



CAYCI–Dublin City Schools Partnership

End-of-Year Summary | 2025–2026

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Partnership Overview

Since 2021, the partnership between Dublin City Schools and The Ohio State University Community and Youth Collaborative Institute (CAYCI) has continued to strengthen the district’s commitment to developing high-quality school social work professionals while expanding student support services. This collaboration provides graduate-level social work interns with hands-on, supervised experience in a K–12 setting—simultaneously expanding student access to support services and addressing workforce shortages by cultivating a pipeline of school-based professionals who are ready to interview and step into MHS roles.

Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, the partnership remained focused on core priorities:

- Supporting student well-being through expanded access to services
- Strengthening professional learning through structured supervision, mentorship, and research

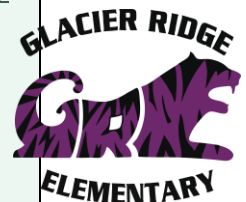
Intern Highlights

Since its launch, the partnership has engaged seven MSW field placement interns and 25 Cadre members—representing two distinct pathways—who have collectively supported a wide range of initiatives and served students and families across the district. In 2025–2026, three school social work interns continued that work, serving students and staff across multiple buildings. Below are highlights of their activities, services, and impact in the district:

Taylor Potts · Glacier Ridge Elementary School ✓ **Graduated May 2026**

Taylor provided direct student support through individual and small group sessions, with a focus on emotional regulation and peer relationships. She supported classroom-based social-emotional learning and collaborated closely with staff to identify and respond to student needs. Taylor successfully completed her placement and graduated in May 2026. Note: Taylor assumed the role of a full-time Mental Health Specialist while her building lead was on maternity leave.

“The highlight of my field experience was having the opportunity to work independently at Glacier Ridge. I was able to maintain a caseload of students and practice my clinical skills on my own. I built strong, positive relationships with students, helped them set goals, and watched them learn and grow throughout the school year. It was a rewarding experience that helped me build my own confidence and expand my toolbox of interventions and clinical skills.”



Reilly Taylor · Riverside Elementary School ✓ Graduated May 2026

Reilly played an integral role in strengthening Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports, assisting with classroom lessons and small group interventions. She supported building-wide initiatives centered on belonging and student engagement, and completed her placement, graduating in May 2026.

“My internship at Dublin City Schools gave me the opportunity to work directly with elementary students while also learning how many different people play a role in supporting student success. One of the most meaningful parts of the experience was building relationships with students and learning from the many different cultures, backgrounds, and experiences represented within the school community. Experiences like that reminded me how impactful consistent support and connection can be, and they helped me grow both personally and professionally as a future school social worker.”



Sidney Apel · Eversole Middle School ♻️ Returning for MSW II — 2026–2027

Sidney supported students navigating academic transitions, peer dynamics, and emotional challenges through individual and group-based interventions. She partnered with staff to reinforce student success strategies and will return for her MSW II placement during the 2026–2027 school year.



Camryn Smith · Davis Middle School ★ Incoming — 2026–2027

Camryn will join the CAYCI–Dublin intern cohort for the 2026–2027 school year, further expanding the partnership’s reach at the middle school level and continuing the program’s growth across Dublin City Schools.



Cadre Support & Ongoing Professional Development

The Grow Your Own: Dublin Teacher Cadre Program launched in 2021 and culminated with the graduation of 25 students with their MSW and School Social Work Certificate. Having successfully completed its training pipeline, cadre members are now serving as full-time mental health specialists embedded across Dublin City Schools buildings. The focus of the partnership has evolved accordingly—shifting from initial preparation to sustained professional support for those placed as they navigate the demands of full-time school-based mental health practices.

CAYCI continues to provide ongoing supervision and consultation to cadre members, reinforcing a long-term commitment to practitioner well-being, professional growth, and high-quality student services across the district.

Ongoing support for cadre (and any interested returning MHS) members this year included:

- ★ Individual and small group supervision to support complex casework and professional decision-making; including best practices grounded in research
- ★ Case consultation addressing challenging student situations, family dynamics, and risk assessment
- ★ Programming consultation to support the development and refinement of school-based mental health initiatives
- ★ Self-care and burnout prevention—intentional focus on sustainable practice and practitioner wellness

Research & Continuous Improvement

Beyond implementation, the cadre model continues to serve as a critical access point for ongoing research contributing to the broader field of school social work workforce development:

- A second research article examining the cadre (Grow Your Own) model is expected to be completed in Fall 2026
- Additional data analysis is underway from the most recent survey administration, with findings anticipated to further inform program design and impact

District-Wide Support Initiatives

In addition to direct student services and supervision structures, the partnership supported several broader district priorities:

Initiative	Intern Contribution
Tiered Student Supports	Extended Tier 1, 2, and 3 supports across buildings, strengthening proactive and responsive intervention capacity
Expanded Service Access	Increased student access to social work support, particularly for early intervention and small group work
Staff Collaboration	Partnered with teachers, administrators, and student support teams to advance a shared, interdisciplinary approach to meeting student needs
Professional Development	CAYCI is proud to support a myriad of professional development initiatives both at the building and district level (ex. LeaDublin)

Looking Ahead

The 2025–2026 school year reflects another successful chapter in the CAYCI–Dublin partnership. By investing in both future professionals and current student needs, this collaboration continues to deliver meaningful impact across the district.

Looking forward, Dublin City Schools remains committed to:

- Sustaining school social work intern placements across building levels
- Continuing strong supervision and support structures
- Leveraging research and data insights to refine program impact
- Expanding opportunities to support student wellness and success

The partnership with CAYCI remains a cornerstone of Dublin’s comprehensive approach to student support, professional learning, and applied research in school social work. For more information about this report, please contact Sean Delaney, LISW-S at delaney.63@osu.edu or visit cayci.osu.edu.