

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION OHIO CENTRAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

Fiscal Year 2002

September 4, 2002



Annual Report

Reentry and Education Partnership

The Ohio Central School System has proudly engaged in activities and sponsored events that have incorporated the department's Reentry Philosophy. The schools have offered many activities throughout the year that have been focused on assisting offenders in successfully reentering society. The education department has assisted the offenders by conducting the resume workshop and by providing offenders the opportunity to make resumes as needed in the interim reentry plan. We have also provided our population the skills they need to be successful upon reentering society through our academic, career-technical education, apprenticeship, and advanced job training programs.

Many of our schools have facilitated and engaged in community service projects. These projects are designed to allow the offender to pay back to the community and to show the offender the needs of Ohio's neighborhoods. These activities include providing educational tools such as flashcards to local schools,

making books on tapes for those that need them, and building and repairing items for agencies that need this service.

Another contribution to the Reentry philosophy is the numerous Job and Resource Fairs that we have offered at many institutions. These fairs are intended to provide offenders with the opportunity to interview with and obtain information from employers and service organizations to assist them when they leave the institution. The agencies that have been represented at some of these events include employment agencies, Community Connections, health departments, veterans' organizations, and many other social service agencies.

As we move into fiscal year 2003, we in the Ohio Central School System look forward to continuing our reentry efforts, and to providing even more reentry initiatives for our offenders.

Annual Report Guide

Reentry Initiatives	1
FY 02 Highlights	1
CJ ABLE Programs	2
Entry Year and Other ODE initiatives	2
Looking Forward	2
OCSS Philosophy and Mission Statements	3

Special points of interest:

- In FY 2002, we trained over 5% more inmates in Service Learning than last fiscal year
- In FY 2002, the OhioReads reading rooms narrators worked over 17,000 hours helping children.

FY 02 Highlights and Facts

Throughout the fiscal year we have worked very hard to provide high quality education. The Ohio Central School System is dedicated to providing quality educational programming to the department's offender population. The numbers of people served in many of our programs are listed below:

➤ ABLE/Literacy	4,417
➤ PreGED	5,377
➤ GED	5,789
➤ Advanced Job Training	3,433
➤ High School	219
➤ Career-Technical	3,329
➤ Apprenticeship	<u>2,485</u>
Total	25,571

➤ OhioReads Children 23,615

Also we have had great success with the offenders completing our programming. The numbers of completers for fiscal year 2002 are listed below.

➤ ABLE/Literacy	989
➤ PreGED	1,048
➤ GED	1,660
➤ High School	35
➤ Career-Technical	981
➤ Tutors Trained	<u>1,662</u>
Total	6,950



Community Justice ABLE Centers and other Federal Grant Projects

During FY 2002, The Ohio Central School System worked in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education and the US Department of Education to fund and operate several education programs. The Ohio Central School System received over \$4 million in grants from the two agencies listed above to assist with funding our education programming. These programs include Career-Technical Education which purchases needed materials for our vocational programs; Title One for supplemental educational instruction to those students under the age of 21; Special Education for those students with special needs that are under that age of 22; a Youthful Offender grant that we used to pay for Advanced Job Training students under 26 years of age; and Adult Basic and Literacy Education which was sub-granted to community agencies and community-based correctional facilities.

Also during fiscal year 2002, the Ohio Central School System moved from the Post Release Service Center concept to a new concept for educational services to ex-offenders. The Community Justice ABLE Centers operate to serve our exiting offenders with needed educational services. These centers operated inside existing social service agencies, and provided over 800 people educational services throughout the fiscal year.

Looking Forward

The Ohio Central School System looks forward to the challenges that are up coming in fiscal year 2003. One of those challenges is the implementation of the Reentry Philosophy. The Ohio Central School System is eager to discover what contributions we can make, in addition to continuing the contributions we have already made in this new grand philosophical change for the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Due to the new teacher licensure laws, there will be several new changes to how our teachers become qualified to teach. First, many current teachers are moving to teaching licensure as opposed to the certificates they previously held. Secondly, newly hired education staff will have to be involved in our Entry Year Teacher program entitled the Ambassador Program. Educators that begin working for the Ohio Central School System with education experience and licensure will need to work with specially trained mentors. Each new teacher will be assigned to a mentor who will work with him or her to learn the many nuances

of how to teach within a correctional education setting. This training will include organizational management issues, learning how to include security within the classroom, learning paperwork etc.... The third change will focus on how we address teachers that are hired without previous teaching experience. These staff members will also be assigned specially trained mentors who will work with them on all the issues listed above, but they will also work with them on obtaining the skills necessary to pass the state-mandated evaluations need for licensure.

As always, the Ohio Central School System looks forward to providing quality educational programming to inmates in the upcoming years. This programming is designed and will continue to be designed to fit the needs of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and its inmate population.





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Ohio Central School System Statements for a Quality Educational Program

VISION STATEMENT

It is the vision of the Ohio Central School System that all inmates of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction will be provided the necessary academic, job training and social/emotional skills required for successful re-entry to society as effective, participating and productive citizens.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ohio Department of Education under Revised Code 3313.61 formally chartered the Ohio Central School System in April 1973. This charter provides the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction with quality programming and the Ohio Central School System the authority to seek additional federal funding. The Chartered School District enables the department to provide a comprehensive, thorough education program that addresses the needs of the vastly under-educated and under-skilled inmates. These services include: Adult Basic Literacy Education, General Development Diploma, (High School Equivalency), Adult High School, Apprenticeship Training, Library Services, Pre-Release Program, Special Education, Vocational Education, and other educational programs as directed by the needs of the inmate population.

PHILOSOPHY

The Ohio Central School System subscribes to the principals of American democracy, including a genuine belief in the paramount importance of the dignity and worth of all individuals. The basic purpose of American education is to perpetuate and improve this democratic society in which it exists. In keeping with the above precepts, correctional education maintains the mission of providing for the fullest possible development of each participant's talents and potentialities, in order that they might participate more effectively in the cultural, political, social and economic life of this society.

The Ohio Central School System acknowledges that each student is different in terms of his/her education needs and desires and should be dealt with on the basis of these individual differences. Programs, therefore, will be designed to serve this multiplicity of differences. It is believed that participation in meaningful educational programs will elicit both behavioral and attitudinal change. While such participation is, in part, voluntary, individuals are counseled and encouraged to participate in those education endeavors that will most effectively aid them in strengthening self-image, creating positive attitude and developing or increasing the quantity and quality of coping skills needed to successfully re-enter today's highly complex and technical society.

Assessment of the quality and relevance of educational content and practice shall be continuous. Every effort must be concerted to discover the most successful instructional methods and student's individual needs.

The Ohio Central School System adheres to the statement: "Equal Educational Opportunities are offered without regard to Race, Color, National Origin, Sex or Disability."