

SSCO ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

The School Study Council of Ohio (SSCO), established in 1965, is a non-profit consortium of educational organizations including school districts, educational service centers, professional associations, and universities. SSCO's guiding mission is to help each member organization achieve its mission through the provision of client-centered services.

This report addresses the 2007-2008 school year. SSCO had **69** member organizations. Professional development services were provided to more than **600** school personnel, who attended over **25** programs.

The following commissions were active in addressing specific areas of interest during 2007-08:

Administrative Assistants
Gifted and Talented

Special Education
Library/Technology

SSCO held the following:

- 6 commission sponsored professional development programs
- 2 non-commission inservices
- 6 Paradigm Bender meetings and 1 trip
- 4 networking sessions
- 14 substitute teacher training sessions
- 5 co-sponsored events
- 2 special events

Commission Sponsored Inservices

AQR denotes the **Average Quality Rating** by the participants on a scale from 1 (low) to 4 (high).

Children's Literature Review, October 11, 2007
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 3.93

Acceleration Policy, October 25, 2007
Gifted & Talented Commission
AQR – 3.67

Does the Book Have the Hook?, November 13, 2007
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 3.76

New Insights on the ESL Gifted Learner, January 23, 2008
Gifted & Talented Commission
AQR – 3.74

Book Look Took – April 8, 2008
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 3.87

Hot Legal Topics in Special Education, April 15, 2008
Legal Aspects Commission
AQR – 3.80

Non-Commission Inservices

Grant Writing
September 13, 2007
AQR – 4.00

Focus Group Training
October 11, 2007
AQR – 3.74

Special Events

Annual Administrative Professionals Luncheon, April 24, 2008
Secretarial Commission
AQR – 3.93

Annual Luncheon Meeting, May 2, 2008
AQR – 3.86

Co-Sponsored Events

Aspiring Leaders Institute

September 20, 2007/September 21, 2007/November 9, 2007/February 7, 2008/April 3, 2008
(Co-Sponsored with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Council for Academic Excellence)

Session 1 - Part 1 was an introduction to the Institute that addressed the changing role of the leader, and included a panel of principals.

Session 1 - Part 2 featured Dr. William R. Daggett, President of the International Center for Leadership in Education; and Gerald Prince, Consultant for People Performance Results, on the topics of Leadership and The Politics of Change, a panel discussion, Leadership Style Inventory, and Your Leadership Style and Your Success as a School Leader.

Session 2 had Dr. Brian McNulty, Vice President of the Center for Performance Assessment speaking on Leadership, Student Achievement, Standards, and Assessment. Representatives from the Ohio School Boards Association and the Council for Academic Excellence addressed the importance of preparation for assuming an administrative position.

Session 3 included Dr. Phillip C. Schlecty, CEO of the Center for Leadership in School Reform addressing Governance, Politics, and Leading the Change Process. Panelists representing boards of education, teacher associations, and superintendents commented on governance and the change process.

Session 4 highlighted Nelda Cameron-McCabe, Professor at Miami University speaking about Community Engagement and Building Strong Relations. She is also one of the authors of the *Superintendent's Fieldbook*, which was used throughout the Institute. A superintendents' panel shared how to build relationships with the media and elements of the community.

Co-Sponsored Program

Interpersonal Coaching for Educational Leaders

This new program, co-sponsored with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators was designed to help educational leaders address challenges in constructive ways. Those completing the program will be more effective in dealing with others and feel more comfortable and successful. There were eight (8) participants this year.

Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment (CIA) Network

October 24, 2007 – Achievement Gap

January 15, 2008 – High School Reform, English as a Second Language, Book Study - Building the Bridge As You Walk On It

April 15, 2008 – Ohio Core/Ohio's Proposal for a Differentiated Accountability Model – Book Study continued

This network was formed to provide support for curriculum, instruction, and assessment staff at the district and building levels. Meetings were comprised of presenters, group sharing, and brainstorming ideas/best practices to assist educators to build skills and improve their productivity as curriculum/instruction leaders.

Paradigm Benders

Several members of the Board of Trustees created the Paradigm Benders in 1992. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, and building administrators are among those who meet regularly to discuss topics of interest that impact their roles and responsibilities. The Benders will continue to meet throughout the 2008-09 school year.

This year's activities were:

October 5, 2007: Professional Learning Communities Within the Upper Arlington Schools – Dr. Debi Binkley, Assistant Superintendent and Upper Arlington Staff

November 8, 2007: New Ohio Principal and Ohio Professional Development Standards – Lucy Ozvat, Consultant, Ohio Department of Education

December 7, 2007: Reinventing High Schools/Highlighting the Collaborative Metro School – Marcy Raymond

January 11, 2008: Educator Licensure and Professional Conduct: Implications of House Bill #190 – Jim Miller, Director, Educator Licensure and Professional Conduct, Ohio Department of Education

February 20-22, 2008: Trip to Northern Virginia – Mountain Vista High School and West Springfield High School

March 7, 2008: KnowledgeWorks Foundation: Three Small Schools: Reform Comes to Lima Senior High School – Jeff McClellan, Principal and Virgil Mann, Program Director/Consultant, Multiple Intelligences, Lima Senior High School

Grant Writing Center

The Grant Center offered a full range of services to member organizations that included: locating federal, state, and foundation funding sources; providing assistance in conceptualizing and writing proposals; providing technical assistance to grantees in grants management and implementation; providing technical assistance to clients developing proposals; providing tutoring in grant writing; providing contracted Request for Proposals and Announcement Services; and conducting research and providing evaluation services for SSCO member districts and organizations.

Locating Potential Funding Sources services and Request for Proposals Announcement services were provided to member organizations as requested. Six (6) proposals have been written in collaboration with school districts, educational service centers, and universities. These proposals were developed for competitions sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, the Institute of Education Sciences, the Ohio Department of Education, and private foundations.

Grant Center staff developed and assisted in the management and implementation of proposals funded by the U.S. Department of Education: "Comprehensive Interventions for Elementary Students who are SED," a four-year demonstration project, was completed this year. Staff have also been busy with the implementation of a five-year grant, "Transition to Teaching," a program designed to recruit, prepare, and place special education teachers in Dayton and Columbus City Schools. A second five-year "Transition to Teaching" grant was funded last year that includes districts across Ohio. We have also provided evaluation and consultation for the federally funded Ohio Center for Deafblind Education and prepared the proposal for another five-year cycle of this grant.

Grant Center staff conducted trainings for clients in grant writing and in conducting focus groups. The Center has expanded its ability to assist its members by helping establish consortia of schools or school districts that pursue grants collectively.

In addition, Grant Center staff provided evaluation services for twelve (12) clients on grant-related programs. In all, Grant Center staff worked on over forty (40) contracts for evaluation services. More research and evaluation activities, including client satisfaction studies, are described below.

Research and Evaluation Services

Evaluation services included: focus groups, assessment of client satisfaction, outcome-impact evaluations, and report services. SSCO conducted focus groups with varied populations, including parents, students, teachers, other school staff, community members, and administrators. Focus group results were used to evaluate strengths and key issues for improvement, as well as to identify content for further evaluations. Assessment of client satisfaction involved interview and survey methods to assess the needs and expectations of client groups. Clients were surveyed both via mail and using our online survey system in regard to issues such as services they receive, activities they participate in, and professional development they require.

Outcome/Impact evaluations were done to determine the effects of school programs and policies on students and teachers, as well as to detect changes in attitude toward these programs and policies. The online survey system continues to expand our ability to meet clients' needs in evaluating the efficacy of programs.

Report services included both written and oral reports for superintendents, board members, other personnel, and the community. Reports included summaries of technical findings and scholarly analysis of those findings, and recommendations were made when possible.

In summary, evaluation services have been provided to numerous member institutions, including school districts, individual schools, universities, educational service centers, professional development programs, and educational organizations through contractual arrangements.

Contractual Services/Research Projects

Contractual services and research projects continued through 2007-2008. Through a contract with the Ohio Department of Education, the Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted was held in July 2007. It will be offered again in June 2008 as a grant-funded project. Other projects included Ohio's Interuniversity Special Education Forum and evaluation of the Ohio Department of Education's Javits grant. The following were conducted in conjunction with the University of Dayton: Ohio Center for Deafblind Education, two Transition to Teaching grants, and Comprehensive Interventions for Children Who Are SED.

The Chalkboard Website

The Chalkboard, a website specifically designed for parents, was launched in 2001. It is available to all districts at no charge. Some districts have created a direct link for parents to access the Chalkboard from their website. Based on Ohio's Reading Outcomes, it provides practical home activities for improving reading skills and preparing for proficiency tests, with emphasis on the use of graphic organizers for comprehension. This site has content aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards.

The Ohio Center for Substitute Teachers (OCST)

The Ohio Center for Substitute Teachers (OCST) was established in response to a growing need in Ohio school districts for information, research findings and related issues about identifying, preparing, and employing qualified substitute teachers. OCST was conceptualized using needs assessment data culled from school administrators, central office personnel, and prospective substitute teachers, and is based on SSCO's highly effective Substitute Teacher Training Program. The OCST continues to include research, support, training and professional development components and services.

Preparation sessions were conducted as shown:

August 9, 2007 – Granville Exempted Village Schools
August 15 – Bexley City Schools
August 23, 2007 – SSCO
September 6, 2007 – Fairfield County ESC
September 11, 2007 – Northmont City Schools
October 3, 2007 – SSCO
November 7, 2007 – SSCO
November 28 – Northmont City Schools
December 3, 2007 – Whitehall City Schools
January 9, 2008 – SSCO
February 6, 2008 – SSCO
March 12, 2008 – SSCO
April 9, 2008 – SSCO
April 17, 2008 – Pickaway County ESC

During the 2007-2008 school year SSCO prepared more than 230 substitute teachers. Member districts requiring this training for employment have hosted these workshops onsite, ensuring all of their current and potential substitutes have the opportunity to participate.

School districts hosting and/or requiring the training for the 2007-2008 school year includes:

Bexley City Schools	Licking County ESC
Fairfield County ESC	Northmont City Schools
Franklin County ESC	Pickaway County ESC
Granville Exempted Village Schools	Whitehall City Schools

SSCO recruited qualified personnel who were referred to participating districts for training and employment. This service provided aspiring substitute teachers with tools necessary for success in the classroom. Each one-day session covered strategies for effective classroom and student management, professional behavior and ethics, and the basics of lesson planning and interpretation. In addition, each participant received a resource manual and an SSCO Certificate of Completion. Ongoing online follow-up support is accessible to all participants. These services will be available for next school year.

The Walter B. Barbe Small Grant Program

These grants provided funding for five (5) K-12 language arts teachers from member districts. The intention is to give teachers an opportunity to supplement their existing language arts program with materials or the implementation of best practices designed to improve the quality of instruction in their classrooms.

2007-2008 Barbe Grant Recipients:

Carol Sears, 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher, Sugarcreek Local Schools
Denise Antram, 2nd Grade Classroom Teacher, Bellefontaine City Schools
Kathleen Gordon, McVey Elementary School, Westerville City Schools
Susan Seela, Gifted Intervention Specialist, Sugarcreek Local Schools

Intervention Specialists, Pickerington Local Schools:

Laura Burgoon

Leslie Henderson

Gail Clark

SuEllen Henry

Toni Davis

Mary Hudson

Colette Goddard

Heather Miler

Employment Posting

All SSCO members are eligible, at no cost, to post positions for which they are seeking applicants on the SSCO website.

Ohio's Interuniversity Special Education Forum

This year, SSCO began sponsorship of this group (formerly the Special Education Personnel Development Advisory Committee). The primary mission is to provide opportunities for open, professional discussions about special education policy and practices in higher education programs and how they relate to practice in the schools and other service agencies.

Membership is by invitation only and open to university faculty who engage in the preparation of personnel, research, and demonstration projects in special education and related fields. Discussions occur in an Annual Meeting and throughout the year via the Internet and other means, including print media.

A conference was held on February 29. Speakers included Anne Bauer, University of Cincinnati; Lawrence Dennis, Ohio Department of Education; Jane Fullerton, Ohio Board of Regents; Stephen Kroeger, University of Cincinnati; Michele Lehman, Ohio Department of Education; Sekhar Pindiprolu, University of Toledo; and Lou Staffilino, Ohio Department of Education.

SSCO Plans For 2008-2009

SSCO will continue to meet the needs of member districts by providing high quality, low cost professional development programs on a variety of topics. Through an analysis of inservice evaluations, and both formal and informal needs assessments, commissions and Board

members identify topics that meet the needs of SSCO members and lead to innovative and creative growth throughout the schools. Members' input and continued participation are welcomed and encouraged.

The SSCO Board of Trustees will continue to offer productive and exciting services for 2008-2009, as SSCO begins its 44th year of providing professional development opportunities and targeted services to our membership.

SSCO MEMBERS – 2007-08

(As of April 4, 2008)

Locals & Cities– 44

Bellefontaine City (Logan)	Madison Plains Local (Madison)
Bexley City (Franklin)	New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin)
Brookfield Local (Trumbull) +	Newark City (Licking)
Buckeye Valley Local (Delaware)	North Fork Local (Licking)
Canal Winchester Local (Franklin)	Northmont City (Montgomery)
Cardington-Lincoln Local (Morrow)	Northridge Local (Licking) +
Circleville City (Pickaway)	(Ohio School for the Deaf (Franklin)
Columbus City (Franklin)	Ohio State School for the Blind (Franklin)
Dayton City (Montgomery)	Pickerington Local (Fairfield) •
Delaware City (Delaware)	Reynoldsburg City (Franklin)
Diocese of Columbus (Franklin)	South-Western City School (Franklin)
Fairbanks Local (Union)	Southwest Licking Local (Licking)
Graham Local (Champaign)	Sugarcreek Local (Greene)
Grandview Heights City (Franklin)	Triad Local (Champaign)
Heath City (Licking)	Upper Arlington City (Franklin) •
Jefferson Local (Madison)	Urbana City (Champaign)
Johnstown-Monroe Local (Licking)	West Liberty-Salem Local (Champaign) +
Jonathan Alder Local Schools (Madison)	Westerville City Schools (Franklin)
Kettering City (Montgomery)	Westfall Local (Pickaway)
Lakewood Local (Licking)	Whitehall City (Franklin)
Licking Heights Local (Licking)	Wynford Local (Crawford)
Licking Valley Local Schools (Licking)	
London City (Madison) •	

Educational Service Centers - 9

Delaware Union ESC	Mahoning ESC
Fairfield County ESC	Mid-Ohio ESC (Crawford/Morrow/Richland)
Franklin County ESC	Pickaway County ESC
Licking County ESC	Wood County ESC •
Madison/Champaign ESC	

EXVs – 3

Granville EXV (Licking)	Tipp City EXV (Miami)
Rossford EXV (Wood) +	

JVSDs – 3

Delaware JVSD (Delaware)	Pickaway-Ross JVSD (Ross)
Eastland-Fairfield Career/Tech (Fairfield)	

SERRCs – 3

Central Ohio SERRC	West Central Ohio SERRC/State Support Team 6
Northern Ohio SERRC	

MRDDs - 1

Franklin County Board of MRDD

Higher Education Institutions – 4

Ashland University	University of Dayton
The Ohio State University	Youngstown State University

Educational Agencies – 2

Buckeye Assn. of Secondary Administrators	Educational Council Foundation
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69 Members

• New Member

+ Member Through August 2009

SCHOOL STUDY COUNCIL OF OHIO

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this corporation shall be the School Study Council of Ohio (SSCO), an Ohio corporation not for profit.

ARTICLE II. MISSION

The School Study Council of Ohio's guiding mission is to help each member organization to achieve its mission through the provision of client centered services that include planning assistance; professional development; funding and related resource acquisition; research; system assessment and impact evaluation; leadership development; and other personalized technical assistance.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Units that may hold membership in the Council shall be limited to:

- a. Any individual public, private or parochial school, or school district recognized officially by Ohio's State Department of Education, but at the discretion of the Board of Trustees,
- b. Any college or university having a program of teacher preparation officially approved by Ohio's State Department of Education, but at the discretion of the Board of Trustees,
- c. Any other educational agency, but at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, and
- d. Any related organization interested in furthering the goals of education may hold membership in the Council as an associate member, but at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2. Active membership shall be limited to persons designated by member units as set forth in Section 1, paragraphs (a), and (b) of Article III hereof. Active members shall be privileged to attend meetings of the council and to participate in its deliberations and shall have one vote per member unit at such meetings. They may also serve as members of the Board of Trustees and as officers as provided hereinafter.

SECTION 3. Associate membership shall be limited to persons designated by member units as set forth in Section 1, paragraphs (c) and (e) of Article III hereof. Associate members may attend Council meetings and participate in the discussion but shall have no vote and shall not be eligible to hold office or be elected to the Board of Trustees. Associate membership shall be limited to persons and organizations designated by member units as set forth in Section 1, paragraphs (a), (b), and (f) of Article III hereof.

SECTION 4. Honorary memberships may be granted to businesses, industries, foundations, or other non-educational organizations in recognition of their financial support of the Council. Such membership carries no vote and no representation at meetings and shall be granted at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the Council.

SECTION 5. All member units shall be entitled to the services of the Council. All member units shall have the privilege of submitting to the Council any special problems needing study and such problems shall be considered by the Board of Trustees as possible tasks of the Council.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SECTION 1. The Officers of the Council shall be President, Vice President, Past President, Executive Director, and Treasurer.

SECTION 2. The Board of Trustees shall be comprised of the Council Officers, the immediate Past President, plus other members who have high rates of participation in SSCO activities, selected from the Council membership. The Executive Director and Treasurer will serve as non-voting members of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3. Officers and members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by the Board of Trustees annually, or when vacancies on the Board of Trustees arise.

SECTION 4. The Board of Trustees shall:

- a. Appoint the Executive Director and the Council's staff,
- b. Plan and administer the activities of the Council,
- c. Report on each of its meetings to the members by or at the annual general meeting of the Council,
- d. Approve appointments to committees by the President,
- e. Elect annually all officers and other Board of Trustees members,

- f. Receive and review financial reports prepared by the Treasurer and/or outside auditors, and
- g. Perform such other duties as may be necessary to enable the Council to carry out its purposes most effectively.

SECTION 5. The President shall:

- a. Preside at all general meetings of the Council,
- b. Appoint members to all committees,
- c. Encourage membership and participation in the Council,
- d. Serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees,
- e. Serve as Past President of the Board of Trustees, and
- f. Be eligible to be elected to the Board of Trustees anytime following his/her term as Past President.

SECTION 6. The Vice President shall serve as Chairman and Presiding Officer in the absence or incapacity of the President.

SECTION 7. The Treasurer shall perform the usual functions of that office and shall keep complete financial records.

SECTION 8. The Executive Director shall:

- a. Be responsible for administering all activities of the Council,
- b. Serve as editor for Council publications,
- c. Serve as ex-officio member of all committees,
- d. Keep a complete record of the Board of Trustees minutes, and
- e. Perform such other duties as are assigned by the Board of Trustees of the Council in order to carry out its purposes.

SECTION 9. Vacancies in office or on the Board of Trustees shall be filled by appointments by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 10. The Council will have an attorney who will serve as its Statutory Agent. The Statutory Agent shall:

- a. Provide those activities as required by Statutory Agents by Ohio law, and
- b. In the event that the Executive Director's position is vacant or he/she is unable to perform his/her functions, the Statutory Agent is authorized to sign legal documents and represent the organization in other related matters.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The full membership of the Council shall meet annually. The time and place of all meetings shall be set by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2. The full Board of Trustees shall hold at least four meetings annually.

SECTION 3. The Officers of the Council shall hold at least nine meetings annually; four of which shall be with the full Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Committees and task groups shall be established on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees. Committee and commission membership shall be restricted to representatives of active and associate members of the Council.

SECTION 2. All commissions and task groups will be reviewed annually. In the event that the work of a commission or task group is completed, it will be abolished. In the event that the commissions or task group is not meeting its assigned responsibility within a reasonable time, it shall be abolished or reconstituted.

ARTICLE VII. VOTING AND QUORUM

SECTION 1. All matters pertaining to elections or voting shall require a simple majority of those present and voting for passage.

SECTION 2. A quorum shall consist of those members in attendance at the regularly scheduled Council or Board of Trustees meetings.

ARTICLE VIII. RULES OF ORDER

SECTION 1. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern in all meetings of the Council, the Board of Trustees, and all other Council commissions or task groups.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCES

SECTION 1. The fiscal year of the Council shall extend from July 1 through June 30.

SECTION 2. Each member of the Council shall pay annual dues in accordance with the following schedule:

a. Active members

1. Public school districts or private school units (see Article III, Section 1, a, b) shall pay based on the Average Daily Membership) previous year's Sf-2) according to the following graduated scale; the minimum dues shall be \$200.00.

ADM

1 - 12,000	25 cents per student
12,001 - 40,000	\$3,000.00
40,000+	\$3,500.00

2. Educational service centers and Diocesan schools shall pay \$300.00 per year.
3. Joint vocational schools, special education regional resource centers, boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, and colleges and universities shall pay \$200.00 per year.

b. Associate members

1. The associate member annual dues shall be \$500.00.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. The bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Board of Trustees by a majority vote of those present. Or at the annual Council meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present, with written notice of the proposed amendment having been mailed to all active members at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

Approved March 20, 1975

Amended October 9, 1975

Amended June 12, 1986

Amended May 12, 1988

Amended January 4, 1990

Amended April 12, 1991

Amended October 22, 1993

Amended September 11, 1998

Amended September 6, 2002

Amended December 2, 2002

Amended April 1, 2005