

21st CCLC Communiqué

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A Message from the Director

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is pleased to announce three new staff appointments to support the work of Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC). Krista Allison, our new Associate Director, administers our Supportive Learning Environments Division by providing executive oversight to the 21st CCLC, Safe and Drug Free Schools, and School Climate programs. Ms. Allison brings the department a vast wealth of experience and knowledge in educational programs within the state, county, and local government.

In addition to Ms. Allison, the office also welcomes Eva Szabo as the 21st CCLC Grants Administrator. Ms. Szabo joins the office on November 26th where she will utilize her extensive educational programs and grant administration expertise to build our 21st CCLC infrastructure in the areas of strategic planning, compliance, and evaluation. Finally, Cheryl Kish will be serving as our 21st CCLC Program Grants Coordinator. Ms. Kish brings to the program her educational knowledge of supportive learning environments and extended day learning under 21st CCLC program guidelines. Together, Ms. Szabo and Ms. Kish will provide valuable resources and assistance to our 21st CCLC grantees.

To support the work of ODE 21st CCLC staff, ODE has also partnered with the Ohio State University (OSU) to provide the *21st CCLC Tools for Success* conference series during the 2007-2008 grant year. The first conference within this series will be held on December 13, 2007. This conference is mandatory for all grantees and will cover the Profile and Performance Information Collection System (PPICS), Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR), and Sub-Recipient Monitoring expectations of 21st CCLC. For more information on this conference and other professional development opportunities within this series, please see the following pages.

I would like to thank all of the 21st CCLC grantees for their continued efforts and support for our programs and look to highlighting continued success on our current and future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Barnhouse".

Todd Barnhouse, PMP
Director
Office for Safety, Health & Nutrition
Center for Students, Families & Communities

Upcoming Conferences

- 12/03 PPICs/O-QAR/ Compliance
- 01/22 O-QAR Follow Up
- 02/26 Sustainability & Partnerships
- 03/10 Staffing & Project Management
- 04/22 Parent/Family Engagement
- 05/20 Learning Supports

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2007-2008 21st CCLC Professional Development Conferences

ODE, in partnership with OSU's College of Social Work, is proud to offer a variety of 21st CCLC professional development opportunities for the 2007-2008 school year. These conferences are intended to help site coordinators and other site staff improve their 21st CCLC. The following conferences have been scheduled.

These day-long conferences will be held at OSU's Longaberger Alumni House located in Columbus, Ohio. For more information or to register for an upcoming conference, please contact Megan Lehnert at (614) 292-6934 or lehnert.12@osu.edu.

In addition to these four conferences, two mandatory conferences will be held in relation to the newly developed Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR). More information related to these conferences is located on the following page.

Sustainability & Partnerships—Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Sustainability and partnerships are key in guaranteeing the continued existence of the 21st CCLC. The Sustainability & Partnerships conference will include strategies intended to maximize resources and diversify funding streams in support of long-term financial stability that allows for maximum center outcomes. Strategies that support long-term success and aims toward future sustainability will be discussed. Please note that new ideas will be covered that build from past 21st CCLC sustainability trainings.

Staffing & Project Management—Monday, March 10, 2008

Effective staffing and project management produce high-quality, competent staff members that encourage stakeholders to embrace the vision of the 21st CCLC. The Staffing & Project Management conference will encourage the utilization of mentoring/coaching, career advancement, and professional development opportunities to ensure that high quality staff members are recruited and retained. Presented strategies will prepare management to define, plan, and implement program components in order to ensure that 21st CCLC goals, objectives, and youth participant outcomes are achieved. Organizational structures that maximize efficiency and effectiveness will be discussed.

Parent/Family Engagement—Tuesday, April 22, 2008

The Parent/Family Engagement conference will include strategies that enhance parental/family participation in program activities through strong relationships and positive communications between parents/family and 21st CCLC staff. 21st CCLCs attending this conference are encouraged to bring a parent leader from their site with them to begin developing joint leadership. This conference will specifically address techniques that elicit high quality educational experiences for parents/guardians, foster mutual support between parents/guardians, and explore strategies for gaining input from parents/guardians in decision-making.

Learning Supports—Tuesday, May 20, 2008

The Comprehensive System of Learning Support Guidelines, formally adopted by the State School Board in 2007, address the needs of all students in the belief that every child has the right to an education that meets his/her academic needs. The Learning Supports training will provide an overview of the aforementioned guidelines and their implications for 21st CCLCs. Exemplary sites will also share their stories, allowing for others to glean key insights that may have implications for their own schools and communities.

Introduction to the Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR)

The 21st CCLC Ohio-Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR) was created in an effort to build capacity among 21st CCLCs across the state of Ohio. This self-evaluation rubric is the result of collaboration between the ODE and the College of Social Work at OSU. O-QAR and its accompanying workbook are intended to be utilized by 21st CCLC grantees to monitor program quality and create a strategic plan for improvement.

The O-QAR, comprised of three main parts, may be used to evaluate site compliance, implementation quality, and stakeholder perceptions of outcomes. More specifically, O-QAR Part I helps 21st CCLCs assess the extent to which they are in *compliance* with state and federal regulations. It is com-

prised of 7 key parts, including sections reflecting the areas of programming; human resources; management; documentation, accountability; fiscal; and licensing. Part II helps sites assess the *quality* of implementation across various programming and oversight areas within the 21st CCLC. It assesses 13 aspects, including the areas of youth development; academic learning; parent/family engagement; safety, health, & nutrition; facilities, space, and equipment; leadership; staffing; diversity; climate; connections with others; evaluation; marketing & public relations; and sustainability. Finally, Part III assists 21st CCLCs in determining the perceptions of how well the 21st CCLC is getting to good *outcomes*. It assesses stakeholder perceptions related to three out-

come areas that 21stCCLCs are designed to impact. These areas include outcomes related to youth development, academic learning, and parent/family engagement.

The O-QAR Workbook was created to assist 21st CCLC grantees with data collection and analysis. This workbook provides step-by-step instructions and tools to use when assessing your 21st CCLC with O-QAR. All 21st CCLC grantees will be given a copy of the O-QAR and the accompanying Workbook at a **mandatory** training related to 21st CCLC accountability. More information related to this two-part training session related to O-QAR is located below.

Professional Development Opportunities Related to the O-QAR

Accountability and evaluation are crucial components to the ongoing continuous improvement of Ohio's 21st CCLCs. In order to assist grantees in meeting grant accountabilities, ODE and its partners will offer the following mandatory training for all grantees. (To register see the following page.)

Evaluation and Accountability within your 21st CCLC: PPICs/O-QAR/Compliance—Thursday, December 13, 2007

21st CCLCs' compliance with guidelines put forth by ODE ensure a safe and healthy environment is in place for youth participants and staff. ODE will com-

municate its expectations related to specific 21st CCLC grant accountabilities in this session (fiscal, licensing, etc). Another session will focus on using the PPICS reporting system, another task required of 21st CCLC grantees. In addition, a final session will give center leaders the tools to comprehensively assess their 21st CCLC through the use of the O-QAR. Discussion will center on appropriate methods for collecting data using the O-QAR and preparing for data analysis and continuous improvement. (Registration information on next page).

O-QAR Follow-Up: Using the O-QAR for Strategic Planning—Wednesday, January 22, 2008

Although attendance at this training is not required by ODE, the O-QAR Follow-Up training will build from the PPICs/O-QAR/Compliance training held in December.

21st CCLC grantees will bring their O-QAR findings to the training so that they may receive on-site technical assistance and support related to using the data to guide 21st CCLC improvements. Time will be allocated for grantees to develop and write a formal improvement plan that they may use in the future to guide next steps. 21st CCLC are encouraged to bring teams of people representing multiple stakeholders to this session.



Registering for Evaluation and Accountability within your 21st CCLC: PPICs/O-QAR/Compliance

21st CCLC Grantees must register in STARS for the mandatory *Evaluation and Accountability within your 21st CCLC: PPICs/O-QAR/Compliance Conference* held on December 13, 2007 as part of the "21st Century- Tools for Success Series". To register through STARS go to: <http://webapp2.ode.state.oh.us/stars/>

1. Select the blue Login button
2. Enter your State ID # (Two Letters and seven numbers, no dashes or spaces), birth date, and last four of your SSAN
3. Register for the Event
4. *Should you experience difficulty registering in STARS, please contact Deborah Blunt at Deborah.Blunt@ode.state.oh.us.*

Contacting ODE & OSU

ODE and OSU can be reached in relation to your 21st CCLC at:

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