

# Career Notes

## Job Training Program Quarterly Newsletter

*Geauga County Educational Service Center*

### Employer Spotlight: Geauga Library Administration Center

*By Joe Keys*

The Geauga County Public Library has been an important partner to the Job Training Program. Students have worked at both the Bainbridge and Middlefield branches in the past. Currently students work at the Administration Center.

The first library in the county was established in Chardon on August 26, 1848. Now there are branches in Bainbridge, Chardon, Geauga West, Middlefield Newbury and Thompson, Administrative Center and Mobile Services.

Library patrons can check out books, magazines and movies. They can also download the Libby and Hoopla apps for digital content. Patrons have checked out 2,611,350 items so far this year.

At the GCPL Administration

Center, students sort books for Inter library loan and Clevnet.

Marlene Pelyhes, Technical Services Manager says, "I appreciate the GCESC students' hard work and attention to detail. They sort and pack hundreds of library items for GCPL and Clevnet patrons. The students contribute fresh ideas and enthusiasm. I look forward to seeing them and admire how much they improve throughout the year."

The students work along side Technical Services Assistant Dawn Hauser.

She says, "The GCESC students have been a valuable addition to our GCPL AC team. Their organizational skills, attention to detail, problem solving skills, and hard work

ensure that library materials get to patrons in a timely manner. Their willingness to learn and positive attitude make them a joy to work with. I am so pleased that the GCPL program has expanded to two days a week, and I look forward to watching the students' continued growth and success."

This year the library is on track to ship or receive nearly half a million items through the Clevnet system. This number does not include books borrowed within the Geauga Library Branches. Students enjoy seeing the variety of materials being shipped as they work.



Catherine Gordos sorts books

December 2019

**Career Notes** is a student created newsletter. This publication highlights employability skills developed through the Job Training Program and serves as a way for students to develop digital literacy skills.

*Career Notes Staff: Joe Keys, Stephanie Mueller, & Colin Parrish*

#### Districts Served

##### West

Kenston

Newbury

West Geauga

Chagrin Falls

##### East

Cardinal

Berkshire

Chardon

### Program Updates

*By: Stephanie Mueller*

It's the time of year to start talking about snow days. The Job Training West (Kenston, Chagrin Falls, Newbury, West Geauga) schedule follows the Kenston calendar. If Kenston has a snow day there is no job training at all for the West program. If a student's home district is closed they have a snow day and there is job training for the rest of the districts in the west.

Job Training East (Cardinal, Chardon, Berkshire) follows the Cardinal calendar. If Cardinal has a snow day then the whole East program is off. If a student's home district has a snow day then they have a snow day as well.

#### Upcoming Days Off

##### WEST PROGRAM

Dec. 23-Jan 6- Winter Break

Jan 20th MLK day

Feb 14 Teacher workday

Feb 17 President's day

March 13 Teacher work day

March 23-27 Spring Break

#### Upcoming Days Off

##### EAST PROGRAM

Dec. 20-Jan 3- Winter Break

Jan 20th MLK day

Feb 17 President's day

March 23-27 Spring Break

## Student Spotlight East

My name is Shelbey and I'm a full time student in the Geauga County ESC Job Training Program, East.

I'm currently learning employability skills at; Heather Hill Nursing home, University Hospital Geauga, and Chardon Heinen's. I look forward to working at Heinen's because I enjoy making the peanut butter and orange juice.

When I'm ready to graduate, I would really like to get a job or volunteer at University Hospital, working in the kitchen washing

and putting away dishes.

When I'm not working, I enjoy painting with water colors and coloring book activities. I also enjoy going to church and worshipping with song. At home, I enjoy helping mom with the house chores.

The Geauga County ESC Job Training Program teaches me the skills I will need to get a job in which I can earn a paycheck. I really think it's a



good program that helps students. I really enjoy looking forward to the end of the year student party at Punderson State Park. The party is held to recognize the value and

achievements that students have in today's competitive workforce.

## Student Spotlight West

Ryan is a 20 year old student from the Kenston School District. He has been in the job training program since August of 2017.

In May of 2019 Ryan socially graduated from Kenston High School and is now full time in the GCESC Job Training Program West.

Ryan has job trained at a number of settings including food service, janitorial, office, grocery, warehouse, assisted living, retail, and library.

Ryan has enjoyed working in the floral department at Heinen's, Parkside Church and Bed Bath & Beyond during his time in the Job Training Program.

Employers enjoy Ryan in their business and express he is a fast learner, respectful, has a great sense of humor, and is kind.

Ryan enjoys working and would like to one day have a full time job working in a library or in a setting where he can cultivate his love of art.

Presently, Ryan works at University Hospitals, Geauga County Library Administration Center, and Great Lakes Cheese.

For fun, Ryan enjoys watching movies of all genres, reading novels, and art. Ryan is a hard worker, enjoys staying busy, and has a great work ethic. He will be an asset to any employer he works for.



# Transition Tips- Driving

By: Colin Parrish

## Ohio's Communication Disability Law

On August 10, 2018, a new law took effect to help protect Ohioans with communication disabilities during interactions with police officers. A communication disability impairs someone's ability to receive, send, process, or comprehend concepts or verbal, nonverbal, or graphic symbol systems. A communication disability could cause misunderstandings with law enforcement officers.

Any individual with a medically diagnosed communication disability, who drives or regularly has someone with a communication disability in their vehicle, can voluntarily enroll in a database that connects to the Law Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS). The law enforcement officer can then be made aware that the driver or a person in the vehicle may have difficulty communicating and can approach the vehicle with awareness to reduce any potential misunderstandings or problems.

The verification form can be found at:

<https://ood.ohio.gov/Information/Communication-Disability-Law>

The form can be completed by either the person with the disability or their legal guardian. A license medical practitioner such as a physician, psychiatrist or psychologist must also sign the form to verify that the person has been diagnosed with a communication disability or a disability that can impair communication.

A person with a disability can list up to 9 vehicles that they may drive or be transported in on a single form.

This service is offered at no cost. Forms can be submitted by mail or



email.

In an interview with the Mansfield News Journal Lt. BJ Gruber of the Marion Police Department said,

"It's not every day officers encounter someone with communication disabilities, which makes knowledge of the condition valuable. Being in a position to receive as much information as possible always puts us at greater ease because we have a better idea of what we're dealing with,"

Gruber said. "It helps put us at ease rather than put us on high alert."

<https://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/story/news/2018/09/10/ohio-law-protect-drivers-communication-disabilities-law-enforcement-agencies-data-system/1216432002/>

## Ohio's New Driver License and Identification Card

Beginning October 1, 2020, the federal government will no longer consider standard driver licenses and identification cards as sufficient forms of identification for air travel. TSA will require a federally compliant driver license, identification card or another acceptable form of identification (such as a US passport or military ID) to fly within the U.S.

This complete information about this change in requirements can be found at <https://www.bmv.ohio.gov/newdl-id/new-card-compare.aspx>

A birth certificate, social security card, or current passport are good starting points for the documents required for the new license or state ID card. An interactive tool is available to help you determine what documents to bring

along. You can access this tool at:

<https://services.dps.ohio.gov/BMVOnlineServices/DL/AcceptableDocuments>



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## Job Training Program

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Working to improve our  
employability skills



[www.geaugaesc.org](http://www.geaugaesc.org)

### *Purpose of the Course:*

The purpose of the job training program is to provide a work environment where students can practice employability skills and learn job tasks in the community.

This elective course offers half and full day work experience for students who are ready to practice their employability skills at a community job site along side paid employees. Students who work a full day have met all academic requirements.

Students work at different job sites throughout the school year. These job sites are determined by the employers needs and the results of the student's age appropriate transition assessments.

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## Lake and Geauga County ESCs Merge

On November 7, 2019 the Geauga County Educational Service Center and the Lake County Educational Service Center Governing Boards entered into a resolution to merge the two organizations, effective January 1, 2020, creating the Educational Service Center of the Western Reserve. The Geauga and Lake ESCs began utilizing a shared service model in December 2018 for the central office staff when the Lake Governing Board entered into an agreement with the Geauga Governing Board to share their Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer Felker and with the employment of shared Treasurer Mr. L. Greg Slemmons. The Geauga Governing Board members are Mr. Ken Burnett, President, Mr. Steve Remias, Vice-President and members Mrs. Bonnie Cavanaugh, Mrs. Sally Gilmore and Mrs. Janice Koster. The Lake Governing Board members are Mr. Geoff Kent, President, Mrs. Jean Brush, Vice-President and members Mr. Kenny Cahill, Dr. Susan Culotta and Mr. Erik Walter. The ESC of the Western Re-

serve Governing Board will be comprised of a nine member board, with four members representing Geauga County and five members representing Lake County, based on the population and pursuant to R.C. 3311.053(A) and applicable laws.

The merger will bring a stronger Educational Service Center to the region to support all school districts. Mr. Burnett stated, "After many years of research and planning we have finally moved forward with the approval of a Joint Resolution for the merger of the Lake County ESC and the Geauga County ESC. Both Boards were unanimous in their support of this resolution and we look forward with great anticipation to the impact this merger will have on the educational opportunities for our students in both counties". Mr. Kent responded that "The merger of the Geauga County ESC and Lake County ESC will have an immediate and positive benefit to the students, teachers and administrators of the districts we serve.

The new ESC of the Western Reserve is a stronger organization that will be able to provide cost savings and expanded services that area school districts will realize beginning in January. This is a decisive decision for our schools and we are looking forward to positive results."

The ESC of the Western Reserve will provide various types of staff development and training, student services and programs, and assistance with staffing needs to districts across northern Ohio, as the two ESCs do today. The new ESC will also continue to be the fiscal agent for the iSTEM Geauga Early College High School, Lake Geauga Computer Association and State Support Team Region 4. All of these organizations have supported school districts in both counties for many years. We look forward to continued partnerships with districts, post-secondary schools and the business community to create a stronger Northeast Ohio.