

CCBDD News

Special Olympics Ohio



Summer Games May 29-31, 2026

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The Special Olympics Ohio State Summer Games took place May 29–31, 2026, held at The Ohio State University in Columbus. This premier event features nearly 3,000 athletes competing in sports such as track and field, bocce, bowling, gymnastics, powerlifting, tennis, and volleyball.



Carroll County Special Olympics Athletes in the Opening Ceremonies Parade.

What an incredible weekend at the 2026 Ohio State Summer Games. A huge thank you to all the families who came out to support their athletes. We had more families and friends in attendance than we've seen in the last four years, and the energy was unbelievable.

A special shout out to our amazing coaches, chaperones, support staff, and families. Your dedication is what makes this experience so meaningful for our athletes.

We are extremely proud of all our athletes for their effort, sportsmanship, and dedication.

Congratulations, Cougars, on another exceptional Summer Games!

Matt Campbell, Superintendent



I am writing to update you on the situation facing county boards. From 2010 to 2016, federal CMS rules requiring conflict-free case management pushed Ohio's County Boards of Developmental Disabilities to stop providing direct services. Because boards could no longer both assess needs and deliver services, they were required to shift to private providers. Carroll County completed this transition by privatizing its workshop on January 1, 2018, ahead of the statewide 2024 mandate.

Before 2024, County Boards were told by DODD, the Ohio Association of County Boards, and providers that our carryover balances were too high. Beginning January 1, 2024, and again on July 1, 2024, providers began billing at much higher Medicaid reimbursement rates. The

DeWine-Husted administration and the Ohio General Assembly expect these increases to translate directly into higher DSP wages, with an anticipated statewide average of at least \$18 per hour within the next two years.

Ohio Administrative Code 5123-4-05, effective September 9, 2024, establishes the hardship rule to ensure the financial solvency of county boards of developmental disabilities. The rule outlines how financial risk is measured, what corrective actions may be required, and how a board may request financial assistance from the department. Each county board must submit a five-year projection of revenues and expenditures. Based on the results of the financial scoreboard, a board may be designated as warning or emergency and must submit a plan of action to the department within sixty days.

In July 2025, DODD asked OACB to develop solutions for county boards facing financial strain, largely due to failed levy attempts and the inability to meet match requirements. The Director also emphasized the need for statewide consistency in HCBS services. Around the same time, the Ohio Provider Resource Association released its Modernizing Ohio's DD System proposal, which includes a push for providers to take on both the SSA function and direct services. OPRA has stated that providers need additional funding because the statewide average DSP wage remains at \$17 per hour. County boards, together with OACB, are also advancing the Funding the Future proposal, which outlines ten concepts aimed at stabilizing and improving the system.

On April 10, 2026, during the Superintendent Executive Committee meeting, we were informed that DODD had met with several county boards in Southeast Ohio that are experiencing financial difficulties, including challenges with passing accreditation. DODD proposed a pilot initiative to support ten county boards identified as being in hardship. On June 24, Carroll County Board, Region 5 superintendents, and the Mid-East Ohio Regional Council met with Director Nash and her team at the DODD office to present MEORC as a potential pilot model for achieving statewide consistency.

All of this points to a major shift in how Home and Community-Based Services will operate in Ohio. CMS requires HCBS services to be administered on a statewide basis, and Director Nash has stated this will include a statewide waiting list. DODD is asking Councils of Government to take on key Service and Supports Administration functions, including managing the waiting list, conducting the interRAI assessment used to determine service needs and associated costs, and handling waiver allocation. Under this plan, DODD would issue state-funded waivers to a COG, and individuals would receive waivers based on a severity scale ranging from one to seven. County Boards would retain responsibility for administering the OISP and monitoring services.

Issues within Home and Community-Based Services must be addressed regardless of whether a county can pass a levy. County Boards must continue to carry out the SSA function, which is essential for oversight and for preventing fraud. The broader goal is to simplify the system so that HCBS services are consistent statewide. No matter where someone lives, they should have access to the same structure, expectations, and protections.

We now have an opportunity to address the core challenges facing the Medicaid waiver system, including rising waiver costs, the threat of managed care, increasing pressure on property taxes, and county boards struggling to meet match requirements. Two proposals aim to solve these issues: DODD's Southeast Pilot and OACB's Funding the Future plan. A combined approach offers the strongest path forward, improving system stability and protecting services for people with disabilities.



BOWLING RESULTS

- Aaron B. - 1st Place
- Stephanie L. - 1st Place
- Stacy T. - 1st Place
- Angela R. - 2nd Place
- Brody B. - 3rd Place
- Heather B. - 3rd Place
- Jeff S. - 6th Place
- Frank H. - 6th Place



BOCCI RESULTS

- Joshua K. and Michaela S. - 3rd Place
- Wanita L. and Sarah H. - 3rd Place

**Special
Olympics
Ohio**





Golf season is here, and we're thrilled to share some updates. After a couple of outstanding years as assistant coach, Mycala Little is stepping into the Head Coach position. We're equally excited to welcome McKenzie Mogus as our new Assistant Coach. Both coaches are eager and ready to lead us into a fantastic season.

The golf schedule is available at carrollcbbdd.org, which includes the date, time, and location of this year's Regional Tournament. We will be using the driving range as well as the practice putting area. All practices will be held at Carroll Meadows Golf Course, 1130 Meadowbrook Ln NE Carrollton, OH 44615



Mycala Little and McKenzie Mogus

We are also looking for volunteers to drive golf carts for each golfer during our Scramble event on August 20th. All golf cart drivers must have a valid driver's license. If you or someone you know is interested in helping, please call 330-627-6555.

Fun Volleyball is starting June 30th! All athletes with a current physical are welcome to join us for a relaxed, enjoyable hour of volleyball and exercise. This program is all about having fun, staying active, and spending time with friends.



We'll be meeting at Carroll Hills School gym again this year from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM. The full schedule is available at carrollcbbdd.org.

Our Newest Fun Sport: CORNHOLE! We're excited to announce that cornhole will begin on Friday, July 10th at Carroll Hills School from 4:30 PM to 5:15 PM.



If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will move indoors. If the gym is unavailable, we will cancel for that day. We're really looking forward to trying out this new sport, having fun, and enjoying time together.

Come play, laugh, and enjoy the summer with us!



Summer
WORD SEARCH

BEES
CAMP
FUN
HOT
ICE CREAM
PARK
PLAY
RELAX
SUMMER
SUNGLASSES
SUNSHINE
SWIM
VACATION
WATER

V	A	L	H	Q	G	Y	H	O	T	K	L	H
A	S	B	M	R	S	B	E	L	L	O	P	J
C	U	S	N	Q	U	F	U	N	R	K	L	E
A	N	W	C	P	M	I	J	O	H	D	A	E
T	S	I	D	O	M	H	F	C	M	N	Y	W
I	H	M	E	D	E	G	P	A	R	K	E	A
O	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	R	B	P	T
N	N	W	T	S	F	D	W	P	N	E	L	E
W	E	V	U	R	E	L	A	X	B	E	T	R
X	S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	Z	B

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CARROLL HILLS SCHOOL

Mark your calendar

BACK TO SCHOOL

SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS START ON AUGUST 18, 2026

School staff start August 13, 2026

Carroll County Early Intervention hosted a Community Baby Shower in May. The event was well attended, and families were able to connect with many helpful community resources. Thank you to everyone who contributed, supported, or took part in making this event so meaningful.



For more information about Early Intervention, call 330-627-7651.



COMMUNITY
PLAYGROUP
SUMMER SCHEDULE

Join us at
5th Street Park
Carrollton, Ohio
10-11am

LET'S PLAY TOGETHER

MAY 21ST
JUNE 18TH
JULY 16TH

Ages 0-5
Siblings up to Kindergarten
Parents/Guardian must attend



As we wrap up another wonderful school year, my heart is so full. It has been such a joy watching these amazing kiddos learn, grow, create, and shine. I am so proud of each and every one of them. They are smart, creative, kind, and truly future world changers.

This year was filled with so many special memories of dance parties, bike races, painting masterpieces, singing songs, exploring new ideas, and lots of laughter along the way. One of my favorite parts of teaching is getting to watch their little personalities bloom and their confidence grow more each day.

To my future kindergarteners: I am going to miss you so much, but I know you are going to do incredible things. Keep being curious, brave, and wonderfully YOU.

And to my returning friends: I cannot wait to see your smiling faces again and make even more memories together next year! Wishing all of our families a summer full of sunshine, adventure, laughter, and sweet moments together.

Love, Mrs. Schockling



PRESCHOOL



This has been a truly wonderful year. Our classroom has been filled with laughter, learning, and so many meaningful moments. We are so proud of each child and all they have accomplished. Wishing all of our families a joyful, safe, and sunny summer.

Mrs. Manfull



**Amy Jo's
Success Story**

In the Spotlight

**Congratulations!
35 Years
Carrollton Pizza Hut**



At the 2026 Annual Developmental Disabilities Banquet, Amy Jo Pennock was proudly honored for an incredible 35 years of dedicated employment with Pizza Hut. Her journey began in 1990, when she was a 17-year-old student at Carroll Hills School during a time when community workforce inclusion for individuals with disabilities was just beginning to take shape. With the encouragement and vision of her teachers, Zoe Gingrich and Gayle Gotschall, a pioneering work program was created to help students build independence and confidence through real-life job experiences. Students gained hands-on skills at Kishman's IGA Carrollton, a locally owned pet store, and a greenhouse at Carroll Hills School that sold spring

plants. Though these businesses are no longer operating, the impact of those early opportunities lives on, especially in stories like Amy Jo's.

Those experiences opened the door for Amy Jo's start at Pizza Hut. Local resident Amy Rutledge, the manager at the time, took a chance on a young student eager to work and 35 years later, Amy Jo is still going strong. She remains a beloved member of the morning crew, faithfully serving as a dishwasher and bringing positivity, pride, and warmth to every shift. Her dedication reflects not only a strong work ethic but a genuine love for what she does.

After moving from her family home to St. John's Villa, Amy Jo also spent several years working in the St. John's Villa restaurant, continuing to share her talents.

Amy Jo's story is one of perseverance, community support, and the lifelong impact of meaningful employment, and her journey is far from over.

**Mattie's
Success Story**

In the Spotlight

**2026
Graduate**

This year, we celebrate Miss Mattie Mesic. She is an incredible student whose hard work, kindness, and determination have inspired everyone around her. Graduation is a major accomplishment, and Mattie has shown that with perseverance, support, and a positive attitude, anything is possible. Throughout Mattie's school journey, she has brought joy to classmates and teachers with her bright smile, caring heart, and strong spirit. Mattie's determination reminds us that achievement is not measured by limitations, but by effort, growth, and heart. Mattie's bubbly personality will be missed, but we are all excited to see her move on to the next chapter of life and know that she will continue to make a positive impact on everyone she meets. The future is full of opportunities for Mattie, and she is ready to shine. Congratulations to Mattie on this well-deserved accomplishment. Your school community is proud of you today and always!



**Shine!
LIKE THE STAR
YOU ARE**

Carroll Hills Council Update & Thank-You

Carroll Hills Council is a parent/professional organization dedicated to supporting the children and adults served by the Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD). Much like a PTO, we work to meet needs, fund opportunities, and strengthen community connections. Our efforts are supported through dues, donations, and fundraisers.

Our most recent fundraiser took place June 10–13 at the Minerva Homecoming, when we assisted the Minerva Civic Club at the Lion Burger’s Stand. We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who volunteered their time, and to the Minerva Civic Club for giving us the opportunity to participate . Your support directly benefits individuals served by CCBDD.



Carroll Hills Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June. Summer meetings are held only if needed.

We always welcome new members, fresh ideas, and anyone who wants to make a meaningful difference. Parents, families, professionals, and community members interested in supporting individuals served by CCBDD are encouraged to get involved.

If you have questions, contact JoAnn at 330-627-6555 or email jhilliard@carrollcbdd.org, or contact Cindy Stertzbach at 330-627-7651 or email cjones@carrollcbdd.org.

Summer
WORD SEARCH

WORDS TO FIND:

- BEE
- CAMP
- FUN
- HOT
- ICE CREAM
- PARK
- PLAY
- RELAX
- SUNBATH
- SUNGLASSES
- SUNSHINE
- SWIM
- VACATION
- WATER

Community Employment

Reva Castelucci, Job Coach



Lakisha wanted to work in the community so she could gain independence and have the money to enjoy the things she loves. She applied at Burger King and was soon called in for an interview. She was offered the job on the spot, and her first day was April 27th. Great job, Lakisha, for advocating for yourself and going above and beyond to achieve your goals



Summer Youth Job Exploration Training (JET) Program



Eight students with IEPs, ages 14 to 21, are participating in a seven week Summer Youth Job Exploration Training (JET) Program at the Carroll County Board of DD.

Through hands on car detailing training, students are gaining valuable work experience while building teamwork, responsibility, and professionalism. We are proud of the progress they have made and look forward to seeing their continued growth throughout the summer.





Carroll County People First Advocacy Group

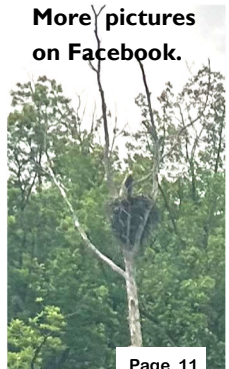
Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Trip – June 17th

The group enjoyed a wonderful train outing on June 17 with the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Forty people attended the event, and everyone had a great day filled with fun, scenic views, good conversations, and even a little shopping in the souvenir and snack car. Participants were seated in two areas, with one group riding in the ADA car and the others in the coach cars. Boxed lunches were delivered prior to boarding, adding to the ease and enjoyment of the day.

We were fortunate to have beautiful weather, which made the views even better. The train traveled alongside the Cuyahoga River and passed through several small towns, offering plenty of nature to take in. A highlight of the trip was spotting two bald eagles perched near their nest. Many memories were made with friends, and the group is already looking forward to the next adventure.

Throughout the rest of the year, the group will welcome several special speakers who will share information on fire safety, advocacy with APSI, cooking safety, Carroll County Transit, and ways to stay safe in the community.

Penny Hodgson



More pictures on Facebook.



CARROLL COUNTY

BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
P.O. Box 429, Carrollton, OH 44615.

CCBDD News

Promoting positive awareness of people with developmental disabilities

Board Members

Kristen Long, President

Diana Strader, Vice President

Deb Postlewaite, Secretary

Katie Bailey

Sally Ferrell

Renee Moran

Matt Chiurco

Superintendent

Matt Campbell

The Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities—CCBDD Equal Opportunity in Employment, Access, and Services.
CCBDD News— Editors, JoAnn Hilliard & Amy Swaim. Send information or inquires to jhilliard@carrollcbdd.org or call 330-627-6555



7/03/26— Independence Day Observed—Entire Program Closed

8/13-14/26 - School Staff Inservice: Hours 8am-3pm

8/17/26 - School Staff Inservice: Hours 8am-3pm

8/18/26 - First Day of School for School-Age Program

9/07/26 - Labor Day—Entire Program Closed

10/12/26 - Columbus Day Observed—Entire Program Closed

10/23/26 - All Staff Inservice—Entire Program Closed

10/26/26 - School Staff Inservice—No Students

11/11/26 - Veteran's Day Observed—Entire Program Closed

11/25/26 - School Closed

11/26-27/26 - Thanksgiving Holiday—Entire Program Closed

11/30/26 - Entire Program Closed

12/21-22/26 - School Closed

12/23/26 - 1/01/27—Entire Program Closed

EMPOWER. INCLUDE. SUPPORT.

ATTENTION PLEASE!

Update About Our Newsletter

By the end of this year, we will be phasing out paper newsletters and will no longer send them through USPS mail.

If you would like to continue receiving the newsletter, please submit your name and email address to jhilliard@carrollcbdd.org

CCBDD