



**ASHTABULA COUNTY  
EDUCATIONAL  
SERVICE CENTER**  
HAPPY HEARTS / BUILDING BRIDGES

## **2023-2025 Partnership Agreement**

THIS AGREEMENT is made this seventh day of September 2023 between the Ashtabula County Educational Service Center (ACESC), 4200 State Rd, Ashtabula, OH 44004, hereinafter referred to as the "ACESC" and the Jefferson Area Local School District, 121 S. Poplar St., Jefferson OH 44047, hereinafter referred to as "JALSD"

In consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

The ACESC and JALSD worked in partnership to develop a plan to help the JALSD and their schools support their students' academic achievement through mental health counseling, school security, school resources officers, additional school psychologist services, implementation of PBIS throughout the district and participation in ACESC district and building administrator meetings.

The JALSD will work with the ACESC to identify and work with organizations in Ashtabula County to determine community needs and resources, so they can use the state dollars to make the greatest impact on students' lives. JALSD will use the funds to help their district plan, launch and maintain these student wellness initiatives.

Both parties agree to continue to work in partnership during the full extent of the program. This Agreement shall commence on the above stated date and shall terminate no sooner than June 30, 2025.

The JALSD agrees to the following:

1. Enter into a service agreement for the 2023-2025 school years with **Cadence Care Network** to employ licensed and credentialed school social workers to provide school based social work services to Jefferson five days a week. These social workers support principals and counselors in helping students and families in need of support.
2. **The Cadence Care Network** will provide student counseling in each school building. The family behavior and case manager will assist teachers and administrators in supporting at-risk or vulnerable students and their families. **Cadence Care Network** staff will serve as a consultant group in developing a behavioral support and providing professional development to teachers and administrators. Building Case Managers will provide support to students and parents. Case Managers will help parents to identify and utilize community resources.

**Note:** Jefferson Area Local has received a a Tier 1 and 2 "Base" amount of \$21,606.66 Stronger Connections Grant award for the 2022-23 school year. Cadence Care

Cadence Care provide the professional development for this grant including Classroom and grade level presentations on relevant social/emotional/behavioral health topics such as grief and loss, behavior supports to mitigate bullying and other negative behaviors. At the upper grades we add a focus on the mitigation of the use of drugs, tobacco, vaping, and alcohol.

The primary focus of the grant will be Professional development training for school staff in Trauma Informed Care and classroom practices. Specifically, the yearlong training process will provide training to all staff members on the impact of trauma on student learning and behavior, and on trauma-informed teaching strategies. The training will include information on how to recognize trauma symptoms in



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students, how to respond to students in crisis, and how to create a safe and supportive learning environment. Additionally, the development of strategies and practices that the district can develop to extend training and assistance to families in need will be a second area of focus.

3. Work in conjunction with local law enforcement to maintain a Student Resource Officer (SRO) in the junior and senior high schools. Add security personnel to both elementary schools.
4. To implement the JALSD district Goal: 100% of building leadership / School-wide PBIS Teams will continue the implementation of a school-wide incentive and discipline program (PBIS) to improve the overall school climate by teaching and rewarding appropriate behavior, providing consistent consequences for inappropriate behaviors, and creating a peaceful and uniform environment to increase academic achievement during the 2023-2026 school years. Resources and consultants to help with implementation will be a part of this initiative.
5. Continue providing (possibly expand) a Latchkey program for our parents who work. The program is run in conjunction with the ACESC.
6. Expand the services of JALSD's two school psychologists to include intervention services and training for staff in social and emotional support for students and improving the use of data to identify student academic and social needs. By employing them directly and adding the services of a psychologist assistant.
7. Work with the ACESC through their convening of superintendents and administrators to continually research future initiatives that focus on student wellness with the intent to amend this agreement if potential programming is identified within our region.
8. Provide expanded medical services to students in each of the district's 3 buildings including nursing, OT / PT, dental and vision.
9. Implement any other immediate wellness initiative that is found by the JALSD administrative staff to have potential impact and fall within budget allocations of the wellness funds.
10. Note Continue the JALSD relationship with Character Lab, a nonprofit organization that connects researchers with educators to create greater knowledge about the conditions that lead to social, emotional, academic, and physical well-being for young people throughout the country. Character Lab supports research within our secondary schools around social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies, whole child, or life skills.

The Ashtabula County Educational Service Center and The Jefferson Area Local School District agrees to comply with the requirements of The Student Wellness and Success Funding requirements.

Signed by: John Montanaro, Superintendent JALSD

9-7-23

Date

Signed by: Mike Candela, Superintendent ACESC

9-7-23

Date