

**We offer quality programs and
coordinate available services
so that people we serve may
realize their dreams and actively
contribute to their community.**



**Fayette County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

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DECEMBER 2018

Marilyn Weidman, Editor

As we close out another year, the Fayette County Board of DD (FCBDD) would like to wish farewell to Director John Martin, who will be finishing his third term as Ohio's Director of the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD).

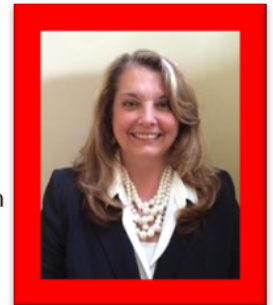
Director Martin has led DODD through many challenges over his tenure and has done so thoughtfully, with input from others and with a passion to do it right. Director Martin joined DODD at a time when much work was needed to join the field of developmental disabilities together as one, with a common mission and direction. In my opinion, he accomplished this ten-fold!

At times, being the Director of DODD is a thankless job, however, those of us who have had the privilege to work in this field over the last 12 years, say thank you Director Martin for a job well done!

As you read this newsletter, be reminded that it is through the work of people like Director Martin that FCBDD can provide the services and supports needed to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Happy Reading!

Deb Buccilla



 **Merry Christmas**
from the Fayette County Board of DD

Fayette Progressive Preschool
takes a trip on the

**POLAR
EXPRESS**



**“Just remember,
the true spirit of
Christmas lies in
your heart.” - Santa
Claus, The Polar
Express**





Thank you to Valero Renewables for the \$20,000.00 donation for the building of new playground equipment at Fayette Progressive School. The school hopes that the little rock garden will remind them of the tremendous impact they have in the Fayette County community and the lives they have touched at Fayette Progressive School.

Thank you!



A Salute to Caryl Wagner Bookman

It was with mixed emotions that the Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) said good-bye to Caryl at the December Board Meeting. Caryl has served on the Board for 3 terms ending her 12-year tenure on December 12, 2018.

Board President Larry Mayer thanked Caryl on behalf of the Board and presented her with a small token of appreciation for her service. Caryl remarked upon her journey over the years and her gratitude for serving with such a group of dedicated board members.

The Wagner family has a long history of involvement with the field of developmental disabilities and were instrumental in the creation of what we now call the County Boards of DD. Caryl has continued her devotion to the field and FCBDD has benefitted greatly from her involvement.

From all of us Caryl, thank you!

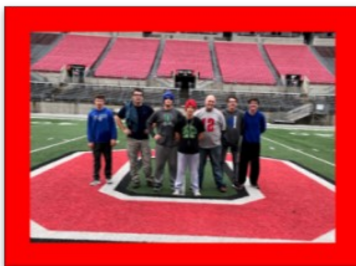


The Book Warehouse, located at the Tanger Outlet Mall in Jeffersonville, held a book drive for the Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities Early Intervention students. Members of the community were able to show support for the Early Intervention classroom and students by purchasing books which will be donated directly to this group. In the end, two large boxes completely full of age-appropriate books, puzzles, audiobooks, and activities were donated! Sharing a love of literature with the very youngest is a priority for the FCBDD. A recent addition of a Little Free Library is located at the Starting Gate building on Leesburg Avenue. This will continue to foster the idea that books have a magic that begs to be shared. Through the generosity of the Book Warehouse and the constant support of this outstanding community, we can continue to share this magic with the children being served. FCBDD is so very humbled by the outpouring of love and the gift of literacy for our Early Intervention children and their families. A big thank you to the Book Warehouse for holding this book drive, and an even bigger thank you to every single person from our community who supported it by donating a book!

FAYETTE COUNTY DRAGONS

Special Olympics basketball will feature 2 teams and a cheer-leading squad for the 2019 season. Games will begin in January with the goal of winning another state championship!

Coach Brandon Runk took a few athletes to the Ohio State University football stadium where they helped put covers on seats at the stadium. The players also had the opportunity to go onto the field where they tossed the football around!
Thank you, Coach Brandon!



Giving Back

Adult advocates and Special Olympics athletes from the Fayette County Board of DD visited Grace Community Church and staff to say thank you for hosting the recent Annual Special Olympics banquet. Grace Community Church is always so willing to open their doors and offer help to people and agencies within this community. The support shown to FCBDD is very much appreciated. A special "thank you" goes to Donova Stickley for going above and beyond to help make the banquet successful. Thank you!