

BROWN COUNTY ESC WINTER NEWS 2019

A publication of the Brown County Educational Service Center,
serving Brown County Students since 1914



BROWN COUNTY OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADERS AT THE 2018 OESCA AWARDS CEREMONY



Pictured left to right: Jackie Miller—BCESC, Amber Becraft-Johnan—Brown County Public Library, Lynn Harden—Brown County Public Library and Rick Edwards—OESCA

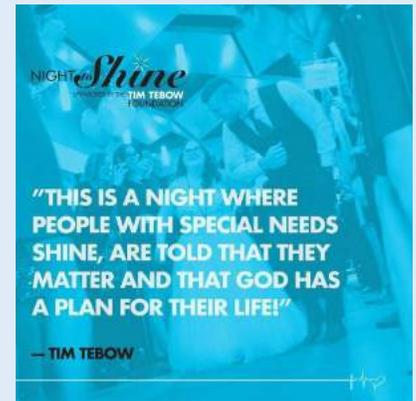
The Brown County ESC works with our partners to fulfill its vision of “A Thriving Brown County”. Recently one of those valuable partners, the Brown County Public Library received the Outstanding Community Leaders award at the 2018 OESCA awards ceremony. The Brown County Public Library, under the leadership of Lynn Harden, Executive Director; Amber Becraft-Johnan, Youth Associate, and Heather Patten, Manager, Mt. Orab Branch, has committed to incorporating the Brown County 40 Developmental Asset process into their community programming. The 40 Developmental Asset process is an initiative created by the Search Institute and locally facilitated by Brown County ESC. The initiative was created in part to fight the ramifications of the prevalent substance abuse in our county, and in part to serve the social/emotional health of our students in order to give them the best opportunity for a successful life. Each of the county school districts participate in a joint effort utilizing unique strategies to grow their students in the 40 research-based supports and strengths that young people need to succeed.

The Brown County Public Library has embraced the mindset of “It Takes A Village” realizing that the more supports that are in place in multiple arenas of students’ lives, the better. The library initiated their commitment by adopting the Assets system-wide. Library staff attended Asset training provided by Brown County ESC coordinators. The library staff then spent time brainstorming to determine an implementation strategy. Further training was provided to all youth programming staff with the expectation that the Assets would be incorporated into programming for all age groups. Additionally, topics addressed through the Assets are considered when making purchasing decisions for the library collections in order to complement the work taking place in the local school districts. We are grateful for our relationship with the Brown County Public Library and especially for the commitment and dedication of Lynn, Amber and Heather as we continue to grow the Asset program in Brown County.

Submitted by: Jackie Miller & Becky Cropper

The Second Annual Brown County Night to Shine

February 8, 2019



It was a “Night to Shine” once again on Feb. 8 for some Brown County residents who made the most of their time in the spotlight. The Tim Tebow Foundation sponsored the annual event which allowed developmentally disabled guests to feel like a king or queen for a few hours. The participants were treated to a day of pampering by the Cosmetology students at Southern Hills Career and Technical Center before they hit the red carpet at the Georgetown Church of Christ.

There, they entered one by one to applause from those gathered to watch the grand entrance making their way to the church gym for a meal prepared and served by volunteers. After the meal, they hit the dance floor to bust a move or two and then each one was crowned as a king or queen.

Prior to the dance, Brown County Prosecuting Attorney Zac Corbin spoke to the approximately 400 participants, honored guests, chaperones and volunteers. As he spoke about the life of Tim Tebow and the spiritual nature of the gathering, a young man on a walker and wearing a helmet began to approach the middle of the room. Corbin continued to speak, not realizing that the young man was behind him. As Corbin began to talk about the presence of God in everyone, he turned and saw the young man who was watching him closely. As Corbin continued to speak, the young man reached out and gently took Corbin’s hand, held it for a while and then lifted it to his mouth and kissed it. Corbin paused for a couple of seconds and then simply said “Thank you.” Afterwards, Corbin reflected on the moment. “It was amazing. He was looking at me and just beaming and then he grabbed me and kissed my hand. I’ll never forget that. Moments like that can change you forever.”

15 year old Lexi Mingua was decked out in a bright green dress when she walked down the red carpet. “I’m having a lot of fun. This is my second time coming here,” she said, “It was great it made it feel like epilepsy didn’t matter.” Amanda Stout brought her 16 year old son Reece out to shine. “He’s definitely getting a lot of excitement out of it. He’s definitely very happy to be here and it just gives him the opportunity to associate with his peers. It’s a way for him and others to be able to open up in their own little way,” she said. Bill Knott served as a chaperone for his sister-in-law Anna Weldishofer. “A lot of folks that have developmental disabilities don’t really get the opportunities that people who are “normal” get, such going out to events like this. I think it’s a wonderful thing that Tim Tebow does through his foundation to give people like those here a night to shine,” he said. “It gives a sense of belonging to the guests and they see they are not alone. Seeing people like themselves having fun gives them a sense of normalcy.” Church member Jeff Case helped spend about three days setting the church up for the event. He said all the work was worth it as he saw the participants make their grand entrance. “All the smiles on the faces of the kids coming down the red carpet were great. Right here I can see a little girl in a wheelchair with a big smile and having a great time,” he said.

Committee member Jennifer Bohrer was also very pleased with how Night To Shine 2019 unfolded. “I was overwhelmed by the amount of love I felt in that room. It’s not just a dance, it’s not just a prom, it’s a spiritual event,” she said. “It’s worth every second everyone has spent on it. All the hard work was it worth it. From what I hear from all the guests is that the event is the highlight of their year.” Attendee Sheri Whisman Gartner shared a post on Facebook after the event that seemed to sum up the evening. “Tonight they weren’t left out. Tonight, they weren’t stared at for the wrong reasons. Tonight they weren’t ignored. Tonight they weren’t passed over. Tonight they weren’t excluded. Tonight they were catered to. Tonight they were loved. Tonight they were celebrated. Tonight they were put on a pedestal. Tonight they were included.”

HOW BROWN COUNTY SHINES!



Challenge Classes Make a Visit to Serpent Mound



On October 30, 2018 the Southern Hills Challenge students concluded their Native American unit with a trip to Serpent Mound in Peebles, Ohio. The effigy mound (a mound in the shape of an animal) represents a snake with a curled tail eating an egg. While there the students toured the mound with a guide who shared much information with them. They also climbed the observation tower, explored the museum, learned how to use a Native American pump drill, and threw Native American spears. It was a great day of learning and exploring for our gifted students.

**INTERACT
FOR HEALTH**

SCHOOL -BASED HEALTH CENTERS



HealthSource
of Ohio

How Health Care Should Be

The Brown County Educational Service Center in conjunction with the school districts in Brown County (Eastern, Fayetteville, Georgetown, RULH, Southern Hills Career Technical Center, and Western Brown) have partnered with Interact for Health and Health Source of Ohio to explore needs and solutions for School-Based Health Centers. A school-based health center provides the opportunity for students, staff and community to access convenient, comprehensive health care; thus, reducing absenteeism and meeting the needs of those who do not have a means of transportation. Health Source of Ohio currently operates a School-Based Health Center with the Western Brown district providing medical services to its community.

For the past five years, Interact for Health has invested in Brown County as part of its Thriving Communities initiative, bringing together more than 50 partners to carry out health improvement efforts. School-based health is an extension of this work, so they have provided a planning grant to Health Source of Ohio for exploration. Evelyn Yockey from the Brown County Educational Service Center has recently been named the project consultant for School-Based Health Centers in Brown County.

Over the next year, the planning team will be exploring a variety of strategies to develop a new model for delivery of comprehensive school-based health services, which includes medical, vision, dental and behavioral health care, in a rural setting.” “School-Based Health Centers present an opportunity to not only improve the health of school children, but to increase access to services among community members,” said Dr. O’Dell M. Owens, President and CEO of Interact for Health. Interact for Health hopes that solutions developed in Brown County can serve as a model for school-based health in other rural communities.

Brown County Youth United

Thirty teens representing each of the school districts have met to form a prevention education group. The teens have decided upon the name, Brown County Youth United. They have formed committees and are planning an event to be held on Tuesday of the county fair. The Teens met to set goals, be trained in the Generation Rx program and were involved in a leadership activity. Partners for this program include: Brown County ESC, each of the school districts, Interact for Health, The Foundation for Appalachia Ohio, Brown County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Prevention Action Alliance. Thank you to each of the Districts for your support of this program.



Submitted by: Becky Cropper

2018 High School It's Academic League

The High School Academic teams concluded their season this year with North Adams taking the league win with an undefeated season. High School students competed in 28 matches beginning October 23, 2018 and concluding November 29, 2018. The teams making up the league were Eastern, Fayetteville, Manchester, Fairfield, Peebles North Adams, White Oak and West Union. All coaches and students are to be commended for an exceptional season.

Submitted by: Cindy Call

INTRODUCING BCESC STAFF MEMBERS



Beverly Sue Alexander is a classroom aide in the Georgetown Exempted Village School District. Sue is currently working in the Cross Categorical Unit at Georgetown High School. She lives in Georgetown, Ohio. Sue Graduated from Ripley/Union/Lewis/Huntington Local School District and attended Maysville Community College. She enjoys reading, gardening and spending time with her lovely grandchildren. Welcome Sue to Georgetown Exempted Village School District and the Brown County Educational Service Center.



Maura Meranda is the ISR Jr/Sr High School aide working in the Georgetown Exempted Village School District. She is currently working at Georgetown Jr/Sr High School. She lives in Ripley, Ohio with her husband, four children and five dogs. Maura graduated from Coventry High School in Coventry, Connecticut. She also attended Eastern Connecticut State University. In her spare time, Maura enjoys traveling, reading books and listening to music. Welcome Maura to the Georgetown Exempted Village School District and the Brown County ESC.



Joni Kellum is working as a 1:1 aide in the Western Brown Local School District. She is currently working in a Cross Categorical Classroom at Western Brown High School. She lives on a farm outside of Georgetown, Ohio with her husband Tom of 13 years and two children, Bob and Madalynn. Joni graduated from Deer Park High School and Scarlet Oaks in 2001. In her spare time, Joni enjoys spending time helping her husband on the farm and watching her son play baseball. She also loves to bake, sew and spending quality time with her family. Welcome Joni to the Western Brown Local School District and the Brown County ESC.



Betina Moon is working as a 1:1 aide in the Western Brown Local School District. She is currently working in a Cross Categorical Classroom at Hamersville Elementary/Middle School. Betina lives in Mt. Orab, Ohio with her husband Danny. She graduated from Western Brown High School in 1988 and obtained an Associate's Degree from the University of Cincinnati. In Betina's spare time, she enjoys doing arts and crafts, watching NASCAR, going to classic car shows and knitting. Welcome Betina to the Western Brown Local School District and the Brown County ESC.



Amanda Welch is working as an aide in the Georgetown Exempted Village School District. She currently works at Georgetown Elementary School. Amanda lives in Georgetown, Ohio with her husband Michael and two children, Mason and Emma. She graduated from Georgetown High School in 2002 and Southern State Community College in 2004 with her Associates in Science. She then Graduated from Shawnee State University in 2006 with an Associate's Degree of Applied Science – Radiologic Technology. Amanda worked for Adams County Regional Medical Center for 12 years as a CT/XR technologist, but also enjoyed volunteering at Georgetown Elementary. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family. Welcome Amanda to Georgetown Exempted Village School District and the Brown County ESC.



OPERATION WARM

Over 800 new winter coats are now in the hands of Brown County children thanks to “Operation Warm” from the Ohio Governor’s Office. Southwest Ohio Regional Liaison Stephen Caraway and the Brown County Commissioners worked together to bring the coats to local kids. Half of them went to local school districts and half went to the Ohio Job and Family Services office in Georgetown. “Not all the kids that Job and Family Services deals with are school age. That’s why we split the coats between JFS and the school districts,” said Brown County Commissioner Barry Woodruff. Brown County Educational Service Center Superintendent Jim Frazier was pleased to take part in the program. “We certainly appreciate the opportunity to participate with the Governor’s office in Operation Warm to get the coats out to our students. We are just thankful they came before Christmas,” said Frazier. “It’s very important that a child knows they are cared for and staying warm in the winter is certainly a part of that. It’s a great opportunity to serve the needs of a child in a different way than with academics.” Frazier said that the coats were primarily for kids 12 and under. They were taken to each school district and given to building principals to distribute.

He added that coats were not taken to Ripley because the RULH school district had secured a grant from another source to pay for winter coats. Woodruff said he and the other commissioners were happy to be able to help. “Some of these kids come from families that don’t have the ability to buy winter coats. These are brand new coats and it makes us all feel good to play a small part in putting them in the hands of local families,” he said.

Submitted by: Wayne Gates, News Democrat

New Leadership Program in Brown County Pre-K Classrooms

On November 13th, a new leadership and mentoring program started in all Brown County ESC Pre-K classrooms. The program is titled **“Real Men Read”**. A male role model has been selected and will volunteer in each preschool. The men visiting the classroom are from various backgrounds. At Fayetteville and Ripley, our real men are Middle School and High School Principals. At Sardinia, we have a State Trooper. At Russellville, our reader is a retired educator. At Hamersville and Mount Orab Elementary, the readers are both preachers at local churches. Various backgrounds with a love for children have taken these men into a new arena to share their compassion for their communities. Each one of them are welcomed with warm smiles, caring hugs and attentive faces during their reading session. The men will visit the classroom monthly. During their visit, the men will read a book from the Kimochi’s Social Emotional curriculum to foster positive relationships and the understanding of emotions. The Kimochi’s curriculum was purchased as part of the Pre-K curriculum through the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund Grant which was awarded to all Brown County preschools through the Brown County ESC. We are excited for this program and hope that the lessons learned from the men visiting the classrooms will be life-long in fostering positive relationships.

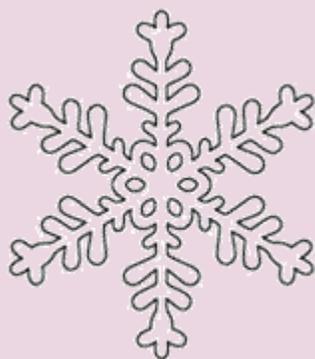
Submitted by: Susan McFarland



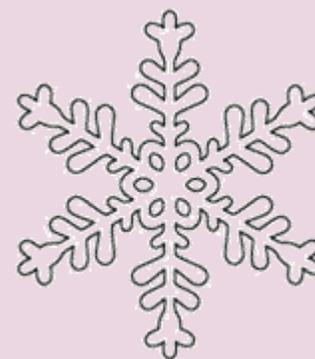
Mt Orab Elementary



Hamersville Elementary



Sardinia Elementary



Professional Learning Opportunities

To learn more about the PLO's please click the title to access the flyer

Click on the Times in each section to REGISTER

March 12, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:30 to 3:30	Data/ Effective Grouping
March 21, 2019	Brown County ESC	4:30 to 7:30	Mindfulness
March 27, 2019	Brown County ESC	4:15 to 6:15	Round Table (Math)
April 18, 2019	Brown County ESC	10:00 to 11:00 (no registration required)	Ohio Ethics Law
April 25, 2019	Brown County ESC	4:15 to 6:15	Coding
May 10, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:30 to 3:30	Google Suite

Just a thought.....

Children have never been very good at listening to their elders.
But they have never failed at imitating them.

James Baldwin

Superintendent Meetings

March 1, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:00 am to 12:00	Superintendents' Meeting & Admin Update
Apr 12, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:00 to 12:00	Superintendents' Meeting and Insurance Consortium
May 10, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:00 to 9:00	Superintendents' Meeting
June 7, 2019	Brown County ESC	8:00 to 3:00	Superintendents' Meeting, Admin Update and Insurance Consortium

<https://twitter.com/BCESCbrown>



Did you know?

The BCESC Support Service Section currently works in 30 different buildings in three counties to assist our client school districts in staff and student training and in the planning, executing and review of the safety drills in each building. BCESC/SSS is currently in the process of preparing, reviewing and resubmitting 35+ Safety Plan documents for each IRN for client districts in four counties. Each Safety Plan resubmission consists of five separate document submissions to ODE in coordination with numerous public safety partners.

Schools in Ohio are required to conduct at least three safety drills each school year as well as conduct annual staff training on the school emergency plan and conduct a staff "theoretical exercise", which may be done in the same training.

School Emergency Operations Plans are required to be reviewed annually and resubmitted to the State of Ohio for review and resubmission every three years.

Submitted by: Don Rabold



Visit our Web-Site at www.brownesc.us for professional development opportunities, schedules of upcoming meetings, updates, and general what's happening in Brown County Education.

James Frazier, Superintendent	Ext. 537
Blinda Boothby, Treasurer	Ext. 536
Rob Beucler, Support Services	Ext. 524
Rosemary Burwinkel, Treasurer's Office/Receptionist	Ext. 522
Cindy Call, Gifted & Speech Supervisor	Ext. 525
Judy Cottle, Receptionist	Ext. 510
Becky Cropper, 40 Assets, Drug Free Schools	Ext. 532
Dale Knechtly, Technology	Ext. 350
Steffanie Diesel, School Psychologist	Ext. 523
Susan McFarland, Pre-K Supervisor	Ext. 518
Dayne Michael, School Improvement/Psychologists	Ext. 516
Jackie Miller, School Improvement	Ext. 533
Don Rabold, Support Services	Ext. 514
Mike Rodes, Special Education Supervisor	Ext. 520
Gale Roush, Assistant Treasurer	Ext. 534
Elise Starkey, Executive Secretary/Aesop	Ext. 535
Dee Ann Stricklett, School Improvement	Ext. 529
Ken Stuckey, Support Services	Ext 519
Stephanie Wagoner, School Improvement	Ext 531
Evelyn Yockey, Community Connections	Ext 521

