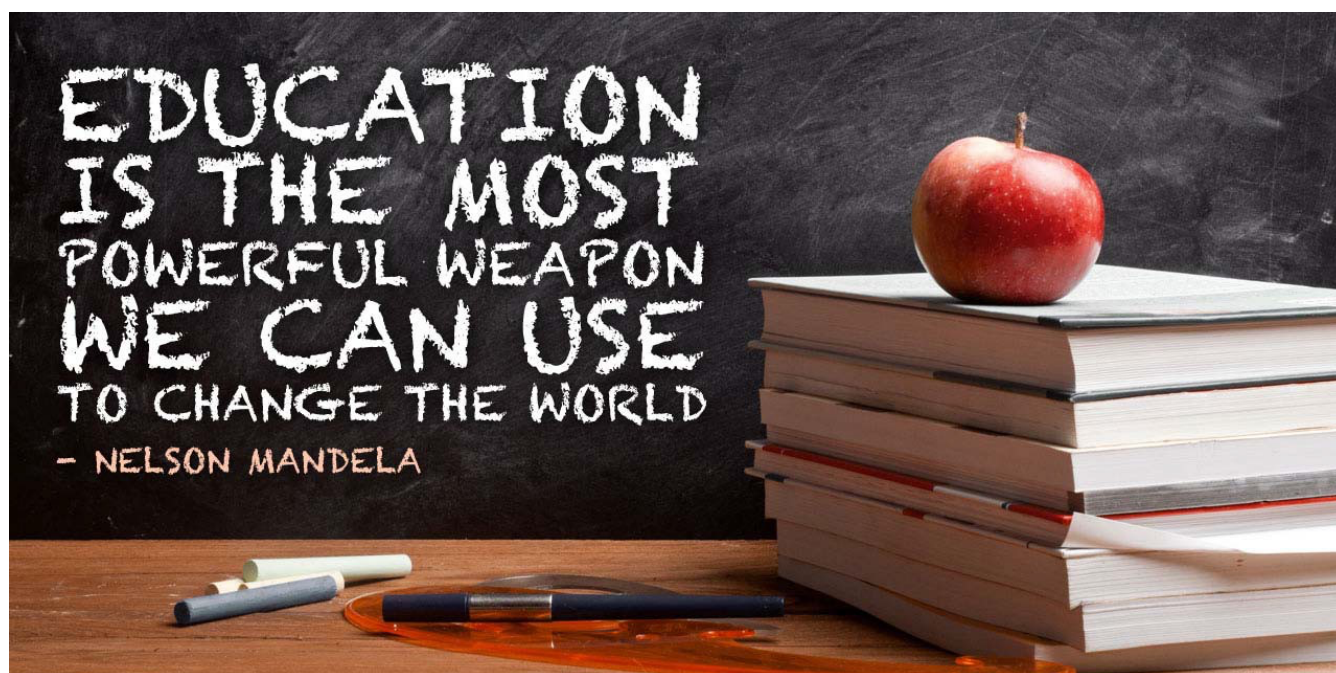


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Message from the Superintendent

NCOESC holds a long and proud tradition of educational excellence to provide quality services throughout our service region. NCOESC currently serves more than 26,000 students from Marion, Sandusky, Seneca, Wyandot, Union, Richland, Crawford and Morrow counties and sponsors 15 community schools that serve an estimated 2,630 students., with school size ranging from 35-560

In addition, NCOESC also serves as the fiscal agent for the Region 7 State Support Team enabling us to provide educational services for 155 school buildings in 52 school districts in Region 7 which includes the counties of Ashland, Richland, Morrow, Knox, Crawford, Marion, Huron, Medina, Seneca and Wyandot.

The North Central Ohio Educational Service Center is committed to offering quality programs and services that will help school districts meet their unique needs. We have an experienced staff with in-depth knowledge on a wide variety of topics. Our staff has the expertise and training to design programs, services and professional development to address the needs of each district.

Agency personnel have developed a network of resources at the local, state, and even at the national level to support initiatives needed by the agency and districts we serve. Staff members regularly attend trainings to stay current with the latest research-based best practices, state and federal regulations and updated standards. Each district is unique and has specific areas of need. It is our goal to provide each school district with services customized to meet their identified needs. Due to Covid-19, NCOESC has been an even bigger support and partner to our districts. Plans for addressing learning loss have been reviewed by our agency, and a plan has been developed by NCOESC to assist our educational entities to combat regression of learning and thrust students forward into deeper learning. We have a commitment to our children in our partner schools to provide each child with the necessary tools and knowledge to become successful adults when leaving our schools and entering the next phase of life.

Brenda Luhring
Superintendent/CEO





Board of Governors



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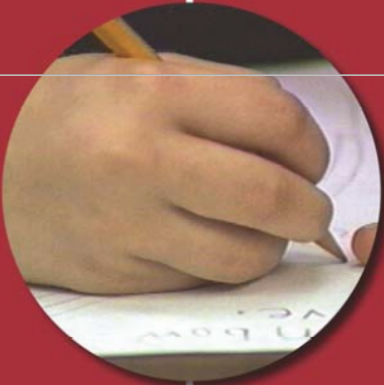
Mr. T. Dwayne Sayre
Board Member



North Central Ohio Educational Service Center

VISION

"The vision of the NCOESC is to be a recognized leader committed to meeting the needs of our educational partners"



MISSION

"...To meet the needs of our educational partners through excellent service"

CORE VALUES

- *Educational leadership* exhibited through honesty, trust and integrity
- *Cost-effective delivery* through quality customer service and meeting the needs of children
- *Professional growth and development* through flexibility and innovative practices by thinking out of the box



Member Districts

Seneca County

Hopewell-Loudon Local
New Riegel Local
Old Fort Local
Seneca East Local
Fostoria City
Tiffin City

Crawford County

Buckeye Central
Bucyrus City
Colonel Crawford Local
Wynford Local

Union County

North Union Local

Wyandot County

Carey Exempted Village
Mohawk Local
Upper Sandusky Ex Village

Marion County

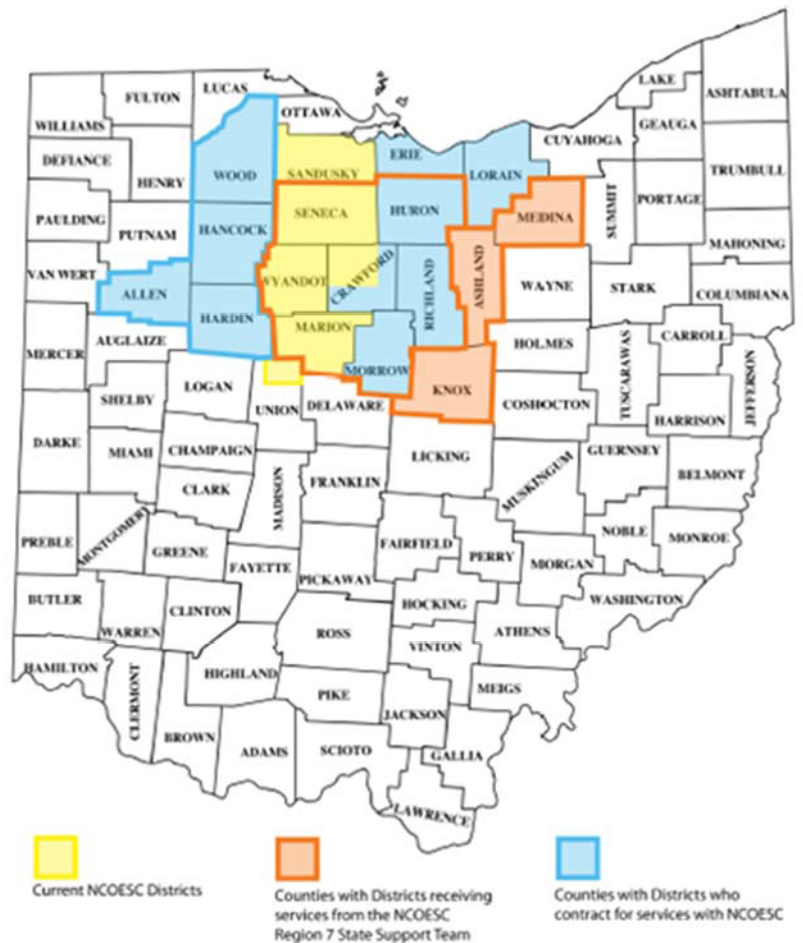
Elgin Local
Pleasant Local
Ridgedale Local
River Valley Local
Tri-Rivers Career Center

Sandusky County

Fremont City
Vanguard-Sentinel Career Center

Richland County

Ontario Local
Shelby City



Ashland County

Ashland City
Crestview Local
Hillsdale Local
Loudonville-Perryville Exempted Village
Mapleton Local

Crawford County

Buckeye Central Local
Bucyrus City
Colonel Crawford Local
Crestline Exempted Village
Galion City
Wynford Local

Huron County

Western Reserve Local
Willard City

Medina County

Black River Local

Knox County

Centerburg Local
Danville Local
East Knox Local
Frederickstown Local
Mount Vernon City

Wyandot County

Carey Exempted Village
Mohawk Local
Upper Sandusky Exempted Village

Marion County

Elgin Local
Marion City Digital Academy
Marion City
Pleasant Local
Ridgedale Local
River Valley Local
Ruzzo Center
Treca Digital Academy

Morrow County

Cardington-Lincoln Local
Highland Local
Mount Gilead Exempted Village
Northmor Local
Clear Fork Valley Local

Richland County

Goal Digital Academy
Constellation Schools
Foundation Academy
Lexington Local
Lucas Local
Madison Local
Mansfield City
Ontario Local
Shelby City

Seneca County

Bridges Community Academy
Hopewell-Loudon Local
New Riegel Local
North Central Academy
Old Fort Local
Seneca East Local
Seneca County Youth Department
Tiffin City



2020-2021 Sponsored



Ann Jerkins-Harris Academy
of Excellence
Albert Einstein Academy - Lakewood

Albert Einstein - Strongsville

Albert Einstein - North Olmstead

Eastland Preparatory Academy

Educational Academy for Boys and Girls

Franklinton High School

Focus Learning North Columbus

Focus Learning Central Columbus

Hardin Community School

Hope Learning Academy

Imagine Columbus Primary Academy

Imagine Leadership Academy

Marion Preparatory Academy

Midnimo Cross Cultural Academy

North Central Academy

Rise and Shine Academy



Community School Sponsorship

Mission

To build strong partnerships with developers and educational leaders of community schools by providing sponsorship service and technical support that meets and exceeds excellence in support of school choice options

Vision

To be recognized across the state as a sponsor with high standards and integrity

Goals

- 1) To form partnerships and provide assistance to community schools through commitment to quality school choice and establishing high-quality school programs in Ohio.*
- 2) To provide support in helping our community schools meet the needs of students they serve.*
- 3) To service as critical partners to help community schools maintain compliance with state and federal laws.*





Community School Sponsorship Performance Summary

Each year, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) submits a report on Ohio's community schools to the governor and members of the Ohio General Assembly. As part of this process, the North Central Ohio Educational Service Center (NCOESC) is submitting this report to evaluate and summarize the performance and compliance of its sponsored schools in four areas: Academic Performance, Fiscal Performance, Organization and Operation, and Legal Compliance.

As a community school sponsor (authorizer), NCOESC strives to be a leader in the charter school movement, advocating for school choice. Our mission is to build strong partnerships with educational leaders to promote unique and high-quality educational experiences for students in Ohio, advocating excellence in education. During the 2020-2201 school year, NCOESC sponsored fifteen community schools with enrollment of approximately 2,450 students. NCOESC sponsored three drop-out recovery schools and twelve general education schools in 2020-2021. These schools represent a variety of grade-level configurations and unique educational opportunities for students they serve.

Performance Ratings

NCOESC provides rigorous oversight, monitoring, and technical assistance to our sponsored schools with processes and protocols that align with standards developed by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers and the state of Ohio's Sponsor Performance Review. NCOESC collects data from its sponsored schools throughout the year to determine specifically the extent to which each school is performing in the following four areas: academic, fiscal, operational/organizational and legal compliance. Data gathered through a variety of means reviewed and analyzed to determine school's performance includes the following:

- Site visits to schools, including walkthroughs while school is in session with findings reported to the governing authority at meetings;
- Monthly financial reviews;
- Attendance at community school governing authority board meetings;
- Ongoing reviews of assessment data highlighting student achievement and growth;
- Ongoing reviews in the areas of state and federal compliance, academics, special education, operations, and finance;
- Ongoing technical assistance delivered by trained and experienced staff; and,
- Reviews of reports electronically submitted to the NCOESC compliance-tracking database.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the NCOESC for the second year is not able to assign a rating to the academic part of their sponsor report for the 2020-2021 school year. More information related to this is provided below.

Information provided below also addresses criteria to determine whether a school exceeds, meets, or does not meet the expected performance level in each of the four areas; academic performance, fiscal performance, organizational/operational performance, and legal compliance.

Academic Performance

As a community school authorizer the North Central Ohio ESC has a duty to monitor and provide oversight and technical assistance to all of its sponsored schools. This includes an assessment of each school's academic performance on an annual basis. During a typical year, the North Central Ohio ESC uses multiple measures of academic performance and the results of the school's attainment of goals outlined in the charter contract's Academic Assessment & Accountability/Performance Framework (Attachments 6.4 & 11.6, Part I & II of Sponsorship Contract) to determine a school's rating.

However, as with the 2019-2020 school year, the 2020-2021 school year was not typical. Due to ongoing issues with the COVID-19 Pandemic, there were many interruptions to the school calendars and many schools were operating on a rotation schedule due to COVID-19 outbreaks within the school community. Therefore, due to these interruptions to school calendars and lack of academic data over the past two years, the North Central Ohio ESC is unable to fully complete its determination of the academic performance of its sponsored schools again for the 2020-2021 school year. For the 2020-2021 school year annual report and all school sponsor reports the North Central Ohio ESC uses "NR" meaning Not Reported due to COVID-19 Pandemic and lack of data.

Fiscal Performance

NCOESC rated each school's fiscal performance using information from the following: board-approved financial reports, Ohio Auditor of State audits (including any findings and successfully addressing such findings), monthly financial reviews, five-year forecasts, annual budgets, and other financial information as requested of the school throughout the year.

With the information described, NCOESC rates the school's Fiscal Performance by calculating scores in six areas:

- Current Ratio (Total Assets/Liabilities- Is school keeping up with short-term financial obligations?)
- Days cash on hand (45 days or more is good while 15 to 45 fair, and under 15 days signals potential financial distress)
- Change in Fund Balance Ratio (Is school living within their means?)
- Enrollment trends (Main revenue stability)
- Five-year forecast review
- Most -recently released audit results

A school “exceeds” expectations if it meets the NCOESC measurement standards in all six areas. A school “meets expectations” if it meets the NCOESC measurement standards in at least four areas. If the fiscal performance was below these standards, it is determined the school “did not meet” expectations for its fiscal performance rating.

Organization and Operational Performance

NCOESCS rated the school’s organization and operational performance based on combined information showing how successfully the governing authority executed its governance duties under the contract. The factors considered include conducting required number of meetings, maintaining sufficient number of approved members, maintaining sufficient board meeting minutes, fulfilling member-training requirements, maintaining compliance with the governing authority’s Code of Regulations, conducting monthly financial reviews, and complying with open meetings requirements.

A school “exceeds” expectations if the minimum contractual requirements are met in all areas and exceeded in at least one of the areas. A school “meets” expectations if the minimum contractual requirements are met in all of the areas. If the organization and operational performance was below these standards, it is determined the school “did not meet” expectations for its organizational and operational performance rating.

Legal Compliance

NCOESC rated the school’s Legal Compliance based on a combination of its adherence to state and federal statute, the community school contract, and compliance items from the sponsor evaluation. A school will have met expectations if it has a 100% compliance rate with health and safety requirements and at least 95% for all requirements.

Summary

During the 2020-2021 school year, NCOESC sponsored 15 community schools. NCOESC is pleased to report the following:

14 schools received a rating of “Meets” or better in the three of the rated areas; and
1 school received a rating of “Exceeds” in all three rated areas.

NCOESC staff members work diligently to provide technical assistance to school leaders, governing authority members, fiscal officers, and other stakeholders to improve compliance and ensure steady progress for those schools not meeting expectations in a given area. NCOESC remains committed to working with each school to individualize our technical assistance offerings so that more Ohio students have access to high-quality educational options.

North Central Ohio ESC Sponsored Community Schools' Performance

In evaluating the performance of our schools, NCOESC looks at multiple measures but particularly Achievement and Progress.

Achievement answers the questions—How many students passed the state tests (Indicators Met) and how well each student performed on the state tests (Performance Index).

The progress component looks closely at the growth that all students are making from year-to- year based on their past performances.

The next page is a snapshot of our schools' achievement and progress for the 2020-2021 school year. It is important to note that **10 of our 15 schools serve high percentages of students who are economically disadvantaged.**

North Central Ohio ESC Sponsored Community Schools' Performance

North Central Ohio Educational Service Center
2020-2021 Community School Performance Summary

School/IRN	Grade Levels Served	% of Economically Disadvantaged	% of SWD/(ELL)	County	Academic Performance	Fiscal Performance	Organization & Operation	Legal Compliance
Ann Jenkins-Harris School of Excellence/013195	K-6	98%	16% (SWD)	Lucas	**NR	Meets	Meets	Exceeds
Albert Einstein Academy/013994	K-12	27%	29% (SWD)	Cuyahoga	**NR	*Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds
Eastland Preparatory Academy/014090	K-8	100%	15% (SWD)	Franklin	**NR	*Meets	Meets	Meets
Educational Academy for Boys & Girls /000779	K-6	100%	9% (SWD) 70%(ELL)	Franklin	**NR	*Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Franklinton High School/019226	9-12	85%	19% (SWD)	Franklin	*NR	Meets	Meets	Meets
Focus Learning Academy of Central Columbus/142943	K-6	100%	9% (SWD) 72%(ELL)	Franklin	**NR	*Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Focus Learning Academy of Northern Columbus/142943	K-8	100%	3% (SWD) 57% (ELL)	Franklin	**NR	*Meets	Meets	Meets
Hardin Community School/011324	6-12	73%	34%(SWD)	Hardin	**NR	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds
Hope Learning Academy/014091	K-8	70%	79%(SWD)	Lucas	**NR	Meets	Exceeds	Meets
Imagine Columbus Primary Academy/014139	K- 8	100%	7% (SWD) 12% (ELL)	Franklin	**NR	* Meets	Meets	Exceeds
Imagine Leadership Academy/014121	1-8	97%	14% (SWD)	Summit	**NR	*Meets	Meets	Exceeds
Marion Preparatory Academy/17585	K -6	100%	20%(SWD)	Marion	**NR	*Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets
Midnimo Cross Cultural Academy/000780	6-8	100%	8 % (SWD) 39 % (ELL)	Franklin	**NR	*Meets	Exceeds	Meets
North Central Academy/012054	6-12	64%	41% (SWD)	Senaca	*NR	Meets	Meets	Meets
Rise & Shine Academy/013999	K-8	79%	10% (SWD)	Lucas	**NR	Exceeds	Meets	Meets
**Under Academic Column- **NR- means "Not Reported due to COVID-19 Pandemic during the 2019-2020 School Year								
*Under Fiscal Column- Management Company and per agreement all financial obligations are met								



Services Offered at No Cost to Member Districts and NCOESC Sponsored Community Schools

The North Central Ohio Educational Service Center offers, at no cost, a variety of professional Development support services to Member Districts and NCOESC's Sponsored Community Schools. Networking sessions for Principals, Curriculum Directors, Special Education Directors, School Counselors, School Testing Coordinators and Teachers cover a wide-range of educational topics including but not limited to those listed below:

Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) 2.0 Bridge Training, OTES 2.0, Principal and Curriculum Director Network Meetings, School Counselor Network Meetings, Local Report Card Updates, Special Education Network Meetings, Legislative Updates, Curriculum and Data (i.e., standards, restart guides and assessments, differentiation, meeting needs of gifted learners, value-added, etc), Technology (i.e., Zoom, Loom, Jamboard, Padlet, interactive whiteboards, etc.), and Student Services (i.e., RTI, IAT, IEP sections, meetings, etc.).

We also offer many other resources free on our web pages through Livebinders that can be found on the NCOESC home page under "Curriculum." These Livebinders hold resources related to State Testing, Principal, Teacher and Counselor Evaluations, NWEA/MAP Testing, Curriculum and Assessment and Resident Educator .

In addition to the above, The North Central Ohio Educational Service Center provides monitoring, oversight and technical assistance to its sponsored community schools in the following ways:

- Monitors progress and compliance with Sponsorship Agreement, Education Plan and Accountability Plan
- Completes annually, opening assurances by conducting site visits 10-days prior to the school's opening date
- Completes at least two other site visits (fall and spring) during the school year and reviews academic programming and compliance requirements
- Attends board meetings on a monthly or bi-monthly basis where the sponsor shares updates
- Provides financial reviews per ORC
- Provides legal updates and timely information relative to The Ohio Department of Education initiatives via email and/or newsletter
- Serves as a liaison between school and the Ohio Department of Education with any investigations or complaints
- Provides technical assistance and regular communications to sponsored schools regarding academic performance, professional development, law updates and any other issues or concerns that arise.
- If needed, provides intervention through consultation, assistance, assignment of corrective action plan and/or probationary status. Fiscal corrective actions are assigned by the treasurer.
- Reviews/assesses new and renewed contracts
- Compiles annual reports on each of the schools.



Fiscal Services

The North Central Ohio ESC's mission is to be a recognized leader committed to meeting the needs of our educational partners through excellent service exhibited by honesty, trust and integrity. We serve as fiscal agent for the Seneca County Family and Children First Council, State Support Team Region 7, and the North Central Ohio Trust Joint Self Insurance Consortium.

The Ohio Department of Education has designated our organization a "High Performing ESC" as a result of our application which demonstrated 49% cost savings to districts in five primary service areas.

Our ESC continues to grow by providing new services, programs, technology, professional development and special education services on behalf of the schools we serve through cost effective delivery and quality customer service to meet the educational needs of our partners.

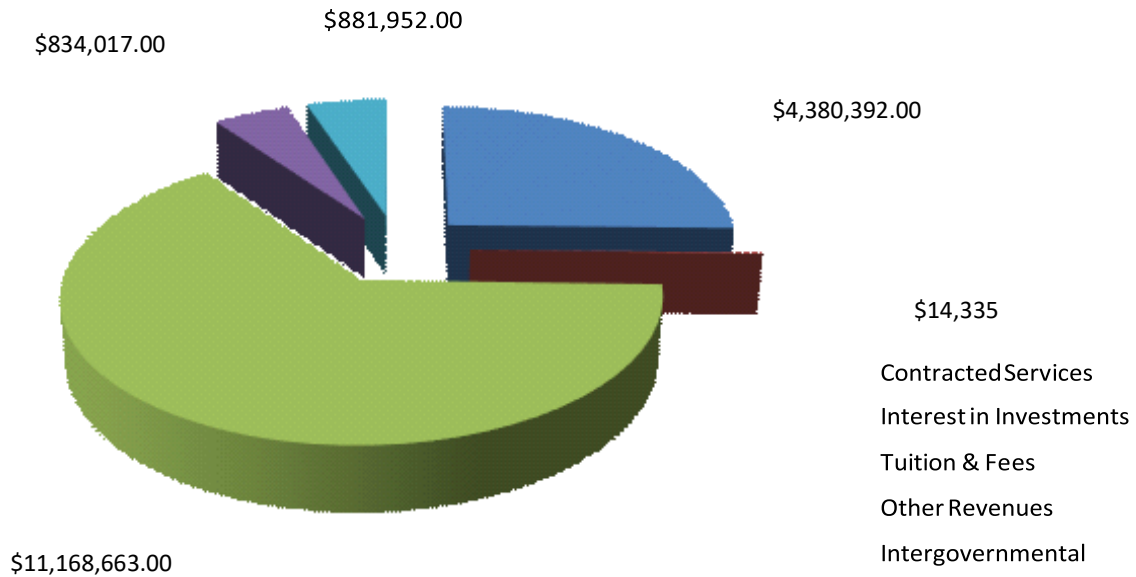
Specifically for our community schools, we have dedicated the services of a Director of Community Schools to provide guidance and oversight to the schools we sponsor. We also employ licensed school treasurers to conduct monthly fiscal reviews and provide feedback on financial reports to the school board and directors. Our community school compliance officers provide further assistance to our schools by attending school board meetings and conducting site visits. We are able to offer the services of an EMIS Coordinator as a shared service with other community schools to minimize costs while providing quality financial services at the school's request.

By utilizing the ESC model of shared services we are able to provide significant cost savings to our local, city, and exempted village school districts, as well as community schools throughout Ohio. The exemplary resources we offer in Curriculum, Special Education, Early Childhood, and other Specialized Services are recognized throughout the region by our districts and partners.



FY20 General Fund Financial Activities

FY19 General Fund Revenue



FY19 General Fund Expenditures

