



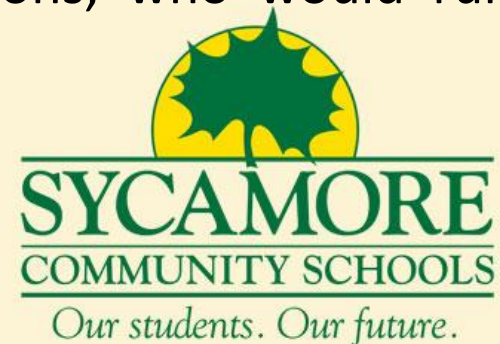
Sycamore Community Schools Leadership Academy

Committee Chair: Mary Reid

Committee Members: Chris Dobrozsi,
Jane Garfield, Ann Scranton & Karen
VanWagenen

Committee is charged with determining program viability, pros and cons of the program, the goals & objectives of the program, outlining the structure & determining next steps

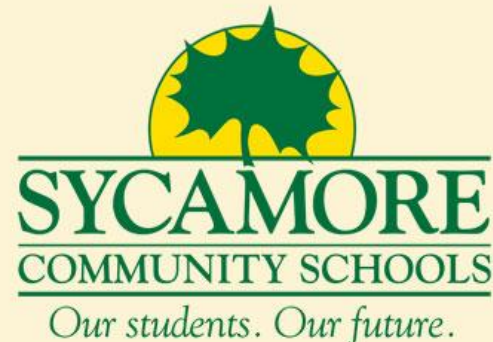
- Could a viable program be developed that focuses on the knowledge and exposure needed for stakeholders to take an informed leadership role within the Sycamore Schools' community?
- Could this program help achieve the districts communication objectives and how?
- What would a district leadership program look like?
- What should the structure of the program be – number and scope of sessions offered, number of participants, cost to participants, application process, dates, topics, locations, who would run the program, etc.?



Would a leadership program be viable for Sycamore Community Schools?

YES!

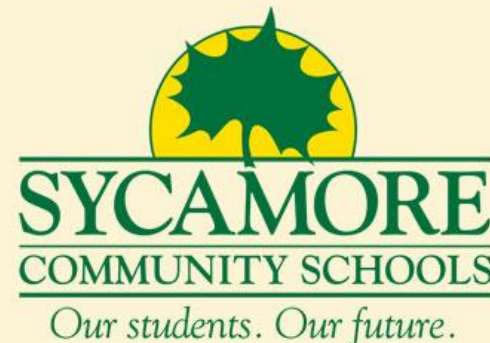
- The Montgomery Citizen Leadership Academy, currently utilizes Sycamore Community Schools as one of their class venues.
- Sycamore faculty and staff have already developed potential course content in areas of technology, nutrition, curriculum, and budget that could be tailored for this purpose.

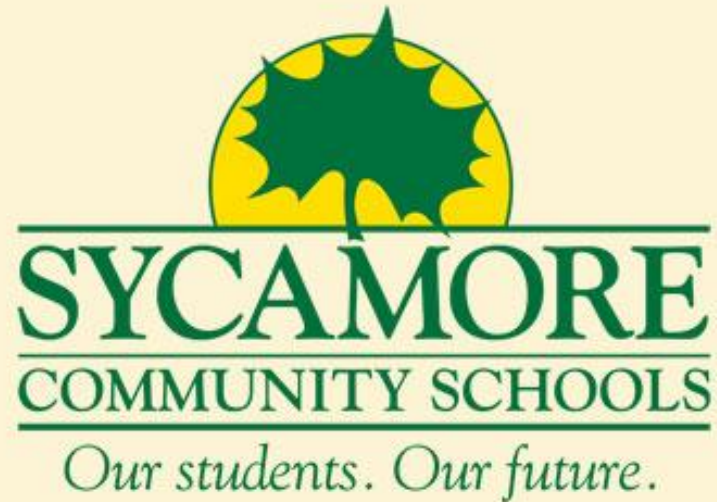


Could this program help achieve the districts communications objectives & how?

YES!

- Community engagement creates a network of neighborhood ambassadors.
- Fosters relationships outside the classroom between the district and members of the public.
- Develops future leaders for board and commission positions within the district. - Six members of the SPC are graduates of MCLA.





MISSION

To transform residents into actively engaged advocates of the Sycamore Community School District.

OBJECTIVES

- Participants will meet other stakeholders within the community, students, faculty, staff and key representatives of Sycamore Community Schools.
- Participants will learn about the history of the district and how it compares to other districts.
- Participants will be exposed to how school districts are funded in Ohio and the impact on our district
- Participants will learn the process of how programming and curriculum are chosen in the district.
- Participants will be exposed to the Board of Education's role in making our district fiscally and academically exceptional.
- Participants will leave with an informed perspective on how the district actually operates.
- Participants will have an opportunity to choose the role that they can play in helping the district continue to be exceptional.

The committee looked at several different programs in making their determination, some include:

City of Montgomery - Montgomery Citizen Leadership Academy (MCLA)

www.montgomeryohio.org

Cincinnati Public Schools – Cincinnati Parents for Public Schools

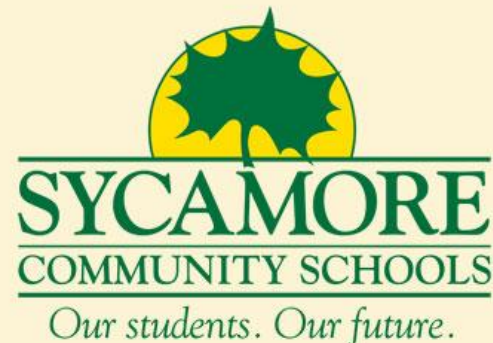
www.cps-k12.org

Denver Public Schools – Parent Leadership Institute

www.dpsk12.org

Parent Leadership Training Institute - Alexandria, VA

www.plti-alex.org



What would a district leadership program look like?

Program Scope:

- We recommend a program consisting of 5 sessions
- Meeting one evening per week, for 5 consecutive weeks, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Include a shared meal within the timeframe of the class
- Rotate Locations: Montgomery Elementary, Blue Ash Elementary, E. H. Greene Middle School, Sycamore Junior High School & Sycamore High School
- Cost to participants - \$49 or lower, if possible
- Max number of participants should be no more than 25
- Run program once or twice per year

What would a district leadership program look like?

Program Participants:

- Participants chosen via application process
- Publicize via social media, district website, city & community bulletins & local newspapers.
- Special focus on recruiting residents not currently affiliated with the district: seniors, empty nesters, residents without children, pre-school parents, private school parents, etc.

Who Would Run the Program

- Facilitator, with members of the school board, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students at each session.
- Utilize weekly email evaluations, sent the day after class, to continually improve the program.



AVES Sycamore Leadership – Course Content

Active

Volunteers

Enriching

Sycamore

THE ABC'S OF SYCAMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

CLASS ONE:

Location: Montgomery Elementary

- Welcome & Meal – encourage participants to sit with people they don't know.
- Introductions in Morning Meeting style round group discussion
“Why are we here?”, “Who’s in the room?”
- Facility tour
- Team building exercise - (Red Rover game in gym?)
- Q&A - *“What type of AVES are you?”*, ie., sports, band, grandma, dad, alum, booster, senior
- Thank You!



ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A SYCAMORE 5TH GRADER?

CLASS TWO:

Location: E.H. Greene Middle School

- Welcome & Meal – encourage participants to sit with people they don't know.
- Facility tour
- Discussion on curriculum standards, placement & district rankings
- Tools in the classroom – Old School vs. New School; includes an interactive demonstration of Interwrite Boards, Netbooks & iPads and their effect on teaching methods.
- Q & A
- Thank You!



\$HOW ME THE MONEY

CLASS THREE:

Location: Blue Ash Elementary

- Welcome & Meal – encourage participants to sit with people they don't know.
- Discussion on the cost & budget challenges facing public school districts, ending with budget exercise with play money.
- Facility tour
- Brief overview of how a school board meeting is conducted, followed by a scripted, mock School Board meeting.
- Q & A
- Thank You!



DINNER AND A SHOW

CLASS FOUR:

Location: Sycamore Junior High

- Welcome & Meal – encourage participants to sit with people they don't know.
- Discussion on mandated nutritional guidelines & the challenges of feeding our students
- Facility tour
- Bus ride to and from the transportation facility, with overview of how Sycamore moves its' students.
- Jr. High Auditorium – showcase of musical department
- Q & A
- Thank You!



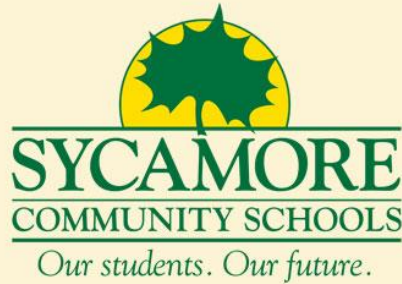
SYCAMORE LEADERSHIP – TAKE FLIGHT

CLASS FIVE:

Location: Sycamore High School

- Welcome & Meal – encourage participants to sit with people they don't know.
- Facility tour
- Summary of prior classes. Highlighting ways Sycamore reduces costs while maintaining a quality education through shared services, cooperative partnerships & a vital network of committed, active volunteers.
- Representatives from PTO's, booster groups, after school enrichment and local support organizations briefly speak about their organizations.
- Ask participants *"Where can you make a difference?"*
- Class Graduation Ceremony with diplomas, "Class of 2012" t-shirts, or Sycamore "Swag" bags with tickets to future Sycamore events.
- Thank You!





Sycamore Planning Commission Presentation Feedback

- Allow students to interact with and present to the class.
- School administration should attend the majority of the program during the five weeks.
- Rotate the programs you highlight during the course, ie., athletics , academics, arts, gifted/talented
- Have class every other week, rather than 5 consecutive weeks
- Shorten length of class time.
- Reduce cost of class.
- Eliminate meal.

Next Steps

- Board presentation & determination of merit
- Form committee to further develop the program
- Determine a financial budget
- Identify who will run the program
- Develop an application review process

