



Scioto County Developmental Disabilities

Serving People for a Lifetime.



Staff Presented with Service Pins,
Raffle Prizes at Dinner
ON OUR 2ND FRONT PAGE!

Monroe Resigns as SCDD Superintendent

Board Promotes Fiscal/HR Director Matt Purcell; Contract to Start Jan. 6

Scioto County Developmental Disabilities Superintendent Julie Monroe notified the Board at its Thursday, Dec. 21, meeting that she intends to step down in January. At the same meeting, the board hired Director of Fiscal/Human Resources Matt Purcell to succeed her as superintendent.

"The Board accepted the resignation of Julie Monroe with regret, and we wish Ms. Monroe nothing but success in her new position and thanked her for her 20 years of dedication to the program," said Board President Rodney Barnett.

Monroe's last day at SCDD will be Friday, Jan. 5, and Purcell's contract as superintendent begins Saturday, Jan. 6.

Monroe has been part of a service-sharing agreement between SCDD and Lawrence County since August. She was offered the superintendent position at Lawrence County Board of DD and accepted.

"I have truly enjoyed serving the Scioto County Developmental Disabilities programs in all of my professional roles," Monroe said. "I have witnessed a lot of positive growth in our programs throughout my years of employment, and consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with the individuals served, families, providers, and community stakeholders. The Board and staff members truly care about working to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities, and I have no doubt the agency will continue to move forward."



"The Board and staff members truly care about working to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities, and I have no doubt the agency will continue to move forward."

~Superintendent Julie Monroe

"The last four years during Julie's tenure and with the Board's leadership has been a time of tremendous positive growth of our programming. I'm looking forward to continuing and building on those successes with our staff, administrative team, and with the support of our Board."

~Incoming Superintendent Matt Purcell



Monroe was promoted to superintendent in August 2014. She has also served as an Individual Support Facilitator in the Adult Services program, a Service and Support Administrator, and Director of Community Services.

"The last four years during Julie's tenure and with the Board's leadership has been a time of tremendous positive growth of our programming," Purcell said. "I'm looking forward to continuing and building on those successes with our staff, administrative team, and with the support of our Board."

Purcell has worked in a variety of positions at SCDD over the last 17 years – the last 10 years as Director of Fiscal/Human Resources. The Board offered, and Purcell accepted, a two-year contract, and Barnett said Purcell's salary will remain as-is

for the first year but will be re-evaluated during his annual performance review.

"We felt as a Board we already had someone on staff who was very credentialed to assume the role of superintendent," Barnett said. "With Mr. Purcell, we chose an individual with sound fiscal management, someone who is very caring and very dedicated to all aspects of the program and one we felt who was a go-to person in recent years."

Barnett said the Board looked to Purcell's sound fiscal management and dedication to all facets of the program when considering the hire.

The Board will host a reception at January's meeting to honor Monroe for her years of dedication and service. The next meeting will be at 4:45 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 18, at STAR, Inc., 2625 Gallia St.



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Is your School Messenger/One-Call contact info up to date?

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Staff Appreciation Dinner Recognizes Employees

Full-time 12-month Staff Awarded Service Pins for 5, 10, 15 years working at Scioto DD

Six employees were awarded for their years of service to Scioto County Developmental Disabilities at the annual Staff Appreciation Dinner at SOMC's Friends Center, including: Joy Copen, Shelley Clifford, Tara Rodino, Missi Wolfenbarker, Lori Snyder, and Carla Nelson-White.

Copen has worked at SCDD for 15 years and is currently SSA Manager in the Service & Support Administration Department based at the Vern Riffe School building.

Clifford is a Developmental Specialist in the Early Childhood Services program housed at the Carousel Center. She has served for 10 years.

Rodino is the MUI Coordinator, and is based in the VRS building and

working under the auspices of the SSA department. She has worked for SCDD for 10 years.

Wolfenbarker is a teacher at VRS, and has been working for SCDD for 10 years.

Lori Snyder is a teacher's assistant at VRS and has been working for SCDD for 10 years.

Carla Nelson-White is the executive assistant to Superintendent Julie Monroe, and has worked for SCDD for five years.

In addition to being awarded pins, each employee who attended the dinner was able to register to be a part of a raffle with prizes supplied by the superintendent and program directors. Prizes included large, themed gift baskets and gift cards to area businesses.



ABOVE: Joy Copen, SSA manager, with SSA Director Chad Phipps. Copen received her 15-year pin at the Staff Appreciation Dinner on Nov. 9 at the Friends Center. BE-LOW: Shelley Clifford, developmental specialist, with Superintendent Julie Monroe. Clifford received her 10-year pin at the Staff Appreciation Dinner.



Christmas @ Vern Riffe School



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Chris and Santa; Sun Coke-Haverhill's elves bring gifts and free lunch for students and staff; Colby shows off his gift from Sun Coke; Room 102's classroom bulletin board; Trenton gets his gift from Santa; and Christmas play rehearsal before the big show! Classes will resume Jan. 3.



Community Relations Corner

Is Your Notification Info Updated?

Christmas trees are up, shoppers are finding deals on those must-have gifts, and the first snow has already occurred, however meager.

'Tis the season, after all!

It's also the season for making sure your one-call information is updated with the Fiscal/HR office.

Scioto County Developmental Disabilities has a notificationsystem that allows us to quickly communicate important information to our stakeholders. This can include staff, students' families, individuals, and members of the community. This is the point of contact used for such things as inclement weather closures and emergencies.

In order for this system to be successful, we need up-to-date contact information.

When a new staff member starts at SCDD, they fill out a form for our School Messenger, or one-cal, system. The staff member can choose to include one or all of such things as home number, mobile number, email, and whether they would like to receive texts from us regarding important things such as program closures, delays, and important upcoming events.

The employee must opt-in when they receive the text from School Messenger, however, in order to get the texts. *Do not ignore this message if you want to get*



Lori McNelly
Community Relations
Coordinator

notifications! It is also important to check with your mobile service carrier to make sure your account is set up to accept such texts.

These notifications are also published on SCDD's Facebook page, sent to local radio and TV stations. Due to space constraints with the messaging system, more information can

generally be provided on Facebook and our website than in the one-call notification itself.

Only a few people can send one-call notifications. I am one of them, as is our Superintendent. We try to get information out as quickly and accurately as possible on a variety of platforms, with the safety of the individuals we serve and staff being top priorities.

Your contact information will be kept private. It will allow you to have the most immediate knowledge of any program schedule changes. Phone calls will show up as coming from Vern Riffe School.

So ... have you gotten a new cell phone recently? Maybe you've changed your number? Or you're getting a new phone for Christmas? Did you somehow miss filling out the paperwork to be on the one-call list?

If you have changed carriers since last you updated your information, please double check to make sure your info is still

Not Getting Messages?

- Have you filled out the one-call paperwork with HR?
- Did you receive a text from School Messenger asking you to opt-in by responding to their message? Did you respond?
- Have you changed numbers recently?
- Have you changed mobile carriers recently? Sometimes carriers must be told by customers that you want to receive these notifications or they may filter them.

valid in the HR office. Sometimes, folks get new numbers and forget to update their one-call form. Carriers recycle numbers, so someone unconnected with SCDD may get a call or text at 6 a.m. telling them our programs are closed.

Contact Fiscal/HR Secretary LeAnn Shultz with your new digits. She is the keeper of the one-call database and can be reached at ext. 34100 or leshultz@sciotodd.org.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, LeAnn, or your director. Let's all stay connected!

Lori McNelly is SCDD's Community Relations Coordinator. She can be reached at ext. 34107 or lmcnelly@sciotodd.org.

Great Year for VRS Basket Raffle, funding gifts for VRS students

The drawing for the VRS PTO basket raffle was Dec. 18, and the winners were:

- Basket 1: Ellen Horsley
- Basket 2: Dee Dee Scythes
- Basket 3: Patty Wechsler
- Basket 4: Erica Culver
- Basket 5: Melinda Dever
- Basket 6: Eddie Runyon
- Basket 7: Nettie Havens
- Basket 8: Karen Koehler
- Basket 9: Wyatt Adams
- Basket 10: Theresa Rowland

Basket 11: Mike Shonkwiler
If you won, please contact the school office at (740) 353-1876 to arrange pickup of your item.

This year's ticket sales surpassed last year's sales, and this year's goals! The total amount brought in was \$3,849, and it will be used to purchase age- and interest-appropriate Christmas gifts for VRS students.

Team SCDD

Dashianna Spencer has started work at SCDD as a Service & Support Administrator.

Dashianna is from Ironton and has three children: Clarence, Isaiah, and Gianna.

She enjoys spending time with her children, online shopping, and watching Netflix.



Dashianna chose the DD field because "I wanted to make a difference and a positive impact in the lives of others."

Dashianna will be in Room 208 temporarily

until the office renovations are complete. She can be reached at ext. 34205 and at dspencer@sciotodd.org.

Parking Lot Safety a Concern During Loading, Off-loading

This is a reminder that no vehicles are to be pulling into the parking lot between the VRS and STAR buildings during transportation loading times, which are 8:45-9:20 a.m. and 2:30-3 p.m.

There has been a recent uptick in the

number of cars attempting to navigate the lot while buses are lining up for pickup and drop-off. This causes issues that can potentially put students, individuals, and staff at risk. No vehicles should be attempting to pull in or out of the lot during these times.

Avoid Trying to Park in VRS/STAR lot from 8:45-9:20 a.m., 2:30-3 p.m.

Additional parking is available at the lots at Mabert Road Baptist Church and behind the Dash Thru convenience store. Visitors' spaces are conveniently located near the main entrance.

Please share this information as needed.



Hoffer Completes Good Life Training

Behavioral Support Coordinator Jessica Hoffer has completed Good Life Training. At left, Hoffer is shown with Willie Jones of OACB. Below, she is seated at front right with other program graduates from the SOCOG region. The facilitator training "promotes positive intentional interactions." "Not only do the people we serve have a good life," Hoffer said, "but the people in our working environment have a better life using the philosophy and tools of the Good Life."



Portsmouth Motorcycle Club's Tim "Mater" Clifford presents a full holiday dinner for a family served by VRS to Principal Teammy Guthrie and teacher Tom Koch. The dinner was provided through a collection taken by club members.

PMC Donates Holiday Dinner for VRS Student's Family

The Portsmouth Motorcycle Club donated a full Christmas dinner to one family of a Vern Riffe School student.

The dinner includes a turkey and all the trimmings, and was purchased through donations by the club membership, according to representative Tim "Mater" Clifford, who delivered the meal to the school.

School officials decided which student's family would receive the donation.

Accepting the donation on the family's behalf were VRS teacher Tom Koch and Principal Tammy Guthrie.

Calendar

MONDAY, Jan. 1

■ All SCDD programs closed in observance of the holiday.

TUESDAY, Jan. 2

■ SCDD reopens, including STAR, Inc.

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 3

■ VRS resumes after holiday break.

■ STAR: Bowling from 3-4 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

THURSDAY, Jan. 4

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, Jan. 5

■ STAR: Bowling 12:30-2 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

TUESDAY, Jan. 9

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10

■ STAR: Bowling from 3-4 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

THURSDAY, Jan. 11

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, Jan. 12

■ STAFF HALF-DAY TRAINING: SCDD programs will dismiss two hours early for staff training.

■ VRS: End of the second grading period.

■ STAR: No bowling.

MONDAY, Jan. 15

■ SCDD programs closed in

observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

TUESDAY, Jan. 16

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 17

■ STAR: Bowling from 3-4 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

THURSDAY, Jan. 18

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, Jan. 19

■ STAR: Bowling 12:30-2 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

TUESDAY, Jan. 23

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24

■ STAR: Bowling from 3-4 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25

■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, Jan. 26

■ STAR: Bowling 12:30-2 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

■ STAR: Birthdays of the Month

TUESDAY, Jan. 30




■ STAR: SSU exercise from 12:45 to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31

■ STAR: Project STIR bake sale
■ STAR: People First meeting at 1 p.m.


■ STAR: Bowling from 3-4 p.m., \$1.75 per game.

Call ext. 34300 by 10 a.m. to get your deli order in!

<div>Menu subject to change</div> <div>The Lunch Box January, 2018</div> <div>  Every Day at Break Time ICE CREAM • Small 50¢ • Medium 75¢ • Large \$1.00 </div>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1  Workshop Closed	2 White Chicken Chili w/Crackers \$ 2.00 Peanut Butter Sandwich 1.00 Fruit Cocktail 1.00	3 Turkey & Swiss Sandwich \$ 1.50 Fresh Veggie Plate 1.50 Jello Cup .50	4 Cheeseburger \$ 2.00 Cheesy Potato Casserole 1.50 Roasted Baby Carrots 1.00	5 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
8 Salisbury Steak (2) w/Roll \$ 2.50 Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy 1.50 Green Beans 1.00 Extra Roll .50	9 Pizza Hot Pockets \$ 2.00 Nachos & Cheese 1.50 Oreo Fluff 1.00	10 Potato Soup w/Crackers \$ 2.00 Ham & Cheese Sandwich 1.50 Cooked Broccoli 1.00	11 Chicken Quesadilla \$ 3.00 w/Chips & Salsa Caramel Apple Pie 1.00	12 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
15 Corn Dog \$ 1.00 Potato Wedges 1.00 Mac & Cheese 1.50	16 White Chicken Chili w/Crackers \$ 2.00 Peanut Butter Sandwich 1.00 Fruit Cocktail 1.00	17 Turkey & Swiss Sandwich \$ 1.50 Fresh Veggie Plate 1.50 Jello Cup .50	18 Cheeseburger \$ 2.00 Cheesy Potato Casserole 1.50 Roasted Baby Carrots 1.00	19 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
22  Workshop Closed	23 Pizza Hot Pockets \$ 2.00 Nachos & Cheese 1.50 Oreo Fluff 1.00	24 Potato Soup w/Crackers \$ 2.00 Ham & Cheese Sandwich 1.50 Cooked Broccoli 1.00	25 Chicken Quesadilla \$ 3.00 w/Chips & Salsa Caramel Apple Pie 1.00	26 Pizza — slice \$ 1.25 1 slice Pizza & Drink 1.75 2 slices Pizza & Drink 3.00 Sub Sandwich 2.50
29 Corn Dog \$ 1.00 Potato Wedges 1.00 Mac & Cheese 1.50	30 White Chicken Chili w/Crackers \$ 2.00 Peanut Butter Sandwich 1.00 Fruit Cocktail 1.00	31 Turkey & Swiss Sandwich \$ 1.50 Fresh Veggie Plate 1.50 Jello Cup .50		

Available Every Day



Sub Sandwich ----- \$ 2.50
 Chips ----- .75
 Snack Cakes ----- .75
 Soda / Water ----- .75
 Tea ----- .50

 **SNACK TIME!**



Friday Pizza Special

1 slice pizza & drink \$ 1.75
 2 slices pizza & drink \$ 3.00

 **Salads** 

Available Every Day

(Ranch, Red French, Honey Mustard, Italian)
 Small Garden Salad ----- \$ 2.00
 Small Chef Salad ----- \$ 3.00
 Large Garden Salad ----- \$ 4.00
 Large Chef Salad ----- \$ 5.00

a Joyful noise

The holidays are a musical time at VRS, from the annual student Christmas parade to visits from singing friends ...



Clockwise from top left: Student Beth Grate leads Singing Hands; Melissa Oiler's intermediate class sings about Christmas; and Melissa Gampp's class rocks out at the annual Christmas parade; Portsmouth West's choice visits; and the chorus from Scioto County Career Technical Center carols in the halls at VRS.