



*Educational Service Center  
of Cuyahoga County*

## **Administration**



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### **Rena Wertheim** **Director, North Coast Academy** **Special Education Supervisor Vision Program**

1987 to present

B.S. - Northern Illinois University

M.S. - Kent State University

Rena Wertheim is the Director of North Coast Academy (NCA), an alternative school for at-risk high school students. She was instrumental in developing the program and has seen it grow from 10 students to a capacity of 100. Since its inception, the program has graduated over 400 students. Rena works closely with the Simon Youth Foundation a partner of the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County and NCA. Concurrent with her duties as director of NCA, Rena has also supervised the ESC's Department for Vision Services. Under her guidance, the program expanded from serving 10 west side school districts to most of Cuyahoga County and has expanded from 2 full time teachers, a Brailist and an Orientation and Mobility Instructor to an additional 6 teachers, two clerical aides, and a rehabilitation specialist.

Rena began working as the Work Study Coordinator for CEVEC and Shaker Schools and served in that capacity for over 10 years. She went on to be a special education supervisor in Bedford, Maple, Berea Alternative School, Eleanor Gerson and Westlake Schools while having additional duties as the supervisor of the ESC's Physical Therapists. She has a Supervision License and a Principals License, Middle and High School, from Cleveland State University.

Rena and her family reside in University Heights. In her spare time, Rena loves to cook and read.