

Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities

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April 6, 2020

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Central Ohio Office
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Mid-Ohio Latino Office
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Northeast Office
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Northern Ohio Latino Office
(216) 551-0008

Northern Statewide Preschool Parent Mentor Office
(419) 595-2248

Northwest Office
(419) 365-0335

Ohio River Valley Office
(740) 256-1851

Southern Office
(513) 752-6080

Southern Statewide Preschool Parent Mentor Office
(740) 594-9242

Southwest Office
(513) 791-4600

Southwest Latino Office
(937) 813-7392

West Central Office
(419) 999-9250

Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement
Amy Freeman,
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OCECD Governing Board and All Sponsoring Organizations,

We are all facing unprecedented changes and challenges in our personal and business lives. Projections for continued mass consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic have irreversibly affected the school community, creating doubt about when “normal” will return.

During this “anything but normal business” period, we have attempted to plan toward our traditional Horn, Walter, Burley Awards luncheon scheduled in June, 2020. With the disruption caused by closing of schools for staff and students, the uncertainty of when/if schools will reopen this spring, and the unprecedented risk presented by the pandemic that can affect individuals and large groups in potentially tragic ways, we do not believe it is prudent to continue to consider holding the Awards Banquet in 2020. Consequently, we are announcing that the Awards luncheon has been cancelled for 2020.

If you are an SST Region representative and you have either already identified your nominees for these awards or believe that you will be able to complete that process by May 15, 2020, you are invited to submit the nomination information and if possible a picture of the reward recipients. We will publish on our OCECD website all of the known award winners for 2020 along with their picture, and we will also mail the award statuette to you for distribution locally.

We ask for your understanding and endorsement for this difficult decision. It is heartbreaking to realize that staff, students and parents who have successfully achieved and inspired others will miss being recognized in person this year. At this time, we just do not know how severe the crisis will become, how long it will last, and when it will be safe to return to active social interactions with others.

Please remember to stay home, stay safe, and be well. Take all precautions as advised to keep social distance, wash hands, and monitor friends and family to assist where needed. We are in this together.

Sincerely,

Jack Brownley, President
OCECD Governing Board