

July 2023 Sponsor Update

Office of School Sponsorship Annual Convocation Agenda – Details released!

Participation in the Convocation is mandatory. Day one is in person (9am – 3:30pm at the Creekside Event Center, 101 Mill Street, Gahanna, OH 43230. Day two is 9am – 3:30pm, however, it will be conducted virtually. See attached agenda. Please register with Yvonne Adkins at yvonne@adkinsandcompany.com as follows:

Email with the subject line – REGISTRATION FOR THE CONVOCATION. In the body of the email, please include your school's name and the name(s) of the attendees and their positions. We recommend that school leaders, and the school dean or primary academic leader at the school attend day one. You will see the agenda items on the attached for day two and you can schedule your attendance as most appropriate for the session topic. Please note that if your school's contract is up for renewal this year, leadership from the school must be in session for the contract renewal presentation at the end of the second day.

Ohio FY 2024-2025 budget approved

Late in the evening of July 3rd, Governor Mark DeWine signed the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget. The new bill focused on school choice including and comes with some significant changes for education across the state, including a reorganization of the State Department of Education and increases in education funding.



The overall increase in school funding is particularly beneficial for charter schools. Historically, Ohio

charter schools have only received 70%-75% of the funding that their district counterparts received. Under the new budget, high-performing charters, according to key report card metrics, will receive an additional \$3,000 per economically disadvantaged student and \$2,250 per non-disadvantaged student. Facilities funding for brick-and-mortar charter schools will double from \$500 per student to \$1,000 per student. A new equity supplement will provide all brick-and-mortar charters with an additional \$650 per pupil in funding. Combined, these measures narrow the funding gap between charter and district schools, with all brick-and-mortar charters receiving 86% of the funding of their district counterparts and high-performing charters receiving as much as 92% of the funding of their district counterparts.

The approved version of the budget resulted in \$3 billion in tax cuts which falls between what the House and the Senate had proposed. The tax cuts do not translate into decreased education spending; included in the approved bill is the more generous version of the Cupp-Patterson funding formula, bringing an estimated \$550 million back to public schools.

In another compromise between what the House and the Senate proposed, the minimum teacher's salary is being increased to \$35,000 as part of the bill. The Senate had proposed a minimum salary of \$30,000 and the House a minimum salary of \$40,000.

With a focus on increasing educational options to families, the budget includes a plan to expand universal private school vouchers from the current version to a prorated award for families that make over 450% of the federal poverty levels over minority opposition.

Additionally included in the final version is much disputed SB 117, which will create Constitutional study centers at five public colleges and universities,

although the institutions that will host these centers have yet to be named. The nature of the content to be included in these centers also has yet to be disclosed.

A summary is included with Budget Bill items of interest for your convenience. Please let your OSS Consultant know if you have any questions.

State department of education reorganization

Part of the recently approved Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget is a plan to restructure the State Department of Education.

Effective the first week of October, the



State Department of Education will shift from the oversight of the State Board of Education, which is led by the State Board's chosen Superintendent, to a yet-to-be-named Governor appointed director of the newly created Department of Education and Workforce. Under the new provision, the Department of Education will be renamed the Department of Education and Workforce moving forward. The new reporting structure transfers leadership from the State Superintendent of Public Instructions to the newly created cabinet position.

The approval of the new bill clarifies the status of the State Board of Education, which had been murky during the negotiation process. The Board will resume its search for a new State Superintendent. Under the reorganization, the State Superintendent will serve more as a legal advisor than the head of a state agency. Members of the Board of Education expressed concern about finding a suitable candidate to fit the position given the new responsibilities and comparably low salary.

Ohio Means Jobs K-12 survey

The State Department of Education is collecting feedback on how educators across the state use the OhioMeansJobs.com K12 website. The website provides information for student career awareness and exploration. By completing this brief survey, educators will directly contribute to the website's future development as it will provide insight into which areas may need enhancement or support.

[Complete the survey here.](#) Email questions to careerconnections@education.ohio.gov.

Open assurance surveys open July 24

The 2023-2024 school year Open Assurance survey opens on July 15th. All inspections and open assurance documents are required to be uploaded to the survey prior to the deadline.

Schools new to OSS sponsorship and schools opening new facilities or spaces must also complete the ODE required opening assurances form to be confirmed with the sponsor and submitted no later than 10 business days prior to the school's first day of school. New principals or compliance staff may contact Yvonne Adkins at yvonne@adkinsandcompany.com directly for additional support.

2023 EMIS advisory council recommendation report

The 2023 EMIS Advisory Council released its recommendation report. This report includes recommendations from the newly created EMIS Data Elements workgroup that was created to address the volume of data they manage and report. The workgroup also identified several EMIS data elements to be deleted, streamlined, or clarified. Read the report and all the Council's recommendations [here](#).

Literacy learning groundwork found in Ohio early learning and development standards

Updates in the Language and Literacy domain of the [Early-Learning and Development Standards](#) align with [Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement](#).

The Language and Literacy domain focuses on language, communication, and early literacy skills for the birth to preschool age group, including language and communication, phonological awareness, print awareness, and emergent writing. These standards illustrate how young children develop literacy skills through listening, speaking, building vocabulary, comprehending stories, recognizing sounds in words, learning the alphabet, and developing basic writing abilities. Both caregivers and educators support the development of these skills, which are the groundwork

for future learning and literacy through everyday interactions.

For general questions about Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards, contact ELSR@education.ohio.gov. For questions about the Language and Literacy domain, contact LiteracyOhio@education.ohio.gov.

COSI to host first-ever game design challenge

The Summer BOARDom Breaker challenges students in grades K-12 to design a new, fun, educational game that COSI will professionally design, produce, and include in their water-themed [COSI Connects Kit](#).

Full design challenge details are available on the [challenge website](#). To participate, students must complete this [registration form](#).

Submissions are due August 18, 2023, by 11:59 p.m.



2023 Ohio school safety summit

The Ohio School Safety Center announced the 2023 Ohio School Safety Summit at the Greater Columbus Convention Center on July 25th and July 26th.

The keynote speakers and breakout sessions will focus on comprehensive school safety practices relating to both mental and physical health. The event is an opportunity to build a strong network of public safety, mental health experts, and community leaders to create and sustain supportive environments for their communities.

The EMIS Advisory Council is legally authorized to make recommendations to the state superintendent of instruction of public instruction to make improvements to EMIS. The summit is free of cost and open to the public. [Register here](#).



Important Updates and Reminders

- 7/24 | Opening Assurances and Transportation Surveys open
- 7/28 | Submit [21st Century Community Learning Centers external community partner profile](#)
- 8/1 | [Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid and Student Wellness and Success Funds data collection](#) closes
- 8/3-8/4 | OSS Convocation
- 8/4 | [Restraint and seclusion data collection window](#) closes
- 8/4-18 | Register for [2023 Orientation for Nurses New to Ohio Schools](#)
- 8/9 | Register for [Principal Chat Series](#)
- 8/22 | Apply for [2023 Clean School Bus Grant Program](#)
- 9/13 | Register for [Principal Chat](#)
- 9/30 | Obligate [IDEA Part B funds for early childhood special education](#)
- 9/30 | Obligate [American Rescue Plan funds to support students with disabilities](#)



OSS appreciates the dedication you have for Ohio's children throughout the school year. We look forward to seeing you on August 3rd and 4th and enjoying another successful year working together!