

What Is OVEC?

The Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) is a consortium of 15 school districts serving 155,000 students in north central Kentucky. Established in 1976, the cooperative provides regional planning, development, and implementation of educational programs on a continuous basis. OVEC work serves member school districts, their student populations, and families.

What Is OVEC's Mission?

Support, lead, and inspire through professional learning, advocacy, and services.

How Is OVEC Funded and Administered?

The OVEC budget includes membership fees of participating districts and federal, state, local, and foundation funding, with an annual budget of \$16.8 million. Excluding staff hired through arrangement with outside agencies, OVEC employs approximately 230 people, most of whom are field-based. The 15 superintendents of member districts serve as the Board of Directors, the policymaking body of the cooperative. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for overseeing all programs and services.

Whom Does OVEC Serve?

OVEC provides continuous support to member districts with an end goal of enhancing future readiness and success for ALL students, from birth through grade 12.



What Collaborations Does OVEC Maintain?

OVEC collaborates with the Kentucky Department of Education, other educational cooperatives, and numerous local, state, and national organizations and agencies to provide innovative opportunities for educators and students within Kentucky and across the nation. OVEC has a strong relationship with the University of Louisville, including involvement with the P-16 Council. OVEC is a member of the American Association of Educational Service Agencies and the Kentucky Association of Educational Cooperatives.



iLEAD Academy

iLEAD Academy was Kentucky's first regional career academy. OVEC developed iLEAD with five of its member districts (Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Owen, and Trimble Counties) and \$250,000 in state funding. iLEAD prepares students for the highest-growth, highest-wage careers in Kentucky's Golden Triangle region—in engineering, technology, healthcare, and advanced manufacturing. Now, the school is the model that earned Kentucky one of **10 New Skills for Youth** grants awarded to states by J.P. Morgan Chase. The 10 winning states demonstrated the strongest plans to work across sectors to transform how they design career preparedness education programs and provide young people with the skills they need to compete for jobs. The Council of Chief State School Officers, Chambers of Commerce, Workforce Investment Boards, and educators from across the nation are looking to iLEAD for inspiration in career preparation, enabling students to earn an associate degree while in high school, Competency Based Education, and Blended Learning.

OVEC Board of Directors

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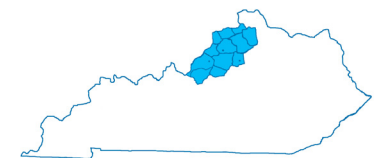
Dr. Sally Sugg
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Mr. Charles Adams
Superintendent, Spencer County Schools

Ms. Jessica Wilcoxson
Superintendent, Trimble County Schools

Link to individual district websites:
www.ovec.org (lower left on home page)

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Leading Educational Excellence

Programs and Services Provided by OVEC to Member Districts

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Leadership Development

Leadership opportunities provide professional development (PD) for administrative personnel in OVEC districts. The leadership PD opportunities provided by OVEC fulfill EILA requirements and/or state trainings.

District Support

Customized assistance provided by the OVEC District Support Team is designed to meet the individual needs of our member districts and ultimately improve student success. These numerous offerings include but are not limited to the following:

- Support for new teacher induction
- Personalized Learning
- Competency Based Education
- Teacher Leadership
- Math and Literacy
- Leadership Development
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
- Implementation Science
- Thinking Strategies
- Summit Learning
- Digital Learning

Network Role Groups

OVEC network groups give those in similar roles across districts the opportunity to share information and discuss common issues and concerns. Network groups are one way OVEC provides direct support throughout the region. Current network groups are these, but new groups form as needs arise:

- Curriculum supervisors
- Principals
- Alternative school directors
- Instructional coaches
- Teachers of specific content areas
- Guidance counselors
- Gifted and talented staff
- Special education directors
- School psychologists
- Personnel directors
- Finance officers
- School nutrition directors
- Technology directors
- Reading specialists

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT (cont.)

Technology Support

Through the technology network, direct assistance, and professional learning (PL) opportunities, OVEC supports school and district personnel in aligning technology with their school and district goals.

Partnership with Public Education & Business Coalition (PEBC)

More than 10 years ago, OVEC and the PEBC began an innovative partnership to bring their work from Denver to the OVEC region. The partnership began with OVEC and Oldham County Schools collaborating to share the work of the Thinking Strategies Institute. Over the years, the partnership has expanded to include Shelby and Franklin Counties. Additionally, OVEC teams work with PEBC to provide PL opportunities, such as the Workshop Model and options uniquely designed for teachers, coaches, and leaders. Now, the teamwork between PEBC and OVEC is not limited to the OVEC region but is open to and impacting all of Kentucky.

Consultants for Instructional and Behavioral Strategies

OVEC provides consultant services to work with districts and schools in the areas of curriculum, assessment, and instruction, specifically in K-12 literacy and mathematics. Additionally, a behavioral specialist provides support focused on regional, school, and/or individual student needs. OVEC consultants use evidence-based strategies to ensure improved outcomes for all K-12 students. Throughout their work, consultants incorporate data collection and analysis to provide continuous feedback in monitoring a district's or school's quest to meet the needs of **all** students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Exceptional Children Services (ECS)

OVEC ECS provides technical assistance, PL opportunities, support with behavior, trauma-informed care, social-emotional learning, and the use of an integrated service approach to general and special education teachers.

SPECIAL EDUCATION (cont.)

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

Under direction from the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, OVEC Pre-ETS provides services to eligible and potentially eligible students with disabilities, ages 14-21, through a multitude of experiences such as guest speakers and field trips. Pre-ETS helps students in the areas of job exploration, work-based learning experiences, post-secondary educational opportunities, workplace readiness, and self-advocacy skills.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Early Head Start (EHS)/Head Start (HS)

EHS and HS programs enhance child development, strengthen families, and integrate health services. These comprehensive school readiness programs serve children from birth to age five. The program primarily focuses on children who are economically disadvantaged or members of other high-risk populations.

EHS Child Care Partnership Program

An established partnership between the Kentucky Office of Child Care and EHS provides EHS services to children birth to age three whose families use or are potentially eligible for the child care assistance program at designated child care partner sites. This relationship impacts a broader base of child and family outcomes while improving quality in the child care centers, benefitting the children in significant ways.

OTHER DISTRICT SUPPORTS

Professional Learning/Consultation

OVEC offers professional learning, consultation, and technical assistance for teachers, administrators, and support staff. Additional consultation with superintendents on personnel, finance, or other issues is also available upon request.

Bidding/Purchasing

The OVEC Bidding and Purchasing Program streamlines bidding and purchasing for district food services and other items as requested by OVEC districts.

DISTRICT SUPPORTS (cont.)

Education Advocacy

OVEC works with other state educational associations to facilitate education advocacy in Kentucky and nationally, including the 3KT organization teaming with KASA, KSBA, and KASS.

Teacher Recruitment

OVEC actively recruits potential teacher candidates for the OVEC region by participating in job fairs, visiting college classes, and other efforts, often conducted in association with the University of Louisville and other colleges and universities.

Grants Development

OVEC seeks grants that will serve multiple OVEC school districts. The goal is to acquire funding for a wide range of projects and services that benefit the region's schools and students. The OVEC Director of Development can also consult with districts about securing funding from public and private sources through the Ohio Valley Educational Foundation.

School Nutrition Analysis

The OVEC School Nutrition Program assists districts by evaluating the nutritional quality of school products, recipes, and menus to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations.

OVEC Facility Services

OVEC Facility Services consultants help districts with project leadership, capital construction finance, long-range planning, design and construction, land acquisition, property disposal, facility leases, easement, energy conservation, and more.

Financial Services Program

Financial services are available to Kentucky public school districts on a contract basis.

Special Reports and Publications

Reports such as the OVEC Annual Report, OVEC Services Report, and monthly Board Reports can be accessed via the OVEC webpage at www.ovec.org.

iLead Academy

Please see feature (over) about this effort.