



Constellation Schools

The Right Choice for Parents and a Real Chance for Children!



2006-2007 Annual Report • 2007-2008 School Calendar

ELYRIA COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY



Mission Statement

Elyria Community Elementary • 300 North Abbe Road • Elyria, Ohio 44035 • Phone: 440.366.5225 • Fax: 440.366.6280

Mission

Constellation Schools creates and provides diverse superior educational opportunities for a community of learners, built on a foundation of character education in a safe environment, ensuring the success of all children in our advancing technological society.



Value

As a school of choice, we believe all children deserve a superior education in a safe, caring, nurturing environment. We will create a community of learners where children excel, become responsible citizens, and are exposed to the highest ethical standards.

Organization Slogan

*The Right Choice for Parents
and a Real Chance for Children!*

Vision

Constellation Schools will create a premiere learning community characterized by high expectations and academic excellence.

Our students will be engaged in the process of learning and will become responsible, involved citizens. They will be life long learners, technologically proficient, and perform to their maximum potential.

Our parents will be positively engaged in the education of their children and be participants in school activities.

Our personnel will be committed, competent, compassionate individuals who will consistently exemplify the highest ethical and professional standards.

Our management team will provide superior leadership, resources and support to facilitate the optimal operations of our school.

Our Board of Directors will guide the organization in creating a culture of excellence and success.

Character Education Slogan

*We all have Choices.
Choices have Consequences.
Be Smart and Make the Right Choice!*

Constellation Schools and Elyria Community Elementary admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin, and will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, disability, age or gender in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, hiring, and employee retention policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.



Constellation Schools & History

Constellation Schools • 5983 West 54th Street • Parma, Ohio 44129 • Phone: 440.845.7688 • Fax: 440.845.7689

Constellation Schools is an Ohio nonprofit corporation, and IRC 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization, that was established in 1999 to create and operate high quality community (charter) schools offering a superior, safe learning environment. Currently there are sixteen (16) schools in Constellation's community of schools; they are: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary, Old Brooklyn Community Middle, Parma Community Elementary, Middle and High, Elyria Community Elementary, Lorain Community Elementary, Lorain Community Middle, Westpark Community Elementary, Westpark Community Middle, Mansfield Community Elementary, Puritas Community Elementary, Puritas Community Middle, Stockyard Community Elementary, Madison Community Elementary, Lorain Gifted Academy, Outreach Academy for Children with Disabilities and Westside Community School of the Arts.

Our learning communities are characterized by small classes, high expectations, involved parents, and engaged students. We provide safe and secure buildings; the best available curriculum; current textbooks; and, extensive use of computers and other technology. Constellation Schools hires only highly qualified, state-certified/licensed teachers and provides extensive and on-going professional development for all personnel.

Character education is the cornerstone of our program. Students are expected to adhere to a demanding code of behavioral conduct, including a dress code, and are held accountable for their actions through a comprehensive and strict disciplinary policy.

Parents are expected to be active participants in the education of their children, support the school policies, supervise homework and attend conferences.

Constellation Schools Elyria Community Elementary Sponsor

James George, Director of Community Schools

Lucas County Educational Service Center

Collingwood Center • 2275 Collingwood Road • Toldeo, Ohio 43624
(419) 295-4150

Constellation Schools Grades K-4

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary (1998)

Cherie Kaiser, Principal
4430 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109
216.661.7888 • 216.661.5975 fax

Westpark Community Elementary (2001)

Macey Baldizzi, Principal
16210 Lorain, Cleveland, Ohio 44111
216.688.0271 • 216.688.0273 fax

Lorain Community Elementary (2001)

Melisa Shady, Principal
201 West Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052
440.204.2130 • 440.204.2134 fax

Puritas Community Elementary (2003)

Donald Disantis, Principal
15204 Puritas Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44135
216.688.0680 • 216.688.0609 fax

Constellation Schools Grades K-9

Parma Community Elementary,

Middle & High (2000)

Linda Geyer, Principal
Elementary
7667 Day Drive, Parma, Ohio 44129
440.845.5490 • 440.888.5890 fax

Middle and High

5983 West 54th Street, Parma, Ohio 44129
440.845.2587 • 440.845.2834 fax

Constellation Schools Grades K-12

Outreach Academy for Children with **Disabilities** (2006)

Mary Wideman-Blake, Principal
3326 Broadview Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109
216.661.6655 • 330.732.2497 fax

Constellation Schools Grades K-8

Lorain Gifted Academy (2004)

Richard Hronek, Principal
307 West 7th Street, Lorain, Ohio 44052
440.244.0855 • 440.244.0857 fax

Constellation Schools Grades K-6

Mansfield Community Elementary (2002)

Bethany Young, Principal
455 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio 44906
419.522.4578 • 419.522.2705 fax

Stockyard Community Elementary (2004)

Audrey Petsche-Sims, Principal
3200 West 65th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44102
216.651.5143 • 216.651.9515 fax

Madison Community Elementary (2004)

Kathryn Fiorillo, Principal
2015 West 95th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44102
216.651.5212 • 216.651.9040 fax

Constellation Schools Grades K-8

Elyria Community Elementary (2001)

Lee Henderson, Principal
300 North Abbe Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035
440.366.5225 • 440.366.6280 fax

Constellation Schools Grades 5-8

Old Brooklyn Community Middle (2006)

Amy Mobley, Principal
4430 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44109
216.351.0280 • 216.661.5975 fax

Westpark Community Middle (2006)

Karil Sako, Principal
16210 Lorain, Cleveland, Ohio 44111
216.251.7200 • 216.251.7220 fax

Puritas Community Middle (2006)

Donald Disantis, Principal
15204 Puritas Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44135
216.251.1596 • 216.688.0609 fax

Lorain Community Middle (2006)

Jennifer Cairns, Principal
307 West 7th Street, Lorain, Ohio 44052
440.242.2023 • 440.242.2044 fax



Message from the Chairman

Constellation Schools continues to grow and improve. During the 2006/2007 school year we have implemented many things designed to ensure our schools have the resources necessary to assist students, and that our teachers know how to use these resources.



Every teacher in every classroom is using AIMSweb to assess student performance on an ongoing basis. Where students are not advancing as expected, interventions can be implemented nearly immediately. Professional development for teachers and staff has always been a high priority for us, however, this year we greatly expanded and improved our professional development program. Our special education program remains second to none, and this year we have expanded our use of alternative assessments to ensure the success of all children. We have also focused on standardizing our curriculum, our summer school program, and our kindergarten readiness screening. Because of the growth we have experienced, and our expected future growth, we implemented a Principal Training Program. Two interns spent the entire year working with our experienced principals and administrators to ensure they will be ready to open and effectively operate Constellation schools for the 2007/2008 school year.

Despite our growth, student and school performance continue to improve. For the 2005/2006 school year, Westpark Community Elementary and Lorain Gifted Academy were rated "Excellent," and Old Brooklyn Community Elementary and Parma Community Elementary, Middle & High were rated "Effective" by the Ohio Department of Education. Most other Constellation schools are rated "Continuous Improvement" but all are focused on improving student performance.



Our expansion plans for Old Brooklyn Community Elementary/Old Brooklyn Community Middle, Westpark Community Elementary/Westpark Community Middle, Lorain Community Elementary/Lorain Community Middle, Stockyard Community Elementary and Parma Community Elementary, Middle & High continue with groundbreaking expected at Old Brooklyn and Westpark during the 2007/2008 school year. To accommodate the expansion we are currently seeking a \$20 million bond issue and expect to have the transaction finalized by fall. Our purchase of the Schaaf Community Center building in Parma will also allow us to initiate our first high school during the 2007/2008 school year.

Our specialty schools, Lorain Gifted Academy and Outreach Academy, continue to meet the needs of underserved populations. Gifted students at our Lorain Academy are flourishing with the rigorous program we have established. And, the profoundly disabled/medically fragile children served by Outreach Academy also flourish with the compassionate program we have created there.

Besides initiating our first-ever high school program, we will also open a school dedicated to bringing a high quality arts program to Cleveland's west side during the 2007/2008 school year.

Strategic planning continues to play a major role in the development of our organization and our schools, and our focus remains on one thing – providing a high quality education to all children.





Administrative Staff & Board Members



Elyria Community Elementary Board Members

Left to Right:
Karil Sako – Secretary
Jenny Cairns
John Noga – Chairman
Sue Laycock
Jeannine Wolfe

Constellation Schools' Board Members



**Richard Lukich,
Chairman**



Gerald Preseren



Rebecca Keeney

Gerald Preseren
Executive Director

Thomas Babb
Treasurer

Jean Sandler
Accountant
Dee Ann Bruner
Edie Myhre
Administrative Assistants-Finance

David Calco
Technology Coordinator
Gary Schaefer
Randall Kufel
Lisa Geyer
Technology Specialists

John Roberts
Coordinator of Educational Programs

Roy Zeman
Coordinator of Educational Services

Becky Jordan
Lisa Stepney
Sonya Lewis
School Psychologists
Jill Teresczuk
Amanda Stricker
Sandra Shaprio
Speech and Language Pathologists

Karen Boose
Frances Horvath
Occupational Therapists

Kim Stanislo
Karen Baker
Lisa Stern
Kelley Vazquez
Diane Sauder
School Nurses

Sharon Morgan
Coordinator of Staff & Professional Development

Penny Hockey
Administrative Assistant

Deborah Kilbane
Principal In-Training

Richard Hronek
Coordinator of Gifted Services

Jeffrey Soltis
Facility Operations Manager
John Allen
Maintenance

Karen Florian
Human Resource Manager

Menetta Szabo
Administrative Assistant

Lisa Vinarcik
Manager of Marketing & Public Relations



Staff/Student Demographics

About Our Students

During the 2006-2007 school year Elyria Community Elementary (ECE) served 251 students in grades K-8. Students at ECE are taken on a first come, first served basis during the first two weeks of December. Those students who are currently enrolled are ensured a place for the following school year if they enroll during these two weeks. If more students apply than there are spots, a lottery is held and a waiting list is formed.

The entire teaching staff at Elyria Community Elementary have professional certificates and meet the "Highly Qualified Requirements" of the No Child Left Behind Act.

All three teaching assistants are professionally licensed and are continuing to work toward other educational degrees.

Elyria Community Elementary opened in the year of 2001 with seven staff members. Since this time the staff has grown to include twenty one staff members, as well as four supplemental instructors in the building during the week. In addition, we have added Physical Education and Music as fulltime staff.

Staff Roster:

Principal Lee Henderson

Administrative Assistants Candice Simpson, Andrea Onaiwu

Kindergarten Denise Smith, Jacque Simboli

First Grade Sarah Monahan, Becky Sklenar

Second Grade Nancy Zillman, Tina Bartlome

Third Grade Megan Lange, Tiffany Spinks

Fourth Grade Kristine Burns, Sue Stevens

Fifth Grade Megan Ramos, Heather Shepherd

Sixth Grade Kirk McGeehen

Seventh Grade Amy Smith

Eighth Grade Arthea Adkins

Title I Jacque Denger, Bryan Camp, Mary Cogdell

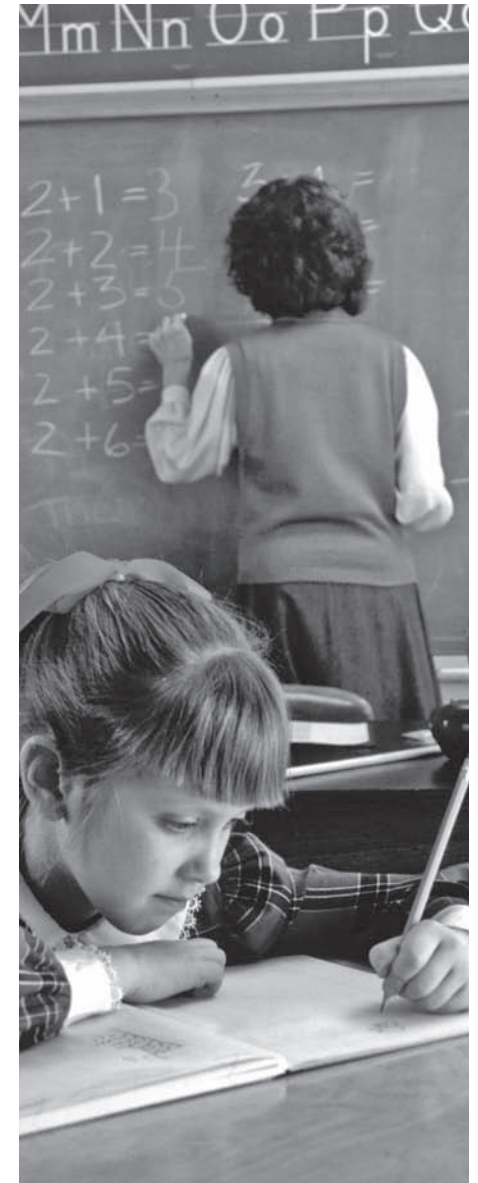
Special Education Melissa Martin, Heather Synder

Physical Education Lori Miller

Instructional Aide Dawn Hoffman

Teaching Assistant Vicki Fritz, Heather Gorski

Music Instructor Sarah Tomasewki





Staff/Student Attendance & Enrollment

Enrollment

251 Students

15% African American

73% Caucasian

12% Other

45% Female

55% Male

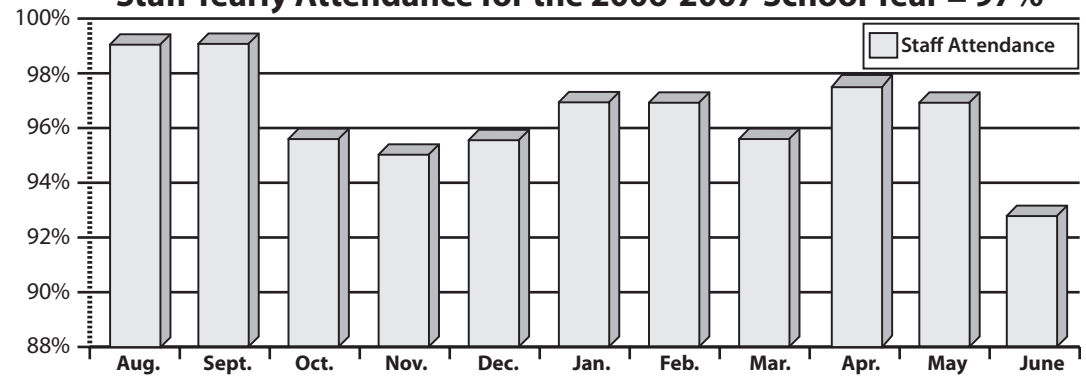
38% Eligible for Low Income



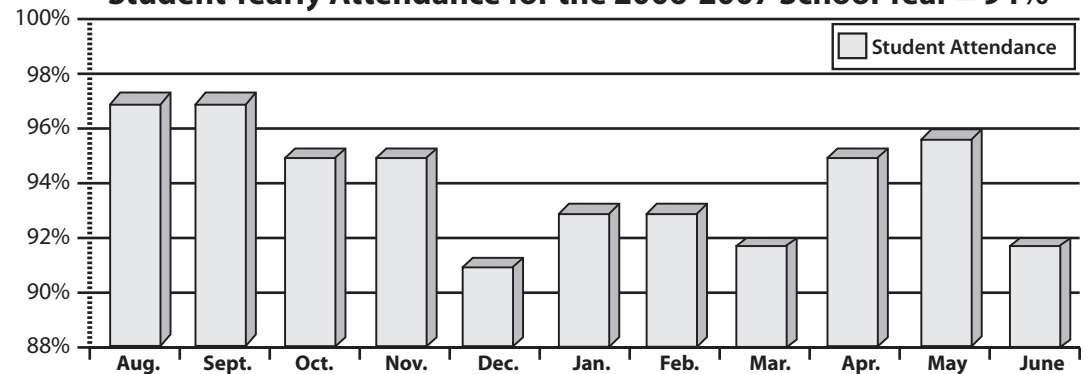
Home School Notification

The school is a public school and students enrolled in and attending the school are required to take proficiency tests and other examinations prescribed by law. In addition, there may be other requirements for students at the school that are prescribed by law. Students who have been excused from the compulsory attendance law for the purpose of home education as defined by the Administrative code shall no longer be excused for that purpose upon their enrollment in a community school.

Staff Yearly Attendance for the 2006-2007 School Year = 97%



Student Yearly Attendance for the 2006-2007 School Year = 94%





Education Plans/Programs

STARZ (Parent Group) Fundraisers

- Home Interiors Candle Sales
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Market Day
- Suzanne L's Chocolates
- Playground Equipment

Programs Facilitated by STARZ

- Pennies for Pets
- Box Tops for Education
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Family Reading Night
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Over 900 Hours of Parent Volunteer Service

- Scholastic Book Fairs
- Election Day Bake Sale
- Field Trip Supervision
- Bookmobile Supervision
- Halloween Parade
- Student Tutoring
- Classroom Parties/Room Parents
- Office Assistance
- Basketball Program
- 4th, 5th, 6th Grade In-School Dance

Field Trips

- Hale Farm and Village
- Great Lakes Science Center
- Lorain County Community College Stocker Center
- Fox Eight Studios
- Ohio State House
- Lake Erie Nature and Science Special Programs
- 100 Day Activities
- Science Fair
- Wax Museum Exhibit
- Intramural Basketball
- Character Education Presentations
- Awards Ceremonies
- Fall/Spring Band Concert
- Spring Musical

Assessment Measures

- AIMSWeb Curriculum Based Measures
- State Diagnostic Test (Grades 1-3)
- Stanford 10 Achievement Test
- Ohio Achievement Test
- Classroom Assessments

One of the major focuses of a Constellation School is to impart the value of caring and helping within one's community. The children who attend Elyria Community Elementary are encouraged to participate within their community. As a school, the students, teachers, and parents participated in several projects this year.

Community Involvement:

- Pennies-for-Patients supporting the Leukemia Society
- Pennies for Rainbow and Babies Children Hospital
- Pull tabs supporting the Ronald McDonald House
- Food collections for Harvest for Hunger, Lorain County Charities
- Donations of hats, gloves, and scarves for Haven House
- Sending letters of encouragement to soldiers overseas
- Annual Elyria Halloween Parade
- McTeacher/McStudent Night at local McDonald's

School/Community Involvement

- Ohio Reads
- Spring Music Program supported by Lorain Palace Theater
- Local Elyria Public Library Bookmobile Service
- Student participation of daily cleanup of classrooms and school grounds
- Student Safety Patrol
- Parent/student Installation of Playground

Elyria Community Elementary is proud of our academic achievement. Based on Achievement test scores of the previous year, students earned a Continuous Improvement Rating from the Ohio Department of Education. Elyria Community Elementary moved from an Academic Watch Rating in the year 2005-2006 back to a Continuous Improvement Rating. All Chosen Curriculum is aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards and is designed to guide students towards their grade level goals. Content areas include Reading/Language Arts, Spelling/Phonics, Math, Science/Health, and Social Studies. Teachers set high standards for achievement and behavior in their classrooms and expect that with age appropriate teaching methods, all students will achieve to their highest potential. Title 1 services (small grouping with reading/math teachers) and Special Education services are implemented to assist students with individual needs to reach their grade level goals.

Furthermore, instruction is enhanced through the use of Technology in the computer lab, integrating classroom projects with such programs as word processing, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Internet based research. Special area instruction includes Spanish, Art, Music, Band (grades 4-8), and Physical Education. In addition, Parent and Community involvement, along with our Character Education program enhances our educational plan as well, which secures a safe and nurturing learning environment for our students.





Professional Development

Constellation Schools are committed to quality professional development. Our Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) follows all state requirements to renew teaching/principal certificates and licensures. Our professional renewal process ensures a close connection between renewal activities of the educators and classroom practices. The continued development and improvement of relevant and applicable professional pedagogical skills and knowledge are essential to the education process. Through professional development we can ensure that all students reach their full potential to contribute to a democratic society including maximizing each student's abilities and encouraging self-reflection and a lifelong love of learning.

LPDC plans several professional development opportunities throughout the school year such as:

- Positive Discipline
- Classroom Management
- Saxon Math/Phonics
- Character Education in the Classroom
- Pathwise Training (How to mentor an entry year teacher)
- Differentiated Instruction
- Progressbook
- Cyberchase
- Special Education Procedures
- Instructional Reading Strategies
- First Aid Training
- Technology Conference

Constellation Schools provide teachers up to \$200 per year toward professional development and allow their teachers and staff to choose some of their own professional development opportunities. Such opportunities include:

- Crisis Prevention
- Working with Word Walls
- Practical Strategies to Enhance the Classroom and Strengthen Student Behavior
- Writing About Mathematics
- Grade Level Conferences
- Title One Conference
- Fun-Filled Learning Centers for the Classroom
- SERI
- Literacy Links
- Practical Ideas and Activities for the First Year Teacher
- Using Technology to Improve Math Instruction
- Smartboard Training
- Make-It, Take-It Workshops
- Powerful Strategies for At-Risk Readers
- Guided Reading
- Reading Plus





Achievement Results

Elyria Community Elementary Achievement Test Results 2006-2007

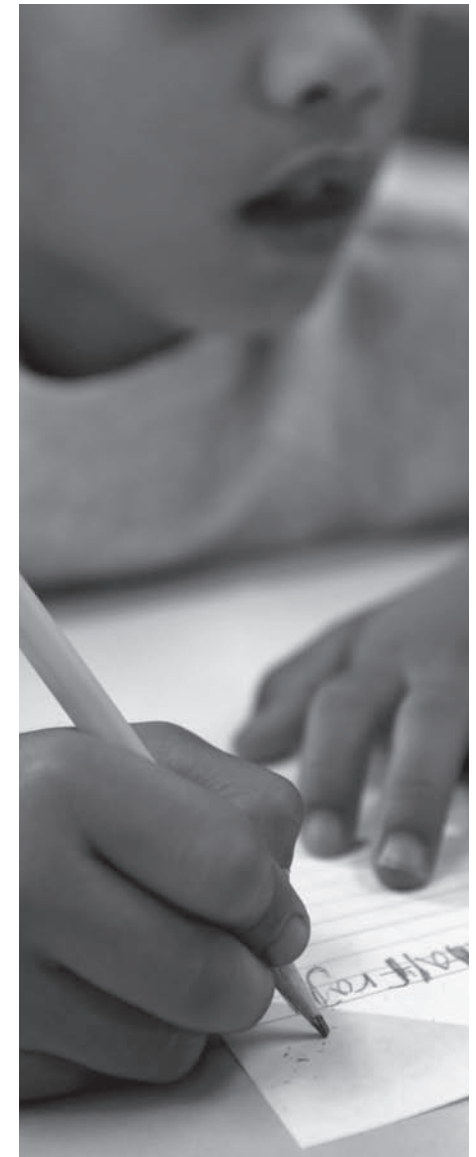
Third Grade					
	Math	Citizenship	Science	Reading	Writing
2006-2007	86.1	NT	NT	80.6	NT
2005-2006	83.0	NT	NT	72.0	NT

Fourth Grade					
	Math	Citizenship	Science	Reading	Writing
2006-2007	62.2	NT	NT	73.0	75.7
2005-2006	74.0	NT	NT	38.0	82.0

Fifth Grade					
	Math	Citizenship	Science	Reading	Writing
2006-2007	30.8	NT	42.3	46.2	23.1
2005-2006	50.0	NT	NT	72.0	NT

Sixth Grade					
	Math	Citizenship	Science	Reading	Writing
2006-2007	50.0	NT	NT	20.6	NT
2005-2006	47.0	NT	NT	82.0	NT

*NT=Not Required to Take





Stanford Testing Results

During the 2006-2007 academic year, students in grades K-8 took the Stanford 10 norm reference test in March.

The following results are listed in the normal curve equivalent (NCE). NCE is a standard score that is taken from the percentile rank. It ranges from 1-99 with a mean of 50.

Kindergarten				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	71.6	85.7	NT	78.7
Math	57.5	69.6	NT	67.6

Fifth Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	38.4	55.5	48.5	44.5
Math	40.5	59.5	43.5	37.4

First Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	63.6	49.5	76.6	50.5
Math	65.6	53.5	57.5	54.5

Sixth Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	40.5	42.5	35.4	28.4
Math	33.4	40.5	52.5	46.5

Second Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	46.5	59.5	42.5	34.4
Math	41.5	61.6	39.4	36.4

Seventh Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	NT	53.5	43.5	45.5
Math	NT	62.5	37.4	51.5

Third Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	54.5	51.5	56.5	53.5
Math	67.6	67.6	50.5	59.5

Eighth Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	NT	NT	37.4	49.5
Math	NT	NT	55.5	59.5

Fourth Grade				
	Spring 05	Spring 06	Fall 06	Spring 07
Total Reading	52.5	44.5	60.6	59.5
Math	65.6	56.5	65.6	56.5



FINANCIAL REPORT for FISCAL YEAR 2007

Highlights for the Year

- 5th annual audit by the Auditor of State issued for 2006 with an "unqualified opinion" (best opinion available)

The Cash Basis Report of Revenues and Expenditures for the Year ended June 30, 2007 reflects the activities of Elyria Community Elementary during the year. The information provided below refers to this report and the accompanying graphs.

Revenues

The largest source of operating revenue (84%) comes from the State of Ohio School Foundation Program. This funding is earned at a base rate of \$5,403 for each student enrolled during the year. Additional funds are provided for the special needs of students, the poverty level of the community in which each student resides, and other adjustments.

State and Federal Grants (10%) supplement school operations for specific purposes. Elyria Community Elementary received grants for Title I Reading, Professional Development, Technology, Safe and Drug Free Schools, Innovative Programs, Special Education, Child Nutrition Services, Entry Year Teacher Mentoring, Statistical Reporting (EMIS), Ohio Reads and Electronic Communications.

Materials Fees (2%) are collected from each student to provide consumable materials used during the year.

Other income (4%) includes interest earned on bank account activity, lunch collections, contributions and other miscellaneous items.

Expenditures

Personnel services, combined with retirement and benefits, accounted for 52% of the expenditures for the year. These expenditures include principal, support staff, teachers, state retirement systems, employment taxes and health insurances.

Purchased services (29%) include expenditures for student support services (speech, psychologist, health, physical therapy and occupational therapy), Spanish instruction, field trips, professional development, management services, test scoring, facility operations, equipment leases, telephone, postage, travel, marketing, printing and food services.

Supplies and materials (8%) include textbooks, instructional supplies, testing materials, office supplies, medical supplies, instructional software and maintenance supplies.

Capital Outlay (2%) includes purchases of equipment, furniture and building renovations.

Other (9%) includes audit fees, mortgage debt service, insurances (property, liability, fidelity bond, director/officer), dues and subscriptions and miscellaneous.

Additional Information

A more detailed set of financial statements may be obtained by calling (440) 845-7688, writing to the Treasurer, Constellation Schools, 5983 West 54th Street, Parma, Ohio 44129 or by e-mail at the following address: babb.thomas@constellationschools.com.

During the fall of 2007 the Auditor of State will audit the financial records of the school and issue an audit report. The audit report should be available in early 2008 on the Auditor's website: www.auditor.state.oh.us.

Elyria Community Elementary Cash Basis Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Year ended JUNE 30, 2007 (Unaudited)

Beginning Cash - July 1, 2006 **\$222,785**

REVENUES	
State Foundation	\$1,568,541
State & Federal Grants	\$190,742
Material Fees	\$32,560
Other Income	\$71,498
Total Revenue	\$1,863,341

EXPENDITURES	
Personnel	\$800,511
Retirement & Benefits	\$192,505
Purchased Services	\$568,257
Supplies & Materials	\$158,851
Capital Outlay	\$47,944
Other	\$171,993
Total Expenditures	\$1,940,061

Ending Cash - June 30, 2007 **\$146,065**

