

Region 4 State Support Team (SST-4)

The SST-4 is part of the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) regional system of service delivery.

Region 4 serves school districts and families in Lake & Geauga Counties by providing professional development and technical assistance designed to help them develop and deliver specially designed instruction aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards and promotes involvement and progress in the general curriculum. The SST also assists districts and agencies in complying with federal and state laws/regulations to ensure the full participation of children and youth with disabilities in the school community.

The ODE's Office for Exceptional Children, provides funding to SSTs for the express purpose of improving the achievement of children and youth, including those with disabilities and those at risk of being identified as disabled.

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Lake & Geauga County PARENT COLLABORATIVE

BE INVOLVED

BE AWARE

BE KNOWLEDGEABLE

PARTICIPATE !

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Lake & Geauga
Parent Collaborative

*Family and School
Partnership*



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Parental Involvement

The Ohio State Board of Education recognizes parents and families as their children's first and most important teachers.

When parents enroll their children in school, they are filled with eager anticipation for the endless possibilities and potential for their children's future success and happiness. To maximize this potential, however, partnerships must be created among families, schools and communities. These child-centered and family-focused partnerships can engage, guide and motivate students to reach their full potential and become productive citizens in a global society.

In recognition of the need for strengthening parent engagement in districts, the State Board of Education enhanced existing parent involvement policy requirements by adopting a Parent and Family Involvement Policy (2007). This policy is to be used in the development of local practices, programs, data collection and evaluation.

Parents In the Know

The Region 4 State Support Team has three goals for supporting families:

- **To establish a Collaborative Parent Planning Committee:** This small group of dedicated parents, district parent mentors, and agency representatives meet monthly to collaborate and create workshops and educational events for parents in Lake and Geauga counties.
- **To establish a Region 4 Parent Council** with parent representatives from each of the 16 school districts and from community support agencies. Council meetings are open to all parents and include an education update and a specific presentation or event.
- **To provide a forum for families** to exchange information and address various topics related to the education of their children with special needs.

How To Be Involved

Parents may become involved in any of the following ways:

1. Participate in the educational opportunities offered through the Parent Council. These events will be listed on the Region 4 SST website: www.sst4.org.
2. Contact your school district's Special Education Director or Student Services Director. If your district has a Parent Council Liaison, ask to be considered for this role.
3. Offer to become a member of the Collaborative Parent Planning Committee for Region 4 SST.

For additional information on any of the above options, please contact these SST consultants:

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