

About State Support Team Region 9

The State Support Team (SST) Region 9 is one of Ohio's 16 regional SSTs. The SSTs are part of a unified system of support that intentionally connect evidence-based strategies to the work of early intervention and prevention, early learning and development and special education with a focus on continuous improvement of instructional practice and student achievement.

Universally, SST9 supports schools and districts in the process of planning, implementing and monitoring continuous improvement goals, strategies and action steps. The SST provides a range of services and resources, depending on the support status of district and school partners.

The SST works closely with the following Centers within the Ohio Department of Education's Leadership Structure:

- Center for Student Supports
- Center for Continuous Improvement
- Center for Teaching, Leading and Learning
- Center for Performance and Impact

State Support Team Region 9 Supports Holmes, Stark, and Wayne Counties



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Serving Holmes, Stark, and Wayne Counties

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School Improvement

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recognizes the need for an aligned approach to school improvement that is provided through a Statewide System of Support (SSOS). The State System of Support is in place to assist schools and districts to increase student outcomes and achievement. This includes Educational Service Centers (ESC), State Support Teams (SST), Instruction Technology Centers (ITC), and direct supports from ODE. This system utilizes the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) as a framework to establish systemic collaborative structures designed to support development and implementation of focused goals and a strategic plan looking at both student academic and non-academic needs. The continuous improvement cycle becomes the process for district and school core work and is used to implement, monitor and evaluate their goals and strategic plan.

The State Support Team for Region 9 provides high quality professional development and technical assistance to districts and community schools that support the implementation of the OIP and is responsible for the regional delivery of services.

Literacy

SST9 provides and supports high quality professional development, technical assistance, and early literacy and adolescent literacy information and resources to educators, school leaders, and family members to positively impact the literacy outcomes of children in preschool through high school graduation.

Family and Community Engagement

SST 9 promotes strong family and educator partnerships to enhance school success for students. SST staff offer information on issues which impact all families, including students with disabilities and those at risk through resources and learning opportunities from before birth and beyond to ensure college and career readiness.

SST9 staff work in collaboration with ESC Parent Mentors, Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidences (OCALI), the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD), local districts, families, and community partners to create proactive systems of support to meet the needs of all learners.

Special Education

Ohio's State Performance Plan, which identifies specific performance indicators for districts and entities serving students with disabilities, drives SST9's work around special education.

SST9 supports districts and community schools in the improvement of outcomes for students with disabilities through targeted technical assistance and professional development with an emphasis on supporting diverse learners to close achievement gaps. SST9 staff also partners with districts as they participate in the Comprehensive Monitoring Process for special education on-site reviews conducted by the Ohio Department of Education.

Secondary Transition

The transition from high school to work, adult training, the military or college may be the most significant decision making process in a student's lifetime.

For students with disabilities, a well-designed transition plan in the IEP (Individualized Instruction Program) is imperative. SST staff provide professional development, technical assistance and support to districts and community schools to support the transition planning process.

Career Technical Education

SST9 provides support for Career Technical Planning Districts (CTPD) in three counties. The focus of technical assistance provided is to expand instructional strategies and support to career technical instructors to support special education services that ensure access for students with disabilities.

Early Learning and School Readiness

Early Learning and School Readiness focuses on improving results for young children both with and without disabilities. SST9 provides services to support leadership and staff within school districts, County Boards of DD and other agencies that serve young children. These supports focus on high-quality instruction and are provided through technical assistance, professional development and consultation.