

A comprehensive guide of our services



**Warren County**  
Educational Service Center



**2023-2024**

## **Main Campus/ Administrative Offices**

**1879 Deerfield Road, Lebanon, OH 45036**

**Phone 513.695.2900**

**Fax 513.695.2961**

**<https://www.warrencountyesc.com>**

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## Our Governing Board



**Fred Anness**



**Chad Bridgman**



**Nona Cress**



**Jiles Farley**



**Sally Williams**

Regular Governing Board meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Warren County ESC Board Room, 1879 Deerfield Road, Lebanon. Some exceptions may occur due to holidays, etc. Please contact the Treasurer or Superintendent for a date and time if you are interested in attending a meeting.



**Warren County**  
Educational Service Center

# Our Leadership Team



**Tom Isaacs**  
Superintendent



**Cary Furniss**  
Chief Financial  
Officer



**Christy Even**  
Assistant  
Superintendent



**Pat Paré**  
Assistant  
Superintendent



**Scott Wilson**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Katie Brown**  
Assistant Treasurer

The Leadership Team meets once a week to review programming, operational, fiscal and personnel essentials. If you would like to contact a Leadership Team Member please call 513.695.2900 or email them as listed below.

[Tom.Isaacs@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Tom.Isaacs@warrencountyesc.com)

[Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com)

[Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com)

[Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com)

[Scott.Wilson@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Scott.Wilson@warrencountyesc.com)

[Katie.Brown@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Katie.Brown@warrencountyesc.com)

# Our Sr. Executive Directors



The Senior Executive Directors oversee the following programming:

## Social Emotional Learning

[Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com)

John K. Lazares Alternative School  
Mental Health Department  
Warren County Learning Center  
WCESC Deerfield Campus (Wellness Center)  
Workforce Development  
DIB-Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

## Special Education Programs

[Kara.Dirksing@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kara.Dirksing@warrencountyesc.com)

Western Row Campus  
Multiple Disabilities Classrooms  
Social Communication Classrooms  
Phoenix Academy  
Safety Care Training

## Cognitive & Behavioral Health

[Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com)

Attendance Officers  
Collaborative Behavior Coaching  
Coordinated Care & Diversion  
Help Me Grow/Early Intervention  
PBIS-Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports  
Resource Coordinators  
School Psychology  
Transition Services and PAES

Mike Bidwell  
Sr. Executive Director of  
Social Emotional Learning



Kara Dirksing  
Sr. Executive Director of  
Special Education Programs



Dr. Kathie MacNeil  
Sr. Executive Director of  
Cognitive & Behavioral  
Health



# Our Campus Directors



Jared Kaiser  
Wellness Center  
Deerfield Campus



Katie Strubbe  
Western  
Row Campus

# Welcome...

Warren County Educational Service Center provides high quality and low-cost programs and services to our client school districts. Most of our programs resulted from suggestions and ideas that came from our customers. We provide great flexibility for districts to solve unique challenges whether they need a part-time employee, a program for a student with exceptional learning needs, or simply a way to reduce costs.

Recognizing that each district is unique and diverse, our programs and services are designed to enhance the sharing of resources and working together cooperatively. Our ultimate goal is for all students to have positive learning opportunities that we strive to achieve through teamwork, effective leadership, and mutual support.



# Mission Statement...

At Warren County Educational Service Center, we believe in being a resource to our community partnerships through a holistic life span approach for:

- Collaborating with school districts and communities to develop customized programming for at-risk individuals and families.
- Delivering high-quality services in a cost-effective manner.
- Establishing a supportive environment that promotes growth opportunities, encourages leadership, and embraces diversity and inclusion.
- Providing safe learning environments for the communities we serve.
- Enhancing the quality of life for a diverse population of learners with opportunities for growth and transformation.



# Fiscal Services



The Warren County Educational Service Center Treasurer's Office is responsible for all financial operations of the ESC, as well as the Southwest Ohio Council of Governments, Greater Ohio Virtual School, Family and Children First Council and Help Me Grow.

Those responsibilities include payroll and benefits administration, accounts payable, accounts receivable, financial reporting and Federal and State grants.

The fiscal team of the ESC is equipped to support entities with Payroll Employment Office support, grants management, five-year forecasting, levy planning and capital planning projects. Customized financial services may be contracted with the ESC. For more information you may contact:

Contacts: Cary Furniss, Chief Financial Officer, 513.695.2900, ext. 3036  
[Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com)

Scott Wilson, Assistant Treasurer, 513.695.2900, ext. 2009  
[Scott.Wilson@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Scott.Wilson@warrencountyesc.com)

Katie Brown, Assistant Treasurer, 513.695.2900, ext. 3100  
[Katie.Brown@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Katie.Brown@warrencountyesc.com)



# District Services



**Mental Health Services** serves youth who are vulnerable to school failure due to personal, family, social-emotional, academic and environmental challenges by addressing non-academic issues that interfere with school success.

Participants in the School-Based Mental Health Program are identified and referred for a variety of reasons, including emotional distress, difficulty managing academic expectations, family difficulties/separations, attention deficit/hyperactivity, depression, anxiety, trauma and loss.

Overview of Services include diagnostic assessment, individual, family and group therapy, community support, consultation, and education.

Referrals are made through the administration and school counseling offices of the child or adolescent's home school district, or directly by families, students, or other community based providers.

Contact: Jessica Woody, Mental Health Supervisor, 937.746.1969  
[Jessica.Woody@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Jessica.Woody@warrencountyesc.com)

Mike Bidwell, Sr. Ex. Director/Social Emotional Learning Programs, 513.695.2900, ext. 2981  
[Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com)

**Collaborative Behavior Coaching** is designed to serve students with intense behavior needs in a variety of educational environments. The team provides instructional and behavioral coaching services to school-based teams. Services include analyzing and developing supports within specific environments, modeling instructional techniques, problem-solving with teams to develop and/or modify behavior support plans, building capacity through presentations to school faculty and support staff, providing technical supports, and consulting with teams and families on specific students.

Contact: Kim Gregory, Lead BCBA, 513.695.2900  
[Kimberly.Gregory@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kimberly.Gregory@warrencountyesc.com)

Katie Strubbe, BCBA, 513.695.2736, ext. 7112  
[Katelin.Strubbe@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Katelin.Strubbe@warrencountyesc.com)

# District Services



## **Occupational and Physical**

**Therapy Services** include assessment, intervention, modifications and accommodations for students with fine/gross motor, visual perceptual, sensory motor and sensory integrative concerns that affect a student's ability to access and make progress in their educational environment. Services are guided by multi-tier systems of support (MTSS) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Occupational and physical therapists, along with licensed assistants, provide services from preschool age to 21 based on the needs of students.

Contacts: Kari Burris, Director of Related Services and Preschool Programming,  
513.695.2900, ext. 2757

[Kari.Burris@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kari.Burris@warrencountyesc.com)

Becky Miller, Lead Physical Therapist, 513.695.2900, ext. 3104

[Becky.Miller@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Becky.Miller@warrencountyesc.com)

Kim Steele, Lead Occupational Therapist, 513.695.2900, ext. 3081

[Kimberly.Steele@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kimberly.Steele@warrencountyesc.com)

**Special Education Supervision** assists teachers, administrators, and parents in providing appropriate services for students with disabilities (ages 3-22). We also facilitate the implementation of the special education policies and procedures, provide staff development, coordinate services with outside agencies, help complete state forms and applications, assist in writing grants with districts, and support district Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) meetings.

Contacts: Christy Even, 513.695.2900, ext. 2917

[Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com)

# District Services



**Nursing Services** provides nursing care to students in a variety of settings including school clinic, multiple disabilities classroom, and 1:1 care for students with complex health needs. Nursing staff are trained to perform care as part of the school team and are supervised and supported by a nursing supervisor. Staff is available for permanent assignment or may provide long term or short term substitute coverage.

Contacts: Jill Buffenbarger, RN, 513.695.2900, ext. 2903 [Jill.Buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Jill.Buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com)  
Terri Elam, RN, BSN, LSN, 513.695.2900, ext. 2959 [Terri.Elam@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Terri.Elam@warrencountyesc.com)

**School Psychologists** help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. They team with educators, parents, and other mental health professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments for all students that strengthen connections between home and school.

Contact: Kristie Strittmatter Lead Psychologist, 513.695.2900, ext. 2031  
[Kristie.Strittmatter@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kristie.Strittmatter@warrencountyesc.com)  
Dr. Kathie MacNeil, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918 [Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com)

**Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS)** is a decision making framework that guides selection, integration and implementation of the best evidence-based academic and behavioral practices for improving important academic and behavior outcomes for all students. In general, PBIS emphasizes four integrated elements: data for decision making, measurable outcomes supported and evaluated by data, practices with evidence that these outcomes are achievable, and systems that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices. Warren County ESC is an approved training site for Tier 1 PBIS implementation through the Ohio Department of Education.



Contacts: Dr. Kathie MacNeil, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918 [Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com)  
Christy Even, 513.695.2900, ext. 2917 [Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Christina.Even@warrencountyesc.com)



## District Services



**Speech and Language Pathology Services** include assessment, interventions and evaluations for students with speech-language disabilities in early intervention, preschool and school-age programs, support for students functioning in the general education curriculum, support for students functioning within his/her special education program, support in the compliance with federal, state and local mandates, help identifying accommodations and modifications that will allow children with speech and language disabilities to participate in state/district assessments, and assistance in the evaluation of a student's needs related to assistive technology and augmentative devices.

**Educational Interpreter Services** are available for school districts that need services for deaf and hearing impaired students.

Contact: Kari Burris, Director of Related Services and Preschool Programming

513.695.2900, ext. 2757

[Kari.Burris@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kari.Burris@warrencountyesc.com)

Alana Jacobs, 513.695.2900, ext. 2913 [Alana.Jacobs@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Alana.Jacobs@warrencountyesc.com)



**Ohio Pre-Service Program** trains those who have never driven a school bus with students on board and veteran drivers when their certificate expires. The program is designed to meet the requirement under the Pupil Transportation Operation and Safety Rules enacted by the State Board of Education. Upon completion the school bus driver receives a certificate for six years.

Contact: Brandon Anness, 513.695.2900, ext. 3084 [Brandon.Anness@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Brandon.Anness@warrencountyesc.com)



# District Services



**Early Intervention and Help Me Grow** provide two programs to the Warren County community. The Early Intervention Program aims to identify and serve children under the age of three with developmental delays and disabilities. Parents with concerns regarding their child's development can have their infant or toddler evaluated by an interdisciplinary team at absolutely no cost to the family.

The Home Visiting Program provides expectant or new parents with the information, support and encouragement they need through a voluntary, high-quality home visiting service. Home visiting aims to educate at-risk parents with the resources to understand and capitalize on the optimal early years of a child's life. By supporting the positive interaction with children in stable and stimulating environments, the Home Visiting Program seeks to create a sturdy foundation for future achievement.

Contact: Stefanie Post, 513.695.2900, ext. 2919 [Stefanie.Post@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Stefanie.Post@warrencountyesc.com)

Angela Hensley, 513.695.2900, ext. 2935 [Angela.Hensley@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Angela.Hensley@warrencountyesc.com)



**Other Services available from WCESC** include assistance in administrative searches, interview process, teacher recruitment, policy development, levy campaigns, online approvals for ODE substitute licensure, etc.

Contact us or refer to our website for additional information: <https://www.warrencountyesc.com>

# Student Programs

## Work Force Development Coordinators

provide a variety of supports to help students meet their post-secondary goals. These services may include long-term career planning, job development and placement, career counseling, travel training, job shadowing, paid and unpaid internships and when needed, support from appropriate agencies to assist in the transition to adult services. Students may receive elective credits for maintaining employment in the community as well as credit toward Graduation Seals.



## PAES Lab (Practical Assessment Exploration System)

The Warren County ESC has created two PAES Labs at our Western Row Campus. We have created these work development labs where students become employees and teachers become employers. The use of these labs allows staff to assess a student's competitive work potential and interest level, while simultaneously exploring various jobs, using real tools, and developing proper work behaviors in the following five areas:

- Computer Technology
- Construction/Industrial
- Processing/Production
- Consumer/Service
- Business/Marketing

**Transition Living Classrooms (TLC)** serve students with developmental disabilities who have met the requirements for high school graduation, but the IEP team has determined that they would benefit from additional education as they transition to adult services. The program is community-based allowing the interns to develop and practice employability skills at supported work sites, as well as developing and practicing independent living skills. TLC is located at the WCESC Western Row Campus in Mason.

Skill development supported through transition programming include:

- Independent Living
- Maintaining an apartment
- Meal preparation
- Money Management
- Time Management
- Wellness
- Vocational
- Access to job application, training and work experience
- Self-management/self-determination
- Job retention skills
- Technology skills

Contact: Amanda Pennix, 513.695.2900, ext. 2951 [Amanda.Pennix@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Amanda.Pennix@warrencountyesc.com)

# Student Programs



**Coordinated Care Program** provides wraparound, intervention and prevention services to high-risk and multi-need children and their families. Coordinated Care is dedicated to providing prevention, support and intervention to Warren County youth and their families struggling with emotional and behavioral needs so they may remain in their home.

Contacts: Kevin Stevens, 513.695.2900, ext. 2916  
[Kevin.Stevens@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kevin.Stevens@warrencountyesc.com)

Dr. Kathie MacNeil, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918  
[Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com)



**Resource Coordinators...**Children's personal and family difficulties affect how they are doing socially and academically at school. To help at these difficult times, the school's Resource Coordinator can assist students in becoming more successful in school and help parents learn more about resources that may help their child and family. The goal of the Resource Coordinator Program is to eliminate any non-academic barriers to the academic process.

Resource Coordinators' services include:

- Visiting with the family at home
- Meeting with a student at school
- Accompanying a family in obtaining a needed resource when helpful
- Advocating for student/family needs
- Researching what services may be available to assist a family and child

Contact: Kevin Stevens, 513.695.2900, ext. 2916  
[Kevin.Stevens@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kevin.Stevens@warrencountyesc.com)

Dr. Kathie MacNeil, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918  
[Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.Macneil@warrencountyesc.com)



# Student Programs

**School Age Multiple-Disabilities Classrooms** provide services to students from kindergarten through transition age. Each class has a teacher and at least two educational assistants to serve the students in accordance to their Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Students may also receive nursing services, speech-language therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy and other related services based upon their individual needs. Classrooms located at WCESC Western Row Campus.

Contacts: Jill Buffenbarger  
[Jill.Buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Jill.Buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com)

Kara Dirksing  
[Kara.Dirksing@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kara.Dirksing@warrencountyesc.com)



**Student Attendance Services** coordinate a county-wide student attendance policy as a joint venture between juvenile court staff and school district staff. Attendance officers from WCESC assist school districts with student residency issues and enforcement of Ohio's compulsory attendance laws and the school district's policies for student attendance.

Contact: Dr. Kathie MacNeil, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918  
[Kathie.MacNeil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.MacNeil@warrencountyesc.com)

**Online Courses for Middle/High School Students...** WCESC provides online courses for middle/high school students providing "virtual" credit recovery, credit flexibility and Advanced Placement or elective courses through the Virtual Learning Academy. All courses are available 100% online and throughout the year including summer.

Contact: Pat Paré, 513.695.2900, ext. 2314  
[Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com)



# Student Programs

**Social Communication Classrooms** provide services for children with autism and other low incidence disabilities with significant instructional and behavioral needs. Intervention specialists, paraprofessionals, and behavior interventionists provide a small ratio of support in one-to-one or small group instructional settings to meet individualized goals. Speech-language, occupational, and physical therapy are embedded throughout the programming and provided according to Individualize Educational Plans (IEPs).



Contacts: Molly Leicht, 513.695.2736  
[Molly.Leicht@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Molly.Leicht@warrencountyesc.com)

Rachelle Yakumithis, 513.695.2736  
[Rachelle.Yakumithis@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Rachelle.Yakumithis@warrencountyesc.com)



**Project Warren County** Project Warren County is a transition programming for young adults (ages 18-22) with autism and other low incidence disabilities. The objectives of this program include promoting individual independence, community involvement and quality of life across the lifespan, development of a desire for life long learning, and increasing vocational, employment and independent living skills.

Contact: Molly Leicht, 513.695.2736  
[Molly.Leicht@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Molly.Leicht@warrencountyesc.com)

# Student Programs

**John K. Lazares Alternative School** supports students who have not been successful in their home schools due to issues such as poor attendance, academic failure, and discipline issues. The school has many years of success in helping students through individualized teaching and wraparound services. Students at JKLAS have many opportunities to earn the needed credits to return to their home school districts, transition to Warren County Career Center, or to prepare for college and careers.



Contact: Dustin Goldie, 513.695.2994  
[Dustin.Goldie@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Dustin.Goldie@warrencountyesc.com)

Dan Baker, 513.695.2994  
[Daniel.Baker@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Daniel.Baker@warrencountyesc.com)



## **Phoenix Academy (K-6 Alternative School)**

Warren County ESC Phoenix Academy Program was developed to support a regional need for an alternative educational option for students in grades K-6 who are struggling with behavior, social/emotional skills and self-regulation to the severity that it negatively impacts their ability to engage in learning. Students referred to the program may engage in behavior such as aggression to peers/adults, aggression towards classroom objects, elopement from the classroom, consistent task refusal, difficulty with sustained attention during classroom academics that lead to escape behaviors. Students who need this level of program may have had limited exposure to school routines, may have experienced trauma or chronic stress and often benefit from a smaller class size, increase social emotional learning and practice of skills in a safe environment.

Contact: Tara Gee, 513.695.2905  
[Tara.Gee@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Tara.Gee@warrencountyesc.com)

# Student Programs

## Warren County Learning Center

collaborates with school districts to meet the needs of students who have previously lacked successful experiences in the typical school setting due to having severe emotional disabilities and/or intense mental health needs.



The Learning Center is staffed with professionals that deliver quality services to our students and families which emphasize mental health, speech-language pathology, emotional regulation, behavior coaching, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nursing and mindfulness. The focus for our students is to teach them the life and social skills needed to be happy and contributing members of society. Our goal is to help students to build these skills and then focus on transitioning back to their home school setting.

### Classrooms located at Laura Farrell and St. Mary, Franklin and Western Row, Mason

Contacts: Wiley Collett, Site Supervisor at St. Mary Campus, 937.746.1969

[Wiley.Collett@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Wiley.Collett@warrencountyesc.com)

Jason Boone, Site Supervisor at Western Row Campuses 513.398.2736

[Jason.Boone@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Jason.Boone@warrencountyesc.com)

Julie Hunter, Site Supervisor at Laura Farrell Campus 937.746.1969

[Julie.Hunter@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Julie.Hunter@warrencountyesc.com)

**WCESC Deerfield Campus (Wellness Center)** is a school-based day treatment program and is the most intensive non-residential program that can be provided over an extended period of time.



School based day treatment permits access to mental health services in conjunction with and integrated with the child's social emotional and educational programming.

School based day treatment brings together at one location, and in a coordinated manner, a broad range of services designed to strengthen individual functioning and prevent individuals from requiring more restrictive services such as home instruction or residential placement. For program requirements and more information, please contact us.

Contact: Jared Kaiser, 513-695.2726

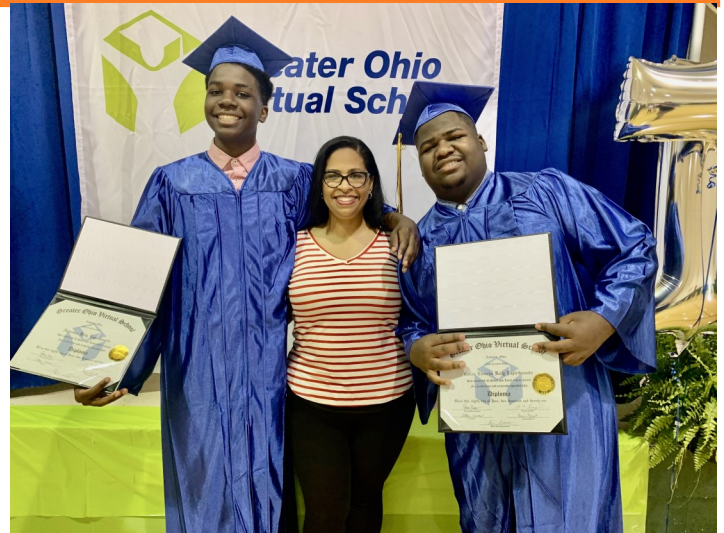
[Jared.Kaiser@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Jared.Kaiser@warrencountyesc.com)

# Greater Ohio Virtual School

## Greater Ohio Virtual School

**Who we are...** GOVS is a fully –accredited community school, organized under the laws of Ohio. GOVS performs the same duties and functions of any other public school .

Our administrative offices are housed in the same facility as the Warren County Educational Service Center in Lebanon with our Student Center at WCESC’s Western Row Campus in Mason.



We are a comprehensive educational program for students in grades 7-12 who reside in the state of Ohio. Our mission is to provide students with a highly personal and continuous connection to learning, by utilizing an internet-based curriculum. Every student will develop the skills of communication, the ability to engage in critical thinking, and acquire building blocks of education necessary for a successful future. Students are provided a computer to do the coursework and can earn a GOVS high school diploma.

Contact: General: [GOVS@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:GOVS@warrencountyesc.com) | [mygovs.com](http://mygovs.com) Call Main Line @ 513.695.7129

Shawn Lenney, Executive Director, 513.695.2900, 2925

[Shawn.Lenney@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Shawn.Lenney@warrencountyesc.com)



Student Center at Western Row Campus  
755 Western Row Road, Mason



# Personnel Services



**Southwest Ohio Council of Governments (COG)** is a partnership of WCESC, Warren County Commissioners and Butler County ESC that serves as a temporary employment agency for school districts and local governments. The largest portion of this work is the employment of substitute teachers. WCESC provides all human resources and payroll services to relieve school district costs with Frontline/Absence Management. WCESC approves online licensure applications through ODE for SWO-COG substitutes. We also employ teacher assistants or paraprofessionals to work with exceptional learners and partner with local governments to help with their temporary employees who are involved with lawn care, custodial and other similar duties.

Contacts: Cary Furniss, Chief Financial Officer, 513.695.2900, 3036  
[Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Cary.Furniss@warrencountyesc.com)

Pat Paré, Human Resources, 513.695.2900, ext. 2314  
[Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com)

## Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DIB)

DIB is a series of intentional strategies that our employees use to prepare our students for success as happy, independent, employed, and productive citizens. We value the stories of our employees, and our students, as we all work to make our schools and communities positive and safe places for everyone.



We established #WhatsYourStory as an opportunity to spotlight stories from both employees and the students our research-based programming has impacted. We know the WCESC story is shaped by our employees and the passion they share for the work we do with students, families, and districts. #WhatsYourStory is a celebration of all our stories and how every employee and student belongs and is included in the WCESC story.

For more information contact:  
Mike Bidwell, 513.695.2900, ext. 2981 [Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Mike.Bidwell@warrencountyesc.com)

# Personnel Services



**Frontline Education/  
Absence Management** is the automated system for scheduling substitute teachers for all participating SWO-COG school districts and/or paraprofessionals for all WCESC programming requiring both certified and classified substitutes.

**Human Resources** assist in administrative searches and interview process, teacher recruitment and follow up with SWO-COG substitutes at a district's request.

Contacts: Pat Paré, 513.695.2900, ext. 2314 [Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Pat.Pare@warrencountyesc.com)

Dawn Schroeder, 513.695.2900, ext. 2980 [Dawn.Schroeder@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Dawn.Schroeder@warrencountyesc.com)

Dee Wilms, 513.695.2900, ext. 2920 [Dee.Wilms@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Dee.Wilms@warrencountyesc.com)

Donna Hamilton, 513.695.2900, ext. 7827 [Donna.Hamilton@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Donna.Hamilton@warrencountyesc.com)

**Personnel Services** WCESC provides executive searches to Warren County school districts at no charge and we have extensive experience and success in the employment of superintendents and school district treasurers. We also work with school districts to find highly qualified specialists such as school psychologists, school nurses, occupational and physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and educational interpreters.

**Background Checks** Both state and federal background checks can be completed via Webcheck at WCESC for school district personnel as needed. Please refer to our website to make a recommended appointment and for payment instructions. <https://www.warrencountyesc.com/>

# Personnel Services



## Resident Educator Program

Upon request, WCESC supports districts and their teachers with the resident licensure process as required by the Ohio Department of Education. The Ohio RE Program is based on the understanding that student achievement improves as beginning teachers improve their instructional practices. The program provides teachers with a standards-based professional growth model designed to support resident educators and mentors as participants in learning communities.

Contact: Dan Michael  
[Dan.Michael@warrencoutyesc.com](mailto:Dan.Michael@warrencoutyesc.com)

**Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC)** is designed to assist WCESC licensed staff in developing Individual Professional Development Plans (IPDP) as required by state regulations and for monitoring professional development and continuing education required for Ohio Department of Education licensure renewals. All WCESC employees who currently hold a 5-year professional ODE license must submit and maintain their IPDP according to LPDC guidelines. Therapists and nurses are not required to meet LPDC guidelines but must maintain their ODE licensure/registration based on their respective Ohio Board requirements. WCESC staff can find LPDC documents at [www.warrencountyesc.com](http://www.warrencountyesc.com).

Contact: Kathie MacNeil, LPDC Chairperson, 513.695.2900, ext. 2918  
[Kathie.MacNeil@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Kathie.MacNeil@warrencountyesc.com)

Pam Tone, LPDC Administrative Assistant, 513.695.2900, ext. 1312  
[Pamela.Tone@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:Pamela.Tone@warrencountyesc.com)

# Partnerships



## Our Partners Assist Us in Accomplishing Our Vision...

The elected members of the Governing Board and the Leadership Team of Warren County Educational Service Center believe that education is a cooperative process that involves administrators, teachers, students, parents and the community in promoting excellent educational programs through a constant cycle of diagnosis of need, implementation and evaluation. Through cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships, we are able to provide high quality programs for students.

We recognize that each school district is unique and diverse, and our programs and services are designed to enhance the sharing of resources and working together cooperatively. Our ultimate goal is for all students to have positive learning opportunities which we strive to achieve through teamwork, effective leadership and mutual support. **This photo collage represents only a handful of our valued partners.**





# High Performing ESC

WCESC was awarded the status of High Performing ESC by the Ohio Department of Education for the past several years. This rating is given to ESCs across the state that demonstrate cost savings of at least ten percent to their member school districts in at least five areas. WCESC continually provides a substantial savings in the areas of School Psychology, Speech-Language Therapy, School Nurses, Social Communication Classrooms and Occupational Therapy. The Educational Service Centers of Ohio demonstrated \$60+ million in savings to school districts.



# Staff Directory

This directory reflects administrative, supervisory and key support contacts only. Please call 513.695.2900 for assistance in reaching a staff member you do not see listed here.

## ADMINISTRATORS and PROGRAM SUPERVISORS (listed alphabetically)

NAME	TITLE and DEPARTMENT	EMAIL
Brandon Anness	Pre-Service School Bus Driver Training Program Coordinator	<a href="mailto:brandon.anness@warrencountyesc.com">brandon.anness@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dan Baker	Asst. Supervisor of John Lazares Alternative School	<a href="mailto:daniel.baker@warrencountyesc.com">daniel.baker@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Mike Bidwell	Sr. Executive Director of Social Emotional Learning Programs	<a href="mailto:mike.bidwell@warrencountyesc.com">mike.bidwell@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jason Boone	Site Supervisor of WCLC/Western Row Campus	<a href="mailto:jason.boone@warrencountyesc.com">jason.boone@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Katie Brown	Assistant Treasurer	<a href="mailto:katie.brown@warrencountyesc.com">katie.brown@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jill Buffenbarger	Nursing and Multiple Disabilities Supervisor	<a href="mailto:jill.buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com">jill.buffenbarger@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kari Burris	Director of Related Services and Preschool Programming	<a href="mailto:kari.burris@warrencountyesc.com">kari.burris@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Wiley Collett	Site Supervisor of WCLC/St. Mary Campus	<a href="mailto:wiley.collett@warrencountyesc.com">wiley.collett@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Laura Collier	Special Education Supervisor/Wayne Local S.D.	<a href="mailto:laura.collier@warrencountyesc.com">laura.collier@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kara Dirksing	Sr. Executive Director of Special Education Programs	<a href="mailto:kara.dirksing@warrencountyesc.com">kara.dirksing@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Terri Elam	Supervisor of Nursing	<a href="mailto:terri.elam@warrencountyesc.com">terri.elam@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Christy Even	Assistant Superintendent	<a href="mailto:christina.even@warrencountyesc.com">christina.even@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Cary Furniss	Chief Financial Officer	<a href="mailto:cary.furniss@warrencountyesc.com">cary.furniss@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Tara Gee	Supervisor of Phoenix Academy	<a href="mailto:tara.gee@warrencountyesc.com">tara.gee@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dustin Goldie	Supervisor of John Lazares Alternative School	<a href="mailto:dustin.goldie@warrencountyesc.com">dustin.goldie@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kim Gregory	Lead Board Certified Behavior Analyst	<a href="mailto:kimberly.gregory@warrencountyesc.com">kimberly.gregory@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Angela Hensley	Assistant Supervisor of Early Intervention and Help Me Grow	<a href="mailto:angela.hensley@warrencountyesc.com">angela.hensley@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Julie Hunter	Site Supervisor of WCLC/Laura Farrell Campus	<a href="mailto:julie.hunter@warrencountyesc.com">julie.hunter@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Tom Isaacs	Superintendent	<a href="mailto:tom.isaacs@warrencountyesc.com">tom.isaacs@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Alana Jacobs	Lead Speech Language Pathologist and Educational Interpreters	<a href="mailto:alana.jacobs@warrencountyesc.com">alana.jacobs@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jared Kaiser	Supervisor of Wellness Center/Deerfield Campus	<a href="mailto:jared.kaiser@warrencountyesc.com">jared.kaiser@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Molly Leicht	Supervisor of Social Communication	<a href="mailto:molly.leicht@warrencountyesc.com">molly.leicht@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Shawn Lenney	Executive Director of Greater Ohio Virtual School	<a href="mailto:shawn.lenney@warrencountyesc.com">shawn.lenney@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dr. Kathie MacNeil	Sr. Executive Director of Cognitive and Behavioral Health Programs	<a href="mailto:kathie.macneil@warrencountyesc.com">kathie.macneil@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Becky Miller	Lead Physical Therapist	<a href="mailto:becky.miller@warrencountyesc.com">becky.miller@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Pat Paré	Assistant Superintendent	<a href="mailto:pat.pare@warrencountyesc.com">pat.pare@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Amanda Pennix	Supervisor of Transition Services	<a href="mailto:amanda.pennix@warrencountyesc.com">amanda.pennix@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Stefanie Post	Supervisor of Help Me Grow and Early Int.	<a href="mailto:stefanie.post@warrencountyesc.com">stefanie.post@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kim Steele	Lead Occupational Therapist	<a href="mailto:kimberly.steele@warrencountyesc.com">kimberly.steele@warrencountyesc.com</a>

# Staff Directory

NAME	TITLE and DEPARTMENT	EMAIL
Kevin Stevens	Supervisor of Coordinated Care/Diversion	<a href="mailto:kevin.stevens@warrencountyesc.com">kevin.stevens@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kristie Strittmatter	Lead School Psychologist	<a href="mailto:kristie.strittmatter@warrencountyesc.com">kristie.strittmatter@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Katelin Strubbe	Director of Western Row Campus	<a href="mailto:katelin.strubbe@warrencountyesc.com">katelin.strubbe@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Scott Wilson	Assistant Treasurer	<a href="mailto:scott.wilson@warrencountyesc.com">scott.wilson@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jessica Woody	Supervisor of Mental Health Services	<a href="mailto:jessica.woody@warrencountyesc.com">jessica.woody@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Rachelle Yakumithis	Assistant Supervisor of Social Communication	<a href="mailto:rachelle.yakumithis@warrencountyesc.com">rachelle.yakumithis@warrencountyesc.com</a>

## KEY SUPPORT STAFF—MAIN CAMPUS 513.695.2900

NAME (SUPERVISORY ROLES)	TITLE/DEPARTMENT	EMAIL
Steve Bowman	Supervisor/Maintenance Department	<a href="mailto:stephen.bowman@warrencountyesc.com">stephen.bowman@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jeannie Camery	Supervisor/Student Transportation (Vans)	<a href="mailto:jeannie.camery@warrencountyesc.com">jeannie.camery@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Tyler McCall	Technology Director	<a href="mailto:tyler.mccall@warrencountyesc.com">tyler.mccall@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dylan McGrath	Technology Coordinator	<a href="mailto:dylan.mcgrath@warrencountyesc.com">dylan.mcgrath@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Pam Tone	Director of Support Staff	<a href="mailto:pamela.tone@warrencountyesc.com">pamela.tone@warrencountyesc.com</a>
NAME	TITLE/DEPARTMENT	EMAIL
Julie Blackburn	Payroll/WCESC	<a href="mailto:julie.blackburn@warrencountyesc.com">julie.blackburn@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kim Cochran	Special Education Support	<a href="mailto:kim.cochran@warrencountyesc.com">kim.cochran@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Danielle Collins	Payroll/SWO-COG Paraprofessionals	<a href="mailto:danielle.collins@warrencountyesc.com">danielle.collins@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Kathy Frauenknecht	Fiscal/Accounts Receivable	<a href="mailto:kathy.frauenknecht@warrencountyesc.com">kathy.frauenknecht@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Amanda Greer	Main Campus Front Office	<a href="mailto:amanda.greer@warrencountyesc.com">amanda.greer@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Donna Hamilton	HR Support/SWO-COG Substitutes	<a href="mailto:donna.hamilton@warrencountyesc.com">donna.hamilton@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Amy Kistler	Main Campus Front Office	<a href="mailto:amy.kistler@warrencountyesc.com">amy.kistler@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Cindy Loesch	EMIS Coordinator	<a href="mailto:cindy.loesch@warrencountyesc.com">cindy.loesch@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Julie Prack	Payroll /SWO-COG Substitutes	<a href="mailto:julie.prack@warrencountyesc.com">julie.prack@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Joyce Roe	Fiscal/Accounts Payable	<a href="mailto:joyce.roe@warrencountyesc.com">joyce.roe@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dawn Schroeder	Human Resources Support	<a href="mailto:dawn.schroeder@warrencountyesc.com">dawn.schroeder@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Dee Wilms	Human Resources Support	<a href="mailto:dee.wilms@warrencountyesc.com">dee.wilms@warrencountyesc.com</a>
NAME (OTHER WCESC FACILITIES)	TITLE/BUILDING	EMAIL
Peggy Ludwig	Support @ John Lazares Alternative School 513.695.2994	<a href="mailto:peggy.ludwig@warrencountyesc.com">peggy.ludwig@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Sally Baker	Support @ Learning Center Campuses 937.746.1969	<a href="mailto:sally.baker@warrencountyesc.com">sally.baker@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Jennifer Melzer	Support @ Western Row Campus 513.695.2736	<a href="mailto:jennifer.melzer@warrencountyesc.com">jennifer.melzer@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Camryn Smith	Support @ Wellness Center/Deerfield Campus 513.695.2726	<a href="mailto:camryn.smith@warrencountyesc.com">camryn.smith@warrencountyesc.com</a>
Nikki McKinney	Support @ Phoenix Academy 513.695.2905	<a href="mailto:nikki.mckinney@warrencountyesc.com">nikki.mckinney@warrencountyesc.com</a>



# Scholarship Program

## Franklin B. Walter Scholarship Program

Each Spring, Warren County ESC host the Warren County Franklin B. Walter Scholarship Awards Program and Banquet which precedes the Ohio Educational Service Centers Association (OESCA) state awards program. The program is designed to recognize top academically achieving students from Warren County area school districts. The banquet is attended by scholarship recipients, their families, student chosen mentors, district educators and administrators, elected officials and other partners from Warren County.

School districts from around Warren County participate by selecting a top academic student from their district based on student eligibility criteria determined by OESCA. Recipients receive a \$500.00 scholarship, recognition plaque, and a proclamation from our area Senators and/or Representatives. The overall winner receives an additional \$500.00 scholarship.

The overall county winner selected is invited to attend the OESCA statewide awards program named after Dr. Franklin B. Walter and sponsored by the Ohio Educational Service Center Association in Worthington, Ohio.



**KANUSHI  
NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN  
2023 OVERALL WINNER  
KINGS HIGH SCHOOL**

### A NOTE FROM WCESC SUPERINTENDENT TOM ISAACS:



We at WCESC would like to honor our Warren County Recipients by including them in this publication and say thank you to our school districts for the remarkable job they do in educating and nurturing Warren County students.



### *The story behind the namesake...* **Dr. Franklin B. Walter**

The award bears the name of Dr. Franklin B. Walter, who served as State Superintendent from 1977-1991. During his tenure, Dr. Walter worked with three governors, significantly improved public education in the state, and brought Ohio's schools to the fore-front of the nation's attention. He received numerous honors and has earned the respect and admiration of educators nationwide. His integrity, leadership, optimism and commitment serve as an example for all. Dr. Walter passed away on September 15, 2010 at the age of 80. He left behind a storied legacy that includes this award.

Pictured on this page and the following page are the top academic student selected from each participating Warren County school district.



# Scholarship Program



**Elsie Dobbins**  
Carlisle High School



**Tyler Bond**  
Franklin High School



**Madison Byrnes**  
Greater Ohio Virtual School



**Charlie Harker**  
Lebanon High School



**Paige Zimmerman**  
Little Miami High School



**Patrick Arp**  
Mason High School



**Shawn Syed**  
Springboro High School



**Ryan Eshler**  
Waynesville High School



**Lily Dorfmueller**  
Warren County Career Center



www.warrencountyesc.com



# Warren County Educational Service Center

## Main Campus/ Administrative Offices

*pictured on front cover*

**1879 Deerfield Road**

**Lebanon, OH 45036**

**Ph. 513.695.2900**

**Fax 513.695.2961**

*Pictured from top to bottom:*

**Learning Center/Laura Farrell Campus**

**513 Park Avenue, Franklin 45005**

**Ph. 937.746.1969**

**Learning Center/St. Mary Campus**

**24 W. First Street, Franklin 45005**

**Ph. 937.746.1969**

**Wellness Center/Deerfield Campus**

**4936 Old Irwin Simpson, Mason 45040**

**Ph. 513.695.2726**

**John Lazares Alternative School**

**3527 N. St. Rt. 48, Lebanon 45036**

**Ph. 513.695.2994**

**Phoenix Academy**

**196 Northcrest Drive, Mason 45040**

**Ph. 513.695.2905**

**Western Row Campus**

**755 Western Row Rd., Mason 45040**

**Ph. 513.695.2736**