

AUGUST 2025

# MID-OHIO ESC COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## REMINDERS

- Review OEDS and Ensure Information is Correct
- Integrating Attendance into your MTSS Webinar
  - **09/08/2025**
  - **[Register](#)**
- Ohio Assessment Conference
  - **9/23/2025-9/25/2025**
  - **[Register](#)**
- Annual E-School Survey Due
  - **09/26/2025**
- 3-Year Forecasts Due
  - **10/15/2025**

**Don't Forget to Review Epicenter regularly to stay current!**

## UPCOMING MOESC PD OPPORTUNITIES

- Technology Director Network
  - **09/09/2025**
- CPI Initial Training
  - **09/09/2025**
- Testing Coordinator Network
  - **09/12/2025**
- School Counselors Network
  - **09/23/2025**

**To Register visit  
[www.moesc.net/register](http://www.moesc.net/register)**

## GENERAL UPDATES

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! Mid-Ohio ESC, as the proud sponsor of Findlay Digital Academy (FDA), GOAL Digital Academy (GDA), and the Tomorrow Center (TC), is excited to launch this combined newsletter to keep our board members and administrative teams informed about key updates and policy changes for our community schools.

We're thrilled to announce the start of the new school year for each of our schools:

- Findlay Digital Academy (FDA): August 13, 2025  
[View FDA Calendar](#)
- GOAL Digital Academy (GDA): August 19, 2025  
[View GDA Calendar](#)
- Tomorrow Center (TC): September 3, 2025  
[View TC Calendar](#)

## Dropout Prevention and Recovery School Update

Findlay Digital Academy (FDA), GOAL Digital Academy (GDA), and the Tomorrow Center (TC) continue their designations as Dropout Prevention and Recovery (DOPR) Schools for the 2025-2026 school year, pending enrollment verification by the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce (ODEW). This designation requires that a majority of students in each school (over 50%) are between the ages of 16 and 21. If this criterion is not met during the verification process, the respective school will receive a traditional report card instead of the DOPR report card.

As part of the DOPR designation, each school must administer assessments twice per year to all students in grades 9 and above, regardless of age. These assessments include the state-approved Renaissance STAR tests, conducted twice in reading and twice in mathematics, to track student progress and support their academic recovery.

## Ohio HB 96: Updates to DOPR Requirements

Recent changes under Ohio HB 96, effective for the 2025-2026 school year, refine the criteria for DOPR community schools. The new law specifies that DOPR designation applies only to schools enrolling students aged 14 to 21 who are at least one grade level behind their cohort or face crises that significantly disrupt their academic progress, preventing continuation in traditional educational programs. Previously, the DOPR law applied to schools where a majority of students were enrolled in dropout prevention and recovery programs. Schools like FDA, GDA, and TC, which qualified under the prior law but may not meet the new criteria, are permitted to operate as DOPR schools for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. However, by July 1, 2027, all three schools must fully comply with the updated requirements to maintain their DOPR designation.

We look forward to a year of collaboration, growth, and success across all our schools. Thank you for your continued dedication to our students and staff!

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## LEGAL AND POLICY

August has been a quiet month in Columbus, particularly on the political front. The General Assembly has been on summer recess, and the State Board of Education traditionally does not meet during August. However, activity will resume soon, with the Board scheduled to meet in mid-September and the General Assembly returning to Columbus on September 23. The Assembly will then convene weekly through November 19, before pausing for the Thanksgiving holiday. A tentative session is planned for December 10, if needed, followed by a break for the winter holidays until after the new year.

Each year, Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) conducts a national poll to gauge public opinions on education. The results of this year's poll, recently released, offer valuable insights into public sentiment:

1. The public generally rates their local schools highly but views the national education system less favorably.
2. There is strong public support for increasing teachers' salaries.
3. More parents would opt for private schools for their children if public funding were available.
4. Support for public funding for charter and community schools has declined over the past decade. Twelve years ago, over 60% of respondents supported such funding, but now it's just below 50%. However, support appears to be more evenly distributed across the political spectrum.

For a detailed look at the poll results, visit: <https://pdkpoll.org/2025-poll-results/>