

News



For Immediate Release

4/12/16

Amy Luby

Project Manager

Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center

740-452-4518, ext. 1151

amy.luby@mvesc.org

Ohio Shared Services Collaborative to appear before Grace Commission

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Shared Services Collaborative has been invited to share their project’s concept with Ohio’s Grace Commission on Thursday, April 21.

The project, “Optimizing Transportation Efficiencies in a Cross-District Consortium,” was born 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.

The cost of the project was covered as part of an Ohio Department of Education Straight A Fund grant awarded in August 2014. 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.

Currently 20 school districts, one Board of Developmental Disabilities, four Educational Service Centers and two Information Technology Centers are part of the consortium. The group plans to expand to an even larger area of rural Ohio, adding 55 districts and more than 90,000 students during the 2016-2017 school year.

The Grace Commission is appointed by House and Senate leadership and is charged with reviewing 2015 expenditures in order to identify ways to find cost savings through executive action or legislation, and to determine areas needing greater managerial accountability and administrative controls. The commission is co-chaired by Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) and Sen. Bill Coley (R-West Chester).

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