

SSCO ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

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 2008-2009 school year. SSCO had **59** member organizations. Professional development services were provided to more than **1,250** school personnel, who attended over **40** programs.

The following commissions were active in addressing specific areas of interest during 2008-2009:

Administrative Assistants
Gifted and Talented

Library/Technology
Special Education

SSCO held the following:

- 5 commission sponsored professional development programs
- 6 Paradigm Bender meetings and 2 trips
- 6 networking sessions
- 17 substitute teacher training sessions
- 5 co-sponsored sessions
- 1 special event

Commission Sponsored Inservices

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

The New Gifted Rule and You, September 22 or 25, 2008
Gifted/Talented Commission
AQR – 3.61

Children's Literature Review, November 13, 2008
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 4.00

Does the Book Have the Hook? February 24, 2009
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 4.00

Hot Legal Topics in Special Education, April 30, 2009
Special Education Commission
AQR – 3.65

Book Look Review – May 12, 2009
Library/Technology Commission
AQR – 3.79

Special Event

Annual Administrative Professionals Luncheon, April 24, 2009
Administrative Professionals Commission
AQR – 3.99

Co-Sponsored Sessions

Emerging Leaders Institute

September 16, 2008/September 17, 2008/December 2, 2008/ February 5, 2009/April 23, 2009
(Co-Sponsored with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and the Council for Academic Excellence)

Session 1 - Part 1 and 2 featured Dr. William R. Daggett, President of the International Center for Leadership in Education on the topic of Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships.

Session 2 had Dr. Michael Schmoker, Speaker and Educational Consultant speaking on Accountability and You... Planning for Failure or School Success.

Session 3 included Dr. Brian McNulty, Vice President of the Leadership and Learning Center; Dr. Jim Warren, Educational Consultant; and Dr. Ron Barnes, Professor at Indiana University. These three presenters discussed Leadership, Relationships, and Politics.

Session 4 addressed Holding Difficult Conversations about Race, Class, and the Achievement Gap, featuring Dr. Kati Haycock, Director of The Education Trust.

Co-Sponsored Program

Interpersonal Coaching for Educational Leaders

This 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 seven (7) participants this year.

Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment (CIA) Network

October 22, 2008 – Student Performance (Statewide/Nationally)
February 26, 2009 – Response to Intervention/Discussion on Governor Strickland's Plan
April 15, 2009 – 21st Century Skills

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.

Working with Written Education Plans

November 18, 2008

February 12, 2009

April 23, 2009

This group met in two-hour sessions after school to address Ohio's new Operating Standards for Identifying and Service Students, which were updated and approved in March 2008. Agenda items included a summary of the new operating standards; implementation, including common obstacles, problems, successes and suggestions; creation of an infinity chart; classroom teacher perspective, role, and responsibility; GIS perspective, role, and responsibility; examples of content and process modifications; round table discussion; follow-up assignment; and a sharing fair with representatives from Stanford, Riverside, and Terra Nova and presentations of on-line resources from representatives of Clermont County ESC, Delaware City, Reynoldsburg City. These sessions were facilitated by Rita Glavan and Marge Mulcahy.

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 2009-10 school year.

This year's activities were:

October 3, 2008: How Do American High Schools Compare with Schools Internationally?

November 7, 2008: Best Practices: Innovative/Alternative Programs in High Schools – Representatives from Hilliard Davidson HS, New Albany HS, and Worthington HS

December 5, 2008: Book Discussion: "The Post-American World" by Fareed Zakaria – Former Governor Bob Taft

January 16, 2009: Cancelled due to inclement weather.

February 6, 2009: New Directions for Ohio Schools – Deborah Delisle, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

March 13, 2009: (Rescheduled from January) Global Awareness – Donna Nesbitt, International Education Coordinator, ODE

April 3, 2009: Trip Part 1: Discovering Ohio's Best Kept Secrets: Visit Two Unique Elementary School Programs – Visitations to Crissey ES in Holland and Old Orchard ES in Toledo.

April 17, 2009: Trip Part 2: Discovering Ohio's Best Kept Secrets: See Two Unique Programs: A Vibrant High School and an Innovative Middle School – Visitations to The Columbus Metro School (STEM School) and Phoenix Alternative Middle School in Worthington.

Grant Writing Center

The Grant & Evaluation 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 submitting proposals; providing tutoring in grant writing; and conducting research and providing evaluation services for SSCO member districts and organizations.

Grant Center staff developed and assisted in the evaluation and implementation of proposals funded by the U.S. Department of Education through the University of Dayton. These included the Transition to Teaching (TTT) program, designed to recruit, prepare, and place special education teachers in districts across Ohio. Staff completed the Final Performance report for the first 5-year TTT program grant, and continues to provide ongoing evaluation services for the current 2006 TTT grant. The Grant Center also provided evaluation and consultation for the federally funded Ohio Center for Deafblind Education, which provides services to individuals with deafblindness throughout the state. This year, the Grant Center assisted the Deafblind Center staff in writing and submitting a successfully funded proposal for a new five-year grant cycle.

The Grant & Evaluation Center provided evaluation services for member clients on grant-related programs, working on over twenty-five contracts for evaluation services throughout the year. 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 implemented 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. Our online survey system continues to expand our ability to meet clients' needs in evaluating the efficacy of programs.

Report services included both technical and analytical reports created for member districts and organizations. These reports included summaries of technical findings, scholarly analysis of those findings, and recommendations were made when appropriate.

In summary, grant and 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 throughout the year. With a contract from the Ohio Department of Education, the Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted was held in June 2008. It will be offered again in June 2009 as an Ohio Department of Education grant-funded project. The evaluation of the Ohio Department of Education's Javits grant is also being conducted by the evaluation center. The following were programs were conducted in conjunction with the University of Dayton: Ohio Center for Deafblind Education and Transition to Teaching.

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:

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| July 29 | Delaware-Union Co. ESC |
| August 14 | Bexley City Schools |
| August 15 | Delaware-Union Co. ESC |
| September 10 | Granville Board of Education |
| September 24 | Northmont City Schools |
| October 1 | SSCO |
| October 29 | Pickaway Co. ESC |

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| December 10 | SSCO |
| January 21 | Pickaway Co. ESC |
| March 4 | Granville Board of Education |
| April 15 | Pickaway Co. ESC |

Summer sessions to be conducted are:

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| July 29 | SSCO |
| August 13 | Bexley City Schools |
| August 20 | Fairfield County ESC |
| August 27 | Madison-Champaign ESC |

During the 2008-2009 school year SSCO prepared more than 350 prospective substitute teachers. Some 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 who have endorsed the training for the 2008-2009 school year includes:

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|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bexley City Schools | Madison-Champaign ESC |
| Fairfield County ESC | Northmont City Schools |
| Franklin County ESC | Pickaway County ESC |
| Granville Exempted Village Schools | Wood County ESC |
| Licking County ESC | |

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.

A new venture that OCST embarked upon this year was a **Train-the-Trainer** program. Our goal is to have OCST satellite training centers at County ESCs around the state where substitute teachers can attend workshops.

For the 2008-2009 school year we had the following counties participate:

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|---------------------|------------------|
| Clermont County ESC | Stark County ESC |
| Lucas County ESC | Wood County ESC |
| Pickaway County ESC | |

All participating Substitute Teacher Trainers will complete their certification with a collaborative facilitation of a scheduled workshop in the fall of 2009.

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.

2008-2009 Grant Recipients and Related Projects

1. Teacher(s): Tara Boyer
Position: Grade 6-10 Literacy Curriculum Coach
Wilson MS, Heritage MS and Liberty MS
Newark City Schools
Description: Purchasing novels and developing a program for Grade 7 using Literature Circles and guide reading material at the students' independent reading level.
2. Teacher(s): Carrie Hill
Position: Grades 5 – 6
Bishop Flaget School
Columbus Diocese
Description: Developing a Cross-curricular unit within the disciplines of language arts, science and community service through an interdisciplinary study of a working ecological farm (Shepherd's Corner) focusing on the Ohio Academic Standards for writing through science journals, letters and informational pamphlets.
3. Teacher(s): Danielle Polemeni
Position: High School Grades 9 - 10
St. Francis De Sales HS
Columbus Diocese
Description: Increasing the technological potential of the ESOL program by purchasing audio materials and subscriptions to web-based and interactive software programs designed specifically for English Language Learners.
4. Teachers(s): Laura Gran
Position: Grade 2
St. Brigid of Kildare
Columbus Diocese
Description: Supporting the curriculum for identified students with learning disabilities in English Language Arts by using the inclusive model and offering a variety of literature with quality high-interest books to continue their individual pace of learning and keep excitement high as they continue to experience success.
5. Teacher(s): Jenn Barnett
Position: Grade 4
Buckeye Valley East Elementary

Buckeye Valley Local Schools
Description: Exposing students to wide variety of high-quality, multicultural literature creating a “bridge” between students and the world beyond their immediate surroundings and promoting the ideals of interpersonal caring, pro-social attitudes, selflessness and citizenship.

Employment Posting

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

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, districts, and professional organizations. Our members' input and ongoing participation are welcomed and encouraged.

The SSCO Board of Trustees will continue to offer productive and meaningful services for 2009-2010 year, as SSCO begins its 45th year of providing professional development opportunities and targeted services to our membership.

SSCO MEMBERS – 2008-09
(As of February 18, 2009)

Locals & Cities– 39

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| Bellefontaine City (Logan) | Licking Valley Local (Licking) |
| Bexley City (Franklin) | London City (Madison) |
| Brookfield Local (Trumbull) | New Albany-Plain Local (Franklin) |
| Buckeye Valley Local (Delaware) | Newark City (Licking) |
| Cardington-Lincoln Local (Morrow) | North Fork Local (Licking) |
| Circleville City (Pickaway) | Northridge Local (Licking) |
| Columbus City (Franklin) | Ohio School for the Deaf (Franklin) |
| Delaware City (Delaware) | Ohio State School for the Blind (Franklin) |
| Diocese of Columbus (Franklin) | Pickerington Local (Fairfield) |
| Fairbanks Local (Union) | Reynoldsburg City (Franklin) |
| Gahanna-Jefferson Public (Franklin) ∞ | South-Western City (Franklin) |
| Graham Local Schools Champaign | Southwest Licking Local (Licking) |
| 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 (Madison) | Westerville City (Franklin) |
| Kettering City (Montgomery) | Westfall Local (Pickaway) |
| Lakewood Local (Licking) | Whitehall City (Franklin) |
| Licking Heights Local Schools (Licking) | |

Educational Service Centers - 8

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

EXVs – 2

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Granville EXV (Licking) | Rossford EXV (Wood) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|

Career Centers – 2

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|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Eastland-Fairfield CTC (Fairfield) | Pickaway-Ross CTC |
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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 – 3

| | |
|---|---|
| Buckeye Assn. of Secondary Administrators | Ohio Assn. of Secondary School Administrators + |
| Educational Council Foundation | |

59 Members

∞ New Member

+ Member Through August 2010

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