



April 2026

Student Connection



CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Keira Connell

Cuyahoga Heights



Keira Connell, a student at Cuyahoga Heights High School, is enrolled in CVCC's Education Professions program under the instruction of Josephine Everhart. Eager for a new experience, a different and more hands-on learning environment, and the opportunity to meet new people, Keira enrolled at CVCC without hesitation. "I've always known I want to work with kids and make a difference by giving back to others," Keira shared. "As soon as I came across the Education Professions program, I could see myself fitting in. It felt like a great opportunity to set myself up for success after high school."

One of Keira's favorite parts of the program has been the change of pace in her daily routine, along with the diversity of experiences and people she's encountered. She has especially enjoyed meeting new classmates, feeling supported, and discovering a passion for lesson planning. Through her field experience this year, Keira has been introduced to a variety of classroom settings—including elementary, middle school, high school, and intervention classrooms—broadening her perspective on teaching. In March, Keira competed at the Educators Rising State Conference in Columbus, earning a Top 10 placement in Lesson Planning & Delivery (Humanities). This achievement qualified her for the Educators Rising National Conference in Portland, Oregon this June!

After graduation, Keira will be attending The University of Akron's School of Education, with plans to pursue a career teaching English or history—subjects she has always enjoyed and been passionate about. Outside of academics, Keira is involved in theatre and art club at Cuyahoga Heights High School and has also participated in recycling club and various sports. In her free time, she enjoys shopping with friends, crafting, and also works at Raising Cane's. When asked what advice she would give to others, Keira shared: "You're always going to be scared of something in life, so why miss out on this incredible opportunity? You have to put in the work, but this is your chance to earn college credit for free and get ahead in your field—just do it! We also really need educators, so I encourage people to explore Education Professions and the teaching field." Keep up the great work, Keira!

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