



The NCC Update!

The Director's Gig

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The merger of our two sites is progressing on schedule. This is due to the commitment of all staff, the leadership team and current LEECA and NCC members. I appreciate the opportunity to meet with Superintendents, Treasurers, other district administrators and district staff. With each conversation I gained insight into what North Coast Council needs to offer as your technology service provider. There were also candid discussions regarding service fees which provided the framework for the fiscal year 2012-13 fee schedule and budget. The result is a balanced budget which establishes and maintains the lowest fees in Northeast Ohio and allows schools to choose solutions that meet their local needs. I mentioned the commitment of all staff; please take a look at the introduction of staff members responsible for *connecting you with technology*. The merger of LEECA and LNOCA will result in establishing the premier technology services provider in Northeast Ohio.

Our merger has benefited from the advice and direction of the Joint Consolidation Committee. This committee has been involved since the first discussions as we looked for ways to increase our capacity to provide services and reduce operating costs. Committee members from LEECA and NCC are:

Dr. Todd Hoadley, Superintendent, Olmsted Falls City Schools
 Mr. Clinton Keener, Superintendent, Bay Village City Schools
 Dr. Robert Mengerink, Superintendent, Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County
 Dr. Thomas Rockwell, Superintendent, Lorain County Educational Service Center
 Mr. Biagio Sidoti, Treasurer, North Ridgeville City Schools
 Mr. Allen Sluka, Treasurer, Garfield Heights City Schools
 Dr. Nancy Wingenbach, Superintendent, Orange City Schools
 Dr. William Zelei, Former Superintendent, South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools

Our combined staff has been working to consolidate separate networks and multiple systems within the two organizations. Currently the two facilities are connected via dedicated link utilizing capacity on the state network. No additional costs have been incurred establishing this link. We have secured the www.NCCOhio.org website address. In addition, a shared e-mail server has been configured and new e-mail address, with the nccohio.org address will be issued to all staff. The two telephone systems will be replaced utilizing a single shared solution that will also have the capacity to allow North Coast Council to provide Voice over IP (VoIP) telephone services. There is more information about the telephone upgrade in this issue.

I am thankful for the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in allowing North Coast Council to become a reality.

Staff Introductions

Executive Director

John is a graduate of Lakewood High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems from Baldwin-Wallace College. He has worked in a variety of organizations including LNOCA (in 1985), Vipont Pharmaceutical as a Programmer/Analyst, Ameritrust/Society Bank as Manager of Technical Support for the Multi-Technology Area, and as Director of Management Information Systems for the Ohio Turnpike Commission.

Director of Service Operations

Keith DeLury obtained his Bachelor of Science in Computer and Information Science from Cleveland State University. During Keith's career at LNOCA/NCC he has worked as a Fiscal Service Liaison, Lead Support Specialist, Application Systems, and Assistant Director prior to his current position as Director of Service Operations.

Director of Technical Support

Lloyd Wright has worked in the technology industry for over twenty-eight years. Approximately twenty-one of these years he has worked with LEECA area schools in varying capacities; five years as a networking vendor, three years as a customer at the Medina ESC, and thirteen years in LEECA management. Lloyd is originally from the Grafton area, has been married twenty-eight years, and has two children. In his spare time Lloyd enjoys classic cars and spending time with family and friends.

Support Staff

Sharon Koski has been working at LNOCA for ten years after spending nine years in a school district. As the administrative assistant, Sharon processes purchase orders, send out invoices, and assists with the service agreements along with providing support to all of the East Office departments. These duties have allowed her to get to know and talk with many great people from the East school districts and schools. On a personal note, Sharon has two adult children, a son and a daughter. Sharon also has an Associate of Applied Business degree from Cuyahoga Community College.

Linda Moore, Administrative Assistant, has been at NCC/West Office for 17 years. She has worked in the school environment for about 20 years. Prior to working at LEECA, Linda worked for Tappan Air Conditioning for 10 years. Linda is married and has 2 children.

Jackie Stillwagon has been at LEECA for 10 years as the LEECA/NCC secretary. Prior to LEECA/NCC she worked as a Administrative Assistant for a Real Estate Appraisal office. She attended Lorain County Community College for 2 years. She enjoys working with the various departments at NCC. She also teaches aerobics part time and enjoy outdoor activities.

Media Team

Marie Alford joined the LEECA staff in 1994-1995 school year to implement the INFOhio project and internet access for teachers. She taught Home Economics for two years and was high school librarian for 16 years during which time she completed her Masters in Library Science. She enjoys spending time with her two grown daughters, traveling and sewing.

Linda Ehrnschwender is originally from western NY. She received her BS in Special Education at SUNY Geneseo. She earned a Masters in Education / Reading Specialist at Elmira College. She taught for 20 years in a variety of schools in New York, Michigan and Ohio. In 1997 she joined the LEECA staff as Media Services Liaison, working with school libraries. She is active with INFOhio, currently serving as chair of the Documentation Committee and as an ICoach. She also works part time at Ritter Public Library in Vermilion. Linda has two grown children, a daughter in the Air Force currently serving in Afghanistan, and a son who is a website designer in Columbus. They each blessed her with a grandson!

Noreen Lehmann served in LNOCA's Library Systems for 12 years and is excited to be building new customer relationships with the recently united North Coast Council. Having started as the department's secretary, she was promoted to a Support Specialist position in 2003 and is proud to be part of an INFOhio support team that received the 2010 Spence White Award for exemplary service. Noreen also provides assistance to schools utilizing various professional development and HR software packages and considers it her professional objective to support and guide NCC customers in achieving their own goals. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Akron with a BA in English in 1995. Noreen may be contacted via email: Noreen.Lehmann@lnoca.org or phone: 216.520.6900 x273.

Staff Introductions (cont'd.)

Media Team (cont'd.)

Greg Perciak obtained a BA degree from Franciscan University and a MA degree in Political Science from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. After six years with the Army, he lived and worked in Chicago for 12 years. In 1996, he returned to graduate school at Indiana University in Bloomington for a Masters degree in Library and Information Science. His first job as a librarian was at Texas A&M-Commerce. He returned home to the Cleveland area in 1999 and took a job as a medical librarian at Mercy Regional Medical Center (Community Health Partners) in Lorain. In 2000, he joined NCC-LNOCA where he works as a Library Systems Support Specialist.

Lori Slingerland has been with NCC for 11 years. She is a graduate of Hiram College, with a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities/Fine Arts and earned her Masters in Library Science from Kent State University. Her employment experience includes the position of Children's/Young Adult Librarian at the Streetsboro branch of the Portage County District Library, the High School Librarian at Crestwood High School, and a part-time evening reference librarian at the Hiram College Library. She is currently a Library Systems Support Specialist at LNOCA/NCC East and living in Aurora with her husband, Dixon.

Financial Team

Deb Carroll has worked in the ITC world since 1994 with the exception of the last 2 ½ years when she was the Assistant Treasurer for Cloverleaf Local Schools. Deb has an accounting degree and has been an auditor, county Finance Director, Manager of Accounts Payable for a manufacturing/distributing company and an Accounts Receivable Clerk for a group of funeral homes over the course of her employment. She lives in Wooster with her husband Jack. She has 2 adult children, Matthew, living in Georgia and Stefanie who is an Athletic Trainer at Magnificat HS in Rocky River.

Connie Enders began her Ohio school district career in 1991 as an accounting assistant in a small rural school district in Sandusky County,. After four years, she began a payroll position with Penta County Career Center where she stayed until 1998. During this time, she completed the necessary requirements to acquire her treasurers license. Connie went on to serve as the temporary treasurer at Huron County ESC until their merger with Erie-Ottawa ESC in 1999. She then served as treasurer at Upper Sandusky EVSD for two years and also with Elmwood SD prior to moving to Washington state in 2002. In 2008, Connie became a Fiscal Support Specialist at LNOCA.

Joe Kay began his school district career began in 1991 in the Treasurer's office of Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. At CVCC, he supervised receipting, assisted in balancing the books, did the grant accounting, supervised evening adult education, and food service. From 1995 through 2000, Joe served as Treasurer of the Twinsburg City Schools. During his tenure at Twinsburg, they passed a levy for and built a new high school/City Recreation center and served as fiscal agent for the whole project. After leaving Twinsburg, Joe served as EMIS Coordinator for the North Royalton City Schools. Joe is currently serving as support Specialist, Fiscal Systems for LNOCA/NCC and is happy to assist districts in both fiscal and staff EMIS situations.

Diane Quester joined the LEECA staff in 2001 in the Fiscal Services Department with 23 years of previous school experience. Her career began in 1978 with the Elyria City Schools in the Assistant Superintendent's office, several years later transferring to the financial office. In 1995 I accepted a position in the Treasurer's office of Olmsted Falls City Schools where I remained until accepting the position at LEECA in 2001.

Student Team

Marilyn Deyling has been at LNOCA 21 years: first starting in Fiscal, then EMIS, and now Student Services. She is married and between her and her husband they have five children and eight grandchildren.

Cathy Glatz works as the EMIS Liaison at NCC West. She came to NCC West in 2001. She earned her Masters Certified EMIS Professional designation in 2004 and was awarded the EMIS Professional of the Year in 2008. Cathy & her husband, Bob have two children and three grandchildren.

Christina Hershberger, Educational Liaison, has been in this position since Feb. 4th 2008 (3yrs. 10 months). She has been married to her wonderful husband Daniel for 22 years. They have two beautiful children-Joshua 21 and Mickayla 20. Christina is an active participant in many sports that include: softball, volleyball, walleyball, bowling and golf. She also enjoys keeping fit through physical activity and loves to relax on cold evenings by curling up with a good book.

Staff Introductions (cont'd.)

Student Team (cont'd.)

Jim Holesovsky has been here at LNOCA for 17 years in the student services/emis department. He is married and has 2 kids.

Mike Kiraly has worked at LEECA/NCC for over six years as a Student Services Liaison. Prior to LEECA, he spent a year and a half as a professional development team member at an ITC in central Ohio. Mike's background is in publishing, software design and programming. He graduated from Case Western Reserve University with a degree in psychology, and later attended Cleveland State University for coursework in Computer and Information Science. Mike hopes to go back to school for one term and earn his second degree. Mike lives in Strongsville with his daughter, Kaitlin.

Terri Roule has worked in the Student Services Department at LEECA since February, 2000. Prior to LEECA, Terri worked for Lorain City Schools for 14 years, plus several other private industry employers such as Nordson Corporation, Lithonia Downlighting and Reott Builders, Rieth Insurance Agency, Central Trust Bank and Hardees. Terri has 3 children: Monica, 26; Sally, 20; Ricky 18. She started a part-time career in real estate in June, 2009 – which has been slow, but fun. Terri has been involved in the Lorain Public Library Adult Literacy program as a tutor, and works with the Lorain St. Joe's Homeless Shelter.

Matt Zenobi has worked at LNOCA for 5 years and is a support analyst working primarily with student systems. Matt earned his degree in information systems from Mount Union College in 2006.

Technical Team

Jonathon Axe joined LEECA in March, 2008 as a network analyst and has worked in the computer network field for 10 years. He has prior network experience with various schools and with an Internet Service Provider. Jonathon is a 2003 graduate of Rhodes State College located in Lima Ohio where he earned an Associate's Degree in Computer Science. Some of his specialties at NCC includes purchasing, network design, network implementation, and advanced network troubleshooting.

Ricky Bouyer is one of the Network Support Specialists at the east office, with the responsibility of maintaining and supporting the computer network, the systems and supporting the users it serves. He has been with LNOCA/NCC for 4 years now; Prior to joining LNOCA he was an intern in the technology department at one of LNOCA's member districts. Ricky loves listening to all types of music as well as watching movies.

Ken Davis, Systems Analyst/Fiscal Support, has been at LEECA/NCC West Office for 30 years. Ken is married to Diane an aide at Firelands Elementary. He has 2 children, Kassie a teacher at Firelands Elementary and Donald a marketing analyst at Invacare Corp. Ken has seen LEECA grow from providing only fiscal services to the many services provided today.

Steven Foster has worked at LNOCA for five years. His interests include software development, often submitting source code to various open source software projects.

Jim Hamelic lives in Medina County with his wife Diane of 7 years. He has been with LEECA for 4 years, Prior to working at LEECA he worked at Wadsworth City Schools as a Network Engineer, before that he worked for the Medina County Educational Service Center, working with nearly all the school districts in that county. Jim has been working with local area schools for 14 years.

Jeff Opincar has been at LNOCA now NCC-East Office for 14 years. He has worked in the technology industry for a total of 28 years.

Jeff Rakar joined LEECA in November, 1996 as a Network Engineer and currently holds a Cisco Certified Security Professional or CCSP. He has been in the network field for over 15 years. Prior to coming to LEECA, he was lead Telephone Technician at McDonald & Company Investments Cleveland, office for over 7 years. His 3 girls keep his wife Amy and himself busy playing softball and soccer.

Bonnie Ripley has been a LEECA/NCC employee for 12+ years. She is an Oracle DBA / System Analyst. Bonnie is married and has twin sons, She loves shopping and travel.

Curt Vigg is in the Applications Specialist/Systems Department and has been with LNOCA/NCC for 14 years. He holds a B.S. in physics with concentration in computers from Kent State University. Curt was born in Avon, Ohio and resides in Brunswick with his wife. In his spare time Curt enjoys playing music and singing with his band, Ragged Glory.

Financial Team News!

December is a busy time for financial users as they prepare for the New Year. The Fiscal Team at NCC (East and West) of Diane Quester, Connie Enders, Joe Kay and Deb Carroll are geared up and ready to assist all of our Districts.

Calendar Year End Meeting Schedule:

LNOCA/NCC East CYE Meetings:

Thursday, December 1st – Payroll Year End Review

9:00 am – 11:00 am Valley View Office

Tuesday, December 13th – Financial Year End Review

9:00 am – 11:00 am Valley View Office

LEECA/NCC West CYE Meeting:

Thursday, December 8th Payroll and Financial Year End Review

8:30 am – 9:00 Breakfast Buffet

9:00 am - 11:30 am Payroll and Financial Year End Review

CYE help sessions have been scheduled for districts who may need assistance with closing out the calendar year on the following dates in the LEECA/NCC lab. Additional information to schedule a session will be covered at the CYE Meeting.

Wednesday, December 21st

Tuesday, December 27th

Tuesday, January 3rd



DID YOU KNOW: The Financial Services Department assists districts with W2 and 1099 preparations. Our department prints over 31,000 w2's and 1099's each year for member districts.

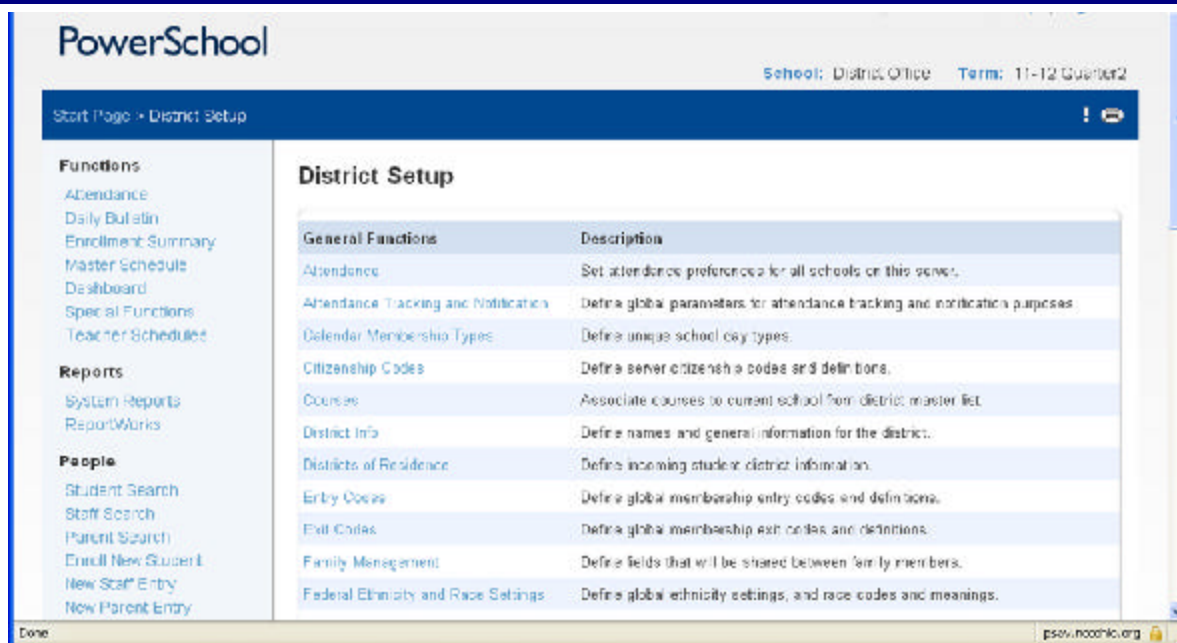
HR Kiosk will display W2's



NCC Phone System Upgrade

The phone systems servicing the two NCC offices will be upgraded this winter to an integrated Cisco Voice-over-IP system (VoIP). While both NCC offices currently utilize VoIP systems the new integrated system will provide our customers with easier access to staff at both facilities. The new system will also allow NCC to provide hosted VoIP and voicemail services for our customers. Districts interested in this new service may contact Lloyd Wright, wright@leeca.org, for more information.

Pearson PowerSchool Project



The Pearson PowerSchool project is underway and moving full steam ahead!

Each district had a Pearson database created for them in early November. Shared codes, such as EMIS-related codes, were auto-loaded into their database.

District Project Managers have begun the required setup of their District and Building(s). This setup work is expected to last through December. Project Managers are encouraged to schedule time with a Student Services staff member to assist them with their setup.

Data conversion (from eSIS to PowerSchool) will begin as districts complete portions of their setup requirements. Data will be converted into the 2011-12 PowerSchool school year. Buildings will copy targeted data to their 2012-13 PowerSchool school year, similar to our eSIS Pre-Scheduling steps. Schedulers then can begin entering course requests and adjusting their master schedule.

Scheduling training, using an existing Pearson training database, will begin the week of January 23, 2012. Each district has received their training schedule which contains dates and times and # of participants per module. The initial training schedule includes: scheduling, registration/withdraw, fees, reports & more.

After completion of training, scheduling and pre-registration of new students for the 2012-13 school year will be done in PowerSchool.

DASL and ProgressBook Updates!

DASL Update

DASL is now updated to version 12.1.1.3163. **The highlight of the fall release is districts can now transfer students from one DASL district to another DASL district in the State of Ohio.** Also, the new EMIS requirements of Admitted from IRN and Withdrawn to IRN have been added to the Student Profile. DASL EMIS data transfers t Collector. Credit Flex Option has now been added to Courses and Course History.

Reminder to schools: Prior to scheduling for 2012-2013, a school calendar needs to be entered into DASL and School Year Initialization needs to be run for 2012-2013. Please call or make an appointment with the Student Services Department.

Please visit <http://www.inoca.org/departments/student/meetings.aspx> for a list of upcoming meetings and trainings. Contact student-support@inoca.org.

ProgressBook Update

ProgressBook version 12.1.0.1250 has been released. The highlight of the fall release is being able to use split marks for those teachers that use the grading scale of custom setup 2. This new feature allows teachers to be able to divide a single assignment into multiple assessments with different point values for a true standards-based assignment to tie back to the school standards-based report card.

Media

Textbook Management

Is your district at risk of losing 5-10% or more of your textbook inventory each year?*

Is managing textbooks a dreaded task at your school?

Do you wish there were an affordable system already in place that could handle your textbook management?

Textbook management via Sirsi's library automation system could be the solution.

The numbers:

Average number of textbooks used per student: 6

Average textbook cost: \$60.00...that's \$360 per student

For every 1,000 students, that amounts to a net loss of \$18,000-\$36,000 per year

Why manage textbooks via an automated system?

Hold students accountable

Increase textbook recovery

Reduce the amount of time it takes to check-in/check-out textbooks

Facilitate the transfer of surplus textbooks across the district

"Shaker Heights has used Sirsi Workflows for textbook distribution for a number of years at our High School and began using it at our Middle School this fall. We are able to use this sophisticated software package for a nominal fee, since we use it in our libraries. Our library staff was instrumental in setting up the records, and their expertise in the use of Sirsi meant we had built-in trainers for other staff members using the system. The record-keeping we can do with Sirsi helps us monitor what's out to students with greater accuracy. It gives us an electronic trail, if you will, that helps in reordering textbooks and providing information to our families." ~ Kathy Fredrick, Director of Library & Technology Services

Why choose INFOhio/Sirsi?

If your school is already using Sirsi for library books...why not extend that to textbooks and eliminate the cumbersome and time-intensive paper/manual system?

Sirsi's StaffWeb interface is available from any internet browser, allowing for speedy check-in/check-out from any computer with internet access (classroom, gym, cafeteria, etc.).

NCC will enter patron records from your library database into your textbook database; homeroom/teacher information in the patron record allows for efficient distribution of notices to students and/or lists to teachers containing detailed checkout information.

The reporting module allows you to create student bills, manage inventory, and identify lost/damaged books requiring replacement.

"Berea City Schools implemented using Sirsi Workflows to inventory their textbooks recently, but it has proved to be an efficient way to track textbooks. Since implementing this system, we have added over 10,000 textbook items to our database. Our teachers check in/out all their own textbooks using Sirsi's StaffWeb and barcode scanners. Library staff in our secondary buildings are in charge of processing and managing math and social studies textbooks within their building. Upon their arrival, books are stamped, records added to the database, items barcoded, and added to the records. Last summer, the library staff managed to process over 6,000 social studies textbooks at our 4 secondary buildings in a single week. This included distributing them to both teachers and students. Extra textbooks are housed in the library for students to check out when they need one to take home and use. Sirsi Workflows has streamlined the process of processing new textbook purchases and created an efficient, organized system for managing textbooks. In the future, all textbooks will be added to the system upon adoption." ~ Gayle Schmuhl, District Library Chair & Library Media Specialist

Losing textbooks means losing dollars. Contact NCC's Library/Media Services for information on how to help you make the most out of your textbook dollars. Email: LNOCA_SUPPORT@LNOCA.ORG | Phone: 216.520.6900 x252.

*Rokusek, Don. (2008). "Ending the Headaches of Textbook Management", School Business Affairs, Vol. 74, Number 5, May 2008, pages 5-11.

NCC Technology Committee

NCC held its first joint technology meeting on December 14th at the North Olmsted Public Library. Due to the large amount of interest in wireless networking within our districts, we invited three top wireless manufacturers to provide presentations. There were 35 representatives in attendance at this joint meeting.

ODE ADOPTS NEW DATA SUBMISSION METHOD

Ohio is the largest state by far to adopt the new data submission facility utilizing the SIF method called the Data Collector, according to David Ehle at ODE. It is a product of ODE/Pearson and will provide many benefits over the previous method. Districts will be able to submit and get feedback on their data on a daily basis which should result in faster data correction and less stress as data deadlines approach. In addition, districts will be able to submit data directly from their desktops rather than request and wait for NCC staff to load their data for them. Treasurers and Assistant Treasurers were the first to load data using the most recent version of the Data Collector when they submitted their five year forecasts during October. NCC staff held training sessions, distributed instructions and walked users through the process. All forecasts were loaded on time using the new method. Currently, EMIS Coordinators are using the Data Collector to submit their October (K) data. Most recently, NCC staff has been holding open labs where district staff can bring their work to our offices. Districts can then take advantage of the NCC staff's knowledge and receive immediate answers to questions while they work on their own data. NCC staff will continue to provide timely trainings during the development and refinement of the Data Collector. We look forward to working with you through trainings and open work sessions to make sure your districts are current and comfortable in their data submissions for ODE.

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