

**Central Office**

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Programs**Day Treatment Centers**

Eastwood
Greenview
Hopewell
Ireland
Phoenix
Prentiss
Willow Creek

Connections**Early Childhood Plus****PEP Assist**

May 23, 2018

Joelle Magyar

Superintendent

Brecksville/Broadview Heights City Schools

6638 Mill Road

Brecksville, OH 44141-1599

Dear Joelle:

Enclosed is the annual contract for Special Education Services provided by Positive Education Program (PEP). This agreement is being sent to both the district superintendent and the district's lead special education administrator. Please sign the agreement and return it to:

Bruce Basalla, Treasurer

Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio (ESCNEO)

6393 Oak Tree Blvd, Independence, OH 44131

Like all of you, PEP has been responding to and preparing for change, given new mandates and funding realities. We are grateful that this response has been developed with the support and engagement of our PEP Board, which includes several school superintendents as members. We have benefited from this strong partnership in many ways and believe it helps maintain necessary transparency to assure the districts we serve that proper oversight is in place.

We are very aware of the academic demands and fiscal challenges districts are facing. Our budget and our programming are developed with that in mind. The most significant changes are being imposed by the State's Behavioral Health (BH) Redesign, which impact PEP's revenues. In response, we have been proactive in addressing our program model and we are taking measures to manage costs. These measures include consolidation as we have closed one of our centers (PEP Ireland) and we are able to accommodate these students within our other buildings. We have trimmed administrative expenses and we have frozen all staff salaries.

For the 2018-19 school year, tuition rates reflect a 2% increase for K-8 students enrolled at Eastwood, Greenview, Hopewell, and Willow Creek and a 5% increase for students grades 9-12 at those same centers. At PEP Phoenix, where we serve students dually-diagnosed with cognitive and emotional challenges, there will be a 2% increase for all grades. At PEP Prentiss Autism Center, there will be a 1% increase.

While the financial implications are critical to all of us, I know that we share a passion for the programmatic as well. To that end, I want to share some of the exciting things we are doing at PEP.

- We have taken a leadership role in the community around trauma-informed care, having developed a strong partnership with Dr. Bruce Perry and The ChildTrauma Academy. On May 15, we brought Dr. Perry to Cleveland for a special training event that was attended by 640 people. Ten of PEP's clinical leaders have earned Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) Phase 1 certification and 10 PEP education leaders have earned Neurosequential Model of Education (NME) trainer status. PEP is now part of the NME/NMT network facilitated through The ChildTrauma Academy.
- We have shifted the calendar at PEP Prentiss Autism Center to a year-round schedule to better accommodate the needs of these students and districts, which begins this July.
- As we have in past summers, PEP will operate weekly psychiatric clinics for students receiving psychiatric services at PEP. The service is free of charge to districts. Case managers now work year-round, so that their contact with students will continue throughout the summer.

Demand for PEP Assist consultation and training services continues to grow. Districts have experienced this service as a cost-effective way to support challenging students within the district. These services are available through full or partial year contracts or on an as needed basis for consultation or staff development and are developed and designed to meet the specific needs of the district.

It is likely you've read or seen news about the funding challenges facing PEP Connections. The state has informed us that the unique Medicaid waiver that provides the additional funding for this program will not continue past June 30. We are working all angles to secure the funding needed so that PEP can continue to deliver these needed more intensive services and wraparound flexible rehabilitative services. We have been encouraged by the advocates supporting us in this effort and are working diligently across many platforms to deliver a positive solution.

As many of you know, Frank Fecser will retire on June 30, at the culmination of a 40-year career with PEP, 20 of those years spent as PEP's CEO. Our PEP Board has recently chosen Habeebah R. Grimes, currently PEP's chief clinical officer, as his successor. Habeebah is a mission-driven leader who can be counted on to continue PEP's legacy of doing whatever it takes to help kids learn and grow.

Thank you for your continued support of Positive Education Program. We are working to meet your needs and are very interested in your continuing feedback. Please contact Frank Fecser at 216-361-7760 ext. 123 for more information or to discuss the contract or services.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Mengerink, Ed. D.
Superintendent
Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio



Frank A. Fecser, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Positive Education Program

c: Gina Symsek

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER OF NORTHEAST OHIO
AGREEMENT FOR ADMISSION OF PUPILS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 3313.841

The Board of Education for (**Educating District**) _____ hereby enters into a contract for the admission of pupils to the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio for educational purposes for the school year of 2018-2019. The above-referenced Board of Education ("the Educating District") hereby agrees to pay to the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio ("ESCNEO") for each pupil an amount equal to the Program Cost per Enrollment Day as listed below.

In cases where the Educating District is not also the District of Residence, the Educating District acknowledges that it is solely responsible for paying to the ESCNEO the per pupil amount equal to the Program Cost as listed below, and is solely responsible for seeking reimbursement from the District of Residence as authorized by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3323.

In cases where a pupil who receives services from a program listed below transfers to a different Educating District and continues his/her placement with Positive Education Program (PEP) following the transfer, the Educating District acknowledges that it is solely responsible for paying to the ESCNEO the per pupil amount equal to the program cost as listed below as soon as the Educating District receives evidence that the pupil is present in the district, is eligible for services, and a copy of the most recent applicable IEP as required by 34 CFR §300.323 and Ohio Administrative Code §3301-51-07(K)(5).

The Educating District also acknowledges that it is responsible for transporting each pupil, and for seeking reimbursement for transportation costs from the District of Residence as authorized by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3323.

Positive Education Program Service:	Rate per Enrollment Day
Eastwood, Greenview, Hopewell & Willow Creek DTC - Grades K to 8 (Maximum 185 billable days)	\$243
Eastwood, Greenview, Hopewell & Willow Creek DTC - Grades 9 to 12 (Maximum 185 billable days)	\$250
Phoenix DTC – All Grades (Maximum 185 billable days)	\$312
Prentiss Autism Center – All Grades (Maximum 194 billable enrollment days)	\$429
Home Instruction	\$243

Billing for services rendered will be on a monthly basis.

(Signature) Superintendent of Educating District

Date

(Signature) Treasurer of Educating District

Date

Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio (ESCNEO)

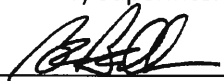
We hereby agree to admit students from the aforementioned school district pursuant to the above-referenced provisions for the school year 2018-2019.



(Signature) Superintendent of ESC of Northeast Ohio

May 23, 2018

Date



(Signature) Treasurer of ESC of Northeast Ohio

May 23, 2018

Date

Please return a signed copy of the agreement to:

Bruce Basalla, Treasurer • ESC of Northeast Ohio • 6393 Oak Tree Boulevard • Independence, OH 44131