



EEG News & Updates

Mission

The mission of the Educational Empowerment Group is to promote knowledge, wisdom and understanding to all stakeholders that empowers success in our global society.

Vision

The vision of the Educational Empowerment Group is to elevate the experience for students and stakeholders by positively changing the landscape of charter school education.

A Message from the CEO

We believe that full implementation of evidence-based programs will yield favorable results. Since the employment of the RCA House System, there has been a positive shift in the cultures of the schools that have fully executed the program. We have noticed greater accountability among students, collaboration, camaraderie, restorative justice practices, community service, unity among staff and students and overall school pride.



We want the same success to translate academically. Ask yourself these reflective questions:

- *Are you fully implementing evidence-based practices and strategies on a daily basis to produce successful results?*
- *How are you utilizing data from classroom walkthroughs to coach and fine tune instructional practices to increase overall achievement among students?*
- *Are teachers using formative assessment tools to remediate, review or re-teach standards that have not been mastered?*

I challenge each of you to have a laser focus on academics. Evaluate your academic plan of improvement and monitor every aspect of the plan. Every

student should demonstrate a minimum of 1.25 years of growth each year. Use the EMPOWER system to get a clear picture of the data and use it to inform instruction. Ensure you and your instructional teams are motivated and setting the tone for academic improvement. We want our schools to have positive academic results to correlate with our positive culture.

Every student is not on the same academic level, but every student can grow! Our leaders and teachers are the facilitators of student growth. It's up to you to make that difference!!

Wendy Rydarowicz, Founder and CEO

Breaking Barriers at IAW



Innovation Academy West (IAW) is making quite a splash in the large pool of charter schools in Ohio. Recently, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) allocated grant funding to seven high performing community schools for the purpose of improving school facilities. We are proud to announce that IAW is one of the recipients of this grant award.

Innovation Academy West was awarded one million dollars in grant funds, and the school will utilize the capital to enhance its current programming and further meet the needs of students. IAW continues to blaze the trail of excellence among area community schools, and stakeholders are taking notice. State Representative Sean Patrick Brennan (D- Parma) will visit Innovation Academy West on Friday, March 10 to tour the school and speak to middle school students.

"I am so excited about this expansion for Innovation Academy West. We are at the point where we need this gymnasium to continue our growth and provide services to our neighborhood. We as a school will be able to create a more idyllic space for our physical education classes and a state-of-the-art STEAM lab. We have felt the support from all of our stakeholders, including The IAW Board of Directors, The Educational Empowerment Group and our students and families who are invested in our growth. We can't wait for all of the special things that a gymnasium will bring us in the future, and we sincerely appreciate the support!" **Maria Hejnal, Principal of Innovation Academy West**

The House System School Spotlight

Would you like to know how to get high school students excited about school? The ACT administrative team will gladly show you. Principal Jaeda Dancy and Principal Leeanna Simmons of Akron Career Tech High School (ACT) is shaping a dynamic culture and boosting

school spirit among students through the use of the RCA House System. Principal Dancy has noted a difference in student relationships since the inception of this positive behavior program. Students are forging friendships which are fostering interconnection and raising morale. The students of ACT have collaborated to complete notable projects this year which include the following:



- A Canned Food Drive
- Black History Month Activities - Sponsored by Altruismo
- A Kindness Tree - Sponsored by Amistad
- A Minute to Win It Competition

The school staff is exuberant of ACT pride, as each member is involved in the House System. They motivate the students with their active participation and enthusiasm. The staff helps to stimulate healthy competition and ownership of the houses. The administrative team has also strategically engaged parents by allowing them to spin the wheel when visiting the school. One of the Amistad parents even made Valentine's Day bags for every female student. Akron Career Tech High School has set the foundation for an excellent culture, and we expect a domino effect of successes in academics and enrollment. Congratulations, Principal Dancy, Principal Simmons and the ACT Team!



March Wellness

Did you know that the month of March is National Nutrition Month? This is the prime time for all of us to evaluate our food intake to ensure we are eating foods that ignite energy and stimulate



good health. Healthy food choices will fight against chronic diseases and fuel our bodies with nutrients needed to live productive lives.

EEG wants to support you by providing helpful information to promote wellness among our work family. For tips on food pairing and nutrition, check out the following newsletter from our Benefit Related Services:

[Live Well Work Well Newsletter](#)

Our EEG team members are second to none! We would like to give kudos to those who have gone the extra mile to ensure positive outcomes within the company and our schools.



Jillian Thornton - Thank you for your hard work which resulted in successful food service audits for our schools!

Samuel Miller and the Facilities Team - Thank you for transforming the third floor of our headquarters! The fresh paint looks amazing!

Elaine Keller and the Accounting Team - Thank you for your diligence with bringing AMEX accounts current!

“None of us is as smart as all of us.” - Ken Blanchard

Education...

The Educational Empowerment Group

is doing what's best for kids!

