

May 2023 Sponsor Update

State Board of Education – May Update



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Interim Superintendent - At the May State Board of Education meeting, the Board selected Dr. Chris Woolard to serve as the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) interim superintendent of public instruction beginning May 28. Outgoing Interim Superintendent Dr. Siddens said, "I have worked with Chris throughout my 17 years with ODE and am confident he will do an amazing job in the role given his 19 years of service to the department!"

Superintendent Search - The State Board passed a resolution to hire Rea & Associates to assist with the superintendent search, which was previously delayed as the Ohio House and Senate consider legislation (S.B. 1 and H.B. 12) that would significantly impact the role and its responsibilities.

Constitutionality Resolution - The board also took action at its May meeting to seek a formal opinion from the Ohio attorney general (or designated independent counsel) on whether S.B. 1 and H.B. 12 conform with the intent of Ohio's Constitution. The resolution passed by the board begins with an affirmation of its constitutional charge to provide general supervision of the system of public education in Ohio and its uncertainty of the constitutionality of legislative proposals that would limit its role.

Governor supports "science of reading" approach

As previously reported, Governor Mike DeWine issued a literacy executive order against the backdrop of concerns regarding reading proficiency scores among elementary school students. He supports a science of reading-based approach to improve literacy in the Buckeye State.

The governor has observed reading lessons in a series of school visits and encouraged legislators – who continue deliberations on the state biennial budget bill which originally proposed \$168 million in literacy funding – to do so.

Against push-back from stakeholders who oppose mandated approaches to teaching, Governor DeWine remains firm in his belief that the science of reading-based approach is best for students.

"The jury's back, the verdict is in, and we need to pay attention to that," he said.

"My conviction that this is vitally important to Ohio and Ohio's future, vitally important to our children's future, has certainly been reinforced as I've traveled around the state," he continued.

The governor is talking with leaders in Ohio's higher education community about the need for teacher programs to promote the science of reading approach.

"This is where we need to go," he said. "Schools of education need to switch over."

Budget bill deliberations continue



Every state biennial budget is unique, but one characteristic remains constant: change throughout the legislative process.

Among the issues debated in the House is how best to continue implementation of the Cupp-Patterson school funding plan put in place through the budget bill passed by the legislature two years ago. Some advocate for full phase-in of the funding strategy in the next two (rather than four) years as originally planned, while others support maintaining the phase-in schedule and using cost data from 2022 (rather than from 2018) as called for in Governor Mike DeWine's budget proposal.

The Ohio 8 Coalition, comprised of union and administration leaders from the large urban districts (Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo and Youngstown) is among those advocating for updating the cost data. The coalition also opposes expansion of the EdChoice private school voucher program, saying it "does not make good financial, academic, or accountability sense."

Governor Mike DeWine's proposal to fund school resource officers (SRO) for every building (up to \$94,500) through an allocation of \$194 million per year (which was eliminated by the House) has also been subject to debate.

A coalition – comprised of the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio, Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, Juvenile Justice Coalition, Ohio Poverty Law Center and Policy Matters Ohio – recommended that there be greater flexibility on use of the funds (for counselors and mental health professionals) and additional training requirements for SROs if the funds remain in the budget bill (H.B. 33).

Governor DeWine seemed unreceptive to the recommendations, pointing out that Student Wellness and Success Funds are provided to support students' mental health-related needs. He also noted that the last two state biennial budget bills included \$1.3 billion in wellness funding to support students' various non-educational needs.

Changes made in the House of interest to K-12 stakeholders include:

- Elimination of the requirement that students who fail to demonstrate proficiency on the third-grade English language arts assessment be automatically retained;
- Literacy -- an increase to governor's early childhood education funding and cuts to educator professional development and high-quality instructional materials;
- A line-item increase in charter school facilities funding;
- A requirement that schools provide a transfer student's school records to the new school within five days of receiving the request;
- Establishment of a transportation pilot for up to five ESCs to transport students in a partnering district to charter and private schools; and,
- Elimination of a requirement that students complete FAFSA as a graduation requirement.

Trans sports ban opponents supporting existing rules

Controversy continues over legislation (H.B. 6) to prohibit transgender girls from participating on sports teams consistent with their gender identities.

Supporters say the legislation is needed to ensure fairness, citing differences in the physical abilities of males and females which serves as the rationale for creating separate sports teams for boys and girls, and men and women.

Opponents say the bill targets a problem that doesn't exist in Ohio, with some in support of the Ohio High School Athletic Association's existing policy that requires transgender girls to receive at least one year of hormone treatments and provide medical evidence that they do not have physical abilities superior to students they would complete against.

Witnesses testified on the emotionally charged bill during legislative hearings held in the House.

Ohio Healthy Students Profiles



The Ohio departments of Education and Medicaid have released a fourth annual edition of the Ohio Healthy Students Profiles – a data resource for educators, community health partners and other stakeholders who play a role in helping students overcome obstacles to learning. Access the resource online [here](#).

What does school safety mean to you?

The Ohio School Safety Center and the Ohio Students Safety Advisory Council are jointly sponsoring a statewide Safety Art Contest – with a theme of *What does school safety mean to you?* -- for students in grades six through 12.



Categories include: painting; drawing; sculpture; photography; videography (3 minutes max); literary (1,000 words max); and mixed media/digital art. Physical artwork is limited to no larger than 36" X 48."

Submissions must include a narrative section of no more than 250 words explaining the art and including the student's name, grade level, contact information, school and category.

Entries must be submitted digitally prior to May 26 at 5 p.m. to:

OhioSchoolSafetyCenter@dps.ohio.gov.

Finalists will be selected by the 2022-2023 Ohio Students Safety Advisory Council and invited to display their work at the 2023 Ohio School Safety Summit scheduled for July 25-26 in Columbus.

Increase support for students with Tutor Ohio Kids

Tutor Ohio Kids is a statewide tutoring program to provide students with help in reading, math, science and social studies. The Educational Service Center of



Central Ohio coordinates the program in partnership with the Ohio Department of Education and regional ESCs throughout the state. Tutor Ohio Kids recruits, employs, on-boards and deploys tutors, 75 percent of whom have at least a bachelor's degree. Both in-person and virtual tutoring are offered. Learn more online [here](#).

Join the Ohio Teacher Leader Liaison Network

Join the innovative and prestigious network of selected teachers from throughout the Buckeye State and engage with the Ohio Department of Education on topics related to current and future initiatives. Apply to become a part of the network, by June 23, online [here](#)

Chronic absenteeism prevention



Attendance and engagement are key to success in school and beyond. Chronic absenteeism is a problem that increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. The Ohio Department of Education and the *Stay in the Game!* Network are partnering with Attendance Works to offer a one-hour webinar – on May 17 at 1 p.m. -- on the multitiered system of support for attendance that begins with prevention and early intervention. Access registration for the webinar online [here](#).

High school financial literacy licensure validation

The State Board of Education approved a draft of OAC 3301-24-30 Educator License Validation in Financial Literacy Instruction in April. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) must now file the administrative rule with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR). ODE is currently developing a financial literacy Ohio Assessment for Educators, as required by the rule, and will begin accepting applications for this new validation upon State Board approval.

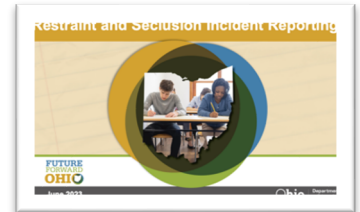
2023 Social Studies Professional Learning Survey

The Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Office of Learning and Instructional Strategies invites social studies teachers to complete a professional learning survey focused on professional development and learning needs by June 16 at 4 p.m. Data from the survey will help

ODE plan supports and professional learning for social studies in the 2023-2024 school year. Access the survey online [here](#).

Restraint and seclusion data collection to begin

Restraint and seclusion data collection for the 2022-2023 school year will occur from June 5 to August 4.



Instructions, frequently asked questions, and additional guidance and forms are available online [here](#).

FY23 CCIP spring highlights

21st Century Grant

Remember that grant closeout training – covering all requirements -- is mandatory for schools that hold grants currently in the fifth and final year. Registration is required for the training which is scheduled for May 19. Register online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/5th-year-grant-closeout-virtual-tickets-629466259527>.

A schedule of other optional COSA Virtual Quarterly Regional Training offerings is available for all active 21st Century grantees online at: <https://21stcenturylearningcenters.wordpress.com/2023/05/02/required-and-optional-may-trainings-from-cosa/>.

School Quality Improvement Grant

Grantees may request a summer extension by entering a comment – describing the proposed programming and budget narrative for funds at the building level to be spent between July 1, 2023 and September 30, 2023 -- in the history log. For

additional details, review the history log note posted on April 6, 2023.

Note that this is the final year of the grant, and these funds are not eligible for carry over into FY24.

ARP ESSER surveys

FY23 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) surveys are available in the OH|ID Monitoring System. All LEAs receiving ESSER funds have been assigned a self-survey, desk review or on-site review. The FY23 monitoring and tracking system manual for ESSER is available in the CCIP document library at:

<https://ccip.ode.state.oh.us/documentlibrary/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentKey=90954>.

ESSER II

All funds must be obligated by June 30, 2023 and liquidated by September 30, 2023. Final expenditure reports must be submitted by September 30, 2023.

EARP IDEA

Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2023.

May five year forecasts

Forecasts are due in the OSS Monitoring System, Fiscal Survey by May 19, 2023.

Testing reminders

STAR testing for DOPR schools

The second Dropout prevention and recovery program (DOPR) Renaissance Start testing window closes on May 26.

DOPR school leaders are encouraged to mark their calendars for July 18 and July 20, to attend one of the two live sessions featuring important information on STAR testing.

Look for details in emails to be sent the last week of June. Follow-up sessions will be offered in September.

ACT/SAT

A friendly reminder to high schools to sign up for either ACT or SAT testing for students in their junior year in the 2023-2024 school year.

Important updates and reminders



- 5/15-31 | Apply for emergency medical waivers
- 5/16-17 | Register for 10th Annual Trauma-Informed Care Summit
- 5/25 | Register for Federal Programs Monthly Topic Session
- 5/31 | Submit nominations for Ohio School Safety Stand Out Awards
- 6/8 | Save the date for Ohio Literacy Academy
- 6/12-16 | Register for Adult Education Week events
- 6/14 | Register for Principal Chat
- 6/15 | OhioES closes - complete principal and school counselor evaluations
- 6/30 | Apply for Agriculture Education Fifth Quarter Grant
- 6/30 | No-cost Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) model training expires