

**The ESC BRIDGE**

**Bridging Resources, Information, and Data from**

**Government and Education**

**For the Weeks of January 5, 2015**

**Featured News**

[**Race matters as Ohio’s students diversify faster than their teachers**](http://www.ohio.com/news/local/race-matters-as-ohio-s-students-diversify-faster-than-their-teachers-1.555042)  **Akron Beacon Journal**

In 2006, 31 percent of Ohio’s schoolchildren attended racially lopsided public schools, which enrolled more than 95 percent students who were either white or black. Their exposure to diversity was limited. But in eight years, much has changed. Less than 16 percent still attend highly segregated district and charter schools.

[**President Obama Proposes Two Years of Free Community College for All**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2015/01/president_obama_proposes_two_years_of_free_community_college_for_all.html)  **Education Week**

On Friday, President Barack Obama will propose a new federal-state partnership grant program that would make two years of community college free, allowing students to earn the first half of a bachelor's degree or earn skills needed for the workforce at no cost. The president will unveil the proposal, called America's College Promise, at Pellissippi Community College in Knoxville, Tenn., the last stop on his weeklong, cross-country tour in which he previewed various policy proposals he plans to include in the forthcoming State of the Union address, slated for Jan. 20.

**Federal, National and U.S. Department of Education**

[**The plot to overhaul No Child Left Behind**](http://www.politico.com/story/2015/01/the-plot-to-overhaul-no-child-left-behind-113857.html) **Politico**

Republicans are hatching an ambitious plan to rewrite No Child Left Behind this year — one that could end up dramatically rolling back the federal role in education and trigger national blowouts over standardized tests and teacher training.

[**Kindergarten Entry Tests And More Education Predictions for 2015**](http://www.npr.org/blogs/ed/2014/12/26/373268439/15-education-predictions-for-2015) **NPR**

In 2014 we've covered education as the world-changing story it is and you've been along for the ride. And so at year's end, NPR Ed reached far and wide to bring you a set of provocative predictions for the education world in 2015.

[**E-Rate Undergoing Major Policy, Budget Upgrades**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/01/07/e-rate-undergoing-major-policy-budget-upgrades.html) **Education Week**

Federal officials have dramatically overhauled the E-rate program to prioritize expanded support for broadband and wireless connectivity, through the approval of a series of changes that have been widely hailed by education, library, technology, and industry groups as much needed and long overdue.

[**U.S. Department of Education updates guidelines for teaching English-language learners**](http://www.tampabay.com/blogs/gradebook/us-department-of-education-updates-guidelines-for-teaching/2212759) **Tampa Bay TImes**

For the first time in three decades, the U.S. Department of Education has issued updated, cohesive guidelines for school districts to follow in educating English language learners. The rules are not new. But in distributing and highlighting them, federal officials aimed to clarify the requirements for states that are seeing rapid growth of students who are still learning the language, and to remind states with large populations of ELL students, such as Florida.

[**Arne Duncan Bringing in Key Players as 'Senior Advisers'**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/01/arne_duncan_bringing_in_key_pl.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

"Senior adviser" to the U.S. Department of Education. Get used to that title. It's becoming very popular these days. Robert Gordon, who played key roles at the Office of Management and Budget from 2009 to 2013, was nominated as assistant secretary for planning, evaluation and policy way back in May. But the Senate hasn't given him the okay, so Gordon has been working as a "senior adviser" at the Education Department since September.

**Ohio Legislation Update (recent bill action in red)**

**130th General Assembly**

**Please Note that the *Ohio Legislation Updates* will be cleared in the next issue of the Bridge to start new with the 131st General Assembly. If you need information on any bills from the 130th General Assembly, you can still access archived editions of *The ESC Bridge* on our website at** [**www.esc-cc.org**](http://www.esc-cc.org)**.**

***House***

[**HB 1**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_1)OHIO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT LAW (DERICKSON T, ROMANCHUK M) To require a local workforce investment area to use OhioMeansJobs as the local workforce investment area's job placement system, to rename county one-stop systems, and to make other changes to Ohio's Workforce Development Law **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 4**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_4)LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT GRANT PROGRAM (STAUTBERG P, BLESSING III L) To establish the Local Government Performance Measurement Grant Program **STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB 8**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_8)SCHOOL SAFETY LAWS (ROEGNER K, KUNZE S) To revise the school safety law **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Civil Justice Committee**

[**HB 10**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_10)FISCAL TOWNSHIPS-MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS FISCAL OFFICERS (HAGAN C) To establish education programs and continuing education requirements for the fiscal officers of townships and municipal corporations, to establish procedures for removing those fiscal officers, county treasurers, and county auditors from office **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 14**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_14)SCHOOL RECORDS-ABUSED-NEGLECTED-DEPENDENT CHILD (PELANDA D) With respect to a school district's withholding or transfer to another district or school of the records of a child who is alleged or adjudicated an abused, neglected, or dependent child. **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 16**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_16)HEAD INJURIES-YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS (O'BRIEN S, HOTTINGER J) To correct a cross reference with regard to concussions and head injuries in athletic activities organized by youth sports organizations and to declare an emergency. **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee**

[**HB 17**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_17)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (CERA J, GERBERRY R) To require that, for fiscal year 2014 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Local Government Fund must receive the same proportion of state tax revenue that the Fund received in fiscal year 2005. **STATUS: House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 18**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_18)METAL DETECTORS-PUBLIC SCHOOLS (PATMON B) With respect to metal detectors in public schools **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 30**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_30)EDUCATORS LETTERS OF ADMONISHMENT (JOHNSON T) Regarding letters of admonishment to licensed educators **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 32**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_32)MINIMUM SCHOOL YEAR (HAYES B, PATMON B) To establish a minimum school year for school districts, STEM schools, and chartered nonpublic schools based on hours, rather than days, of instruction **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 50**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_50)CHILDREN'S' RIGHTS (HEARD T, MCGREGOR R) To protect the rights of children before and during custodial interrogations **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Judiciary Committee**

[**HB 58**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_58)STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (GERBERRY R) To change the voting membership of the State Board of Education **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 59**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_59)BIENNIAL BUDGET (AMSTUTZ R) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015; to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 96**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_96)PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' COLLECTIVE BARGAINING LAW (STRAHORN F) To eliminate an exemption from the Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Law for specified educational employees **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 97**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_97)DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH (BRENNER A, LETSON T) To designate October as "Dyslexia Awareness Month” **STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out; Passed by Senate**

[**HB 107**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_107)CAREER EXPLORATION INTERNSHIPS-TAX CREDIT (BAKER N) To authorize a tax credit for businesses that employ high school students in career exploration internships **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 111**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_111)STATE UNIVERSITIES-STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (DUFFEY M, STINZIANO M) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions **STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

[**HB 113**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_113)HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION (ANTONIO N, HENNE M) To specify that school districts and chartered nonpublic schools may excuse from high school physical education students who participate in a school-sponsored athletic club **STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 115**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_115)LOCAL GOVERNMENT BRIDGE FUND (SCHURING K) To create the Local Government Bridge Fund for the purpose of providing grants to local governments up to the reduced amount of funds the government received in fiscal years 2012 and 2013 from the Local Government Fund **STATUS: House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 127**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_127)CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH (ADAMS R) To designate the month of March as "Career-Technical Education and Skilled Workforce Development Month” **STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0**

[**HB 152**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_152)RIGHT TO WORK-PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (MAAG R) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization **STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 154**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_154)LOTTERY PROFITS-EDUCATION (GERBERRY R) To require that a portion of lottery profits be distributed annually on a per pupil basis to public and chartered nonpublic schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 158**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_158)NONREFUNDABLE TAX CREDITS-NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS (BRENNER A, PATMON B) To authorize nonrefundable tax credits for donations to nonprofit entities providing scholarships to low-income students enrolling in nonpublic schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 167**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_167)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (HEARD T, GROSSMAN C) To authorize school districts with an average daily membership greater than 60,000 and located in a city with a population greater than 700,000 to levy property taxes, the revenue from which may be shared with partnering community schools **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 168**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_168)CERTIFIED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS (HAGAN C) To create a subprogram of the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs **STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB 171**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_171)RELEASED TIME COURSES-RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (MCCLAIN J, PATMON B) To permit public school students to attend and receive credit for released time courses in religious instruction conducted off school property during regular school hours **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 175**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_175)OHIO STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (DOVILLA M) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**HB 178**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_178)SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS (PHILLIPS D) To amend with respect to school safety drills

**STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 180**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_180)CARDIAC ARREST-YOUTH ACTIVITIES (PILLICH C) With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 181**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_181)PERSONAL IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION-STUDENT (BRENNER A) To prohibit submission of a student's personal identifiable information to the federal government without direct authorization of the local school board **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB 193**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_193)HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS (BRENNER A) To revise current high school diploma requirements including state-administered assessments **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB 209**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_209)FINISH FUND (RAMOS D) To create the Finish Fund and the Finish Reserve Fund to provide grants to students who are nearing completion of their bachelor's degrees and display financial need or hardship and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 211**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_211)LOTTERY PROFITS EDUCATION FUND REPORT (WILLIAMS S) To require the Director of the State Lottery Commission to prepare a report related to the Lottery Profits Education Fund **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 215**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_215)SCHOOL SAFETY (DEVITIS A) To authorize a board of education or governing authority of a school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer who is a current or retired law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to prevent or respond to a mass casualty event **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**HB 216**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_216)SCHOOL INDEBTEDNESS (PATTERSON J) To forgive a school district's indebtedness to the Solvency Assistance Fund upon its voluntary consolidation with another district if specified conditions are satisfied **STATUS: House Education Committee – Bill Amended; Reported out**

[**HB 228**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_228) SCHOOL FUNDING (BRENNER A) To reform the system of funding elementary and secondary education **STATUS: House Education Committee – Reported out; Passed by House as amended on floor, Vote 83-4**

[**HB 237**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_237)COMMON CORE INITIATIVE (THOMPSON A) With respect to the Common Core Initiative academic standards and the distribution of student information **STATUS: House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB 240**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_240)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (ADAMS J, BECKER J) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August **STATUS: House Policy & Legislative Oversight Committee**

[**HB 241**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_241)SCHOOL EMPLOYEES-SEXUAL CONDUCT (HAGAN C) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school **STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Criminal Justice Committee**

[**HB 242**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_242)HIGHER EDUCATION-PAY FORWARD-PAY BACK PROGRAM (HAGAN R, FOLEY M) To require the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents to consider creating a pilot program called "Pay Forward, Pay Back" to replace the current tuition system at state institutions of higher education and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 245**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_245)PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACK (BARBORAK N) To extend the 10% and 2.5% partial property tax "rollback" exemptions to new and replacement levies approved at the 2013 general election and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 246**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_246)TAX DEDUCTION-COLLEGE GRADUATES (ROGERS J, BLAIR T) To allow recent college graduates to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses and allow employers of recent college graduates to deduct the employer's costs of employing the graduate from the employer's gross receipts **STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 256**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_256)HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS (SYKES V, WACHTMANN L) To require the State Board of Education to adopt national health education standards or to develop its own health education standards based on the national standards for grades kindergarten through twelve. **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 264**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_264)DIABETES CARE-SCHOOLS (WACHTMANN L, BARNES, JR. J) Regarding care for students with diabetes in schools **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 267**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_267)HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY (BARBORAK N) To extend eligibility for the homestead exemption to elderly or disabled homeowners who did not receive the exemption for 2013 and have $30,000 or more in Ohio adjusted gross income **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 285**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_285)PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PENSION (BECKER J, LYNCH M) To provide that an individual retiring on or after the effective date of this act from one of the state's public retirement systems who is re-employed as a public employee will not receive the pension portion of the retirement allowance for the period of employment **STATUS: House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 290**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_290)SCHOOL PREMISES LIABILITY (STEBELTON G) Regarding the use of school district premises by members of the public and immunity from civil liability for a school district and schools when permitting members of the public to use school premises **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 293**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_293)SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION CONSOLIDATION PILOT PROGRAM (BRENNER A) To establish the School District Transportation Consolidation Pilot Program and to make an appropriation **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 294**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_294)SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE LICENSE PLATE (BRENNER A) To create a "Support School Choice" license plate **STATUS: House Transportation, Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**

[**HB 296**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_296)SCHOOLS-EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS (JOHNSON T, DUFFEY M) To permit public schools to procure epinephrine autoinjectors in accordance with prescribed procedures and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of epinephrine autoinjectors **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 299**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_299)PROPERTY VALUATION COMPLAINTS (GROSSMAN C) To require counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school boards that file complaints against the valuation of property they do not own to pass a resolution approving the complaint **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 303**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_303)STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION (HAYES B) Regarding student religious expression **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 304**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_304)PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACCESS (HAYES B) Regarding student access to public school facilities **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 321**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_321)DATAOHIO BOARD (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To create the DataOhio Board, and to specify requirements for posting public records online. **STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 322**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_322)UNIFORM ACCOUNTING SYSTEM (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices. **STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 323**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_323)ONLINE PUBLIC DATA CATALOG (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov. **STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 324**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_324)LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION EXCHANGE GRANT PROGRAM (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program and to make an appropriation. **STATUS: House Finance & Appropriations Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out; Passed by House, Vote 89-0**

[**HB 334**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_334)STUDENT EXPULSION (HAYES B, HOTTINGER J) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees and to declare an emergency. **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB 337**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_337)LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BUDGETING REQUIREMENTS (TERHAR L) To revise budgeting requirements that apply to local governments, mandate that certain actuarial standards be applied in political subdivisions that have independent retirement systems, and authorize the Auditor of State to impose sanctions **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 342**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_342)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM (BRENNER A, DRIEHAUS D) To permit an educational service center to be a partner or the lead applicant of an education consortia seeking a grant under the Straight A Program and to modify the goals of projects supported by the program. **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 343**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_343)EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS-NON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (STEBELTON G) Regarding educational programs for certain students and individuals who have not received a high school diploma. **STATUS: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 348**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_348)HIGHER EDUCATION-STUDENT HEALTH CARE PLAN REQUIREMENT (HENNE M, HAGAN C) To prohibit state institutions of higher education from requiring students to be covered by a health insurance policy or a health care benefits plan as a condition of enrollment or from automatically enrolling students in such policies or plans **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 362**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_362)STEM SCHOOLS (SCHERER G, DERICKSON T) To authorize the STEM Committee to grant a designation of STEM school equivalent to a community school or chartered nonpublic school and to make other revisions to the law regarding STEM schools **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 367**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_367)OPIOID ABUSE PREVENTION INSTRUCTION-SCHOOLS (DRIEHAUS D, SPRAGUE R) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction in prescription opioid abuse prevention **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 370**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_370)BOARDS OF EDUCATION-PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS (PHILLIPS D) To make a board of education of a school district or the governing board of an educational service center subject to the Prevailing Wage Law for public improvement contracts **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 374**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_374)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM (PATTERSON J, ROGERS J) To make an appropriation for additional funding for the Straight A Program **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 376**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_376)OHIO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESTORATION ACT (DERICKSON T, PATMON B) To enact the Ohio Religious Freedom Restoration Act **STATUS: Referred to House Judiciary Committee**

[**HB 380**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_380)GENERAL REVENUE FUND-CASH TRANSFER (BOOSE T, GERBERRY R) To require the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash from the General Revenue Fund to the Local Government Fund and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 393**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_393)CAREER DECISION GUIDE PUBLICATION (BAKER N, LANDIS A) To require public high schools to publish annually a career decision guide in its newsletter or on its website **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 403**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_403)CONCEALED CARRY HANDGUN LICENSE (BECKER J) To generally authorize a person who has a valid concealed handgun license to carry a handgun concealed into any publicly owned facility that is not a secure facility, to limit this general access with respect to a nonsecure school building so that it applies only if the person is a government official **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 405**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_405)INCOME TAX CREDIT-CERTAIN DEGREES (BUDISH A, HOTTINGER J) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study **STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 413**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_413)PARTNERSHIP FOR ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS (STAUTBERG P, BRENNER A) To prohibit the administration of the assessments developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers for the 2014-2015 school year, to prohibit the renewal of the state's memorandum of understanding with the Partnership, and to declare an emergency **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 416**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_416)CALAMITY DAYS INCREASE (BURKLEY T, HILL B) To permit payment in fiscal year 2015 to school districts and STEM schools that exceed, by up to four days, the number of permitted "calamity" days in fiscal year 2014 and to declare an emergency **STATUS: (Passed by House) (Passed by Senate) Conference Committee – Reported out; Senate approved, Vote 32-0; House approved, Vote 87-5**

[**HB 424**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_424)SOCIAL MEDIA PRIVACY LAWS-STUDENTS-SCHOOL DISTRICTS (BISHOFF H, HACKETT R) To prohibit employers and educational institutions from requiring an employee, applicant, student, or prospective student to provide access to any personal Internet account of the employee, applicant, student, or prospective student **STATUS: Referred to House Commerce, Labor & Technology Committee**

[**HB 426**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_426)PUBLIC EMPLOYEE WHISTLE-BLOWER (BARBORAK N, PILLICH C) To prohibit an appointing authority from taking disciplinary action against public employees who report a noncriminal law violation or misuse of public resources to the Inspector General **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 428**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_428)JVS BOARDS OF EDUCATION-TERMS OF OFFICE (ANIELSKI M) To revise the law regarding terms of office of members of certain joint vocational school district boards of education **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 437**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_437)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION INSTRUCTION (HAGAN C, RAMOS D) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 439**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_439)WHISTLE-BLOWER PROTECTION-PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (DOVILLA M, HAYES B) To prohibit an appointing authority from taking disciplinary action against certain public employees who report a noncriminal law violation or misuse of public resources to the Inspector General **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 441**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_441)SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (WINBURN R, FEDOR T) With respect to school district policies and reports on violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 443**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_443)SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (STRAHORN F) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 446**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_446)STUDENT SAFETY ACT (ROGERS J) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 447**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_447)CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS-LOANS (LYNCH M) To permit a school district resulting from the consolidation of two or more school districts that meet specified conditions to receive a loan from the Ohio school facilities commission for the construction of a new facility to support the consolidated district **STATUS: House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

[**HB 449**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_449)HIGHER EDUCATION-RESIDENCY STATUS (GONZALES A) With respect to residency status for certain veterans, spouses, and dependents at state institutions of higher education **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 450**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_450)SALES TAX HOLIDAY (PATTERSON J) To provide a three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing, school supplies, personal computers, and personal computer accessories are exempt from sales and use taxes **STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 454**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_454)CONCEALED CARRY-SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE (GONZALES A) To expand and clarify the authority of a concealed handgun licensee to possess a handgun in a school safety zone **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Civil Justice Committee**

[**HB 460**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_460)SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING (BRENNER A, DRIEHAUS D) To authorize school districts and community schools to initiate a community learning process to assist and guide school restructuring **STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB 470**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_470)SCHOOL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS ACT (BARNES, JR. J) To enact the "School Bullying Prevention Awareness Act" to designate September as School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month and to declare an emergency **STATUS: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 472**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_472) MID-BIENNIUM BUDGET REVIEW (MCCLAIN J) To make operating and other appropriations and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 473**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_473)EDUCATION-STUDENT EXPRESSION FORUM (HAYES B) To require school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and college-preparatory boarding schools to establish a limited public forum for student expression **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 479**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_479)ENTERPRISE ACADEMY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (BUTLER, JR. J) To authorize the establishment of enterprise academy community schools that operate on an extended-day, year-round schedule and to give such schools priority for grants awarded under the Straight A Program **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 483**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_483)MBR-OPERATION OF STATE PROGRAMS (AMSTUTZ R) To make operating and other appropriations and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 484**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_484)MBR-HIGHER EDUCATION (ROSENBERGER C, BROWN T) With respect to the coordination and administration of higher education programs **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 486**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_486)MBR-WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (BAKER N, STEBELTON G) Regarding various workforce development and economic development programs **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Economic Development & Regulatory Reform Committee**

[**HB 487**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_487)MBR-K-12 EDUCATION PROGRAMS (BRENNER A) With regard to education provisions for students in grades kindergarten through twelve **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 488**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_488)MBR-HIGHER EDUCATION-MILITARY VETERANS (DOVILLA M, LANDIS A) To require state institutions of higher education to award credit for military training, and **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**HB 496**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_496)EDUCATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (PILLICH C) To require the assignment of an additional identifier in the statewide Education Management Information System to each student who has a parent or guardian Who is a member of the Aimed Services of the United States, a reserve unit, or the Ohio National Guard **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Military & Veteran Affairs Committee**

[**HB 497**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_497)CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS (AMSTUTZ R) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2016 **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Finance Committee – Reported out; Passed by Senate, Vote 30-1; Signed by Governor**

[**HB 498**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_498)SCHOOL DISTRICT MERGERS (YOUNG R) With regard to the merger of city, local, or exempted village school districts **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 503**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_503)BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT-HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS (BUDISH A) To require the Chancellor of the Board of Regents to establish a competition for the development of successful business plans for students enrolled at state institutions of higher education and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 507**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_507)OHIO LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (BUTLER, JR. J) To establish the Ohio Local Government Expenditure Database **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 512**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_512)HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYEES-AGENTS GUIDELINES (HACKETT R) To require the Department of Commerce to establish guidelines for solicitation, access, and other requirements for agents and brokers providing annuity contracts and custodial accounts for employees of state institutions of higher education **STATUS: Referred to House Insurance Committee**

[**HB 520**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_520)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-AUDITING REQUIREMENTS (CARNEY J, PATTERSON J) Regarding audit and record-keeping requirements for community school sponsors and operators **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 521**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_521)STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEMBERSHIP (CERA J) To include in the membership of the State Teachers Retirement System certain teachers performing services entities providing computer-based instruction to students by contract with a school **STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 536**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_536)CHILDREN VACCINATION (SMITH R, ANTONIO N) To require that children enrolled in licensed child care facilities be immunized on the schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee**

[**HB 547**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_547)COMMUNITY SCHOOL TEACHER EVALUATION (Fedor T, Patterson J) With regard to the evaluation of community school teachers **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 548**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_548)COMMUNITY SCHOOL STUDY COMMITTEE (Fedor T) To establish a committee to study the effectiveness of community schools and community school regulations **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 549**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_549)THIRD GRADE READING GUARANTEE-DELAY (Fedor T) To delay until the 2015-2016 school year retention of third grade students and requirements for teachers who provide instruction to third grade students under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee **STATUS: House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 556**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_556)PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACKS RESTORATION (Rep. John Rogers) To restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to tax levies approved on or after the effective date of Am. Sub. H.B. 59of the 130th General Assembly **STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 577**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_577)SCHOOL DISTRICTS' HEALTH CARE CURRICULUM (Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction on the positive effects of organ and tissue donation **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 578**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_578)SCHOOL BUS SEAT BELTS (Rep. Tom Letson, Rep. Roland Winburn) To require all school buses purchased, leased, or rented after January 1, 2016, to transport students to and from school to be equipped with a seat belt assembly for all passengers **STATUS: Referred to House Transportation, Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee**

[**HB 579**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_579)PROPERTY TAX VALUATION DISPUTE HEARING (Rep. Cheryl Grossman) To prohibit any party to a property tax valuation dispute, other than the original complainant, from appearing at a county board of revision hearing **STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 580**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_580)CARDIOPULMONARY-DEFIBRILLATOR EDUCATION (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Tom Letson) To require instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator as a requirement for high school graduation **STATUS: House Education Committee**

[**HB 593**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_593)HIGHER ED OVERLOAD FEES (DeVitis, A.) To prohibit state institutions of higher education from charging overload fees to students enrolled in not more than eighteen credit hours of courses per semester **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 597**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_597)COMMON CORE REPEAL-REPLACE (Rep. Andrew Thompson, Rep. Matt Huffman) To repeal and replace the Common Core Initiative academic standards and related assessment system **STATUS: House Rules & Reference Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 609**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_609)SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS (Rep. Marlene Anielski, Rep. Stephanie Kunze) With regard to suicide prevention programs at state institutions of higher education **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 616**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_616)HIGHER ED TEXTBOOKS (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) With regard to the selection, availability, and purchase of textbooks that are required for a course offered by any state institution of higher education **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 626**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_626)RESPECT YOUR DATE ACT (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To enact the "Respect Your Date Act" to require each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy regarding dating violence and rape on campus **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 627**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_627)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS LOBBYING FUNDS (Rep. Mike Foley, Rep. Robert Hagan) To prohibit community schools from using state funds to hire a lobbyist or for public relations services **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 629**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_629)PRIMARY-SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Anne Gonzales) With regard to the administration of state primary and secondary education assessments **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 631**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_631)OHIO TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM EXEMPTION (Rep. Michael Henne) To exclude evaluations conducted pursuant to the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System from the Public Records Law and to exempt teachers participating in the Ohio Teacher Residency Program from those evaluations **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 642**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_642)SCHOOL DISTRICT-TEACHER EVALUATION SAFE HARBORS (Rep. Teresa Fedor) To provide a three-year performance rating safe harbor for school districts and schools and to provide a three-year student academic growth rating safe harbor for teacher evaluations **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 645**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_645)PRE-K THROUGH 5 LANGUAGE-LITERACY PROGRAM FUNDS (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) To earmark funds for a pre-K through 5 Language and Literacy Program and to establish the program guidelines **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 650**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_650)PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACK RESTORATION (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To revise the law governing classroom facilities assistance programs and to restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to school district tax levies approved on or after the effective date of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly **STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB 658**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_658)CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH DESIGNATION (Rep. Anne Gonzales) To designate September as “Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.” **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 664**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_664)STUDENT LOAN-INCOME TAX CREDIT (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To establish the Workforce Grant Program, to authorize an income tax credit equal to 25% of the student loan payments a grant recipient makes per year, and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB678**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_678)OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To create the Ohio Higher Education Innovation Grant Program and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB683**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_683)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Rep. Anne Gonzales) Regarding the Medicaid School Program **STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

***Senate***

[**SB 1**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_1)OHIOMEANSJOBS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND (BEAGLE B, BALDERSON T) To create the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Loan Fund, to create the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Loan Program, to allocate a portion of casino license fees to finance the loan program, and to make an appropriation. **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**SB 2**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_2)OHIO'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT LAW (LEHNER P, BEAGLE B) To require a local workforce investment area to use OhioMeansJobs as the local workforce investment area's job placement system, to rename county one-stop systems, and to make other changes to Ohio's Workforce Development Law **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Manufacturing and Workforce Development Committee**

[**SB 11**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_11)SUMMER MEAL PROGRAMS (BROWN E) To require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee**

[**SB 13**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_13)VETERANS-ACADEMIC CREDIT (GENTILE L) To enhance support and services for veterans at state institutions of higher education and to require each institution to develop a policy for awarding academic credit to veterans for training received while in the military **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Public Safety, Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee**

[**SB 15**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_15)EDUCATION FUNDING (SAWYER T) To prescribe a system and timeline for the General Assembly to deliberate and determine the components and cost of a high quality public primary and secondary education **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB 21**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_21)THIRD-GRADE READING GUARANTEE (LEHNER P) To revise the requirements for reading teachers under the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**SB 26**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_26)HEAD INJURIES-YOUTH SPORTS (SCHAFFER T) To correct a cross reference with regard to concussions and head injuries in athletic activities organized by youth sports organizations and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**SB 31**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_31)INCOME TAX CREDIT-TEACHERS (SCHAFFER T) To allow a credit against the personal income tax for amounts spent by teachers for instructional materials **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB 35**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_35)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (JORDAN K) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate State Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB 42**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_42)PROPERTY TAXES-SCHOOL SECURITY (MANNING G, GARDNER R) To authorize school districts to levy a property tax exclusively for school safety and security purposes **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**SB 59**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_59)EDUCATION ENERGY COUNCIL (BEAGLE B) To authorize an eligible regional council of governments to establish itself as an education energy council for the purpose of issuing debt to pay for school district energy purchases **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Public Utilities Committee**

[**SB 65**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_65)PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' COLLECTIVE BARGAINING LAW (TURNER N) To eliminate an exemption from the Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Law for specific educational employees **STATUS: Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**SB 67**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_67)AUDIT PROCEDURE-POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS (PETERSON B) To create an agreed-upon procedure audit for certain eligible political subdivisions and to eliminate the Auditor of State's exemption from filing a rule summary and fiscal analysis with proposed rules. **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House State and Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by House, Vote 61-34; Senate concurred**

[**SB 69**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_69)COURSE AND PROGRAM SHARING NETWORK (BEAGLE B) To establish the Course and Program Sharing Network and to make an appropriation **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB 72**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_72)TRIO PROGRAMS (TAVARES C) To make an appropriation for the provision of state matching funds for federal TRIO programs at Ohio institutions of higher education for FY 2014 and FY 2015 **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB 74**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_74)AGENCY STANDARDS-CHILDRENS FACILITIES (TAVARES C) To require that any privately run non-Ohio agency, home, school, camp, institution, or other entity or residential facility to which Ohio abused, neglected, dependent, unruly, or delinquent children are committed comply with the same standards that are applicable to in-state agencies **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Criminal Justice Committee**

[**SB 93**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_93)OPEN MEETINGS ACT (JONES S) To require that further information be stated in motions to hold executive sessions under the Open Meetings Act, to expand the fees and expenses that may be recovered for violations of the Act, and to make other changes to the Act **STATUS: Referred to Senate State Government Oversight and Reform Committee**

[**SB 96**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_96) HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM (LAROSE F) To require one unit of world history in the high school social studies curriculum **S STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by House as amended on Floor, Vote 81-8**

[**SB 122**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_122)OFFICE OF REGIONAL SERVICES AND ACCOUNTABILITY (SAWYER T) To create the Office of Regional Services and Accountability in the Department of Education **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 123**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_123)INTERDISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (SAWYER T) To terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB126**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_126)SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (SCHIAVONI J) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB127**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_127)PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION-HOME SCHOOLED CHILDREN (JORDAN K) To create a property tax and a manufactured home tax reduction for parents of home schooled children equal to the taxes levied by the school district on the homestead of the parent **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB 142**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_142)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION (SEITZ B) To establish a new default formula for determining the share allocated to each subdivision from the Local Government Fund distribution of each county in which the largest city or township has a population of more than 13,435 and to require minimum annual distributions **STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB 158**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_158)SCHOOL CLOSURE EXEMPTION (TAVARES C) To exempt from closure certain community schools that enroll students receiving behavioral health services **STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 159**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_159)PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACK EXEMPTIONS (SCHIAVONI J) To extend the 10% and 2.5% partial property tax "rollback" exemptions to new and replacement levies approved at the 2013 general election and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB 162**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_162)SCHOOLS-CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS (HUGHES J) To require the State Fire Marshal and the Board of Building Standards to include in the State Fire Code and Ohio Building Code, a requirement that a public or private school must install carbon monoxide detectors **STATUS: Referred to Public Safety, Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee**

[**SB 167**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_167)SCHOOL POLICIES-INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR (TAVARES C) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 169**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_169)CHARTER SCHOOLS-EDUCATIONAL CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (SAWYER T) To require the Department of Education to conduct a performance review of each chartered nonpublic school participating in the Educational Choice Scholarship Program **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 174**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_174)STATE UNIVERSITIES-STUDENT VOTING POWER (SAWYER T) To require the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University to adopt a resolution to grant or not grant to student members voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions **STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 180**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_180) HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY (GENTILE L) To extend eligibility for the homestead exemption to elderly or disabled homeowners who did not receive the exemption for 2013 and have $30,000 or more in Ohio adjusted gross income. **STATUS: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB 190**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_190)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OPERATION (SCHIAVONI J) To revise the laws regarding the operation of community schools and, for each of fiscal years 2014 and 2015, to limit a community school’s or a STEM school’s gain in aggregate state funding over the previous fiscal year **STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 195**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_195)SCHOOL ENROLLMENT-ADJUDICATED CHILD (TAVARES C) With respect to enrollment in a school district of a child who is alleged or adjudicated an abused, neglected, or dependent child **STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 220**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_220)POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS PROGRAM (GARDNER R) To remove the prohibition on charging students fees for participating in dual enrollment programs or in alternative funding arrangements under the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 223**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_223)INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS (GARDNER R) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to develop a procedure for awarding information technology infrastructure grants to public primary and secondary schools and school districts. **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 229**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_229)TEACHER PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS (GARDNER R) Regarding teacher performance evaluations. **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**SB 231**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_231)SCHOOL PROPERTY SALES PROCEEDS (GARDNER R, HITE C) With respect to the distribution of proceeds from the sale of school district real property **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**SB 237**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_237)COMMON CORE INITIATIVE ACADEMIC STANDARDS (JORDAN K) With respect to the Common Core Initiative academic standards, powers of the State Board of Education, and the distribution of student information **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 239**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_239)STUDENT EXPULSION (SCHAFFER T) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 241**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_241)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM GOVERNING BOARD (SAWYER T) To modify the membership structure of the Straight A Program Governing Board **STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0**

[**SB 242**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_242)BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (SAWYER T) To revise the membership composition of the State Board of Education **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 243**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_243)SALES TAX HOLIDAY (BACON K) To provide a three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing, school supplies, personal computers, and personal computer accessories are exempt from sales and use taxes **STATUS: Signed by Governor**

[**SB 244**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_244)INCOME TAX DEDUCTION-COLLEGE SAVINGS CONTRIBUTIONS (JONES S, GARDNER R) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for college savings contributions to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 264**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_264)SCHOOLS- OCCUPATIONAL-PHYSICAL THERAPISTS WORKLOADS (SCHAFFER T) To require the Department of Education to solicit from school districts and educational service centers regular studies of the time spent by occupational and physical therapists on certain activities and to use the studies to determine appropriate workloads **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 266**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_266)PUBLIC SCHOOLS-BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION (SKINDELL M, LEHNER P) With respect to the use of seclusion and physical restraint on students and positive behavior intervention supports in public schools **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB 269**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_269)CALAMITY DAYS INCREASE (BROWN E) To permit state payments to school districts, STEM schools, and community schools that exceed, by up to three days, the number of permitted "calamity" days in the 2013-2014 school year and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 273**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_273)GRADUATING SENIORS-MAKE-UP DAYS (GARDNER R) To excuse graduating twelfth-grade students from attending school on make-up days that occur after the scheduled high school graduation ceremonies and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 284**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_284)SCHOOLS-CALAMITY DAYS (COLEY W) To provide additional calamity day relief for schools and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 306**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_306) ODJFS-CHILD PLACEMENT STUDY (KEARNEY E) To require the Department of Job and Family Services to conduct a feasibility study of current trends in the placement of children by public children services agencies into relative caregiver homes. **STATUS: Referred to Senate State Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB 312**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_312)SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (JONES S, LAROSE F) To require the Facilities Construction Commission to establish a school security grant program for nonpublic schools and certain local law enforcement agencies and to make an appropriation. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB 329**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_329)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-AUDITING REQUIREMENTS (SCHIAVONI J) Regarding audit and record-keeping requirements for community school sponsors and operators **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 353**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_353)STUDENT VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student’s violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 373**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_373)BULLYING PREVENTION-EDUCATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of bullying prevention and education funds to school districts and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 376**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_376)PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACK RESTORATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To revise the law governing classroom facilities assistance programs and to restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to school district tax levies **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 377**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_377)SCHOOL-YEAR DAY INCREASE (Sen. Eric Kearney) To increase the school year to two hundred twenty days **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 381**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_381)CHILD-CARE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT (Sen. Shannon Jones) To require children enrolled in licensed child care facilities to be immunized against specified diseases, subject to certain exceptions **STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Budget/Politics**

[**Senate Opens Session; Faber Stresses K-12 Deregulation, College Costs**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198406) **Hannah**

The Senate officially convened Monday for the 131st General Assembly, formalizing the return of all majority and minority leaders to their posts from the past session and swearing in new and returning senators. Following his unanimous re-election to the top job, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) in a speech to the chamber urged his colleagues to act with purpose, preserve their integrity and honor the institution in which they serve. "The people who sent us here can also call us home," he said. Faber made two policy pronouncements in his address, reiterating statements he's made in recent weeks on the Senate's desire to free K-12 schools from one-size-fits-all regulations and to drive down the cost of attending public universities and colleges by 5 percent.

[**House Begins 131st General Assembly with Speaker Rosenberger**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198419) **Hannah**

The 131st General Assembly began Monday with a new House speaker in the form of Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), who unveiled an initiative that he said will create a strategic vision for the state over the next six years. Rosenberger took the gavel from former House Speaker William Batchelder (R-Medina), praising him for being a mentor and presenting him with the American and Ohio flags that stood behind Batchelder for his four years as speaker. Rosenberger said he was not looking to “fill those shoes” of Batchelder but to “carry on his legacy.” The 33-year-old Rosenberger told the chamber that he is just like all the members of the House, wanting to serve and provide a better future for friends, family and neighbors.

[**Names DiRossi Budget Director for Senate GOP Caucus**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198405) **Hannah**

Late Monday, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) announced that he has named Ray DiRossi as the director of budget and finance for the Senate GOP Caucus. He replaces long-time budget staffer Brian Perera, who took a position with Ohio State University last year. A longtime veteran of the legislative process, DiRossi brings more than 23 years of experience working for and with the General Assembly, including six years as deputy finance director in the Ohio Senate and four years as finance director in the Ohio House.

[**Education reforms on lawmakers’ agenda**](http://www.mydaytondailynews.com/news/news/education-reforms-on-lawmakers-agenda/njgnN/) **Dayton Daily News**

Lawmakers kicked off the new, two-year legislative session on Monday with swearing-in ceremonies and a promise to focus on cutting college costs, holding charter schools accountable, eliminating regulations for K-12 schools and tackling other issues.

[**15 Ohio politicians to watch in 2015**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/01/15_ohio_politicians_to_watch_i.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Come 2016, Ohio could be the base of a presidential campaign and home to one of the nation's top Senate races. And 2018 could be a free-for-all. Of course we will be watching Gov. John Kasich to see whether he makes more moves indicative of potential White House ambitions. We'll also be keeping an eye on Attorney General Mike DeWine, Secretary of State Jon Husted, Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and other prominent Republicans who might be interested in succeeding him.

[**Meet your new Northeast Ohio legislators**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/01/meet_your_new_northeast_ohio_s.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

When the Ohio General Assembly reconvenes this month, the Northeast Ohio delegation will include both new and familiar faces. During the November midterm elections, nine of the 25 House seats from Northeast Ohio changed hands, along with two of the area's nine state senate seats. The new legislators are a diverse group. Six of the 11 new members are women, four are black. Eight are Democrats, three are Republicans.

[**Rosenberger Names Ryan Smith as Finance Chairman**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198420) **Hannah**

Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) will help lead budget deliberations this year as the new chairman of the House Finance and Appropriations Committee, Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) said Tuesday. “I can think of no one more experienced, more knowledgeable or more honorable to serve as chair of this important committee,” Rosenberger said in a statement. “The amount of work and oversight that takes place in the finance committee is unmatched, and I look forward to what we will achieve in the coming months. Rep. Smith is up to the task and I know he will guide the budget process to ensure that Ohio is made better for its citizens through common-sense initiatives and responsible financial decision-making.”

**Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education**

[**School mentoring program questioned**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/news/school-mentoring-program-questioned/njfZj/) **Dayton Daily News**

A new state mentoring program aimed at helping high-poverty, low-graduation Ohio schools is being questioned before it even starts. The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio says the Community Connectors mentoring program — suggested by Gov. John Kasich and being launched by the Ohio Department of Education — may violate the First Amendment. The ACLU questioned a requirement that public schools must partner with a religious institution to participate in Community Connectors, which is slated to award $10 million in state money via a matching grant program.

[**State builds career-planning tool for students**](http://www.mydaytondailynews.com/news/news/state-builds-career-planning-tool-for-students/njfZh/) **Dayton Daily News**

State officials have added a robust student section to their Ohio Means Jobs website, hoping it will push K-12 students to think more and earlier about career exploration in the face of the always-changing job market.

[**Ohio law changes calamity day policies for many school districts**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150106/ohio-law-changes-calamity-day-policies-for-many-school-districts) **Willoughby News-Herald**

Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, districts that change to an hour-based schedule will no longer have calamity days. Instead, schools may schedule “excess” hours above the minimum number. Hours missed above the minimum do not have to be made up. However, if a school closes enough that it will fall below the minimum number of hours, the school must extend its scheduled year, according to information from the Ohio Department of Education.

[**Ohio Schools Get Almost $1.2 Million for Meal Program Equipment**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198429) **Hannah**

Dozens of Ohio schools will share in more than $1 million worth of federal grant funding to buy equipment for school lunch programs, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) said Tuesday. The department received $1.12 million to award competitively through the 2014 Agriculture Appropriations Act. Seventy-nine providers will receive a National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant; 268 applications seeking a total of $16 million in grants had been submitted to ODE's Office of Child Nutrition.

[**State school board to have leadership battle next week: New Democrat Pat Bruns vs. last year's VP Tom Gunlock**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/01/state_school_board_to_have_lea.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Democrats are still a minority on the [state school board](http://education.ohio.gov/State-Board/State-Board-Members), but several are banding together to try to make one of them president or vice president of the board. That's the first step in a planned push by Democrats, who gained two seats on the 19-member board in November, to take a more active role in support of "public education," meaning, traditional public schools instead of charter schools.

[**Graduation Panel Explores Having Private Schools Set Own Bar, But Publicly**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198454) **Hannah**

A study committee on private school graduation requirements appeared to be closing in on a recommendation but held off on a vote Thursday to allow members to consult with the organizations they represent. The Chartered Nonpublic Graduation Requirements Committee, created in the mid-biennium review, discussed two similar proposals, one from State Board of Education member C. Todd Jones, the other from Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering). The group is discussing alternatives to having private schools take all the end-of-course exams required under new state graduation requirements.

[**Ohio Schools Get 'C' in Revamped Quality Counts Evaluation**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198453) **Hannah**

After a one-year hiatus to retool its methods, *Education Week* returned Thursday with its annual Quality Counts ranking of states' education systems, giving Ohio a grade of C, the same as the overall national ranking. The middling grade puts Ohio 18th among the 50 states with a score of 75.8 out of 100. Massachusetts ranked first with an A-minus. Ohio trailed neighboring Pennsylvania's B-minus, which ranked eighth nationwide, but got a higher C than its four other neighboring states, the closest of which is 25th-ranked Indiana.

[**Gunlock, Bruns Vie for School Board Presidency**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198465) **Hannah**

Monday's biennial leadership election for the State Board of Education will feature a contest between board Vice President Tom Gunlock and newly elected board member Pat Bruns, a longtime art teacher. Bruns is the Fourth District successor to departing board President Debe Terhar, who declined to seek re-election. Gunlock is an at-large member recently appointed to a second four-year term by Gov. John Kasich. Gunlock said he'll seek the board presidency but hasn't lobbied fellow members to back him, saying he didn't get into this role to boost his profile.

[**ODE Awards Pilot Program Grants for Adult Diploma Initiative**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=198470) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) named five institutions Friday to serve as pilot sites for a new program allowing adults who dropped out of high school to earn a diploma in tandem with a workforce credential. Stark State Community College, Pickaway-Ross Joint Vocational School, Miami Valley Career Technical Center, Cuyahoga Community College and Penta Career Center will receive $500,000 apiece to develop their programs. According to ODE, the institutions are to use the planning phase to find out how to contact potential students and assess their knowledge levels and challenges, as well as engage business leaders to determine in-demand jobs and the credentials people need to attain those jobs.

**Early Learning**

[**Quality Counts Report Surveys Early-Learning Landscape**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2015/01/quality_counts_report_surveys_early-learning_landscape.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=earlyyears) **Education Week**

Quality early-childhood education has been on the top of the policy agenda around the country, and *Education Week*is using this year's *Quality Counts* report—"Preparing to Launch: Early Childhood's Academic Countdown"—to explore just how states are measuring up against each other, and to tell the stories behind the numbers.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**Why 2015 is a crucial year for Common Core**](http://www.vox.com/2015/1/1/7477495/common-core-2015) **Vox**

The fight over the [Common Core](http://www.vox.com/cards/commoncore/what-is-the-common-core), language arts and math standards in place in 43 states, quieted down slightly in late 2014. But the lull won't last long. This spring, hundreds of thousands of students will be tested against the standards for the first time. How those students fare, and how parents and teachers react, will be crucial to the Common Core's future.

[**Update: Middle School Readers Need More Precise RTI Screenings, Study Finds**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2015/01/middle_school_readers_need_com.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=insideschoolresearch) **Education Week**

Happy middle school readers are all alike, but unhappy readers are unhappy in their own ways. Even response-to-intervention models, which are intended to deliver more individualized support to students, may not be screening comprehensively enough to help struggling readers, according to a new study in the journal *School Psychology Review*.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Matching the 'Undermatched'**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/01/05/intervening-high-performing-low-income-students-changes-enrollment-patterns-study) **Inside Higher Ed**

Ever since a 2012 study found that a majority of high-achieving, low-income high school seniors don't apply to a single competitive college, educators and policy makers have been debating what to do about "undermatching," as the issue has come to be called. issue has come to be called. Some have argued for more attention (and resources) for the institutions that enroll these students in significant numbers, especially community colleges and regional public institutions. But many have looked for ways to attract more of these students to top colleges, which tend to have more generous aid offers and higher graduation rates than less competitive colleges.

[**5 Things Colleges Can Expect From Congress in 2015**](http://chronicle.com/article/5-Things-Colleges-Can-Expect/151009/) **Chronicle of Higher Education**

When the 114th Congress convenes, on Tuesday, Republicans will control the Senate for the first time in eight years. In the House of Representatives, they’ll have their largest majority since 1928. What does that mean for higher education? In the spirit of the New Year, here are five predictions for 2015.

[**Outsourced Trial Period**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/01/06/western-governors-deepening-partnership-straighterline-creates-new-path-completion) **Inside Higher Ed**

Like most colleges, online institutions are under pressure to improve their graduation rates. Some are getting more selective about which students they admit, turning away those who appear less likely to complete. But rather than just shutting its virtual doors to applicants, Western Governors University has begun referring underprepared students to StraighterLine, an unaccredited online course provider that does not offer degrees.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Local School districts respond to state changes**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150110/local-school-districts-respond-to-state-changes) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Bay Village schools buy home behind Westerly Elementary in sheriff's sale**](http://www.cleveland.com/bay-village/index.ssf/2015/01/bay_village_school_district_sp.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Chagrin Falls High School business classes compete in "Tower of Power"**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-valley/index.ssf/2015/01/chagrin_falls_high_school_busi.html) **Chagrin Falls Schools**

[**Catch up on Cleveland Heights High School $78.8 million renovation plans and more**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2015/01/catch_up_on_cleveland_heights.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Emma Petrie Barcelona named Lakewood school board president**](http://www.cleveland.com/lakewood/index.ssf/2015/01/emma_petrie_barcelona_named_la.html)  **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Parma school board names Kathleen Petro as 2015 president, swears in John Tenerowicz**](http://www.cleveland.com/parma/index.ssf/2015/01/parma_school_board_names_kathl.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Local musician to lead anti-bullying seminar at Richmond Heights schools**](http://www.cleveland.com/hillcrest/index.ssf/2015/01/local_musician_to_put_on_stop.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Strongsville schools give 2-percent raises to non-teaching staff, launch communication survey: 5 school board tidbits**](http://www.cleveland.com/strongsville/index.ssf/2015/01/strongsville_schools_give_2-pe.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Geauga County***

**Students set for career day with Geauga Growth Partnership Career Readiness program** **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lake County***

[**Painesville City Schools and partners to offer intensive Smoking Cessation program**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150106/painesville-city-schools-and-partners-to-offer-intensive-smoking-cessation-program) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Firelands schools start renovation talks**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2015/01/09/firelands-schools-start-renovation-talks/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

[**Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Schools facing difficult budget choices**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2015/01/10/sheffield-sheffield-lake-schools-facing-difficult-budget-choices/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

[**New Avon Middle School construction is on time, on budget**](http://www.cleveland.com/avon/index.ssf/2015/01/new_avon_middle_school_is_on_t.html) **Cleveland.com**

***Medina County***

[**Medina school board elects new officers for 2015**](http://www.cleveland.com/medina/index.ssf/2015/01/medina_school_board_elects_new.html#incart_river) **Sun News**

***Portage County***

[**Robotics program in Aurora schools continues to shine**](http://www.auroraadvocate.com/news%20local/2015/01/07/robotics-program-in-schools-continues-to-shine) **Aurora Advocate**

***Summit County***

[**Twinsburg students participate at FIRST Lego League competition Jan. 10**](http://www.twinsburgbulletin.com/news%20local/2015/01/09/twinsburg-students-participate-at-first-lego-league-competition-jan-10) **Twinsburg Bulletin**

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