



JCESC  
The Bridge to Tomorrow

# Inside JCESC

[www.jcesc.k12.oh.us](http://www.jcesc.k12.oh.us)

## Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

The Jefferson County ESC has scheduled 11 Student Learning Objective (SLO) trainings in January and February at the Eastern Gateway Community College Pugliese Training Center (EGCC). Training days will be full day sessions for administrators and teachers of Jefferson and Harrison County Schools.

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### What is an SLO?

An SLO is a measure of a teacher's impact on student learning within a given interval of instruction. An SLO is a measurable, long-term academic goal informed by available data that a teacher or teacher team sets at the beginning of the year for all students or for subgroups of students. The teacher(s) and students work toward the SLO growth targets throughout the year and use interim, benchmark, summative, and formative assessments to assess progress toward the goal. At the end of the year, the teacher(s) meet with a principal or building team to discuss attainment of the SLO and determine the teacher's impact on student learning.

There are many benefits to using SLOs as a measure of student growth:

**SLOs reinforce best teaching practice.** Setting goals for students, using data to assess student progress, and adjusting instruction based upon that progress are all part of good teaching practice. SLOs help formalize good teaching by requiring each of these steps and using the growth targets to inform evaluation results.

**SLOs are adaptable.** All educators can demonstrate their impact on student learning and receive recognition for their efforts because SLOs are not dependent upon the availability of standardized assessment scores. Instead, SLOs can draw upon different data sources such as end of course exams, performance-based assessment scored by a rubric, or district-created or team-created assessments. SLOs can be highly adaptable, quickly reflecting changes in curriculum and available assessments.

**SLOs acknowledge the value of teacher knowledge and skill.** The SLO process allows teachers to have input on how student learning will be measured and how teachers will be evaluated. Also, the process allows educators to focus on the objectives that are most relevant for their student population and content areas and provide a clear, measurable connection to instruction.

**Potential for collaboration.** SLOs can be used to promote collaboration and reflection on practice among teachers.

### Training Session Dates and Grade/Subject Levels

January 18	Jefferson and Harrison County Administrators
January 23	Kindergarten and Grade 1
January 25	Grades 2-3
February 4	Grades 4-6 Reading and Math
February 6	Grades 4-6 Science and Social Studies
February 11	Grades 7-8 ELA and Math
February 12	Grades 7-8 Science and Social Studies
February 19	Grades 9-10 ELA and Math
February 20	Grades 9-10 Science and Social Studies
February 25	Grades 11-12 ELA and Math
February 26	Grades 11-12 Science and Social Studies



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## A Note from the Superintendent

“A Culture of Service”



Joy Howell  
Superintendent

As we usher in the 2013 calendar, we have spent some time reflecting, as well as planning for the work ahead. Some things have not changed. In December 2007, we began talking about three core values that guide the work at JCESC:

- ♦ Valuing the dignity and worth of all individuals
- ♦ Building our capacity for excellence
- ♦ Increasing and improving our service

In 2013, these three core values still identify who we are, what we stand for, what we are about, and how we act every day.

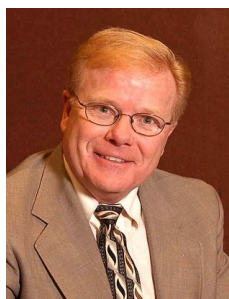
In this newsletter, we introduce you to our three newest staff members whose personal and professional lives align well with JCESC core values. As the new staff blend their knowledge, skills, and leadership capacity with those of the current staff, JCESC will become even better equipped to serve the school districts in our service area.

We have an ambitious plan for the first months of 2013. Staff will be working almost daily with teachers and administrators in creating SLOs, completing value-added analyses, facilitating high school-higher education dialogue, using the OTES rubric, and building administrative leadership capacity at the district level. Some of these events are featured in this newsletter.

This newsletter also highlights several fall programs, services, and initiatives. For additional information, we invite you to visit our website at [www.jcesc.k12.oh.us](http://www.jcesc.k12.oh.us).

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## Vice President of JCESC Governing Board Receives Award



Larry George

On Wednesday, November 14, 2012, Larry George, Vice President of the Jefferson County Governing Board, was recognized during the 2012 Capital Conference by the Ohio School Boards Association for 25 years of service as a school board member. Mr. George has also served 25 years as a member of the Jefferson County Joint Vocational Board where he currently serves as president. He has held office on both boards for numerous years.

Mr. George, owner of Photography by George, Inc., in Wintersville, and renown master photographer, is a life-long businessman and community leader. He

brings practical experience, business savvy, creativity, and marketing expertise to the board table. His problem solving skills, coupled with common sense, help the Board sustain a steady course in their mission of serving students in Jefferson and Harrison Counties. His buoyant spirit, irrepressible energy, zest for life, and deep spiritual faith set a high standard for all of us. We are indeed privileged and blessed to work with him and for him.

He and his wife, the late Denise George, have one son, Chad, who is working on his Masters in Education at The Ohio State University.

### Clyde DiAngelo Jr.

Clyde DiAngelo joined the JCESC staff in August 2012 as a supervisor in the areas of special education, preschool, professional development and curriculum.

Mr. DiAngelo, a 1967 graduate of Weirton Madonna High School, received a Bachelor of Arts in Education from West Liberty State College, a Masters of Arts in Science Education from West Virginia University, and a Masters of Science in Educational Administration from the University of Dayton.

Clyde has 42 years of educational experience. He worked in the Indian Creek Local School District where he served as an Elementary Principal and Special Education/Preschool Coordinator; in the Steubenville City School District as an Elementary Principal and Director of Administrative Services; in the Toronto City School District as the Special Programs Coordinator where he supervised all State and Federal Programs and served as Transportation Supervisor; and the Diocese of Steubenville, as a teacher and Dean of Students at Catholic Central High School where he served as the Chairperson of the North Central Association Committee.

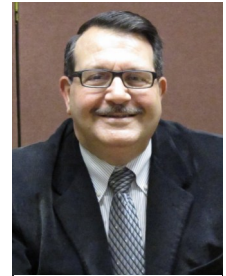
Clyde has been the recipient of numerous coaching honors and awards. He was the Head Basketball Coach for ten years at Catholic Central where he compiled the most career wins in school history, along with two (OVAC) AAA Championships, five Sectional titles, a District Championship, and one Eastern Buckeye League banner. He also served as the Head Baseball Coach for six seasons winning three (OVAC) AAA Championships, three Eastern Buckeye League Championships, a Regional Championship, and an Ohio State Tournament Final Four appearance.

Mr. DiAngelo brings to JCESC expertise in several areas. His educational accomplishments include the following:

- ♦ Principal of an Ohio School of Excellence with Distinction (Hills Elementary, Indian Creek)
- ♦ Principal of two-time Excellent State Report Card Ratings (Buena Vista Elementary, Steubenville City)
- ♦ Two-time national Title I School Distinguished Awards
- ♦ Certified evaluator for the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System
- ♦ Certified evaluator for the Ohio Principal Evaluation System
- ♦ Publication: "Perspectives and Programs in High School Basketball and Baseball Conditioning," published in the *National Strength and Conditioning Association Journal*

JCESC is transitioning from an individual department model to a single leadership team model focusing on providing high-quality programs and services that lead to and undergird high levels of learning. Mr. DiAngelo brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this service model, and he is already acknowledged as a valuable and respected member of the Leadership Team.

Clyde is married to wife Sonja, a retired elementary teacher in the Steubenville City School District. He has two children, daughter Danielle, a teacher at Harding Middle School in Steubenville, and son Michael, an assistant football coach and instructor at Washington & Jefferson College. He also has two grandsons, Ty Angelo and Vinny Joseph.



*Clyde DiAngelo*

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## JCESC Welcomes New Staff Members in 2012-13 (cont.)

### Ron Sismondo



*Ron Sismondo*

In June 2012, the Jefferson County Governing Board employed Ron Sismondo as a Supervisor of Professional Development and Curriculum.

Mr. Sismondo, a 1978 graduate and valedictorian of Mingo High School, received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Arizona in 1982. While studying at the University of Arizona, he was a four-year letterman in baseball and a member of the 1980 National Championship Team. He received a Masters in Educational Administration from the Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1996.

Mr. Sismondo served in the Indian Creek Local and Edison Local School Districts as a teacher, elementary principal, and assistant superintendent. While working in Indian Creek Local School District, he served as a football, girl's basketball, and baseball coach for fifteen years.

Ron brings the ESC a successful record of educational accomplishments. He is credentialed and certified as one of 65 Value-Added Leaders in the State of Ohio. He is also credentialed as a

- ♦ Certified Principal Mentor
- ♦ Certified evaluator for the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System
- ♦ Certified evaluator for the Ohio Principal Evaluation System

His leadership is also evidenced during the years he served as building principal. While at Hills Elementary in Indian Creek, Hills was named a National Blue Ribbon School and a two-time Ohio School of Promise.

Mr. Sismondo's knowledge and training in Value-Added and the School Improvement Process complement the work of the JCESC Leadership Team. He has already been working with individual district and building teams to analyze district data, identify trends, and build capacity in understanding the Value-Added process and impact. Value-Added becomes more important as districts implement the Ohio Teacher and Principal Evaluation Systems and as they transition to the new report card rating system.

His role is to assist districts in providing differentiated learning paths, in addressing Leaders' and District Value-Added Leader teams' needs, in working toward school improvement and using data, in providing an update on student growth metrics in Ohio's new Evaluation System, and in understanding and using teacher-level value-added reports; in communicating what it means to make informed decisions about student growth measures and providing coaching support to assist district/school teams as they prepare principals and teachers to use and understand value-added information.

Personally and professionally, Ron models those core values that drive the daily work of JCESC. He has a "heart for service" and spends many hours reading, studying, and analyzing data in preparation for his work with districts.

Ron and his wife, Tammy, a Registered Nurse and Health Technologies teacher at the Jefferson County Joint Vocational School, have two children, son Ronald Jr., a medical student at North Eastern Ohio Medical University, and daughter Tiffany, a law student at Duquesne University.

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## JCESC Welcomes New Staff Members in 2012-13 (cont.)

### Martariesa Fiala



*Martariesa Fiala*

The JCESC Governing Board employed Martariesa Fiala as a VLA Technology Assistant in July 2012.

Martariesa, a resident and graduate of Edison Local School District, received her Associate Degree in Applied Business from Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC) in May 2012. She majored in the Administrative Assistant Program.

She is very active in the Jefferson County Community. She is a member of the Brentwood United Methodist Praise Band, serves as Vice Present of the Alumni Association at EGCC, and volunteers as Basketball Coach for the Upwards Program at EGCC. She also serves as a homeschool tutor and volunteers as a Big Sister in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program.

With her proficient skills in Microsoft Word, QuickBooks, Excel, Internet, PowerPoint, and Adobe Acrobat, Martariesa has helped redesign the VLA Billing System to make it simpler, faster, and more efficient. She has quickly become a valuable asset to the ESC.

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## Gifted Education

The Gifted Education Department is working to integrate gifted in all aspects of the ESC professional development activities. Gifted, Enrichment, Response to Intervention, and Differentiated Instruction (GERD) team members have begun sharing their knowledge about gifted, enrichment, response to intervention and differentiated instruction with colleagues in their respective districts. Some team members have shared materials at Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings and other teacher inservices. GERD team members also use their meeting times to improve and examine technology from the VLA, Sylvan Dell, PhET, etc.

The Coordinator of Gifted Services is working with the ESC Professional Development Staff to assure that gifted is represented in the Student Learning Objectives developed by administrators, principals, and teachers in upcoming workshops in January-February 2013.

Since higher level thinking skills are woven into the new standards, gifted has become an integral part of the general curriculum. Bloom's Taxonomy and differentiated instruction have always been a way of thinking in teaching gifted. Now teachers in all subject areas focus on these strategies. The Gifted Department of the JCESC is a vital part of all professional development for administrators, principals, and teachers.

The next GERD team meeting is February 27th in the computer lab at the JCESC. The main topic will be creating lessons in their respective subject areas by using the resources they have acquired.



*GERD Team*



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## High School-Higher Education Alignment Project

Since May 2012, the JCESC Professional Development and Curriculum Department has been leading and facilitating the High School-Higher Education (HS-HE) Alignment Project. The overarching goal of this project is to align the content and sequence of selected high school and higher ed courses to reduce the percentage of students enrolling in remedial courses prior to beginning their “for credit” college coursework.

*The goal of the HS-HE Alignment Project is to align the content and sequence of selected high school and higher ed courses to reduce the percentage of students enrolling in remedial courses prior to beginning their “for credit” college coursework.*

The HS-HE Initiative is a partnership among JCESC, Franciscan University, Eastern Gateway Community College, and school districts in the JCESC service area. Districts include Buckeye, Catholic Central, Edison, Harrison Hills, Indian Creek, Jefferson County JVS, Steubenville, and Toronto. Senior English and math teachers, principals, counselors, and intervention specialists met for the third time in January 2013 with the English and math department heads from Franciscan University. To date, the content teams have reviewed the Common Core Standards in their respective areas, reviewed assessments, shared scoring rubrics, and established an online network to communicate and share student work between meetings.

At their January meeting, the HS-HE content teams also tied up “loose ends” from the June alignment work, shared samples of student work, and shared effective instructional strategies. The English team shared results of a common writing prompt and rubric for high school seniors and college freshmen. High school and higher ed staff continue to review writing samples and scores as they develop a plan for filling gaps and aligning their work.

The ability for high school and university staff to “keep in touch” has been a powerful driver of the HS-HE initiative.

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## Collaborating with Colleagues

The Collaborating with Colleagues initiative has been an outgrowth of the Focus I and II trainings on the Revised Standards and Model Curricula led by the ESC staff throughout the 2011-12 school year. Last spring, high school and middle school teachers in English language arts, math, science, and social studies expressed interest in and appreciation for opportunities to meet with their colleagues and asked that the sessions be continued in 2012-13.

*The Collaborating with Colleagues initiative allows high school and middle school teachers in English language arts, math, science, and social studies to collaborate and share content-specific dialogue.*

On November 29 and December 5, approximately 100 high school and middle school English language arts, math, science, and social studies teachers met half a day to continue their discussion on technology literacy skills across the curriculum. Other topics included course sequence, the Ohio Core, and 2014 graduation requirements; the High School-Higher Ed initiative; the Universal Design for Learning; the transition from the OGT to end-of-course exams, and a nationally standardized assessment. Teachers also shared email addresses so the ESC could establish a content-specific email network that allows teachers to communicate with each other and share student work and/or instructional strategies between meetings.

The “Collaborating with Colleagues” model aligns well with the research in professional development that says collaboration is our most effective tool for improving instruction and ultimately student learning. The ESC staff finds it gratifying that teachers are recognizing the power of collaboration and requesting collaborative-based professional development opportunities.

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## Resident Educator Program

The Ohio Resident Educator Program is a four-year system of support and mentoring for new teachers. Successful completion is required to qualify for a five-year professional educator license.

*In 2012-13, 29 teachers are being mentored in the Resident Educator Program.*

In 2011-12, during the first year of implementation, 22 new teachers across the JCESC service area participated in the Resident Educator Program. Each teacher was mentored by a highly qualified, experienced classroom teacher who completed a 2-day training to become credentialed.

In the current 2012-13 school year, an additional 29 new teachers have registered for the Resident Educator Program and are being mentored in a one-on-one setting. At the same time, the 22 teachers from last year, currently in Year 2, are working in a more diverse setting ranging from one-on-one mentoring to multiple opportunities to “co-teach” with experienced teachers in different settings from their own classrooms. They also have opportunities to work in grade level teams and/or small content area groups.

Years Three and Four of the Resident Educator Program will prepare teachers to take the summative assessment that is currently under development.

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## 2012-13 Best Practice Grants Awarded

The Jefferson County Governing Board adopted the classroom Best Practice Grant Program as a way to support teachers’ efforts in utilizing new and existing instructional practices that link curriculum, instruction, and assessment with activities that actively engage students in their own learning. To be considered for funding, grant proposals had to be tied to the College and Career Ready Standards, reflect best instructional practices, and enhance the learning process leading to improved student performance.

*The Jefferson County Governing Board awarded 14 Best Practice Grants to teachers in area school districts.*

At the December meeting, the Jefferson County Governing Board awarded fourteen Best Practice Grants of \$400 each to teachers in school districts in the service area. Recipients of the 2012-13 grants are Buckeye Local: Stephanie Crust, Buckeye Local HS; and Marianne Madzia, Speech-Language students in all Buckeye buildings; Edison Local: Cynthia Bordash, Stanton; Deborah Hendricks, Edison HS; Betsy Jones, Gregg; Harrison Hills: Julia Carman, Harrison East; Alisha Steele, Harrison North; Susan Macenczak, Ruth Oliver, and Linda Erbacher from Harrison Central Jr./Sr. HS; Indian Creek Local: Dawn Carson, Hills and Wayne; Steubenville City: Martha Bell and Jackie Young, Wells Academy; Debra Straka, Steubenville HS; Toronto City: Nikki Wright, Karaffa; Sarah Kendziorski, Karaffa and Toronto HS; Cindy Hinerman, Karaffa.

Titles of winning grants include *Hands-on Literature: Increasing Understanding through Peer Collaboration and Project Based Learning*; *Using an iPad for Speech-Language Pathology*; *Let’s take a virtual science lab fieldtrip*; *Pop Bottle Rocketry*; *Local Choices-Global Voices: Analyzing the Global Food System*; *School and Community Friendship Flower Garden*; *Nonfiction Across the Curriculum*; *Water testing as needed by the oil and gas industry*; *Kindergarteners “Get Ready” Through S.T.A.R.T.*; *Passion for Poetry*; *Blackboard Accounts for Science Students*; *Earth and Space Science Common Core Mini-Labs*; *Enhancing Literary Responses*; *Improving the Learning Process through Technology*.

Joy Howell  
*Superintendent*

Don Donahue  
*Treasurer*

Blair Closser  
*Director of Curriculum/PD*

Jeff Oblak  
*Director of Special Education*

Shaye Casper  
*Customer Relations/VLA and Billing Agent for the  
Health Benefits Program*

Linda Lenzi  
*Coordinator of Gifted Services*

Governing Board

Kenneth Simeral  
*President*

Robert L. (Larry) George  
*Vice President*

Barbara Cunningham

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William Schaefer

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VISION

The Jefferson County Educational Service Center  
will be an innovative leader in creating and providing  
educational opportunities and alternatives that  
maximize achievement for all learners.

MISSION

The Jefferson County Educational Service Center models and promotes  
effective research-based practices in teaching and learning.  
The ESC is dedicated to serving the needs of schools, families, and  
communities through partnerships and collaborative leadership.

BELIEF STATEMENT

The Jefferson County Educational Service Center believes in ...

- increasing student achievement and enhancing teacher instruction;
- supporting life-long learning;
- providing leadership and services that result in educational opportunities for all learners;
- providing programs that are service-oriented, data-driven, and cost-effective;
- promoting and modeling collaboration to enrich learning opportunities; and
- utilizing technology and research-based models in service and programs.

Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2013

- 4 Superintendents' Cabinet Meeting
- 9 HS-HE Alignment Project
- 11 CIT Meeting
- 15 Governing Board Meeting
- 16 LPDC Meeting
- 18 SLO Training—Administrators
- 21 ESC Closed (Martin Luther King Day)
- 23 SLO Training— Kind.-Grade 1
- 25 SLO Training— Grade 2-3
- 28 Alt. Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD)
- 29 AASCD
- 31 AASCD

FEBRUARY 2013

- 1 Superintendents' Cabinet Meeting
- 4 SLO Training—Gr. 4-6 Rdg./Math
- 6 SLO Training—Gr. 4-6 Sci./SS
- 8 CIT Meeting
- 11 SLO Training—Gr. 7-8 ELA/Math
- 12 SLO Training—Gr. 7-8 Sci./SS
- 18 ESC Closed (Presidents' Day)
- 19 Governing Board Meeting
- 19 SLO Training—Gr. 9-10 ELA/Math
- 20 SLO Training—Gr. 9-10 Sci./SS
- 20 LPDC Meeting
- 21 Elem. & Sec. Principals' Leadership Academy
- 22 ECE Professional Development
- 25 SLO Training—Gr. 11-12 ELA/Math
- 26 SLO Training—Gr. 11-12 Sci./SS

MARCH 2013

- 1 Superintendents' Cabinet Meeting
- 2 Spelling Bee
- 7 Elementary Principals' Leadership Academy
- 8 CIT Meeting
- 19 Governing Board Meeting
- 20 LPDC Meeting
- 21 Secondary Principals' Leadership Academy
- 22 ECE Professional Development
- 28-29 ESC Closed (Easter)