



2003-2004 Annual Report

*Supporting Excellence in Education
Through Regional Coordination*

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CREDITS:

Content for OVEC's 2003-2004 Annual Report was provided by OVEC staff.
The publication was designed, edited and produced by Sandy Powell, OVEC Grant Writer.

A Year in Review

This year's Annual Report highlights OVEC's accomplishments during 2003-04 in all areas of operations, from early childhood programs to those serving school age students, as well as programs for teachers, administrators, adults and communities that OVEC serves. The Report also covers the bidding program and financial management.



Dr. John A. Rosati
Chief Executive Officer

New Programs

OVEC served as the lead cooperative in writing the grant and administering the financial arrangements for the Kentucky Virtual Leadership Network (KVLN). The project was part of the Gates Foundation grant to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and was designed to provide professional development in the use of technology to superintendents and building principals. The \$400,000 grant was split equally among eight Kentucky cooperatives for each to employ a consultant to provide the training.

OVEC sponsored a special technology workshop offered by Intel in the summer of 2003. Six member districts participated in the event held at the new Jefferson Community College in Shelbyville.

In November OVEC participated in the opening of Dorman North early childhood facility in Shelbyville that began housing our Head Start, Early Head Start and Migrant Head Start programs. In December, a similar opening occurred in Warsaw, Ky., to mark the Early Head Start expansion in Gallatin County.

Two Teacher Academies were held in June 2004, one for elementary math teachers and one for 4th grade Kentucky history teachers.

Headlines You May Have Missed

- OVEC hosted 2 Teacher Recruitment Fairs for member districts during this past year that attracted a total of 150 teachers and teacher candidates.
- OVEC's Migrant Head Start program review by a federal team resulted in a very positive outcome in their assessment of the new program's first-year accomplishments.
- Five new ESL courses were developed by OVEC and added to OVEC's web site as a free resource. The courses were developed with funds from KDE.

OVEC also added links on the web site to our collection of the Video Journal so administrators could preview the contents online.

- Eleven OVEC districts agreed to integrate their MUNIS accounting program with eSchoolmall's purchasing program. The integration project is on schedule for the 2004-05 school year.
- Thirty-two teachers earned their National Boards Certification, many as a result of OVEC's program to support teachers seeking the certification.
- On May 28, 2004, a tornado severely damaged the Head Start mobile unit in Eminence, Kentucky. Minor damage was inflicted on the adjoining Early Head Start mobile unit.
- On June 30, 2004, the Adult Education and Family Literacy programs in Shelby, Gallatin, and Trimble counties ceased operations. Also coming to the end of a 5-year run are the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, a federal program funded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- OVEC districts using eSchoolmall during the past year purchased over \$2.4 million of bid merchandise online. This was accomplished despite several districts encountering Internet problems connecting to the web site in the summer and fall of 2003.
- The OVEC Summer Leadership Conference, dating back to 1979, held its last scheduled event in July 2003 that was attended by 180 school administrators.
- For the 8th year in a row, no adverse findings were reported in the audit of OVEC's financial records by the State Auditor's Office.

A Look Ahead

The OVEC Board of Directors chose Dr. Leon Mooneyhan as the next Chief Executive Officer upon the retirement of Dr. Rosati. Dr. Mooneyhan has served on the OVEC Board for the past 16 years and will lead OVEC in new directions while maintaining the accomplishments of past years. Dr. Mooneyhan begins his new assignment on October 1, 2004.

The mission of the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) is to provide school districts with quality, comprehensive educational services and programs that support the member districts and their schools, children, families, and communities.

2003-04 Photo Highlights



Monica enjoys a family literacy activity.



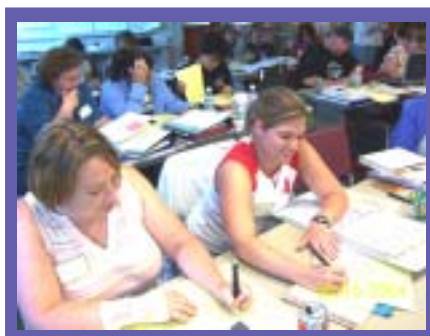
An Early Head Start child gets a dental inspection.



National Board Certified teachers attend mentor training.



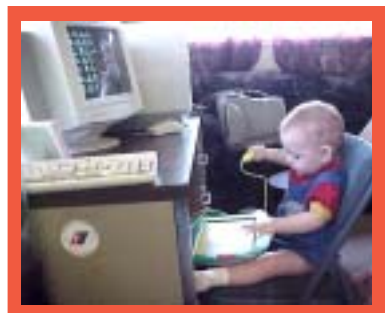
A family earns a computer through the REACH Program.



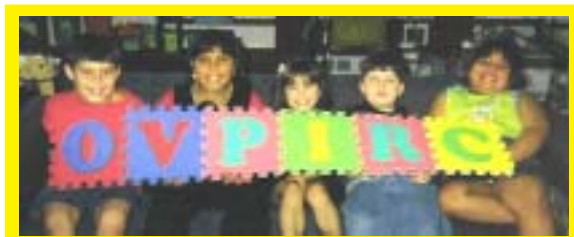
Teachers attending the Ky. History Academy work on their units of study.



Head Start makes learning fun!



It's good to start early!



Children proudly display a banner for OVEC's Parent Information and Resource Centers.



The Teacher Recruitment Fairs drew many prospective teachers.



A proud GED Graduate!



Parents participate in a training for Practical Parenting Education.



"I know my ABCs!"

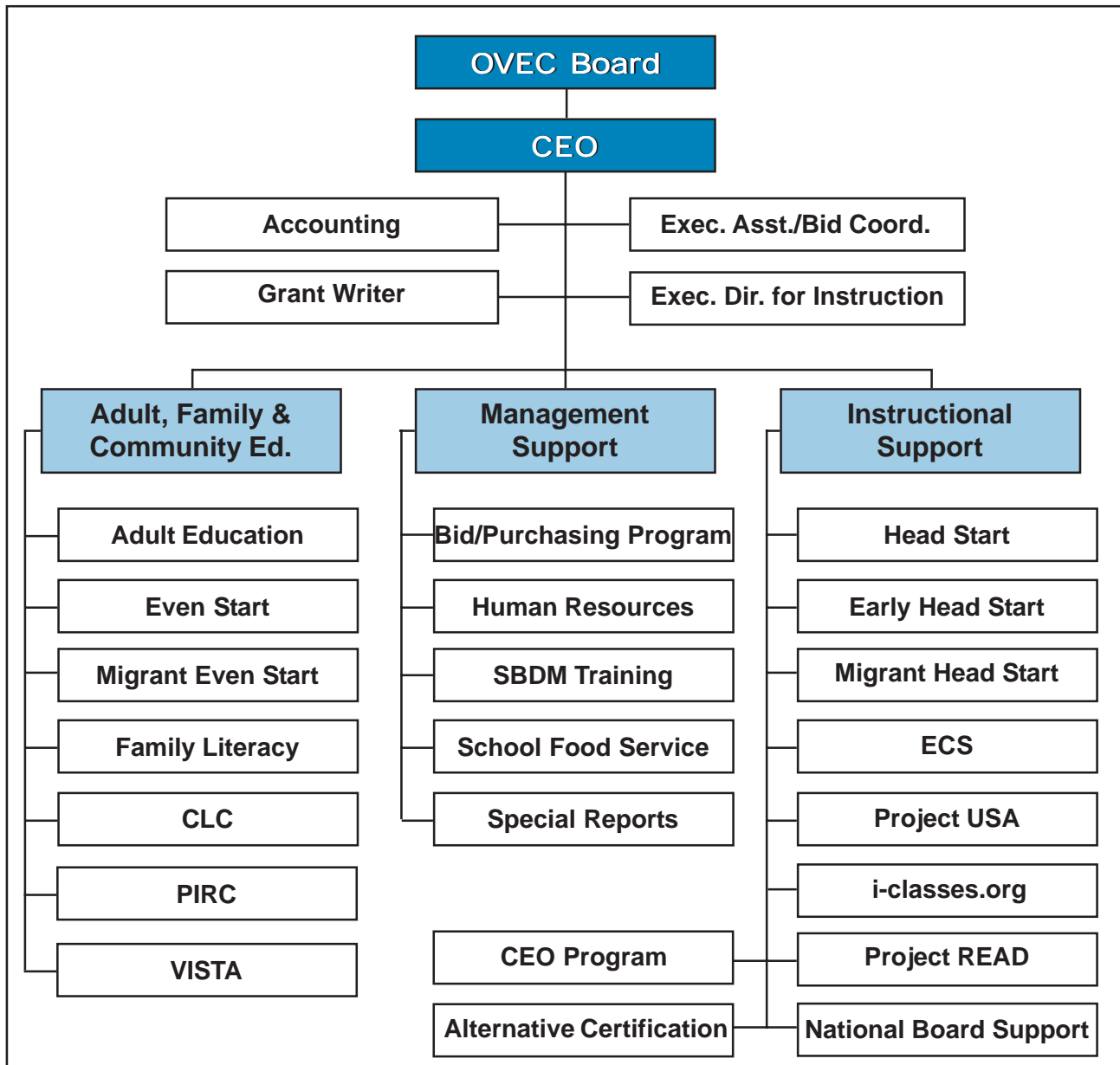
2003-04 OVEC Board of Directors

The OVEC Board of Directors is made up of the superintendents of the fourteen member school districts. This year David Baird served as Board Chair and Monte Chance as Vice-Chair.

Mr. Larry Harrison, Anchorage Independent
 Dr. Michael Eberbaugh, Bullitt County
 Mr. Carroll Yager, Carroll County
 Mr. David Baird, Eminence Independent
 Mr. Monte Chance, Franklin County
 Ms. Dot Perkins, Gallatin County
 Mr. Don Martin, Grant County

Mr. Tim Abrams, Henry County
 Mr. Blake Haselton, Oldham County
 Mr. Mark Cleveland, Owen County
 Dr. Leon Mooneyhan, Shelby County
 Mr. Larry Holt, Spencer County
 Mr. Garry Jackson, Trimble County
 Dr. Sam Melloy, West Point Independent

OVEC Organizational Chart



OVEC Office Staff in 2003-04

Administration/Support

John Rosati
Chief Executive
Officer



Andrea Skaggs
Exec. Asst./Bid
Coordinator



Michael Franken
Executive Dir.
for Instruction



Mark Elmore
Chief Financial
Officer



Sandy Powell
Grant Writer



David Mehl
Chief Technology
Officer



Brenda Conner
Accounting Spec. & Human Res.
Kim Murphy
Accounting Spec. & Human Res.

Instructional Support

Head Start/Early Head Start

Kim Lovell
Head Start/
Early HS Director



Joyce Harris
Education Coordinator
Tracy Gibson
Family Services Coordinator
Christi Leonard
Disabilities Coord.

Charlotte Wentz
Health Coordinator
Penny Nutter
Child Care Coordinator
Nancy Shinault
Early Head Start Manager
Rosa Gutierrez
Migrant Manager/Fam. Advocate
Susan Diaz
Parent Involvement Specialist
Peggy Thompson
Administrative Assistant
Jaime Hill
Database Specialist
Jodi Maddox
Secretary/Data Entry
Shawn Allen
Resource Technician
Chantal D'Hondt
Office Clerk

Exceptional Children Services

Carrie Bearden
ECS Director



Cindy Lawhorn
Administrative Assistant
Linda Allen
Strategies Consultant
Terri Sinn
Strategies Consultant
Sheila Holloway
Strategies Consultant
Laura Straughn
Safe Schools Consultant
Jim Whitaker
Safe Schools Consultant

iclassess.org

Debbie Condon
Online Education & Curr. Spec.
Lisa Cheak
Act. Mgr., Cust. Serv., Curr.
Spec.

Project READ & Early Literacy

Robby Ewing

Reading Resource Specialist
Amy Duck
Early Literacy Consultant
Alicia Rowe
Early Literacy Consultant

Project USA

Jamie Kinmon
American History Specialist
Glenn Manns
American History Specialist

Special Initiatives

Carol Wright
Director of
Special Initiatives



Nancy Stout & Susan Simpson
CEO Coaches
Jim Palm
KLVN Consultant

Management Support

Kim Mosser
SFS Nutrition Analyst
Paula Newton
Receptionist/Data Entry

Adult, Family, and Community Education

Karla Gibbs
Dir. of Adult, Fam.,
Com. Ed., & PIRC



Cindy Sanchez
Administrative Assistant
Kelly Couch
Asst. Dir. Adult/Fam./Com.Ed., PIRC
Melissa Wells
VISTA Coord., Data/Web Specialist
Rachel Smith
Administrative Assistant
Bruce Thomas
GED Examiner
Janette Graham
REACH Coord. & PC Tech.

The Birth and Growth of OVEC

OVEC grew out of an earlier effort in the early 1970's when the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Schools abolished the 18 regional offices of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). The regional offices were designed to decentralize the Department. The Region VI Office was located in Shelbyville and served Bullitt, Eminence, Henry, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble school districts. When the State abolished the regional offices, the superintendents in Region VI decided to create their own organization and named it the **Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative**. **On November 17, 1976, OVEC was born.**

With its creation, Anchorage, Carroll, Gallatin, and Owen joined the new agency. Superintendents of the member districts composed the Board of Directors of OVEC. Mr. Tony Harvey was the first Executive Director and served until 1981. Among the early services OVEC provided were bidding and professional development for administrators, and Title II and VI grant programs.

In 1978 OVEC moved to offices at the University of Louisville, and Exceptional Children Services (ECS) began under the leadership of Linda Hargan. In 1981 Dr. Tom Jefferies, Associate Dean at the UofL School of Education, became the second Executive Director. That same year, West Point and Elizabethtown school districts joined OVEC.

In 1983 OVEC began distributing MECC educational software for the Apple computers. During the 1980's thousands of copies of MECC software were utilized in classrooms in the region. In 1984, the OVEC Board appointed Linda Hargan as the new Executive Director. That year also saw a dramatic increase in professional development workshop offerings for teachers. In 1987, with state funding, OVEC used computers to electronically collect bid information from district computers and to register teachers for summer workshops.

In 1988, OVEC moved from UofL to an office building in Louisville. In December, Linda Hargan left

OVEC for KDE, and the Board appointed Dr. John Rosati as acting Executive Director. In July, Dr. Rosati was officially appointed to the position.

In 1989, the OVEC Board hired Sandy Powell as a full-time grant writer to see if OVEC could attract federal funds to support instruction. The first four applications, Project EQUIP (drug & alcohol), Project TEAMS (middle school math), Even Start (family literacy) and Head Start were funded. As a result of grants development, OVEC grew immensely over the next several years. Other projects followed including SPICE, DISCOVERY, ADAPTABLE, STEP OUT,

SciMatch, IMPACT, Pipeline, RIDE, TRAIL, BRAVO, Migrant Technology, Migrant Even Start, School-to-Work, READ, Early Head Start, Migrant Head Start, Head Start Expansions, Job Link, Character Education, SMART, Reading Excellence, Adult Education, Family Literacy, Community Learning Centers, A*VISTA, American History, Parent Information and Resource Centers, KVLN Project, National Board Mentoring, and School Nutritional Services. As a result **OVEC**

grew from 19 employees in 1989 to as many as 212.

In 1993 OVEC moved to LaGrange to its first owned facility. In 1995 Elizabethtown left OVEC but was replaced that year by Grant County. In 1998, having outgrown its office space again, OVEC moved back to Shelbyville in a building designed to better meet its needs. In 2001, Franklin County Schools joined OVEC. In the summer of 2003, OVEC initiated online bidding and purchasing through the company eSchoolmall Inc.

In March of 2004, the OVEC Board of Directors

selected Dr. Leon Mooneyhan, superintendent of Shelby County Schools, to succeed Dr. Rosati as the next CEO. Dr. Mooneyhan will begin his position on October 1, 2004, and a **new era for OVEC** will unfold.



The current OVEC Office Building in Shelbyville, Kentucky, is a 12,000 square foot facility on five acres.

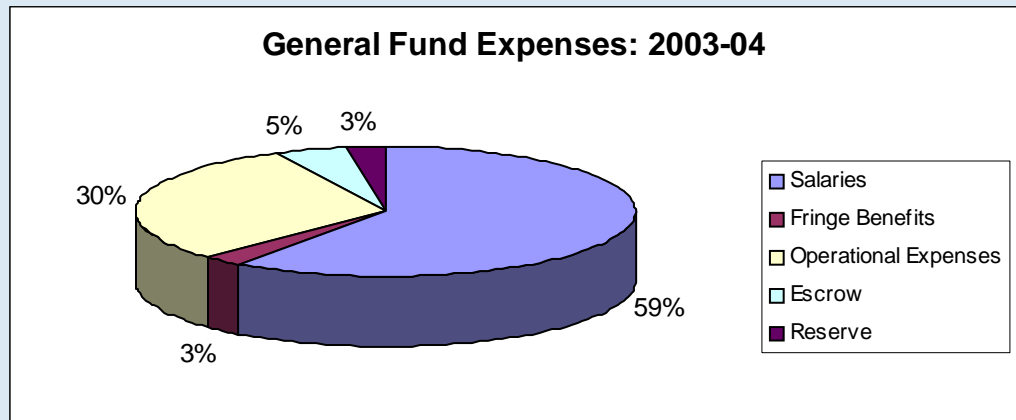
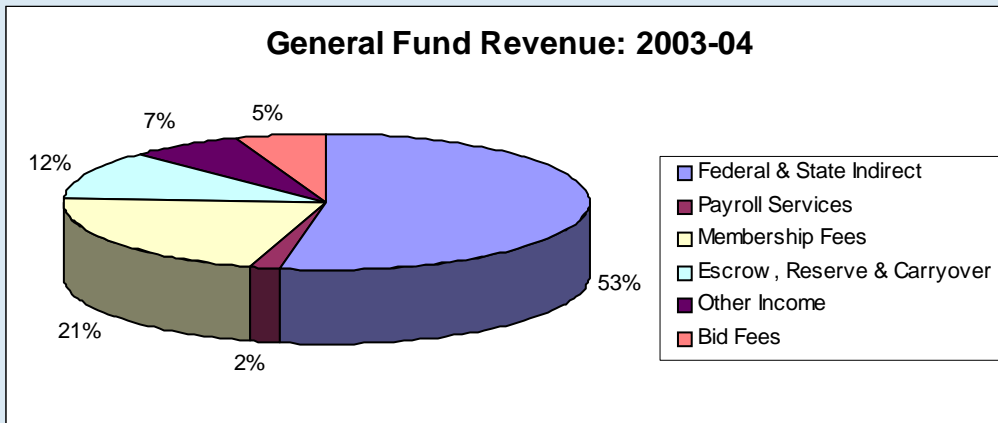
2003-04 OVEC Financial Report

OVEC General Fund Budget

During the past fiscal year, the OVEC General Fund Budget totaled \$748,283 in revenue and expenses as outlined below. Please note these figures are un-audited totals.

Revenue	
Federal & State Indirect	\$395,015
Payroll Services	\$15,330
Membership Fees	\$156,400
Escrow, Reserve, & Carryover	\$87,657
Other Income	\$53,182
Bid Fees	\$40,699
Total	\$748,283

Expenses	
Salaries	\$448,716
Fringe Benefits	\$19,280
Operational Expenses	\$226,962
Escrow	\$34,614
Reserve	\$18,711
Total	\$748,283

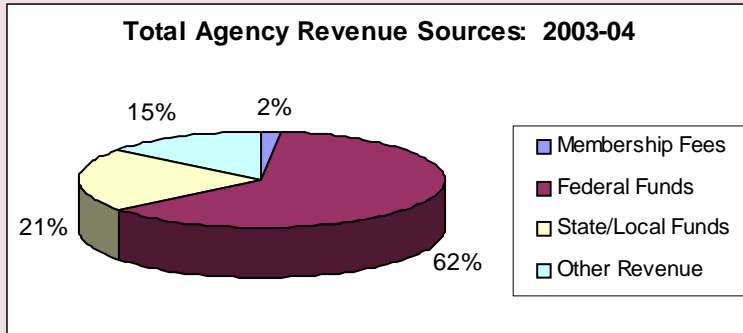


The Membership Fees paid by OVEC districts account for 21% of the General Fund revenues in 2003-04, whereas federal and state indirect costs account for 53% of all revenues received.

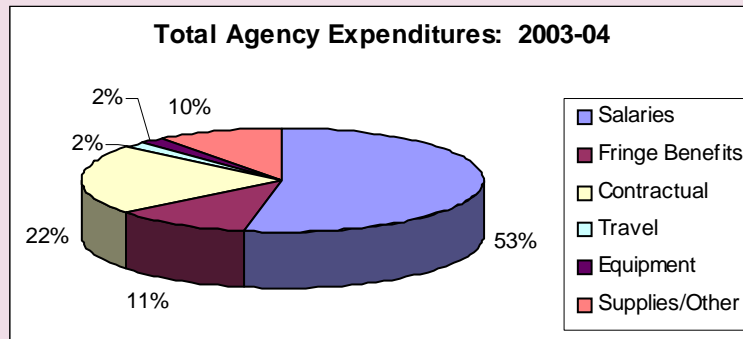
Total OVEC Agency Budget

The budget for all OVEC programs and services, including flow-through funds, totaled \$9,825,494. Again, the figures shown below are un-audited totals.

Revenue	
Membership Fees	\$156,400
Federal Funds	\$6,154,178
State/Local Funds	\$2,087,446
Other Revenue Sources	\$1,427,470
Total	\$9,825,494



Expenses	
Salaries	\$5,223,451
Fringe Benefits	\$1,093,463
Contractual	\$2,121,098
Travel	\$194,062
Equipment	\$184,025
Supplies/Other	\$1,009,395
Total	\$9,825,494



Fiscal Year 2004 OVEC Membership Fee Schedule

The membership fee paid by districts is based on a formula that takes into consideration both the size of the district's student ADA and the number of districts.

District	ADA Oct. 2002	Base Fee	Per Pupil Fee	Total Pupil Fee	FY 2004 Fee	FY 2003 Fee	Change
Anchorage	419	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 748	\$ 6,335	\$ 6,276	\$ 59
Bullitt	10,202	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 18,210	\$ 23,795	\$ 23,481	\$ 314
Carroll	1,630	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 2,925	\$ 8,511	\$ 8,474	\$ 37
Eminence	489	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 873	\$ 6,458	\$ 6,351	\$ 107
Franklin	5,304	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 9,467	\$ 15,052	\$ 15,153	\$ (101)
Gallatin	1,262	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 2,252	\$ 7,838	\$ 7,929	\$ (91)
Grant	3,456	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 6,168	\$ 11,754	\$ 11,603	\$ 151
Henry	1,970	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 3,516	\$ 9,102	\$ 9,014	\$ 88
Oldham	8,832	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 15,763	\$ 21,349	\$ 20,778	\$ 571
Owen	1,720	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 3,070	\$ 8,656	\$ 8,659	\$ (3)
Shelby	4,932	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 8,803	\$ 14,388	\$ 14,259	\$ 129
Spencer	2,041	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 3,643	\$ 9,229	\$ 9,181	\$ 48
Trimble	1,414	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 2,524	\$ 8,109	\$ 8,085	\$ 24
West Point	133	\$ 5,586	\$ 1.7848	\$ 237	\$ 5,823	\$ 5,788	\$ 35
Totals	43,813	\$ 78,200		\$ 78,200	\$156,400	\$155,031	\$ 1,369

2003-04 OVEC Program Highlights



- \$6,767,175 in new and continuing grants awarded to OVEC
- \$2,474,400 worth of online bid purchases made by OVEC districts using the eSchoolmall
- 378 children and pregnant women served by OVEC Head Start, Early Head Start, and Migrant Head Start
- 1,412 individuals served by OVEC's Adult Education programs



- 2,708 educators attended 227 ECS professional development sessions
- 393 pieces of adaptive equipment worth \$51,845 available for loan to districts
- 7 school faculties were served by KIDS Project, designed to improve school culture
- VISTA volunteers provided 7,665 hours of services and obtained 2,500 books valued at \$12,000



- 174 administrators attended 2003 OVEC Summer Leadership Conference
- 79 principals (duplicate count) attended one or more of the six sessions of the Ohio Valley Organization of Principals
- New ESL online courses available to teachers at the OVEC web site
- 18 teachers attended Intel's 5-day technology training arranged by OVEC



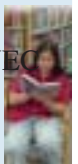
- 1,039 families participated in Family Literacy programs
- 1,360 GED subtests provided to 357 candidates
- 25,683 visitors to PIRC web site and 6,580 books and pamphlets available in PIRC libraries
- 355 refurbished computers awarded to families by REACH Project; Spanish software on 112 computers
- 350 computers donated by Ford Foundation; software licenses donated by Microsoft; total value: \$200,000
- 26 schools statewide and 2 Job Corps Centers participate in OVEC's online curriculum



- 254 new and experienced council members received SBDM training
- 6 schools requested OVEC to provide Scholastic Audit reviews
- 42 teachers participated in National Board Certification support program
- 14 teachers participated in OVEC's Continuing Education Option program
- 15 teachers received their MAT through LA SMARTER's math and science alternative certification program



- 28 teachers attended the 5-day Kentucky History Academy in June
- 29 teachers attended the 5-day Elementary Math Academy in June
- 27 teachers participated in Project READ, the Early Reading Incentive Grant program
- 7 schools received services from OVEC's Early Literacy Specialists
- 47 teachers participated in the American History "Project USA," each receiving 58 hours of professional development during the year
- 150 teachers and teacher candidates attended Teacher Recruitment Fairs hosted by OVEC



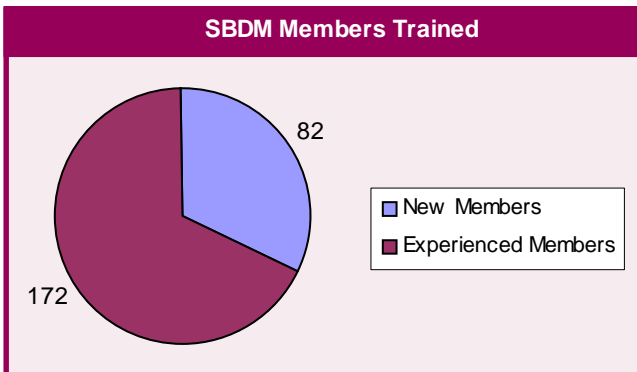
Instructional Support Services

SBDM Training

Site-based council trainings were provided to 254 council members within the OVEC region during the 2003-04 school year. A total of 12 different trainings were provided, 7 for experienced members and 5 for new council members.



SBDM Training



Specialty Services

OVEC provides a variety of customized services to individual councils each year, ranging from technical reviews of policies and by-laws to meeting effectiveness reviews. This year, three councils received reviews of their policies and/or by-laws —Nichols Elementary, Simpsonville Elementary, and Carroll County High School. Council members also use OVEC as a resource to answer council-related questions.

Topics for Experienced Councils

- Creating a Culture of High Expectations for Learning
- Transforming Schools Into Learning Communities
- Leading and Managing Change in a School Setting
- Policy Development, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Professional Development
- Understanding Quality Instruction from a Research Based Perspective
- Communication, Parent and Community Involvement

Principal Selection Process

Two OVEC schools received a 6-hour training in the process of hiring a principal. These trainings include an exploration of the school's strengths and weaknesses, the establishment of criteria for the new principal, exploring legal aspects of interviewing and interviewing strategies as well as the development of interview questions, along with preparing the logistics and process for the interview and decision process. The schools that received training this year were:

- Gallatin County High School
- Campbellsburg Elementary School

Other Professional Development and Support Provided Through Instructional Support Services

- ◆ OVSO
- ◆ OVOP
- ◆ Mission Statement Development
- ◆ Parent Teacher Conference Training
- ◆ Scholastic Reviews

Ohio Valley Organization of Principals (OVOP) 2004 Professional Growth Sessions

10/03	Qualities/Characteristics in High and Low Performing Schools
11/03	Analyzing Test Data: What Principals Need to Know
1/04	Strategies for Closing the Achievement Gap
2/04	Understanding the Requirements and Implications of NCLB
3/04	Closing the Achievement Gap for Students with Special Needs
4/04	Lessons Learned from Scholastic Reviews

OVEC Early Head Start: Changing Lives Early

The OVEC Early Head Start program is located in the four school districts of Bullitt, Eminence Independent, Gallatin and Shelby. The program serves a total of 92 infants, toddlers and expecting women. All sites serve children and families year round at least ten hours per day. In two of the four school districts we partner with existing child care to provide quality services.

Early Head Start Highlights from 2003-04

- ◆ Staff received their Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)
- ◆ Children received on-site dental services provided by local dentists on contract
- ◆ All sites have either new or totally renovated facilities of high quality
- ◆ Children received a developmental screen within 45 days of enrollment
- ◆ Children received a full developmental assessment within 90 days of enrollment
- ◆ Child to staff ratios were low
- ◆ Staff utilized the Creative Curriculum to incorporate the results of the child assessment in order to individualize daily lesson planning
- ◆ Expecting mothers received bi-weekly home visits that were charted on a lesson plan
- ◆ Monthly parent education meetings were provided to promote the parent's role in their child's education



Children in Early Head Start at Eminence enjoy chalk drawing.



Dr. Kirby Hoetker, Shelby Pediatrics Dentistry, visits Dorman North Early Head Start.

OVEC Head Start: Making a Difference

The Head Start program is provided in seven of the fourteen OVEC school districts including Bullitt, Eminence Independent, Gallatin, Henry, Owen, Shelby and Spencer. Services are provided for 274 children and families. In three of the seven school districts we partner with existing child care to provide quality services. We are currently in the process of obtaining licensure from the Kentucky Cabinet of Health and Families Services, Child Care Division, for all classrooms. Previously we were included in the KERA preschool summary approvals for each district, which were approved by the Kentucky Department of Education.



Children in the Owen County Head Start program enjoy a healthy lunch.



Children at Eminence Head Start enjoy an art activity.

OVEC Head Start Highlights from 2003-04

- ◆ Staff received their Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) and Early Childhood Associate degrees
- ◆ Children received on-site dental services provided by local dentists on contract
- ◆ All sites have either new or totally renovated facilities of high quality
- ◆ Children received a developmental screen within 45 days of enrollment
- ◆ Children received a full developmental assessment within 90 days of enrollment
- ◆ Child to staff ratios were low
- ◆ Staff utilized the Creative Curriculum to incorporate the results of the child assessment in order to individualize daily lesson planning
- ◆ Staff utilized the electronic Creative Curriculum to track child outcomes and to monitor each child's progress in the domains.
- ◆ Monthly parent education meetings were provided to promote the parent's role in their child's education
- ◆ Owen, Henry and Eminence Independent are in the process of receiving playground renovations as a result of a program improvement grant

OVEC Migrant Head Start: Serving the Migrant Population

The Migrant Head Start program, located in Shelby County, opened its doors on April 19, 2004, to serve 8 infants/toddlers and 4 preschool children. The program is located in the old Northside preschool building on Ninth Street.

Eligibility requirements are stringent for this program. In addition to meeting the federal poverty income guidelines, the program requires that parents receive at least 51% of their annual income from plant-related agriculture and that the family has moved at least once in the past two years looking for work.

The building underwent an extensive renovation process and looks brand new. The program received new classroom furniture and new playgrounds. The program just completed its first Program Review Instrument for Systems Management (PRISM) review, which went well.



Children in the Migrant Head Start program enjoy story time.



Children in the Migrant Head Start program enjoy snack outdoors.

OVEC Migrant Head Start Highlights from 2003-04

- ◆ This is the first year for the program to be center-based, fully-enrolled, and fully-staffed
- ◆ All renovations have been completed
- ◆ Completed federal monitoring review (PRISM)
- ◆ Children received on-site dental services provided by local dentists on contract
- ◆ Child to staff ratios were low
- ◆ Children received a developmental screen within 45 days of enrollment
- ◆ Children received a full developmental assessment within 90 days of enrollment
- ◆ Staff utilized the Creative Curriculum to incorporate the results of the child assessment in order to individualize daily lesson planning
- ◆ Staff utilized the electronic Creative Curriculum to track child outcomes and to monitor each child's progress in the domains.
- ◆ Monthly parent education meetings were provided to promote the parent's role in their child's education

The Year in Special Education

The Exceptional Children Services of the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative serves 12 local school districts in Region 4. ECS is funded by the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Exceptional Children Services, and receives funds from the WHAS Crusade for Children. ECS works with the member school districts to address the following priorities:

- ◆ Assuring that all students with disabilities have access to instruction in the core-content areas.
- ◆ Providing professional development opportunities to service providers of children with low incidence (HI, VI, autism) and emotional behavioral disabilities.
- ◆ Training and implementing programmatic changes due to the state and federal special education regulations, including forms, policies and procedures.
- ◆ Assisting local districts with training necessary to meet requirements for emergency and probationary certified teachers, including record keeping.
- ◆ Improving transition-related services.
- ◆ Assuring related services are appropriately included in the Individual Education Programs for students with disabilities.
- ◆ Assisting member districts in the Kentucky Continuous Monitoring Process.
- ◆ Assisting districts in crisis management related to individual students, including due process procedures, mediation, or complaints.



Sheila Holloway and Linda Allen facilitate the Special Education Directors in planning the ECS grant for the next two years.

ECS Services in a Nutshell 2003-2004

On-Site Visits	342
Meetings	212
PD Sessions	227
Educators Trained	2,708
Equipment Loaned	393
Cost of Equipment	\$51,845

KIDS Project

The OVEC ECS Safe Schools Consultants completed their first year of the OVEC KIDS Project for seven schools in our area. Each school formed a team consisting of a school administrator, general and special education staff. Some teams even included students, parents, and community members!

At the end of Year 1 of the OVEC KIDS Project, the teams have all been trained in the Anger Cycle and Peaceful Interventions, FOUNDATIONS, and many have had a whole-school training in CHAMPS. Each team is currently working on identifying and targeting behaviors in a common area of the school, and many schools have reported a decreased number of discipline referrals to the office!

Other ECS Services

- Lending Resource Library, including books, materials, video and audio tapes, assessment, technology, and equipment
- Record keeping on PD and meeting attendance
- Support services, consultation, and technical assistance on individual student and classroom issues, crisis and due process issues
- Professional development on a variety of topics utilizing research-based practices and methods

Parent Information and Resource Centers Enhance Parent Involvement

The Ohio Valley Parent Information and Resource Centers (OVPIRC) offer training, information, and support to schools, parents and families in an effort to increase parental involvement and student achievement. The OVPIRC program has parent involvement centers and staff in eight OVEC member school districts. Each center has a Parent Education Coordinator and a Parent-School Liaison who provide community-wide parent involvement education, as well as more intensive education and support for specifically targeted schools and families to enhance parent involvement and academic achievement.

The OVPIRC continues to operate a parent involvement web site (www.ovpirc.org) that contains a wide array of parent involvement information, No Child Left Behind materials and specific information on each OVPIRC parent center and planned activities. The OVPIRC web page information changes daily to keep variety and interest in the site. The web site averaged 2,140 visits each month for a total of 25,683 hits annually.

During the year, OVPIRC staff provided 277 parent presentations, trainings and topical information in a variety of venues – through the schools, community, statewide conferences and meetings. Throughout the past year, 2,800 books, pamphlets and brochures were handed out to parents and educators and 6,580 parent involvement loan library materials were available in the OVPIRC centers.

Parents and children alike enjoy PIRC activities and support.



Partnering to Reach Proficiency

Through the OVPIRC, schools and parents are partnering to help children reach proficiency in the academic areas. OVPIRC staff members have completed training and are utilizing the curricula for *Practical Parenting*, *Enriching a Child's Literacy Environment*, *Ready to Learn* and *Nurturing Parent* to provide high quality training and support in parent involvement. In addition, staff participated in the *Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership (CIPL)* training to enable them to effectively teach parents about the requirements of KERA and Kentucky standards and assessments.

OVPIRC provides comprehensive direct and indirect parent education training and support for parents, educators and collaborative partners in the OVEC region and throughout the state. The program works closely with parents, schools, counselors and teachers to enhance parent involvement and student academic achievement. During the year a variety of positive changes were noted as a result of OVPIRC, including an increased number of parent volunteers in PIRC target schools, enhanced parent/teacher communication with OVPIRC families, improved academic performance of OVPIRC targeted children, and increased use of OVPIRC translation services for non-English speaking families in OVPIRC schools.

The ultimate goal of the OVPIRC program is to empower parents to become their child's first teacher and to train them to become full partners in their children's education.



The REACH (Reaching Excellence and Creating Hope) Program has proven to be an outstanding recruitment and retention program for OVEC Adult, Family and Community programs. REACH families are using the computers they have earned to expand their knowledge and to support careers and academic achievement.

This year the OVPIRC Program adopted REACH as an incentive program for families that are working to enhance the academic level of their children as well as improve their parenting skills. The OVEC Family Literacy, Even Start, and Migrant Even Start Programs also continued to utilize REACH as an incentive program during the year.

Families enrolled in REACH must earn 30 points to qualify for a computer to be placed in their home. These points are program specific and awarded for parent, child and family activities and accomplishments related to each program's goals and objectives. Once a computer is placed in a home, families continue to earn points and must earn a minimum of 70

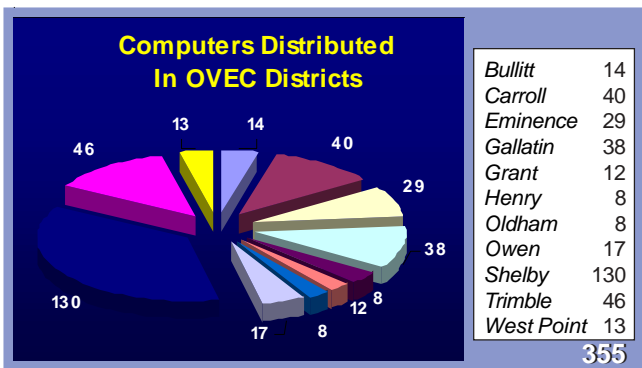
points to keep the computer in their home at the end of the program year.

During 2003-2004, three hundred and fifty five (355) REACH computers were awarded to families enrolled in Adult Education, Family Literacy and OVPIRC programs. Each of these computers was loaded with Windows 98 or 2000. To meet the varying needs of enrolled families, 112 REACH computers were loaded with Spanish software. A wide variety of freeware programs such as Easy Office, typing tutors, and other educational games were also installed on REACH computers to enhance learning and outcomes for families.

Another technology highlight during the year was a major computer donation by the Ford Foundation in New York, NY. Ford donated 350 complete Dell computer systems to support the OVEC REACH program. This donation from the Ford Foundation is valued at approximately \$140,000 and will enable OVEC to continue operating the REACH program. In addition, the Microsoft Corporation provided licensing for 350 operating systems valued at \$52,500.



Another technology highlight during the year was a major computer donation by the Ford



Families appreciate having a computer in the home.

OVEC Adult Education: Changing Lives

The Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative administers the local adult education programs for Gallatin, Shelby and Trimble Counties and employs a total of ten instructional staff in these three districts. During the 2003-04 program year, the OVEC Adult Education programs in these school districts provided academic services for approximately 1,412 adult learners, an increase of 566 learners over last year's total of 846! Of the enrolled adult learners, 71% met established educational goals and made academic gains during the 2003-04 program year. A total of 106 individuals from the three districts reached the important milestone of receiving their GED during the program year.



Proud GED graduates participate in the Shelby County Annual GED Ceremony.



A GED graduate waits to receive her Certificate of Completion from the ceremony's presenters and speakers, left to right, Senator Gary Tapp; Kelly Couch, Assistant Director of Adult, Family and Community Programs; John Rosati, OVEC CEO; and Karla Gibbs, Director of Adult, Family and Community Programs.

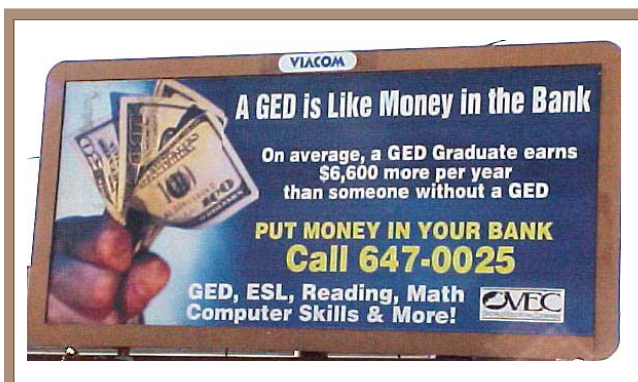
Corrections Education

The Shelby County Corrections Education program has expanded services during the 2003-04 program year. Program services at the Shelby County Detention Center have grown to include English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction for the Latino inmate population. OVEC Adult Education employs a fully bilingual instructor who is able to meet all language acquisition and educational needs of the Latino inmate population. The strengthened ESL component is an addition to sound programming already available at the Detention Center in adult basic education, GED preparation, and computer literacy and life/employability skills.

GED Testing Expanded

The OVEC GED testing service continued to expand during the 2003-04 program year. Bruce Thomas, OVEC's GED Examiner, administered 1360 GED subtests to 357 candidates. The increase in numbers is expected to continue through the 2004-05 program year, as the state has extended free testing to first-time testers until December 31, 2004.

OVEC continues to provide onsite GED testing for the OVEC school districts and for the Whitney M. Young Job Corp. Center. During the year, OVEC completed paperwork and received approval from the State GED office to offer GED testing at addendum sites in Spencer County and at the Shelby County Detention Center. This GED testing service offered by OVEC has given many adult students in the region the opportunity to recognize and reach their educational goals and potential.



This billboard was displayed in the downtown Shelbyville area to promote OVEC's GED Instructional Program. Funds for purchasing the billboard were donated by the Wal-Mart Superstore in Shelbyville.

Family Literacy Enhances Family Success

The Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative operates parent and child centered Family Literacy, Even Start and Migrant Even Start programming in Bullitt, Carroll, Eminence Independent, Gallatin, Grant, Henry, Owen, Shelby, Trimble, and West Point Independent School districts.

Five Regional Coordinating Teachers and fifteen Family Educators provide Family Literacy instruction in these districts. Over the course of the 2003-04 program year, OVEC Family Literacy programs provided services to a total of 1,039 families and 1,560 children in the region.

OVEC Family Literacy services include integrated instruction in the component areas of Early Childhood

Education, Parent and Child Time (PACT), Adult Education and Parent Education. The design of the OVEC Family Literacy Program encompasses the entire family unit to break the cycle of under education. During the year, Family Literacy services were delivered through center and home based instruction in each school district.

In addition, Family Literacy programs partnered with other district programs to help facilitate supplemental instructional opportunities for families, such as family reading nights, Reading Is Fundamental book distributions, parent education workshops, family-centered field trips and community-based literacy events.

Families enjoy the special family literacy events.



Summer Math Academy

OVEC was host to a state-supported elementary math academy on probability and statistics June 21-25, 2004. Twenty-nine teachers attended the academy, and each received a \$500 stipend and materials with a value of approximately \$573. The schools and counties represented were Lebanon Junction and Roby from Bullitt, Kathryn Winn and Cartmell from Carroll, Collins Lane from Franklin, Southside from Shelby, and Spencer Elementary from Spencer County. Lessons on probability and statistics from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' *Navigating Series* were presented, as well as ideas for assessments, literacy, using literature to introduce mathematics, and developing a unit of study.

Follow-up activities will include teachers writing a unit of study to be used in their classrooms during the

2004-05 school year, a school team meeting to verify that the Core Content for probability and statistics is covered across the grade levels, and after the unit is taught, an analysis of student work and sharing of the units of study. Teachers will receive a \$200 stipend for the follow-up activities.



Teachers participate in an activity during the summer Math Academy.

A*VISTA Enhances OVEC Programs

VISTA stands for Volunteers in Service to America. VISTA Volunteers serving with OVEC have truly benefited schools, students, families, and local communities. The OVEC AmeriCorps VISTA Program is helping build capacity in communities through volunteerism and program development. The A*VISTA Program is also providing avenues for sustainability of programs through grant research and solicitation of donations. The VISTA Program is playing a vital role in participating communities as they strive to help break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and under-education.

The OVEC VISTA Team consists of highly qualified seasoned VISTA Members and new recruits serving in the counties of Bullitt, Gallatin, Shelby, Spencer, and Trimble. Within the last year, the OVEC VISTA Program has helped develop and support many programs and community events that benefit schools, children, families and communities in these counties. One of the most impressive contributions from the VISTA Program is the recruitment and training 534 volunteers who gave 7,665 hours of volunteer service! OVEC VISTA Members have helped create a spirit of collaboration among community members, schools, other agencies and families.

The OVEC VISTA Program is a definite asset to participating schools and communities and VISTA Members are looking forward to continued success during the upcoming year.



Children enjoy the books obtained by VISTA Members for OVEC's family literacy programs.

Other 2003-04 Accomplishments of the OVEC VISTA Program

- ◆ Planning and support of the following programs: Connections, Kidsfest, Read Across America, Math Club, Sports Club, LightSpan, ESL instruction, Grandparents Day, Freaky Friday, Health Fair, translation for Hispanic families, fundraising, and many others.
- ◆ Obtaining a donation of over 2,500 new books with a value of more than \$12,000 to give to children and families participating in OVEC family literacy programs.
- ◆ Acquiring multiple donations of prizes, food and supplies for community events and after-school programs.

Three of the VISTA Members Who Served During the 2003-04 School Year



Angela Reyes



Kim Wallace



Sarah Fouts

Literacy Projects Support Primary-Level Struggling Readers

Two Project READ Early Reading Incentive Grants (serving different schools) and an Early Literacy Resource Specialist Project provided support to early reading instruction during the 2003-04 school year. These projects used a research-based model for early intervention in reading to provide daily, intense literacy

instruction to support struggling readers. The model for small group instruction utilized a workshop approach designed to provide varied learning opportunities that support the diverse learners in primary classrooms. These projects yielded positive outcomes in student reading performance at the primary level.

Goals and Objectives of the Literacy Projects

- ✓ To provide daily, intense literacy instruction for struggling readers.
- ✓ To build school capacity for enabling teachers to learn the most effective instructional strategies for meeting the diverse needs of the students.
- ✓ To provide purposeful, intensive professional development with ongoing technical assistance.

Professional development for teachers participating in the projects is ongoing, purposeful, and intensive. The professional development includes mentoring, modeling, collegial coaching, summer workshops, and study groups.

- ❖ **The 2001-2003 Project READ, Early Reading Incentive Grant Project**, the second OVEC 27-month grant which served 24 teachers in three schools (Lebanon Junction Elementary School in Bullitt County and Southside and Wright Elementary Schools in Shelby County) ended in the fall of 2003.
- ❖ **The 2003-2005 Project READ, Early Reading Incentive Grant Project**, the third OVEC 27-month grant awarded in the Spring of 2003, served 28 teachers in three schools (Bald Knob Elementary School in Franklin County, Kathryn Winn Primary School in Carroll County, and Nichols Elementary School in Bullitt County).
- ❖ **The 2003-2004 OVEC Early Literacy Resource Specialist Project** served teachers in seven schools in four districts with ongoing technical support and professional development: Campbellsburg Elementary and New Castle Elementary Schools in Henry County; Cartmell Elementary and Kathryn Winn Primary Schools in Carroll County; Painted Stone Elementary and Wright Elementary Schools in Shelby County; and Spencer County Elementary School in Spencer County.



Dr. Cindy Gnadinger, project consultant from Bellarmine University, led a session during the Project READ Summer Workshop.

Literacy Resource Specialists

Amy Duck, Robby Ewing, and Alicia Rowe provided the following technical assistance for the literacy projects:

- ◆ Two-day summer workshop for 48 teachers and administrators;
- ◆ Monthly visits to each site to mentor, coach, model and confer;
- ◆ Monthly after-school study groups;
- ◆ After-school professional development sessions;
- ◆ Professional development for instructional assistants, volunteers and staff;
- ◆ Collaboration with project consultants and professional development leaders;
- ◆ Feedback and consultation with school and district administrators.

OVEC Special Initiatives

Foster Excellence in Education

OVEC Special Initiatives include the following:

- ◆ National Board Certification and the Teachers' National Certification Incentive Trust Fund
- ◆ University Based Alternative Certification
- ◆ Future Educators of America (FEA) Grant
- ◆ The Continuing Ed Option (CEO) for Certificate Renewal and Rank Change
- ◆ Scholastic Audit: Assistance to Level I and II Schools

National Board Certification

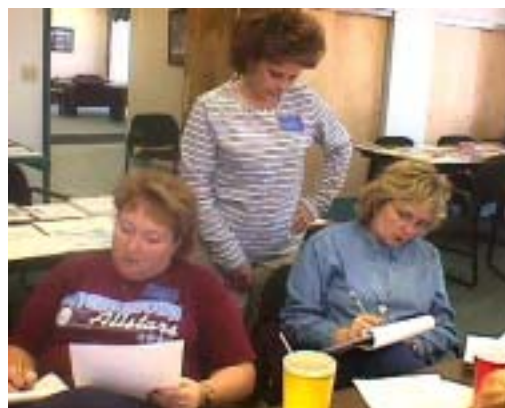
Forty-two 2003-04 National Board teacher candidates from the OVEC districts kept very busy attending twelve three-hour after-school collaborative sessions at OVEC, Old Mill Elementary School, Bullitt Central High School, Shelby East Middle School, and Simpsonville Elementary School. Carol Wright, Director of Special Initiatives, set an agenda for the school year that included organization, timelines, discussion, writing and sharing tips on how to videotape the entries required for submission.

National Board Certification requires an average of 200-300 hours over and above a regular teaching year in order to complete the four required written entries necessary to become National Board Certified. The candidates are also required to take six thirty-minute exams at testing centers located in the Louisville area. The teachers prepared for the exams through dialogue, study, and practice during their Saturday assessment sessions held at OVEC during the months of February, March, and April 2004.

Mentors working through the OVEC NBPTS model included the following National Board Certified Teachers:

- Ellen Sears/Anchorage Independent
- Roger Newton/Bullitt Central High School
- Rae McEntyre/Gallatin County High School
- Missy Wood/Mt. Washington Middle School
- Lauren Burress/Mt. Washington Elem. School
- Beth Dunn/Shelby East Middle School
- Jon Saderholm/Spencer County High School
- Ruth Ann Sweazy/Spencer County Elementary
- Dr. Ann Larson/UofL

OVEC/Oldham County hosted an NBPTS mentor training for 30 certified NBCT's on June 14, 2004, and OVEC hosted a pre-candidacy training for 24 interested teachers on June 16, 2004. Plans are currently being made to assist these candidates with their year-long study in the pursuit of National Board Certification.



Dr. Ann Larson, UofL consultant, reviews content with Gina Beasley and Dianne Jewell, NBPTS candidates, as they prepare entries for submission to the National Standards Board.

University Based Alternative Certification

The University of Louisville, Jefferson County Public Schools, and OVEC personnel responsible for the LA-SMARTER grant written in the spring of 2002 have met continuously to work through the duties and responsibilities outlined in the grant provisions. Designed for the purposes of recruitment and retention of mid-career professionals and college graduates interested in pursuing a degree in teaching, the grant emphasizes the fields of Math and Science, as well as technology. Linda Belcher, retired administrator from Bullitt County, was hired as the recruiter for the project and has worked closely with UofL, OVEC, and Jefferson County.

Fifteen teacher candidates who enrolled in the first cohort from the OVEC districts received their MAT in 2004. The current cohort has another nine prospective teachers due to receive their MAT in 2005.

OVEC Special Initiatives (Continued)

Future Educators of America

The Early Identification, Recruitment, and Retention Program grant written in the spring of 2002 continued to support activities promoting the teaching profession in ten high schools. The grant, which was scheduled to end in the spring of 2003, retained enough funds to support student activities in the various FEA clubs in the OVEC districts throughout 2003-04.

Students in the Future Educators of America (FEA) organizations attended state and national FEA conferences, honored and shadowed teachers, worked with elementary students, and attended various state Institutions of Higher Education to make plans for their careers in education. Teachers reported increases of 10-50% membership in their clubs over the two-year grant period.



Teachers involved as sponsors of Future Teachers of America clubs participated in training to support their efforts in working with the clubs. FEA clubs in the participating schools have increased in membership by 10-50% within the past two years.

The Continuing Ed Option (CEO)

OVEC continued support and assistance to the first cohort of teachers seeking renewal and/or rank change through the Continuing Ed Option (CEO) program. Nancy Stout, CEO coach, assisted the 14 teachers through the final stages of the program and approved 12 candidates' portfolios throughout 2003-03. After approval of their professional development plans, the teachers have spent from three to six months on research and a year on implementation. Four have submitted their three binders to the standards board for scoring. This rigorous and demanding professional development will allow teachers to renew their certificate or to receive a Rank II or I upon successful completion.



CEO Coach Nancy Stout (center), provided support and assistance to teachers completing the Continuing Ed Option for Certificate Renewal and/or Rank Change.

Scholastic Audit: Assistance to Level I and II Schools

OVEC provided assistance to six schools in the OVEC districts that requested scholastic reviews. The six schools were as follows:

- ❖ Shelby County High School
- ❖ Simpsonville Elementary School
- ❖ Shelby West Middle School
- ❖ Peaks Mill Elementary School
- ❖ Bridgeport Elementary School
- ❖ Collins Lane Elementary School

A team consisting of Michael Franken, Carol Wright, and Carrie Bearden from OVEC, as well as chosen school administrators, teachers, and specialists from the various districts, met and conducted full reviews for the requesting schools. The process is labor intensive and takes three to five full days of data review, teacher observation, and interviews with parents, SBDM councils, school administrators, and students.

Online Bidding and Purchasing Catches On

We have completed a full cycle on the bids and purchasing program through eSchoolmall. Although some districts were a little slow in using the program in the beginning, by mid year we had all thirteen districts using the program to some degree. Some of the districts have even rolled the use of the program down to the teacher level. We hope in the near future other districts will join in this venture.

This year, we offered approximately 15 bids online. The upcoming year will offer more of a variety as well as the integration of the School Specialty Catalogs



online. This should aid the districts in purchasing just about anything they need through eSchoolmall.

Even our School Food Service Prime Vendor integrated its ordering system with eSchoolmall. Now when the orders are placed, the orders are automatically dumped into the ordering system with Somerset Food Service.

Since this integration is in place, OVEC decided to extend the award of the School Food Service bid another year.

We are working hard to add more items to the bids and to get more catalog vendors integrated with eSchoolmall.

OVEC Bid Purchases Through eSchoolmall in 2003-04

The chart below displays the total online purchases of bid items during the 2003-04 school year and also during the last six months of the year. The rate of purchasing increased in the second six-month period as the problems some districts encountered with Internet connections and other issues were resolved. Several districts had little or no online purchasing before January 2004.



Note that the percentage of purchasing by School Food Service (by far the largest bid award area), was the most significant in the percentage of total orders for each district.



District	12 Month Total Orders	% of SFS Purchases	Last 6 Mo. Total Orders	% of SFS Purchases
Anchorage	\$17,448.12	40.30%	\$8,329.10	84.41%
Carroll	\$125,971.39	90.00%	\$108,592.44	57.03%
Eminence	\$52,028.21	82.57%	\$42,623.59	39.68%
Franklin	\$149,670.42	80.45%	\$141,548.52	80.94%
Gallatin	\$153,989.96	89.88%	\$80,314.45	88.66%
Grant	\$162,283.97	99.69%	\$156,734.77	100.00%
Henry	\$124,977.26	79.40%	\$116,287.57	82.65%
Oldham	\$623,714.83	78.05%	\$346,910.20	88.64%
Owen	\$121,420.03	70.92%	\$110,839.05	77.69%
Shelby	\$649,998.45	83.93%	\$343,080.42	79.03%
Spencer	\$72,190.39	91.98%	\$47,812.27	90.30%
Trimble	\$158,159.29	86.17%	\$106,619.96	86.34%
West Point	\$22,672.13	85.40%	\$15,646.28	88.81%
OVEC	\$40,176.26		\$25,552.32	
Total Purchases	\$2,474,700.71		\$1,650,890.94	



Grants Development in 2003-04



The chart below lists the grants that OVEC has received since the last Annual Report, totaling \$6,767,175, with an additional \$5,320,311 in proposal requests still pending notification of awards. Some grants were implemented during the 2003-04 fiscal year, while others will be implemented in 2004-05.

Project Title	Funding Source	Amount Received
ECS	Crusade for Children	\$ 49,000
KVLN	Ky. Dept. of Education	\$ 50,000
A *VISTA Project	Corporation for National Service	\$ 110,952
Head Start "One-Time" Supplemental Funds	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	\$ 198,737
Early Head Start "One-Time" Supplemental	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	\$ 58,586
National Board Mentoring Program	Ky. Education Professional Standards Board	\$ 25,200
OVEC M EES Program	U.S. Dept. of Education	\$ 312,362
Head Start (Supplement for Owen County)	Ky. Child Care Development Fund	\$ 37,800
OVEC Even Start	Ky. Dept. of Education	\$ 97,200
Parental Information and Resource Center	U.S. Dept. of Education	\$ 697,701
Shelby County Reach Out and Read	Humana Foundation & Metro United Way	\$ 9,800
Family Lit., M EES, Adult Ed. (Supplement)	Kentucky Cobnets	\$ 6,530
Family Lit., M EES (Supplement)	Reading Is Fundamental	\$ 1,320
Head Start (Supplement)	Reading Is Fundamental	\$ 1,056
Fam Lit., Adult Ed., PIRC, M EES (Supplement)	The Ford Foundation	\$ 140,000
Elementary Mathematics Teacher Academy	Ky. Dept. of Ed.	\$ 50,000
Ky. History Teacher Academy	Ky. Dept. of Ed.	\$ 50,000
Fam Lit., Adult Ed., PIRC, M EES (Supplement)	Microsoft Freshstart Program	\$ 52,500
Project USA	U.S. Dept. of Education	\$ 993,755
OVEC Head Start	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	\$ 2,117,579
OVEC Early Head Start	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	\$ 1,041,884
OVEC M EES Program (Evaluation Supplement)	U.S. Dept. of Education	\$ 36,000
A *VISTA Project	Corporation for National Service	\$ 110,952
ECS	Ky. Dept. of Education	\$ 480,461
Head Start (Supplement for Owen County)	Ky. Child Care Development Fund	\$ 37,800

TOTAL: \$ 6,767,175

Quality Professional Development Provided for Administrators

Summer Leadership Conference

The 2003 OVEC Summer Leadership Conference, July 20-22, was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky, for 174 district administrators and counselors. Featured programs for the conference included the following:

- Parent/Principal Relationships
- How to Manage Resources in Difficult Times
- Parents and Counselors: Understanding ADD
- Closing the Achievement Gap
- Classroom Assessments
- Legislative/Law Updates
- Tuning Protocol
- Individual Graduation Plans
- Personnel Law Update
- Restoring Success in the Fragile Brain
- Differentiated Instruction
- ARC Chairperson Training
- Classroom Assessment and CATS
- No Child Left Behind Update



School Food Service personnel enjoy the annual OVEC School Food Service Workshop and Food Show.

SFS Workshop and Food Show

The annual OVEC School Food Service Workshop and Food Show was held at the Shelby County High School on August 1, 2003. Twenty-one vendors displayed bid items and potential new bid items to 82 Food Service Managers and Directors from 12 of the OVEC districts.

This year's professional development workshops featured "eSchoolmall," "Sanitation," and "Merchandising."

OVEC Hosts Teacher Recruitment Fairs



Tina Tipton, Assistant Superintendent from Shelby County, talks with a prospective teacher.

In an effort to aid districts with critical shortages, OVEC conducted Teacher Recruitment Fairs in the fall and spring. To help attract potential candidates, advertisements were placed in local college papers as well as large circulation newspapers.

The fairs were targeted to teachers and student teachers in the following areas:

- Special Education (all levels, all areas)
- Math, Science, and Social Studies (middle and high)
- Foreign Language
- Guidance Counselors
- Language Arts (middle)
- Primary, Elementary, Middle, High Teachers

A total of over 130 potential candidates were in attendance during the two fairs.

SFS Nutrition Analysis Program: Nutrition Counts in OVEC Schools

The School Food Service Nutrition Analysis Program assists the thirteen participating districts in adhering to federal regulations requiring that school food service meals comply with dietary guidelines and specific calorie and nutrient levels which are all age appropriate to children. Menus are continually analyzed to monitor regulation compliance. (All OVEC districts except Bullitt County participate in the SFS Nutrition Analysis Program.)

OVEC/Nutrikids Database

The local OVEC/Nutrikids database for products and ingredients continued to expand to include new food items added to the OVEC school food service bid. The latest Nutrikids update version was installed. Over 1,600 local recipes have been created and analyzed. The recipes are networked among all OVEC districts.

Support to Districts

A wide range of services and support are provided to participating districts. Monthly meetings are held for all food service directors. Ongoing extensive product testing is conducted by the OVEC School Food Service Committee to evaluate new and presently utilized products for their quality and nutritional value in order to offer acceptable and healthier menu choices. Students are often invited to attend these taste-testing sessions. An annual workshop and food show is held for all school food service personnel at the start of the school year. Districts receive allergy



School Food Service personnel sample many food items provided by various vendors at the annual food show in Shelby County.

awareness updates and information for their programs. OVEC districts have processed USDA commodities as a collaborative group rather than individually. This resulted in better pricing, utilizing products more effectively and improving delivery options for commodities.

The OVEC school food service bid is awarded to one prime vendor on an annual basis, with a possible one-year extension. The prime vendor contract was awarded to Somerset Foods during the 2003-04 school year. An extension of that contract has been granted for the 2004-05 school year. The online bid has a cost plus fixed fee pricing structure. This provides all districts with the best possible price, service and quality for our OVEC students. An audit is conducted to ensure pricing compliance. Somerset Foods integrated with eSchoolmall to facilitate ordering.

Goals and Monitoring

Goals for the upcoming year include the continuing progress by all OVEC districts in complying with the federal regulations and the analysis of menus for all participating districts. One of the thirteen participating districts had a successful federal program review (CRE: Critical Review Effort) during the 2003-04 school year. Three participating districts will undergo this very comprehensive review during 2004-05. Steps are continually underway to ensure compliance with all guidelines for all districts.



Twenty-one vendors offered food items for testing at the annual food show.

Project USA Supports Educators in Teaching American History

Project USA is a three-year federally-funded grant that impacts 47 elementary, middle, and high school teachers within OVEC. Teachers participate through five-day summer institutes, and six network meetings during each school year. During these network sessions, teachers have an opportunity to gain more content knowledge and develop professional relationships with support from college and university history professors who work with the grant.

2003-04 Network Sessions Content

Dr. Melissa McEuen, Transylvania University	Women and the Great Depression; Women who deserve attention in American History classrooms
Dr. Jim Klotter, Georgetown College	Kentucky as the First West; Kentucky and the Civil War
Dr. Lindsey Apple, Georgetown College	Susan Clay Sawitzky and primary sources; Westward Expansion in Kentucky
Dr. John Cumbler, University of Louisville	Historical Geography; Slavery
Dr. Clarence Wyatt, Centre College	American Foreign Policy; Vietnam
Dr. Tracey Campbell, University of Kentucky	Elections and Democracy: Past and Present; FDR and the New Deal



Dr. Clarence Wyatt, Centre College, discusses the Vietnam War with teachers at Western Hills High School.

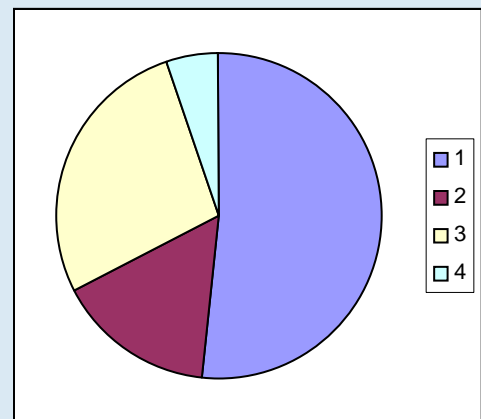
Through regular classroom visits, the project's two American History Specialists assist teachers in strengthening implementation of effective strategies to teach history and in acquiring additional instructional resources and other professional development opportunities.

Each participant will be writing a curriculum-aligned, standards-based unit of study, which will be published on OVEC's web page for sharing with colleagues.



Dr. John Cumbler, University of Louisville, discusses historical geography with middle school teachers during a network meeting.

Average Hours of Professional Development Per Teacher



1. Summer Institute - 30 hours
2. Network Meetings - 9 hours
3. Classroom Visits - 16 hours
4. Other PD - 3 hours

OVEC Participates in Scholastic Reviews



The scholastic review process is an intensive three- to four-day school visit which entails classroom observations, the analysis of data and documents, interviews of all staff and

administrators, and the analysis and rating of the school on 88 standards contained in the document *Standards and Indicators of School Improvement*.

OVEC provided three to four staff with administrative, instructional, curriculum and special education backgrounds for each of the six reviews conducted during this year. These reviews were conducted for the following schools:

- ❖ Shelby County High School
- ❖ Simpsonville Elementary
- ❖ Shelby West Middle School
- ❖ Collins Lane Elementary
- ❖ Bridgeport Elementary
- ❖ Peaks Mill Elementary

Intel Teach to the Future

Fifteen teachers from six OVEC districts participated in a week-long program sponsored by Intel which provided intensive professional development on instructional uses of technology. Participants from Bullitt, Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Henry, and Spencer counties were trained to be certified master teachers.



Ky. History Academy

Twenty-eight teachers gathered at the Kentucky History Center in June of 2004 for a five-day academy on Kentucky history with the theme “CHOICES: Molding Kentucky’s Destiny.” During the five rigorous days, teachers learned about Kentucky’s history, geography, economics, and culture.

Dr. James Klotter, State Historian and professor at Georgetown College, led participants through a survey of Kentucky history, focusing on the choices, both good and bad, that have impacted Kentucky’s history. Dr. Keith Mountain, Director of the Kentucky Geographic Alliance and UofL professor, showed teachers how to use a new geography CD and other resources to teach about Kentucky’s unique geography. Dr. Jack Morgan, from UofL, spent a day with participants showing them how to incorporate economics into their teaching. In addition, Natalie Stiglitz, Ky. Department of Education, provided a template to help design standards-based units of study that each participant will create for implementation in the classroom.

Online with iclasses.org

During the 2003-04 school year, the new iclasses service from OVEC provided quality instructional resources through the use of online courses and learning materials to 871 students in 26 schools and two Job Corps Centers statewide. Courses included all core content areas in grades 6-12. During 2003-04, iclasses.org had a total of 871 users.

