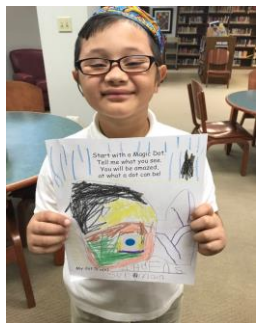


About OCECD

Revised 1/2024



Established in 1972, the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD) is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the educational interests of children with disabilities. OCECD promotes efforts to provide appropriate quality education for children and youth with disabilities, and to insure that public policy and school reform efforts always consider best practices for students with disabilities.



OCECD is composed of over 35 parent and professional organizations representing over 50,000 individuals, as well as individual members. Staff across Ohio collaborate with local parent support organizations to offer information, training and support to parents of children with any disability ages birth through 26.



OCECD's experienced staff, many of whom have children or other family members with disabilities, are available to assist individuals or groups with information about:

- Early intervention for infants and toddlers to age 3
- Preschool special education services for ages 3 through 5
- Family support systems
- Special Education in public and community schools
- Resources for parents and professionals
- Free trainings for parents and professionals in Ohio on educational topics
- Teamwork between family members of children with disabilities and service providers
- Community-based services
- Transition from high school to employment/college in the community



Tools used by OCECD to provide assistance include:

- Phone support
- One-on-one consultation
- Individual presentations and trainings
- Group presentations and training/workshop sessions
- "It's My Turn" and Goals Planning Success (GPS) are self-determination transition trainings. These student focused trainings are designed to increase the capacity of youth with disabilities to make choices and to advocate for themselves.
- Bilingual OCECD materials including booklets about Evaluation, IEP, 504, ADHD, Rights, Transition, etc.
- Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement Program (M4RA): 1:1 Reading Mentoring for students reading below grade level
- All About Reading Mentoring Training – train family members/childcare providers how to mentor children in reading
- Quarterly newsletter on various special education topics
- An informational website describing OCECD's services, schedule of trainings and conferences, resources and links to other helpful special education resources and organizations
- Parent training modules on our website
- Facebook page and Facebook Live presentations on special education topics

As a state-level organization, OCECD is an important policy development organization deeply committed to working with the state legislature, the Office of the Governor, and state agencies on legislative and policy issues of importance to Ohio's children with disabilities.

OCECD is a non-profit organization and has 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt status.



Vision Statement:

To ensure Ohioans receive quality public education so their future is not limited by their disability.

Mission Statement:

The Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities is a collaboration of parents, professionals, and partners advocating for children with disabilities to receive the educational services, experiences, and supports they need to reach their fullest potential.

Values Statements:

We value:

- the dignity of each individual.
- the right of each child with a disability to be an authentic, included, and respected member of the community.
- the development of each child with a disability in the areas of self-advocacy and self-determination.
- the engagement of empowered families and dedicated professionals in the processes of developing and delivering high quality free and appropriate public education for children with disabilities, including child-find, transition, and 504/ADA.
- the power of our collective voice in advocating for the resources needed for high quality education for children with disabilities.
- the strength of our partnerships with families, professionals and organizations in ensuring positive outcomes for children with disabilities.
- the impact of considering the needs of children with disabilities in all educational decision-making.
- the impact and effectiveness of both quantitative and qualitative data.
- the commitment to a culture of respect, diversity, integrity, and transparency for both those for whom and with whom we work.

Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities

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