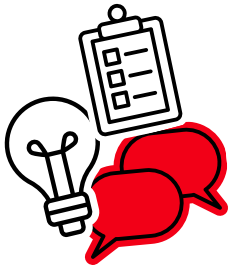
Early Childhood Newsletter

First Network Meeting

Preschool Administrator Network

📅 Wednesday, October 14, 2026

🕘 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM (Virtual)



KinderConnect Guidance

Following a recent DCY-hosted Kinder Connect webinar, we have compiled key information, answers to frequently asked questions, and helpful resources for programs serving children through the Ohio Preschool Promise (OPP).

Learn More

KinderConnect Info

Help Desk: 833-866-1708 or supportOH@kindersystems.com

Partnering for Curriculum Implementation

Did you know? SST 14 has expanded support for preschool curriculum, HQIM, literacy, mathematics, and developmentally appropriate practices. Partner with us for consultation, learning walks, coaching for fidelity, co-planning, data conversations, resource reviews, and modeling.

Assessment Requirements

Programs receiving Ohio Preschool Program (OPP) or Preschool Special Education (PSE) funding are required to complete and report child-level assessments in the fall and spring for each funded child. Programs may choose either the Early Learning Assessment (ELA) or Teaching Strategies GOLD to meet this requirement.

Early Learning Assessment

The DCY Early Learning Assessment (ELA) Essentials 2026 training is now available as a three-hour, self-paced online course. Access the training through the Ohio Professional Registry (OCCRRA) by searching DCY Early Learning Assessment (ELA) Essentials 2026 or ST10164737.

For questions, contact ELAHelp@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov.

Telephone Support

844-K12-OHIO [844-512-6446]

M-F 8:30am – 3:30pm

Teaching Strategies Gold

GOLD Training Available in The HUB

- Log in to your HUB account.
- Click on the Develop tab on the left.
- Scroll down until you see the Teaching Strategies Course Icon
- Click on the GOLD Icon
- Find the Getting Started with GOLD course.
- Click View Details
- Then Click Select
- YES
- Take the course

Telephone Support

866-736-5913

M-F 7:00am – 9:00pm

Assessment Windows

Fall Testing Window

August 15 thru Nov. 14

Spring Testing Window

Feb. 15 thru May 14

Earn a CDA at No Cost

Are you a teacher or paraprofessional interested in advancing your early childhood credentials? Through Ohio's CCR&Rs and Teaching Strategies, eligible participants can receive no-cost training and support to earn their Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential — which may also provide a pathway toward college credit.

Learn More

Early Literacy Resources

The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center offers a variety of early childhood resources to support families and educators in promoting children's learning and development. Explore resources focused on learning at home, developmental milestones, early literacy, and building strong partnerships between families and schools.

OSU Early Literacy Resources

Partner With Us

Alexis Kirk
Early Childhood Specialist
HQIM Literacy & Math
Step Up to Quality

Staci Hamilton
Early Childhood Specialist
Preschool Special Education

State Support Team 14

www.sst14.org