



OAKMONT EDUCATION

OAKMONT EDUCATION PULSE: NAVIGATING EXCELLENCE IN CREDIT RECOVERY & ADVANCEMENT

Celebrating Excellence at Oakmont Education’s Annual Directors Retreat

Oakmont Education proudly hosted its Annual Directors Retreat at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Cleveland from July 25th-26th. The event was a celebration of Oakmont’s core mission: providing opportunity youth with diverse pathways to transform their lives.

A highlight of the retreat was the presentation of performance awards, recognizing outstanding achievements across several categories. **The Award for Innovation** was given to **Kevin Fitzpatrick**, a Math Teacher at Regent High School. Nominees for this award included Stephanie DiRocco from Old Brook High School Parma Campus, Jackie Jenkins from Franklinton Prep High School, and David Williamson from Westwood.

The Award for Commitment was presented to **JaRae Robinson**, a Family Advocate at Towpath Trail High School. Other nominees in this category were Josh Colbert from Cliff Park High School, Ashley Green from Towpath Trail High School Barberton Campus, and Kelven Moss from Marshall High School Hamilton Campus.

Matt Arshinkoff, Director at Towpath Trail High School Barberton Campus, received the **Award for Authenticity**. The nominees for this award were Paige Schaefer from East Preparatory Academy, La’Brena Simmons from Franklinton Prep High School, and Jason Windon from Regent High School.

The Marty Erbaugh Driven Award went to **Nadia Dreger**, an Enrollment Specialist at Old Brook High School Parma Campus. Nominees included Brandi Crim from Marshall High School Hamilton Campus, Chelsea Ritchey from Regent High School, and Debbie Thomas from Marshall High School.

Randall Park High School was named the **Most Improved School**, with the award accepted by School Director Tara Colon. Other nominees in this category were Franklinton Prep High School, Regent High School, and Towpath Trail High School Barberton Campus.

The School of the Year award resulted in a tie between **Marshall High School’s Middletown and Hamilton Campuses**, accepted by School Directors Chuck Hall and Kelven Moss, and **Orchard Park Academy**, accepted by School Director Eamon O’Donnell. Other nominees were Old Brook High School Parma Campus and Westwood Preparatory Academy.

Oakmont Education remains dedicated to continuously improving its approach to meet the evolving needs of students and communities. Whether offering a second chance at a high school diploma, opportunities for early graduation and college advancement, or the training and credentials needed for a career, Oakmont is honored to play a crucial role in students’ journeys to brighter futures.



Oakmont Education's Summit on Literacy and Dropout Prevention Shines with Insights and Innovations

On Thursday, August 2nd, Oakmont Education and Charter School Specialists collaborated to host all of our Academic Content Teachers, Career-Technical Education Instructors, Directors, Assistant Directors, and other building staff for a deep-dive professional development on the Science of Reading.

Kareem Weaver, co-founder of FULCRUM, presented the Keynote Address, "The Critical Role of Reading in Dropout-Prevention," emphasizing the impact that illiteracy has not only on student performance in school, but on the long-term physical health of students nationwide. One metaphor he used described students who are struggling with literacy at the bottom of a well. Society throws food down the well so people don't starve, but we don't provide the ladder students need to climb out of destructive cycles. Literacy is one of the most impactful skills we can teach our students to be able to advocate for themselves, graduate, and be successful in the workplace. Dr. Dee Morgan, Keith McCarroll, John Sorvillo, Buddy Harris, and Jennifer Heyman from Charter School Specialists also led presentations and breakout sessions, as well as Kris Ropos, Emily Knight, Taylor Brown, and Russ Shuster from Oakmont Education.

During the first half of the day, presentations focused on best practices for implementing Science of Reading and Workforce Literacy practices in the content-area classrooms, with specific sessions for Math, ELA, Science & Social Studies, Career-Tech, and School Leaders. During the second half of the day, staff attended sessions on Comprehension, Motivation, Writing, and Advanced Word Study & Vocabulary. Directors then led their teams in developing Science of Reading Implementation Plans for each school, detailing how Oakmont schools will continue to improve literacy outcomes for our students and remove barriers to student success. Oakmont Education will continue to collaborate with Charter School Specialists to support our teachers and leaders in implementing these plans.

This is the link to the agenda with presenter bios, pictures, and the presentation list. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AxCsO4v3AOCEPzsqlz4pCDo_AkMWx6yT/view?usp=sharing



As we kick off a new academic year, everyone at Oakmont Education is filled with anticipation and excitement. We are proud to support our dedicated educators and staff who make a significant impact every day. Here's to a year of inspiring learning, remarkable achievements, and boundless opportunities.

We look forward to the wonderful successes our students will achieve this year!