



# The ALL-STAR Newsletter

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Jefferson County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Issue 6

**Jefferson County  
BDD**

256 John Scott Highway  
Stuebenville, Ohio  
43952  
www.jcbdd.com

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Michael Zinno**

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## *A Message from the Superintendent*

### **Looking at the Past and Future at JCBDD**

As I complete my first year as superintendent, I would like to reflect on some of the progress we have made and take a look at the year ahead.

Some of our recent achievements include the following:

--Jeffco Services continuing to make progress towards privatization by receiving its Medicaid number. A special thanks to CEO Tracey Thomas and her team for all their hard work and dedication to the process. A bright future is ahead for Jeffco and the people it serves.

--The creation of the new Early Intervention team led by Neysa Rogers. The future of EI services in this county will improve as a result of the county board taking over the entire process of identification, evaluations, service coordination and direct service.

--The establishment of two resi-

dential homes in Wintersville and Mingo Junction and the elimination of one residential home that was old, outdated and unsafe.

--The downsizing of Shaffer Plaza to three nine-bed homes, completing the promise made to the State of Ohio.

--The start of a new vision for the former Jeffco Workshop to allow for the consolidation of our county board staff into one campus.

--Successful lobbying efforts to allow our nine-month school staff to be paid over 12 months through OPERS.

Meanwhile, a look ahead and goals for our program will include:

--The continuation of privatization of our adult day service.

--Successful union negotiations with our Shaffer Plaza staff and SEIU.

--The completion of the privatiza-

tion of our adult transportation.

--The recruitment of a day service provider to allow for more options within our adult program.

--A remodeled workshop to consolidate our staff and offer our providers and community an activity center for a large variety of events.

--The pilot program with Edison Local School District where Maureen Kaufman will be placed at Edison to support teachers and students as part of a behavior/socialization program.

--The construction of a new residential home and purchase of another site for independent living.

As always, a special thank you to all of our staff, volunteers and board members and their dedication to our program and the individuals we serve.

Superintendent Michael Zinno

## ***Bodos Switch Roles at School of Bright Promise***

One Bodo is heading back to the classroom while another is moving up to the principal's office at the School of Bright Promise.

Current Principal Rachel Bodo has elected to step down in favor of teaching primary students with special needs at the site and long-time physical education teacher Jane Bodo is being promoted as her successor.

The Bodos said they were both looking forward to the change and the transition is expected to go smoothly.

Rachel Bodo, who has helmed the school for the past eight years, completed her duties on June 15 and will resume her new role

teaching kindergarten through third grades effective on Aug. 22.

"I missed the kids," she said of her decision to make the change. "My heart has always been with

***"I am perfectly happy handing over the reins and I think Janie is going to do a fantastic job."***

**-Longtime Principal  
Rachel Bodo**

teaching and I can always go back to administration later on in my career."

The Unionport native previously

served as assistant principal at Wintersville Elementary School and taught special education throughout Jefferson and Harrison counties, as well as in Toledo.

Bodo graduated from Indian Creek High School in 1996 and subsequently earned degrees at Kent State University, West Liberty State College and Youngstown State University, as well as her principal's administration and curriculum and superintendent's licensure from Salem International University in West Virginia.

She also has complete faith in her successor to take on the task as the new leader.

**(Continued as SWITCH)**

# Switch

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“I am perfectly happy handing over the reins and I think Janie is going to do a fantastic job,” she added. “I know she can do the job and care for the kids and staff.”

Jane Bodo, who has instructed physical education at the school for six years, was also optimistic about her leadership role.

“I’m starting to feel comfortable with the change. I like this school and this population, and this is another opportunity to stay here and help the kids I’m familiar with.”

The Burgettstown native is a 1993 graduate of Burgettstown High School and received her bachelor’s degree in exercise science from Slippery Rock University. She earned a subsequent degree in education from West Liberty State College and a master’s in educational administration from Franciscan University. Bodo previously taught in Avella, Pa., but commented that she enjoyed working with the children at Bright Promise and hoped to continue that momentum in her new position.

“There is a lot of love between the staff and the kids here, and now I have an opportunity to help our students and families in a different capacity.”



The School of Bright Promise is undergoing an administrative shift as Rachel Bodo, pictured at left, steps down as principal and returns to the classroom while longtime physical education teacher Janie Bodo, at right, will succeed her in the office.

## Calendar of Events

**June 1:** Employment Navigator/Community Facilitator @ ESC Family and Children First Meeting, 8:30 a.m.; First Fridays on Fourth Street, 7-10 p.m. (Shaffer A&B); Jill West & the Blues @ Weirton Event Center, 7 p.m. (Shaffer C)

**June 2:** Ohio Valley Frontier Days (A); Flea Market @ Drive-In, 9-5 (B); Snack on the Patio (C)

**June 3:** Make Your Own Sundae (A); Cookout (B)

**June 4:** Craft Night (A); Craft Night (B); Father’s Day Craft (C)

**June 5:** EN/CF @ Jeffco Services Community Member In-Service, 2:30 p.m.; Pittsburgh Zoo (Shaffer); God’s Choice Church Party (A); Trampoline Park (B)

**June 6:** Bowling at Steel Valley Lanes (B)

**June 7:** EN/CF @ Strengthening Families Event 10:30 a.m.; 80’s Night @ the Fort, 6:30 p.m. (Shaffer)

**June 8:** EN/CF @ Employment Collaborative Training in Cambridge, 8 a.m.; World Ocean Day & Craft (B)

**June 9:** Ride to Lake (A); Joke/Game Night (B); Fishing @ Friendship Park (C)

**June 10:** Pleasant Hill School Open House (A); Friendship Park (B); Basketball @ Home B (B&C)

**June 12:** EN/CF @ Youth United in Christ, LLC, 8:45 a.m.; Greek Festival (Shaffer); Movie Night @ Cinemas (B)

**June 13:** EN/CF @ Jefferson County Chamber Coffee & Connections, 7:45 a.m. & United Prevention Partnership, 12:30 p.m.; Bowling at SVL (B&C)

**June 14:** EN/CF @ EGCC SET, 9 a.m.; Father’s Day Craft Night (A); Swing Night @ the Fort (B&C)

**June 15:** M&M Party (A&B); Tri-State Band @ Weirton Event Center (C)

**June 16:** Pirate Game, 4:05 p.m. (Shaffer); Dean Martin Days (A)

**June 17:** Father’s Day

**June 18:** EN/CF @ Supported Employment/Employment First Training, Akron, 10 a.m.; International Picnic Day (Shaffer)

**June 19:** God’s Choice Church Party (A); Trampoline Park (B); Ice Cream Trip (C)

**June 20:** Bowling @ SVL (A&B); Music Night (C)

**June 21:** EN/CF @ State Support Team Region 12 Training, Zanesville, 8 a.m.; Soul Night @ the Fort (Shaffer)

**June 22:** Ice Cream Trip (B); Resident’s Choice (C)

**June 23:** Resident’s Choice (A); Flea Market @ Drive-In (C)

**June 24:** Pirate Game, 1:35 p.m. (Shaffer)

**June 25:** Resident Council Meeting (Shaffer)

**June 26:** EN/CF @ OOD Mac O-Employment Mtg., 8:45 a.m.; Movie & Popcorn Night at Home (A); Movie @ Cinemas (B); Walking at Jim Woods Park (C)

**June 27:** Bowling @ SVL (B)

**June 28:** EN/CF @ Multi-Agency County Transition Team, 7:45 a.m.; Neil Diamond Tribute Night @ the Fort, 6:30 p.m. (Shaffer)

**June 29:** Friendship Park (A); Picnic & Fishing at Park (B)

**June 30:** Beatlemania @ Weirton Event Center, 7 p.m. (Shaffer); Brentwood UMC Victory in the Ville (B)