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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of January 6, 2014**

**Featured News**

[**Foster care until age 21 has backers**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/06/foster-care-until-age-21-has-backers.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

A group of child-welfare advocates is launching a campaign to get Ohio to join the growing number of states that extend foster care to age 21. Between 1,000 and 1,300 Ohio foster youths age out of the system each year when they turn 18, and too many exit to a bleak landscape with scant resources and support, said Mark Mecum, executive director of the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies.

[**ACT to Drop 'Explore' and 'Plan' Tests**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2014/01/act_to_drop_plan_and_explore_t.html) **Education Week**

ACT Inc., is offering its Explore and Plan tests for the last time this school year as it gears up to debut a new suite of tests for grades 3-11 that are aimed at capturing a big chunk of the common-standards testing market. Word has been trickling out slowly in states that use the ACT college admissions exam and the tests that lead up to it: Explore, which is typically given in 8th or 9th grade, and Plan, most often given in the 10th grade. Paul Weeks, ACT's vice president of customer engagement, confirmed that the Iowa City-based testing company is replacing Plan and Explore with the ACT Aspire system, rather than keeping the older products in play at the same time.

[**Dan Good to lead Columbus schools another year**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/07/Good_named_superintendent.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

The Columbus Board of Education met last night to seat two new members elected in November and then voted unanimously to extend the contract of interim Superintendent Dan Good. The move means that Good will serve at least through June 2015, and the board will not launch a national search for a superintendent. The board had said it would complete a search by the end of this school year.

[**Initiative Encourages Parents, Adults to Talk with Youth about Substance Abuse; Schools Involved in Efforts**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195080) **Hannah**

Gov. John Kasich and first lady Karen Kasich Wednesday launched "Start Talking," a new state drug abuse prevention initiative focused on ways to reduce the likelihood of youth drug use before it starts."Start Talking" is based on research that shows youth are up to 50 percent less likely to use drugs when parents and adults including teachers, doctors, pharmacists, and others talk openly with them about substance use and abuse.

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

[**Showdown Brews as Congress Turns Focus to K-12 Spending**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/01/02/15budget.h33.html?tkn=ZNBFhlFBEj%2FEUbdkCJzegiCsXxoJGIGAWcem&cmp=clp-ecseclips) **Education Week**

Big questions loom about just how much money Congress will steer to individual programs—including the Obama administration’s marquee competitive-grant initiatives—with lawmakers on House and Senate appropriations committees facing a Jan. 15 deadline to fill in details on the current year’s spending plan or face another government shutdown.

[**Federal Government Loosens School Meal Portion Rules**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195048) **Hannah**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is permanently easing limits on school lunch portion sizes, after granting temporary flexibility earlier. “Earlier this school year, USDA made a commitment to school nutrition professionals that we would make the meat and grain flexibility permanent and provide needed stability for long-term planning. We have delivered on that promise,” said a statement from Kevin Concannon, the U.S. undersecretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services. The federal agency set rules in 2012, based on the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act passed by Congress in 2010, which established minimum and maximum servings of grains and meats or meat alternatives in meals for which USDA offers reimbursement. But state agencies and local schools complained about difficulty complying with the new rules.

[**Waiver States Struggle With Priority Schools, English-Learners, Ed. Dept. Finds**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2014/01/nclb_waiver_monitoring_reports.html) **Education Week**

The first intensive federal monitoring of No Child Left Behind Act waivers shows states struggling to intervene in schools with the biggest achievement gaps, to ensure that the worst schools implement the right improvement strategies, and to help English-learners adjust to new standards. The U.S. Department of Education released reports for six states on Monday, showing varied degrees of success—and problems—as states adjust to a new accountability system that puts them largely in the driver's seat.

[**New Federal School Discipline Guidance Addresses Discrimination, Suspensions**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2014/01/new_federal_school_discipline_guidance_addresses_discrimination_suspensions.html) **Education Week**

Leaders of the U.S. departments of Education and Justice have issued new guidance on how school leaders can ensure that discipline policies are drafted and applied in a manner that does not discriminate against  racial or ethnic groups. Leaders should also seek alternatives to "exclusionary" penalties like suspension and expulsion that rob students of valuable classroom time, often for nonviolent offenses, said U. S. Attorney General Eric Holder and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who were scheduled to discuss the guidance at an event this morning at Frederick Douglass High School in Baltimore.

[**Will Congress Find Money for Both Race to the Top and Early Learning?**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2014/01/will_congress_find_money_for_b.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+CampaignK-12+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+Politics+K-12%29) **Education Week**

So Congress is apparently closing in on a deal to finance the government—including the U.S. Department of Education—through federal fiscal year 2014, which largely impacts the 2014-15 school year. Lawmakers are close, but not over the finish line yet. One of the flashpoints during negotiations: The administration wants money for both of its two highest-profile education initiatives—the Preschool Development grants, which are supposed to help states bolster their early-childhood programs, and Race to the Top, which this year is slated to be a competition among states to improve their higher education programs.

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

**130th General Assembly**

***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: Introduced; Referred to House Education 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: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**HB 111**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=5H4d_Cvhe0Wzv4BWXoMZysdsG4K3AdBIbfWJL6CbUOcyjWEMTNlO6-1BvdHi3p8dEWUdJ_YFXbE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB 113**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=OFXP5tjrdkqmVnFZ1-Ceyj_1pIT9DNBI6-MzsVRH8sGG4-XiAYzWB6U2J8Lz9o5uIZC8o_2W6a8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB 115**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=OFXP5tjrdkqmVnFZ1-Ceyj_1pIT9DNBI6-MzsVRH8sGG4-XiAYzWB6U2J8Lz9o5uIZC8o_2W6a8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to 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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=W7BggD-xEEuwkYspyBGmHbo3WW6-HNBIrcgq3Bflb8_yjf8Xm0vVwqItYNqMX6sLfAfoIOrW_Ao.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to 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: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to State & Local Government 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: House Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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: House Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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, Vote 62-27**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_240)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (ADAMS J, BECKER J) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August **STATUS: Referred to House Policy & Legislative Oversight Committee**

[**HB 241**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to House Education 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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=uS7xiC28FkeQpPwi_ikL7nVgnv9Ni9BI_mn8IdSRNPQVmF0bXHmXjehHW_fdpFlz2KPygAlDMoo.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_264)DIABETES CARE-SCHOOLS (WACHTMANN L, BARNES, JR. J) Regarding care for students with diabetes in schools **STATUS: Introduced and Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=gFa3abMLHUG2JddzXl-svtLzTH05ltBIMOcjqTocz1_KeFsd-pnbpazDQ0JBlZgfB8rVSrUrZHs.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 290**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 293**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 294**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_294)SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE LICENSE PLATE (BRENNER A) To create a "Support School Choice" license plate **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Transportation, Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**

[**HB 296**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**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 House 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: House Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Introduced**

[**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 web sit **STATUS: Introduced**

***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: Passed by Senate, Vote 31-2; Referred to House Way & Means Committee**

[**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 **STATUS: Senate Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

[**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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=bFNFcBqgnUqhZSf5hXLX3rTNQxwSkdBIk_zgH7CF2sRy2ioQLS4Dgoz4lC9lI9ND0_U2wiqj1F8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_SB_158)SCHOOL CLOSURE EXEMPTION (TAVARES C) To exempt from closure certain community schools that enroll students receiving behavioral health services **STATUS: Referred to 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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to 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**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=uS7xiC28FkeQpPwi_ikL7nVgnv9Ni9BI_mn8IdSRNPQVmF0bXHmXjehHW_fdpFlz2KPygAlDMoo.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 195**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=bFNFcBqgnUqhZSf5hXLX3rTNQxwSkdBIk_zgH7CF2sRy2ioQLS4Dgoz4lC9lI9ND0_U2wiqj1F8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_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: Referred to 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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance 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: Introduced**

[**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: Introduced**

[**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**

**Ohio Politics/Budget**

[**Ohio to Receive $10.8 Million Bonus for Children's Health Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195051) **Hannah**

According to a preliminary announcement from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Ohio is projected to receive $10.8 million as a bonus payment for FY13 for its operation of the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA). Ohio is one of 23 states receiving a total $307.3 million.

[**Charters Schools’ Legal Dispute with White Hat Turns to Control of Property**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195062) **Hannah**

A group of 10 charter schools that previously sued operator White Hat Management over access to financial records is now asking the Ohio Supreme Court to settle a dispute over ownership of school property. The 10th District Court of Appeals has ruled that White Hat owns most of the property used to run the schools, saying that the public money used to buy the equipment ceased to be public once passed on to White Hat, a private company.

[**FitzGerald slams Kasich, says he’ll name running mate soon**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/08/FitzGerald-campaign-stop.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

When Democrat Ed FitzGerald asked a few dozen supporters at the Turkish-American center here whether any of them felt that Ohio’s economy under Gov. John Kasich was “a miracle,” one hand went up. Usually, it’s none. If that’s the worst thing that happens to the Democratic gubernatorial candidate from suburban Cleveland over the next several weeks, FitzGerald would be thrilled.

[**State help with schools' open enrollment possible**](http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20140111/NEWS0102/301110030/State-help-schools-open-enrollment-possible?nclick_check=1) **Cincinnati Enquirer**

A state task force has recommended financial changes to Ohio’s open enrollment policy that could help schools that lose money in the deal. It also recommended some process changes – and said further study is needed. None of the changes are particularly radical. Nor did they include, as some on the committee had suggested, a recommendation that all districts be required to adopt open-enrollment policies.

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

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[**Schools schedules shift from days to hours**](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20140104/NEWS01/301040036/Schools-schedules-shift-from-days-hours?nclick_check=1) **Newark Advocate**

Starting next school year, Ohio will measure its educational time in hours rather than days, giving local districts a little more leeway with their schedules. They could shorten their school days, for example, or simply have fewer if they wanted. Districts would have to host community meetings before making any changes to their schedules, according to the Ohio Revised Code.

[**Kasich Fills One Vacancy on State Board of Education**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195072) **Hannah**

Late Tuesday, Gov. John Kasich announced that he has appointed Rebecca Vazquez-Skillings to the State Board of Education for a term beginning Jan. 7, 2014 and ending Dec. 31, 2016. She fills the "urban district" slot left open by the resignation of Angela Thi Bennett. That leaves three open seats on the 19-member board.

[**State School Board to Set Teacher Qualifications for Reading Guarantee**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195103) **Hannah**

Filling in the details on teacher credentialing under the third grade reading guarantee and honoring two Ohio women for high-profile awards are on the agenda for next week when the State Board of Education meets Monday and Tuesday. The full board is scheduled to vote Tuesday afternoon on a resolution to adopt reading competencies for the guarantee, following a Monday morning vote to approve the competencies in the Achievement Committee. The board will need supermajority consent to bring up the resolution as an emergency measure, because rules call for resolutions adopted by committee to lay over a month before board consideration.

**Technology**

[**New Educational Media Commission Discusses Distance Learning Capabilities**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195089) **Hannah**

The Broadcast Educational Media Commission heard an update from eastern Ohio educators Thursday on the distance-learning capabilities supported by state technology enabling live, two-way video conferencing. Michele Carlisle of the East Central Ohio Educational Service Center, based in New Philadelphia, and Dave Stein of the Licking Area Computer Association, based in Newark, presented distance learning offerings they help coordinate in eight counties. Carlisle described the pre-distance learning situation in Tuscarawas County: just two of 13 districts offered AP courses, and some schools teach only one foreign language. One small district of several hundred students had a single teacher who led Spanish and French classes; that meant no fourth-year language classes could be offered.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Colleges revise student health plans under Obamacare**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/06/colleges-revise-student-health-plans-under-obamacare.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Some Ohio colleges and universities have tweaked or even discontinued certain health plans they offer to students in complying with the Affordable Care Act. Beginning this year, colleges and universities — as well as other entities that offer health coverage — no longer can place annual caps on “essential health benefits.” And they no longer can impose exclusions for pre-existing conditions.

[**GED Test Overhauled; Some States Opt for New Exam**](http://diverseeducation.com/article/59819/) **Diverse Issues in Higher Education**

The General Educational Development (GED) test, for decades the brand name for the high school equivalency exam, is about to undergo some changes. Today, an upgraded GED exam and two new competing equivalency tests offered in several states will usher in a new era in adult education testing. The GED exam was created in 1942 to help World War II veterans who dropped out of high school use college benefits offered under the GI Bill. This will be its first face-lift in more than a decade.

[**Teacher education programs at Ohio's colleges perform well, according to new report**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/teacher_education_programs_at_1.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Teacher education programs at all but one of Ohio’s public and private colleges have been rated effective in the second annual comprehensive performance report by the Ohio Board of Regents. The recently released report helps prospective teachers, school superintendents and parents judge the quality of teacher and principal education programs at 13 public and 38 private colleges.

[**Nearly Half of H.S. Sophomores in 2002 Had No College Credential 10 Years Later**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2014/01/ten_years_later_nearly_half_of.html) **Education Week**

Sophomores who started in 2002—at the start of the No Child Left Behind Act's accountability wave and before the massive flood of college- and career-readiness initiatives—ended up in dramatically different places 10 years later, depending on whether they continued their education after high school. A first look at new federal longitudinal data finds 48 percent of students who started 10th grade in 2002 had not earned any kind of college degree or certification in the decade since, even if they did take some postsecondary credits.

**Research**

[**From Early Childhood to High School, What Predicts Postsecondary Success?**](http://www.ccrscenter.org/sites/default/files/CCRS%20Center_Predictors%20of%20Postsecondary%20Success_final_0.pdf) **American Institutes for Research**

Intended to help policymakers and educators identify qualities that predict postsecondary success, this brief summarizes research on the subject from early childhood to high school. At the lower levels, predictors mostly leapfrogged to achievement at higher levels -- for example, kindergarten readiness correlating with 3rd-grade reading proficiency. At the high school level, there were numerous indicators and predictors reflecting a breadth of research.

[**Equity in Achievement, Funding Are Hurdles for States Amid Progress**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/01/09/16sos.h33.html?tkn=POBF5MEw8pdf7KAsBGBYGYvRQcKUZMtabo6e&cmp=clp-ecseclips) **Education Week**

The online version of Quality Counts 2014 provides updated state scores and letter grades for chance for success, K-12 achievement, and school finance. The K-12 Achievement Index assesses state performance against a set of 18 indicators or criteria and analyzes results across three dimensions: current state performance, improvements over time, and equity as measured by poverty-based achievement gaps.

[**Poverty and special needs eat up 40 percent of urban school dollars, statewide study says**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/poverty_and_special_needs_eat.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

East Cleveland schools spend more than $17,000 per student, the fourth-highest amount in the state. But that amount's not as high as it sounds, once you start accounting for student poverty and other needs. Knock that down more than $7,000, about 41 percent, to cover for those issues, says Howard Fleeter of the Education Tax Policy Institute, and it's as if the district had $10,129 for each student.

**Grant Opportunities**

***Private***

[**PreK-8 Preservice Teacher Action Research Grants**](http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=15479#sthash.p4DmBOLa.dpuf) **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Deadline: May 2, 2014)**

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is inviting proposals for collaborative research projects aimed at improving the teaching of mathematics in preK-8 classrooms. Through its 2014-2015 PreK-8 Preservice Teacher Action Research grants program, NCTM will support collaborative projects conducted by teams of researchers consisting of university, elementary/middle school teachers, and pre-service teachers at the undergraduate level. The action research should be designed, implemented, and completed with a focus on enhancing the teaching and/or learning of mathematics in grades preK-8.

[**Program of Mathematics Study & Active Professionalism Grants for Grades PreK-6 Teachers**](http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=22370) **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Deadline: May 2, 2014)**

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is inviting proposals from pre- K teachers seeking to improve their understanding and appreciation of mathematics by completing course work in school math content and pedagogy, working toward an advanced degree, and taking an active professional approach toward teaching mathematics.

[**GTECH Seeks Proposals to Create After-School Computer Labs for At-Risk Youth**](http://www.gtech.com/about_gtech/proposal_guidelines.asp) **GTech (Deadline: Rolling)**

GTECH's After School Advantage Program provides nonprofit community agencies and public schools with state-of-the-art computer labs designed to give inner-city children between the ages of 5 and 15 a safe, meaningful, and fun learning experience during afterschool hours. The program provides up to $15,000 in computers, online technology, computer software, and volunteer hours to afterschool programs in inner-city communities where the online gaming company has an office. GTECH employees will work with each agency and school to design and develop a fully operational computer center.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Bay Village***

[**Bay Village parents take pledge against substance abuse**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20140109/bay-village-parents-take-pledge-against-substance-abuse) **The Morning Journal**

***Berea***

[**Berea school board will consider Higley Construction for work at Roehm**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2014/01/berea_school_board_will_consid.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Brooklyn***

[**Brooklyn schools move forward with consolidation plan: Year in Review 2013**](http://www.cleveland.com/brooklyn/index.ssf/2013/12/brooklyn_schools_move_forward.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***CMSD***

[**Cleveland schools finish their information-gathering meetings about extending their $1 billion school construction plans**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_schools_finish_their.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Cleveland Heights-University Heights***

[**Cleveland Heights-University Heights school board draws new middle school attendance boundaries**](http://www.cleveland.com/university-heights/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_heights-university_h_97.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Cleveland Heights-University Heights school district launches national search for next superintendent**](http://www.cleveland.com/university-heights/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_heights-university_h_95.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Fairview Park***

[**Safe Routes to School process enters next phase in Fairview Park**](http://www.cleveland.com/fairview-park/index.ssf/2013/12/safe_routes_to_school_process.html) **Sun News**

[**One more Fairview Park school district official suddenly resigns**](http://www.cleveland.com/fairview-park/index.ssf/2014/01/one_more_fairview_park_school.html) **Sun News**

***Lakewood***

[**Lakewood schools get funding for new buildings and renovations: Year in Review 2013**](http://www.cleveland.com/lakewood/index.ssf/2013/12/lakewood_schools_get_funding_f.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Olmsted Falls***

[**Olmsted Falls school district puts failed $15 million high school bond issue back on the ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/olmsted/index.ssf/2014/01/olmsted_falls_school_district_4.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Parma***

[**Parma schools administrators once again allowed to attend board meetings**](http://www.cleveland.com/parma/index.ssf/2014/01/parma_schools_administrators_o.html)  **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Parma schools expected to place renewal levy on May ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/parma/index.ssf/2014/01/parma_schools_expected_to_plac.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Strongsville***

[**Strongsville Board of Education approves owner's-agent contract for proposed middle school**](http://www.cleveland.com/strongsville/index.ssf/2014/01/strongsville_board_of_educatio_7.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**