



MONTGOMERY  
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S E R V I C E  
C E N T E R

Testimony to the  
Education Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives

Warren County ESC  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
July 23, 2012

Respectfully offered by:

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Ohio's Educational Service Centers offer a great value to school districts by providing leadership and cost effective consortium priced services to meet a variety of federal and state mandated and/or required programs. Let me offer a few of the leadership and cost effective consortium priced services to school districts during the 2011-12 school year.

A. Technology Service and Support for Public, Community and Private Schools.

The Montgomery County Educational Service Center is the fiscal agent of the Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association and employer for the Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association. Districts join or purchase services from the two organizations to receive technology assistance at a shared service price.

	Service	Counties	Districts
MDECA	Payroll, Accounting, EMIS, etc.	4	34 Districts 46 Community Schools 20 Private Schools
SOITA	Professional Development, Discounted Software, etc.	Multiple	No boundaries.

**Cost: Shared pricing based upon usage.**

It is not our purpose here to catalogue all the technical services and support provided by MDECA and SOITA. These organizations are essential technology resources for public, community and private Ohio schools. The MCESC provides the organizational framework and support for these organizations to operate.

B. Partnership among Educational Service Centers/other Educational Entities.

**EXAMPLE:** The Educational Service Centers from Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble and Warren counties partnered to help school districts meet two new Ohio mandates in curriculum and teacher evaluation.

Ohio now requires all school districts to align curriculum to the national standards. The ESCs provided school districts nationally recognized experts to outline what to do and how to do it.

Phase 1. On August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 detailed workshops were offered by the Leadership and Learning Center consultants (Recognized Experts in Student Assessment) in each content area

which gave districts a detailed road map of what had to be done. Approximately 230 administrators from ten counties attended the training.

Phase 2. The six ESCs then used their own subject area consultants to offer 18 workshops which were attended by 930 (750 teachers + 180 administrators) participants to specifically help districts align curriculum to the Common Core standards by grade level.

**COST TO DISTRICTS: \$0. The six ESCs absorbed the total cost of all workshops including materials which was in excess of \$90,000.**

**EXAMPLE:** The six ESCs, The Dayton Area Superintendents Association, and The University of Dayton engaged teacher evaluation expert Dr. Jim Rowley to help districts design/redesign their teacher evaluation system to align to the new mandated Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES). Over 300 teachers and administrators from 62 school districts attended.

Phase 1. Dr. Jim Rowley conducted 18 half day sessions on the specific design requires by OTES. District teams worked to redesign their current system or adopt the OTES. Because the evaluation system is a required matter of collective bargaining by Ohio law, districts cannot just arbitrarily change the model. So a district team of teachers and administrators collaborated to develop a new teacher evaluation system for their district which aligned to the OTES.

**COST TO DISTRICTS: To send a team (3-8 individuals), Districts paid a total of \$300 - \$700 depending upon the student ADM of the district.**

Phase 2. During the 2012-13 school year, Dr. Rowley will offer supportive workshops to teacher evaluators who are conducting the evaluations for the first time under the new OTES model.

**COST TO DISTRICTS:** To send a team (3-8 individuals), Districts will pay a total of \$300 - \$700 depending upon the student ADM of the district.

C. The Montgomery County Educational Service Center offers a variety of needed services to school districts on a shared or consortium cost basis. Districts purchase these services for many reasons including:

- High quality service at a shared cost price.
- Inability to attract/hire licensed staff to provide the service.
- Too few students to offer the program/service locally in a cost effective manner.
- Inadequate availability of appropriate space.
- Just outright cheaper to contract with MCECSC in return for the quality of services provided.

EXAMPLE: While MCECSC provides services primarily to the sixteen public schools in Montgomery County, select services are purchased by districts from other counties as well. The following chart lists services provided on a multi county basis.

**Select MCECSC Multi County Services**

	<b>Counties</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Staff</b>
OT/PT Services	6	38	3028	58
Vision Services	11	49	174	9
Hearing Services	15	59	253	4
Regional Assessment Team Services	6	51	199	3.5
Regional Autism Team Services	7	56	224	3
Schools for the Emotionally Disturbed and Multiple Handicapped	4	17	251	98

**Cost:** Shared pricing based upon usage.

EXAMPLE: MCESC offers many other services to public, community schools and private schools within Montgomery County. These services include:

- Attendance Officers
- Curriculum Coordinators
- Speech Supervision
- Transition to Work Coordinators
- Gifted/Talented Supervision
- School Psychological Services
- Mobility Specialists
- State Support Team (Curriculum)
- RttT Specialists
- Staff Development Workshops

Cost: Shared pricing based upon usage.

SUMMARY:

Educational Service Centers have traditionally been a leader in high quality shared services at consortium based pricing. Educational Service Centers have a proven track record of providing great value to schools and are worthy of continued school funding support.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank DePalma, Superintendent  
Montgomery County ESC

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