



# Winter News 2008

## Volume 1 Winter Issue

Harry E. Eastridge, Superintendent  
Jennifer Felker, Dir. of Operations  
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### Governing Board

Tony Hocevar, President  
Carol Fortlage, Vice President  
Frank Mahnic, Jr., Member  
Tony Miceli, Member  
Tom Thacker, Member

### Governing Board Meetings

Wed., February 20, 6:30 p.m.  
Thurs., March 20, 9:30 a.m.  
Wed., April 16, 10:00 a.m.  
Wed., May 21, 10:00 a.m.  
Wed., June 18, 10:00 a.m.  
(Meeting dates & times  
subject to change)

### **Tom Thacker Joins Governing Board of Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County**

Tom is currently a Vice President/Financial Advisor for Smith Barney in Cleveland. He is responsible for client service and gross revenue, and successfully grew the practice from training to an established producer ultimately managing over \$75 million in assets comprised of over 300 client households. Tom has also served as the branch manager of the Akron office, and Sales Manager of the Cleveland office. Prior to his career as a financial advisor, Tom practiced law with two major local law firms and specialized in securities law and litigation.



Tom also is a Board Member and Past President of the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce. He is a Past Board Member and Past Vice President of the Cuyahoga Heights School District as well as a Past Board Member of the Greater Cleveland Council Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of the Rockwell Springs Trout Club and the Beaver Creek Sporting Club.

Tom received his B.A and J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, graduating in 1986. Tom and his spouse, Dr. Holly L. Thacker, M.D., FACP, Head of the Section of Women's Health at the Cleveland Clinic, reside in Valley View. Their sons, Stetson 16, Emerson 14, and Grayson 11 attend the Cuyahoga Heights Schools.

### **Amy Yoho's Baby has arrived!**

On, Monday, January 21, 2008 at 2:22 p.m., Amy delivered her new baby girl, Lyla Ann. She weighed 7lbs and 7oz and is 19.5 inches long. Amy reports that she is gorgeous and so much fun. Big brother, Zander talks about his little sister all the time and wants her to open her eyes and play cars with him:)



***Congratulations Yoho Family, what a nice addition!***

### **All County Board Meeting Held**

The Cleveland Marriott East was the site for our All County Board Meeting. This dinner included Superintendents, Treasurers and Board Members from the three local districts as well as other invited guests. Our speaker was Jim Luteran, who presented a technology overview titled "How Things Have Changed Since I Went to School!"

Happy Birthday to . . .

Leanne Long – Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>  
Nina Stein – Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>  
Paula Kucinic – Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>  
Pat Prunty – Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Denise DeMattio – Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Jim Luteran- Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Stephanie Cutlip – Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Roni Staimpel – Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>  
Rena Wertheim – Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>  
Annette Hayes – Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>



**E-mail received: To Maintain A Healthy Level Of Insanity**

1. At lunch time, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
2. Page yourself over the intercom. Don't disguise your voice!
3. Every time someone asks you to do something, ask if they want fries with that.
4. Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.
5. In the memo field of all your checks, write “for marijuana”
6. Finish all your sentences with “In accordance with the prophecy.”
7. Skip down the hall rather than walk and see how many looks you get.
8. Order diet water whenever you go out to eat - with a serious face.
9. Specify that your drive-through order is “to go”.
10. Sing along at the opera!
11. Put mosquito netting around your work area and play tropical sounds all day.
12. Five days in advance, tell your friends you can't attend their party because you have a headache.
13. When the money comes out of the ATM, scream “I Won! I Won!”
14. When leaving the Zoo, start running towards the parking lot, yelling “Run for your lives! They're loose!”
15. Tell your children over dinner, “Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go.”
16. And the final way to keep a healthy level of insanity:

*Send this e-mail to someone to make them smile.*

*It's called . . . THERAPY*

**February Floods close ESC for day**

On February 6<sup>th</sup> high water closed the entrances to our offices. The ON WORDS Competition that was to be held at the PDC was cancelled and will be rescheduled. Fortunately, we had no water in our building this time.

**Introducing Region Three and the New State Support Team (SST) for Cuyahoga County**

There is a new designated regional service delivery team in Cuyahoga County called the State Support Team or SST. The players are familiar to Cuyahoga County educators. They are the Northeast Regional School Improvement Team (RSIT), the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County (ESC-CC) and the Cuyahoga Special Education Service Center (CSESC). The name and structure of the SST is new. The ESCCC has been designated as the fiscal agent for these services. The Calendar of Professional Development Events for the State Support Team for Region Three represents the SST members initial roll-out of its effort to coordinate professional development opportunities for Cuyahoga County districts, schools and families.

**Regional Advisory Council**

HB 115 established the Educational Regional Service System (ERSS) and required a coordinated, integrated and aligned system to support state and school district efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement services. The system consists of 16 ERSS regions. Cuyahoga County was named Region 3, in the ERSS, and is the only region that services a single county.

The Council is made up of the ESC Superintendent; Director of regional Special Education Center; district superintendents of the school districts in the region with the largest (Cleveland Metropolitan School District) and smallest (Cuyahoga Hts.) student population; directors of data acquisition sites (3) in the district; one representative of a four-year institution of higher education in the region, appointed by the Ohio Board of Regents; one representative of a two year institution of higher education in the region, three board of education members, the treasurer of the fiscal agent of the region; one member of the

"There is no limit to what can be accomplished if it doesn't matter who gets the credit."  
(Paul L. Powers)

"The problem with doing nothing is that you can't stop to take a rest."

"If at first you don't succeed – don't worry, a lot of people are willing to tell you why."

governing board of the ESC; one superintendent of a JVS in region; one representative of business; one employee of a technology center; and one classroom teacher.

The region must have five advisory council subcommittees. They are responsible for making recommendations to the regional advisory council regarding the implementation of state and regional education initiatives. The five sub committees are: School Improvement; Education Technology; Professional Development; Special Education; and Data Acquisition. Subcommittee members are appointed by the advisory council and must include a diverse group of classroom teachers and other education personnel knowledgeable of the subcommittee topic area.

The responsibilities of the council are:

- Identify regional needs for education services.
- Develop policies to coordinate the delivery of services (the policies created cannot supersede the State's Performance Agreement.)
- Make recommendations to the fiscal agent for the expenditure of funds to implement state and regional initiatives.
- Monitor the implementation of state and regional initiatives and school improvement efforts of the ESCs, data acquisition sites, and other regional service providers.

### **Professional Development Highlights**

Here are several of the "new" and exciting offerings that have been planned for this winter and spring!

**Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) Train-the-Trainer Workshop**, March 4, and continues May 15-16, 2008, is a three part series focusing on providing English Language Learners teachers with a well articulated, practical model of sheltered instruction.

**Become a Local AIMSweb Manager (LAM)** in a two-day workshop, April 21-22, 2008, designed for the school-based user in a "train-the-trainer" style, making it ideal for individuals with a desire to learn how to use all of the functions within the AIMSWeb!

**Preschool Child Abuse Training**, February 29, 2008 and Elementary Child Abuse Training, April 23, 2008 are also available to interested educators.

And last, but not least, for those of you who are unsure about technology or enjoy learning about the latest **electronics and technology**, once again, Jim Luteran, Technology Consultant, is offering a variety of workshops including "*A digital Camera Workshop*," February 20, 2009 and "*Creative Teaching with Smartboard*", April 14, 2008.

The ESC-CC (region 3) continues to aspire to support the needs of educators offering a full menu of programming for administrators, curriculum directors, teacher leaders and other interested educators.

A new professional development calendar should be published soon. As always, please check out our website for the most up to date list of events available. [www.esc-cc.org](http://www.esc-cc.org).



### **World Future Society Annual Conference – July 26-28, 2008**

"WorldFuture 2008: Seeing the Future Through New Eyes" will be held in Washington, DC. Dr. Eastridge and Wayne Gibson will be attending as well as presenting at the conference. Their topic will be "Survive or Thrive in a Flat World"

Published for the ESC  
by Nina Stein

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Jennifer Felker  
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### **Valley View Newsletter Honors Kodek Family**

Cindy and her husband, Jim, were awarded a gift basket from the city of Valley View for a “Special Christmas Moment”. Cindy’s neighbor wrote an e-mail to Mayor Westfall to express their appreciation of the Kodek’s Christmas lighting display that delights their autistic son. In response, Jim said that the boy was his inspiration while putting up his lights. The neighbor went on to explain how much they appreciate the Kodek’s love and compassion to their son.

### **New SST Staff at ESC**

Welcome to **Jim Rohlik**, consultant with the SST office. Jim reports that he loves his new job here at the ESC, the people and the place are wonderful!



He and his wife, Judy, live in Broadview Heights and have two children, Jessica (29) Charlotte, N.C. and Joshua (26) Wilmington, N.C.

Jim previously worked for the North Royalton City Schools for the past 29 years, where he was the Director of Pupil Services for the last 25 of those years.

They love to travel and their favorite getaways are Mexico and the Florida Keys. They are also co-owners of a 124 year old Victorian (farm style) house on the water up on Middle Bass Island where they spend “LOTS” of time once the Ferry starts running again.

Jim personally enjoys all aspects of redesigning/remodeling their house (and others) and does so whenever the opportunity presents itself. He also has a burning desire to take up the game of Golf once again this Spring after far too, too long an absence.....

**Elaine Banks** began her career as a teacher, quickly earned her Masters Degree in Education and spent nearly 10 years in various reading supervisory roles before becoming principal of Giddings Elementary School. Quickly being noticed by the community and educational leaders as someone passionate about the students and their ability to learn in an urban school environment, Elaine was offered the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Elementary North Region Cleveland Municipal School District. After four years in this position, Elaine retired from the CMSD and spent the next two years babysitting her second grandson.



In 2002, Elaine was offered the position of Executive Director of Education and Student Services for the Lorain City Schools where she again displayed her expertise in supervision. In 2008 Elaine ended her tenure at Lorain City Schools to join the State Support Team as a Regional Literacy Consultant.

Elaine’s passion for education and children spans her personal life as she works in the education ministry at Antioch Baptist Church and is active with her two grandsons, Rhonald & Justin. Elaine enjoys reading, traveling, spending time with family and relaxing in her sunroom watching the seasons change.

**Sloan Burgess** is a consultant for students with ASD in Cleveland, Ohio. She received her master’s degree in Social Work from UNC-Chapel Hill and her PhD in Communication Disorders from Case Western Reserve University. She is particularly interested in understanding aspects of Quality of Life, of individuals with ASD and their families.

Sloane works with several school districts and Education Service Centers in the Cleveland area providing training to parents and professionals, as well as direct support to students. Prior to working in Cleveland, Sloane worked as a Psychoeducational Specialist for the TEACCH program in for approximately 10 years. She has worked with individuals with

ASD of all ages and ability levels.

***Gifted and Talented Consortium***

The ***On Words Competition*** originally scheduled on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> has rescheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this competition is to engage students in a friendly competitive spirit. ON-WORDS, a language arts game, encourages students to be creative, strategic and compete on an academic level using concepts they already know. There are three divisions in the competition: fourth and fifth graders; sixth grade; and seventh and eighth grade.



***Student Channel Stress Workshop***

Students from 4 of our districts are preparing for our stress workshop to be held at the ESC on April 23, 2008. Sessions will include line dancing, music therapy, yoga, pilates and art therapy. Students will rotate through four different sessions to help learn techniques to de-stress their lives.



Also coming up is a ***7<sup>th</sup> Grade Arts Workshop*** at the Beck Center of the Arts in March. These students will participate in four of eight sessions including dance, improvisation, mime, and drums.

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***On a Sad Note:***

The Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County sadly acknowledges the passing of its hardworking faithful digital laser printer (fondly known as DLP). DLP succumbed to Sudden Fuser Syndrome on February 27, 2008. DLP would have turned 9 on March 15<sup>th</sup>. In today's world of throw away equipment the DLP will be remembered for its workhorse ethic churning out countless invoices and receipts. Plans are underway to retire its inventory tag 00200 to the ESC Hall of Fame.

Friends were able to call in the machine room at Suite 180 from 2-4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> and all day on Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. DLP was laid to rest on Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.



Spring is just around the corner –

**Think Spring!**

