



Curriculum & Gifted Professional Learning Services

The Educational Service Center of the Western Reserve is an integral part of the education system in both Geauga and Lake Counties, and the state. The ESC recognizes that the rapidly changing educational environment in Ohio demands flexibility, innovation, and dynamic leadership. The ESC of the Western Reserve meets the needs of our districts by providing quality programs, services, and learning opportunities that meet the individual and collective needs of the students in our districts.

The ESC of the Western Reserve provides leadership, consultation and support for the design, implementation, evaluation and coordination of district gifted and talented services and programs through a Gifted Coordinator. Our mission is to promote and support districts in providing a continuum of high quality services for gifted and talented students throughout their K-12 educational experience.

Professional Learning Support

Consulting and Customization:

The ESC of the Western Reserve strives to support your district's specific needs in a variety of ways. Should you need consultation support or professional development not listed, contact our team for assistance. We have several professional development topics ready and any of our programs can be customized to your unique needs and we can deliver sessions virtually or in-person to your team. For additional information contact Shannon Ranta at sranta@escwr.org or Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Instructional Coaching:

Go beyond training sessions and professional development! We provide in-class instruction and behavior management support—both virtually and in building—to new teachers, departments, or buildings. For additional information contact Shannon Ranta at sranta@escwr.org.

Genius Hour:

A process/project where students are allowed to explore their own passions and wonders; Participants will be encouraged to incorporate Genius Hour into their classroom which allows students to utilize class time each week towards inquiry-based learning. Participants will leave this session armed with classroom-ready handouts and reliable resources to help them take the jump into student-led instruction. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Thematic Instruction:

Learn to build units of instruction surrounding common themes across disciplines. Making the switch to teaching thematically can save time, improve the quality of instruction, and create a deeper understanding for students. For additional information contact Shannon Ranta at sranta@escwr.org.

The Workshop Model:

The workshop model is a classroom structure where students have the gift of time to practice new skills. It allows for direct instruction but also provides the teacher with time to assess, monitor and teach. This model would be successful in a virtual environment to minimize lecture and maximize learning for students. Participants will understand and see the practical tools to use as an effective leader of their classroom. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Differentiation:

Every student will enter the 20-21 school year in a very different place. Learn to design data-informed instruction and differentiation models pivotal to providing every learner with appropriate challenges. For additional information contact Shannon Ranta at sranta@escwr.org.

Design Thinking:

Participants will get a “taste” of the Design Thinking process which can guide you through the creation of a unit or lesson and that can lead to problem based learning that brings together academic standards, college, career and community readiness skills while solving real-world problems.

By the end of the workshop participants will have ideas that will *start* the building of a product, unit or lesson that will engage the students’ minds, hearts and passions. Design Thinking methodology will provide a solution-based approach for creative problem solving and critical thinking with a human centered core. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Curriculum Guidance:

Addressing gaps in curriculum created by the extended spring closure can seem daunting. Guidance will address identifying gaps, adjusting curriculums, and implementing new maps and pacing guides for departments, grade levels, or buildings. For additional information contact Shannon Ranta at sranta@escwr.org.

Gifted Services:

WEPS and Progress Reporting:

We provide training on Same Goal IEP anywhere for writing of WEP’s and progress reporting. Support teachers in the process of creating and writing meaningful goals for their identified students. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Identification and Assessments:

This service includes the preparation of district letters to communicate the identification and services offered in the district for identified gifted students. We will support you in the selection and ordering of gifted assessments for identification. We can go through assessment scores and develop processes for re-testing and notification to families. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Acceleration:

We will facilitate Acceleration meetings with parents and district leaders to ensure that all components are being met in accordance with Ohio’s acceleration standards and policies. We will support and advise Districts on how to develop their acceleration processes and protocols. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Gifted Professional Development:

We will develop and deliver training for gifted leaders to ensure ODE compliance and/or standards are being met. We offer a self-paced training program that is convenient for your staff this includes creating book studies to ensure your District meets ODE's required gifted hours. For additional information contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Compliance and Accountability:

We provide services to assist you in meeting Ohio's required reports and compliance. We can provide Districts with ODE gifted updates and completion of forms and reports that will keep your District compliant. Forms can include the district's plan for identification and services and the end of year self-report. For additional information regarding Gifted Services, contact Laurie Trotter at ltrotter@escwr.org.

Should you have any questions about any of our professional learning support services please reach out to either Shannon Ranta or Laurie Trotter;

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