

News



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Ohio Shared Services Collaborative to appear before Joint Education Oversight Committee

ZANESVILLE, Ohio –The Ohio Shared Services Collaborative has been invited to share the “Optimizing Transportation Efficiencies in a Cross-District Consortium” project with Ohio’s Joint Education Oversight Committee on Oct. 13.

The project emerged from a shared services concept charged with discovering opportunities to reduce costs while improving services for students and teachers. A wide variety of research and areas of exploration led the team to focus efforts on rising transportation costs – an ever-increasing budget item for rural Ohio counties.

An Ohio Department of Education Straight A Fund grant awarded in August 2014 covered the cost of the project. The grant committed to reducing transportation costs by reducing bus idling time, improving bus routes, quantifying and monitoring student ridership and sharing services across districts where practical.

The consortium currently includes 20 school districts, one Board of Developmental Disabilities, four Educational Service Centers and two Information Technology Centers. The group plans to expand to an even larger area of rural Ohio, adding 55 districts and more than 90,000 students.

The Joint Education Oversight Committee is comprised of House and Senate members and is charged with reviewing education programs, school funding and pilot programs that may suggest innovative, effective ways to deal with challenging issues. Senator Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) chairs the commission.

For more information on the project’s progress and expansion updates, visit the Ohio Shared Services Collaborative’s website – at www.OhioSSC.org.