

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of November 15, 2015**

**Featured News**

[**Superintendent Appoints 3 to New Youngstown Schools Distress Panel**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201482) **Hannah**

A former community college president, a philanthropist, and the head of a manufacturing workforce coalition are Superintendent Richard Ross' selections for the new Academic Distress Commission that will oversee Youngstown schools. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) said Friday that Ross appointed Laura Meeks, former president of Eastern Gateway Community College; Jennifer Roller, president of the Raymond John Wean Foundation; and Brian Benyo, president of the Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition and a member Gov. John Kasich's Executive Workforce Board.

[**ODE Releases Preliminary Spring Testing Data**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201554) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education released Friday the preliminary overall assessment results from the spring. The results show scores for English tests administered for grades four through 10; math tests administered in grades three through eight; tests in algebra, geometry, integrated math I and integrated math II; social studies tests in grades four and six; science tests in grades five and eight; and tests in American government; American history; and physical science.

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

[**Education Department Beefs Up Accreditation**](http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/11/06/education-department-beefs-up-accreditation) **US News & World Report**

The Department of Education unveiled a slate of executive actions it's taking to beef up accountability in the higher education accreditation system, which Education Secretary Arne Duncan said is filled with "watchdogs that don't bite." Colleges and universities must be accredited in order for their students to tap federal student aid, an annual investment of $150 billion. And accreditors are responsible for ensuring baseline levels of acceptable quality and performance for each institution and degree they oversee.

[**Common Core's Big Test: Tracking 2014-15 Results**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/section/multimedia/map-common-core-2015-test-results.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The 2014-15 school year marked a big change for many states because they switched to tests that for the first time reflect the Common Core State Standards. Below are the scores from state-mandated mathematics and English/language arts tests given in 2014-15 and in 2013-14 (or the most recent previous year available).

[**Lawmakers Announce Preliminary Agreement On ESEA Rewrite**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/11/lawmakers_announce_path_forwar.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2)  **Education Week**

It's official: Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., Reps. John Kline, R-Minn., and Bobby Scott, D-Va., on Friday announced that they have a framework for moving forward on a long-stalled rewrite of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

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

**131st General Assembly**

***House***

[**HB1**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-1)WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Nathan Manning) 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: Re-Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB2**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-2)CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Kristina Roegner) With regard to sponsorship and management of community schools

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 1/29/16**

[**HB5**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-5)PUBLIC OFFICE-STATE AGENCY EFFICIENCY STUDIES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To allow the Auditor of State to conduct business case studies regarding the efficiency of local public offices and state agencies

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**HB7**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-7)ASSESSMENT SCORE DETERMINATIONS (Rep. Jim Buchy) To prohibit individual student scores from certain elementary and secondary achievement assessments administered for the 2014-2015 school year from being used to determine promotion or retention or to grant course credit

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

[**HB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-12)TIF-INCENTIVE DISTRICTS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Tony Burkley) To establish a procedure by which political subdivisions proposing a tax increment financing (TIF) incentive district are required to provide notice to the record owner of each parcel within the proposed incentive district before creating the district

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB15**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-15)STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To change the voting membership of the State Board of Education to consist of a member from each of several electoral districts with boundaries coinciding with the state's Congressional districts and a president to be appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-20)CONCEALED CARRY-SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE (Rep. Anne Gonzales, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To expand and clarify the authority of a concealed handgun licensee to possess a handgun in a school safety zone

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB25**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-25)FOOD-DRINK SCHOOL SALES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules regarding the sale of beverages and food during the regular school day in connection with a school-sponsored fundraiser

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB27**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-27)FINANCIAL AID-FINISH FUND (Rep. Dan Ramos) To create the Finish Fund and the Finish Reserve Fund to provide grants to students who are nearing completion of their associate or bachelor's degrees and display financial need or hardship

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB28**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-28)SUICIDE PREVENTION-HIGHER EDUCATION (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to suicide prevention programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**HB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-39)SCHOOL-CAMP INHALER PERMIT (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To permit schools and camps to procure and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powdered inhaler used to alleviate asthmatic symptoms in accordance with prescribed policies and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of these inhalers

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 1/29/16**

[**HB42**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-42)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (Rep. Ron Gerberry, Rep. Jack Cera) To require that, for fiscal year 2016 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: Introduced; Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-43)CLASSROOM FACILITIES-PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACKS (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: Introduced; Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB44**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-44)LOTTERY PROFITS-SCHOOLS (Rep. Ron Gerberry) 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 Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB46**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-46)GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

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

[**HB52**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-52)WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW (Rep. Robert Hackett) To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs

**STATUS: Passed House 96-0**

[**HB54**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-54)VOCATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS-OFFICE TERMS (Rep. Marlene Anielski) To revise the law regarding terms of office of members of certain joint vocational school district boards of education

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

[**HB55**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-55)THIRD-GRADE READING GUARANTEE (Rep. Robert Sprague) To specify deadlines for the administration of reading skills assessments for purposes of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

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

[**HB56**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-56)PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT-CRIMINAL RECORDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Stephen Slesnick) To limit the use of criminal records in the hiring and employment practices of public employers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB64**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-64)OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

[**HB70**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-70)SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING (Rep. Denise Driehaus, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To authorize school districts and community schools to initiate a community learning center process to assist and guide school restructuring

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**HB74**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-74)PRIMARY-SECONDARY ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) With regard to the administration of state primary and secondary education assessments

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB81**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-81)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Steve Hambley) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and to require a political subdivision to prepay sixty-five per cent of the estimated cost of a special election

**STATUS: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-85)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (Rep. Dan Ramos, Rep. Christina Hagan) 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: House Judiciary Committee – Reported out**

[**HB89**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-89)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: House Health & Aging Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-92)SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES-SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor at least four years younger than the employee who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school or who is enrolled in or attends that institution of higher education

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**HB99**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-99)INCOME TAX-SCHOOL FUNDING (Rep. Mike Curtin) To require that an amount equal to state income tax collections, less amounts contributed to the Ohio political party fund via the income tax checkoff, be distributed for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB113**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-113)CPR-GRADUATION REQUIREMENT (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Nathan Manning) 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 – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB114**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-114)SCHOOL DOOR-BARRICADE (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Heather Bishoff) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB118**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-118) **TUITION FEES** (DeVitis, T., Patmon, B.) With respect to tuition overload fees at state institutions of higher education.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB120**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-120) **HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS** (Schuring, K.) To create the Ohio Higher Education Innovation Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB130**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-130)PUBLIC RECORDS-DATA BOARD (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Mike Duffey) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Re-referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB132**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-132)CONTRACEPTION COVERAGE-EDUCATION (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan, Rep. Heather Bishoff) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB133**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-133)NONPROFIT DEGREE-TAX CREDIT (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Michael Ashford) To authorize an income tax credit for individuals that earn a nonprofit management degree or certain professional designations and to allow a sales tax exemption for out-of-state nonprofit corporations that relocate jobs to Ohio

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-136)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Rep. Ron Young, Rep. John Rogers) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB137**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-137)ORGAN DONATION-HEALTH CURRICULUM (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, 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**

[**HB138**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-138)STATE TESTING WAIVER (Rep. Paul Zeltwanger, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To revise the requirements regarding the administration of the state achievement assessments, to require the Department of Education to request a waiver from federal testing requirements, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB145**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-145)STEM PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (Rep. Robert McColley, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To establish the STEM Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program to provide high school students the opportunity to receive education in a targeted industry while simultaneously earning high school and college credit and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB146**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-146)CURSIVE HANDWRITING (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-148)CLASSROOM FACILITIES ASSISTANCE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide classroom facilities assistance to a school district resulting from the consolidation of two or more school districts or from the voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a school district if specified conditions are satisfied

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB153**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-153)PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY DATE (Rep. Mike Dovilla) - To change the date on which presidential primary elections are held

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 9/10/15**

[**HB156**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-156)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. John Patterson) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-158)INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY TERM (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To change the variations of the term "mentally retarded person" to "person with an intellectual disability”

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB160**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-160)TEXTBOOKS-HIGHER EDUCATION (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**

[**HB166**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-166)LOCAL TAX-FISCAL REVISIONS (Rep. Doug Green) To extend the deadline for filing an application for the homestead exemption or 2 1/2% property tax rollback to the end of the tax year, to require that auditors certify Local Government Fund allocations to subdivisions by regular or electronic, rather than certified mail, and to repeal laws requiring county auditors to issue permits for traveling shows, issue licenses for new merchandise public auctions, certify the annual state tax interest rate to local courts, and provide certain certifications related to the repealed personal property tax

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee – Reported out**

[**HB174**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-174)GRADUATE DEGREE-ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) With regard to entrepreneurial skills education requirements for professional graduate degree programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB181**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-181)ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION-AUTO UPDATE (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline to do so and to create an online voter registration system

**STATUS: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB183**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-183)STUDENT TRUSTEE-VOTING AUTHORITY (Rep. Niraj Antani, Rep. Michael Stinziano) 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: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB192**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-192)SAFETY ENHANCEMENT STANDARDS (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Rick Perales) 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**

[**HB200**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-200)EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS (Rep. Christina Hagan) To permit epinephrine autoinjectors for which no prescriptions have been written to be stored and accessed for use in case of emergency

**STATUS: House Health & Aging Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB212**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-212)ACADEMIC STANDARDS-CURRICULA (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

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

[**HB221**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-221)TOBACCO USE-PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl, Rep. Michael Ashford) To revise the law regarding tobacco and nicotine use in public schools and at public school-sponsored functions

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB223**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-223)YOUTH ATHLETICS-MINOR EMPLOYMENT (Rep. Michael Stinziano) To allow minors to be employed by a youth athletic program if certain conditions are satisfied

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB231**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-231)PROPERTY VALUATION COMPLAINTS (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Jeffrey McClain) 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 and specifying the compensation paid to any person retained to represent the county, municipal corporation, township, or school board in the matter of the complaint

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB274**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-274) **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS** (Hagan, C.) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs. Am. 3365.16

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB287**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-287)YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth

**STATUS: Referred to House Economic & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB299**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-299)CUSTODIAN-AUTISM SCHOLARSHIP (Rep. Louis Blessing III, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To permit the temporary, legal, or permanent custodian of a qualified child to apply for an Autism Scholarship

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB308**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-308)TEXTBOOKS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Michael Stinziano) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB311**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-311)PENSION-SALARY PERCENTAGE (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To base the percentage of an employee's salary that must be contributed to the State Teachers Retirement System to mitigate the effect of the employee's participation in an alternative retirement program on the average percentage used to amortize the Retirement System's unfunded actuarial accrued pension liabilities

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB323**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-323)SCHOOL DISTRICTS-LICENSE PLATES (Rep. Marlene Anielski, Rep. Bill Patmon) To provide for the issuance of public school district license plates and private school license plates

**STATUS: Referred to House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee**

[**HB340**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-340)LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION COUNCIL (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To extend the operation of the Local Government Innovation Council until December 31, 2019, and to declare an emergency

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

[**HB346**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-346)PER-PUPIL STATE FUNDING (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require that each city, local, and exempted village school district receive a per-pupil amount of state funding that is at least as much as the statewide per pupil amount paid for chartered nonpublic schools in Auxiliary Services funds and for administrative cost reimbursement

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

[**HB350**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-350)AUTISM TREATMENT-COVERAGE (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Louis Terhar) To mandate coverage of autism treatment

**STATUS: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB355**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-355)EMPLOYEE DEFINITION (Rep. Wes Retherford) To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws and to prohibit employee misclassification under those laws

**STATUS: Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB372**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-372)EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL (Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require city, exempted village, and local school districts to employ, for each 1,000 students, at least five full-time equivalent educational service personnel in specified areas

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB379**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-379)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB382**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-382)OHIO PRINCIPALS MONTH (Rep. David Leland) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB383**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-383)INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB384**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-384)HIGHER EDUCATION AUDITS (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Mike Duffey) To specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State

**STATUS: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB391**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-391)FINANCE LITERACY PROGRAM (Rep. Louis Terhar) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation

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

[**HB399**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-399)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-HOME INSTRUCTION (Rep. Kyle Koehler) To increase the earmarked funding for the College Credit Plus Program for home instructed students

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

[**SB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-3)HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICT EXEMPTION (Sen. Cliff Hite, Sen. Keith Faber) To exempt high-performing school districts from certain laws

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB4**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-4)IN-STATE TUITION REDUCTION (Sen. Keith Faber) To require each state institution of higher education to develop a plan to reduce in-state student cost of attendance by five per cent for the 2016-2017 academic year

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB6**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-6)JOINT COMMITTEE ON OHIO COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY (Sen. Shannon Jones, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for college savings contributions to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-12)INCOME TAX CREDIT-SCIENCE RELATED DEGREE (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB19**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-19)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT (Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the Ohio College Opportunity Grant, to limit state university over load fees, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-20)CHARTER SCHOOLS-RECORD KEEPING (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding audit and record-keeping requirements for community school sponsors and operators

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

[**SB22**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-22)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND-ALLOCATION INCREASE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the GRF each month

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB24**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-24)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT QUALIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges’ career certification programs

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB34**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-34)SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY-DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR (Sen. Charleta Tavares) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior

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

[**SB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-39)PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY-SCHOOL ZONE (Sen. Bill Beagle) To increase the penalties for failing to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who is crossing a roadway within a crosswalk when the crosswalk is located within a school zone

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Criminal Justice Committee**

[**SB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-43)COLUMBUS STATE LOGISTICS PROGRAM (Sen. Jim Hughes) To establish the Columbus State Logistics Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB59**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-59)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-STATE APPROPRIATED FUNDS (Sen. Michael Skindell) With respect to the use of state-appropriated funds by operators of community schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB71**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-71)TRIO-PROGRAM APPROPRIATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To make an appropriation for the provision of state matching funds for federal TRIO programs at Ohio institutions of higher education for FY 2016 and FY 2017

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB73**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-73)MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB78**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-78)GED GRANT PROGRAM (Sen. Sandra Williams) To create the GED Grant Program for undergraduate students who have earned high school equivalence diplomas and are enrolled in two-year state institutions of higher education and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB82**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-82)GED-TEST COST (Sen. Sandra Williams) With regard to the administration and cost of the tests of general educational development required to earn a high school equivalence diploma

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-85)PROPERTY-TAX COMPLAINTS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-92)SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) 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: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB93**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-93)BULLYING PREVENTION FUNDS (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: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB94**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-94)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Sen. Kevin Bacon, Sen. Peggy Lehner) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Medicaid Committee**

[**SB101**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-101)CONTRACEPTION EDUCATION (Sen. Capri Cafaro) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

[**SB121**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-121) **IMMUNIZATIONS** (Hite, C.) To require pupils to be immunized against meningococcal disease at an age recommended by the Department of Health.

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**SB122**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-122) **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION** (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: Introduced**

[**SB125**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-125) **SCHOOL BARRICADES** (LaRose, F., Hottinger, J.) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation.

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**SB126**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-126) **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 : Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-136)SCHOOL SECLUSION ROOMS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB144**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-144)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Sen. John Eklund) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-148)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance – Education Subcommittee**

[**SB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-158)AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB163**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-163)COMMON CORE STANDARDS (Sen. Kris Jordan) With respect to the Common Core State Standards academic standards, powers of the State Board of Education, and the distribution of student information

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB168**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-168)STUDENT VIOLENT BEHAVIOR INFORMATION (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: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB173**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-173)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Sen. Kris Jordan) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB217**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-217)LOCAL OFFICIAL-CONTINUING EDUCATION EXEMPTION (Sen. John Eklund) To permit exemptions for local officials from continuing education requirements of the office for an illness or disability or for out-of-state military service

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee**

[**SB220**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-220)OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEE-ROTH FEATURES (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or non-tax deferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB230**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-230)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB234**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-234)STUDENT ENROLLMENT-CHILDREN SERVICES (Sen. Capri Cafaro) To require specified public and nonpublic school officials to search the Uniform Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB235**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-235)INCREASED VALUE-PROPERTY TAX (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. William Coley) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until construction of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property commences

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB238**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-238)MONTH NAME DESIGNATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB240**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-240)FEDERAL FOSTER CARE (Sen. John Eklund) To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB241**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-241)EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS-EMPLOYMENT (Sen. Frank LaRose) With regard to the employment of specified education professionals by city, exempted village, and local school districts

**STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Ohio senator sets hearings on co-curricular activities, fees**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/ap/ap/ohio/ohio-senator-sets-hearings-on-co-curricular-activi/npJTW/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter) **Dayton Daily News**

A state senator is leading a series of meetings around Ohio to gather feedback from health experts, parents, educators, coaches and others on co-curricular school activities. Sen. Cliff Hite will be joined by other legislators at the events in Columbus, Findlay, Cleveland and Dayton. The Findlay Republican says he is interested in hearing expert testimony and personal accounts on a range of issues, including pay-to-participate fees, student athlete health concerns and school start dates. He says he hopes to hear from experts in youth concussions and sudden cardiac arrest.

[**Legislators Preview Work Ahead, Talk Charters at OSBA Conference**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201449) **Hannah**

Three lawmakers told local education leaders Tuesday about their priorities and outlook for the General Assembly's work -- and at times got an earful back about the local leaders' displeasure, particularly over charter schools. Sens. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) and Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) and Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) spoke and fielded questions at a Tuesday morning session at the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) conference in Columbus, where association legislative affairs staffers Damon Asbury, Jay Smith and Jennifer Hogue also offered insight on the business ahead for the Legislature.

[**School Finance Expert Talks Budget, TPP, Levy Drop-Off at OSBA Conference**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201459) **Hannah**

Howard Fleeter, the economist Ohio's school leadership associations retain to study education finance, gave a primer Wednesday on the latest budget policies and his outlook on future funding, and expressed puzzlement at the record-low number of local levies on the recent ballot. Fleeter spoke at a session on the closing day of the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) conference in Columbus. The economist said he expects Gov. John Kasich's goal before leaving office is to move all districts to the formula, without caps or guarantees.

[**Senator Hosts First Forum on Youth Co-Curricular Activities Fees**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201480) **Hannah**

Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) began a series of forums Thursday at the Statehouse to discuss "pay-to-participate" policies for co-curricular school activities, which the senator will lead around the state. Hite said during the next two weeks, his public comment forums will serve to help him and other visiting legislators to "glean" information about schools' charging fees for students to participate in activities such as sports and band. He noted he personally doesn't favor pay-to-participate policies, but also doesn’t want to see activities eliminated during the process of finding a solution.

[**Gov. John Kasich's student mentoring program gives six times as much money to plans that include religious partners**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/gov_john_kasichs_student_mentoring_program_gives_six_times_as_much_money_to_plans_that_include_religious_partners.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Gov. John Kasich's student mentoring program, which drew accusations last winter of favoring religious groups, has given roughly six times as much money this year to grant applicants that include religious organizations than to secular applicants.

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

[**Ohio Board of Education starts search for ‘dynamic’ new chief**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/11/07/board-starts-search-for-dynamic-new-chief.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

The Ohio Board of Education will start searching soon for the state’s fifth superintendent in seven years following current schools chief Richard A. Ross’ announcement that he will retire on Dec. 31. “There is no obvious heir apparent,” said board President Tom Gunlock. “I, personally, am looking for a dynamic leader, a person who can keep things moving. We’ve got a lot of stuff to do."

[**Changes to School Boards Association Platform Focus on Charters, Transportation**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201443) **Hannah**

The delegate assembly for the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) conference voted Monday to update the association's legislative platform to advocate for several changes to state policy regarding charter schools and busing. The assembly also voted to name Streetsboro Board of Education member Denise Baba as the organization's next president-elect, putting her in line to become president in 2017. Baba will take over the role of president-elect from Lincolnview Board of Education member Eric Germann, who'll become president in 2016. She is in her 10th year on the Streetsboro board.

[**Ohio school boards want to ban ads for bad charter schools**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/ohio_school_boards_want_to_ban.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The state may have just passed a major overhaul in its charter school laws, but school board members from across Ohio want more restrictions on charter school advertising and funding. Members of the Ohio School Boards Association updated their "legislative platform" at their annual conference Monday by seeking more charter school rules and changes to state funding of busing. Board members want the state to ban charters with bad grades or finances from advertising and want to require all charter school ads to list details about student performance in school.

[**Recent hire Lonny Rivera in line to be Ohio's acting superintendent**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/recent_hire_lonny_rivera_in_line_to_be_ohios_acting_superintendent.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Lonny Rivera, the former superintendent of the Oregon schools near Toledo, is the first in line to replace State Superintendent Richard Ross when he retires at the end of the year - at least on an interim basis.

[**State School Board President Hopes to Launch Superintendent Search Next Week**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201444) **Hannah**

State Board of Education President Tom Gunlock said Tuesday he'd like for the board to be able to hire a permanent successor to retiring Superintendent Richard Ross by late winter or early spring. Pending assistance from the Department of Administrative Services, Gunlock said he hopes to name a search committee and have its members vote to issue a request for proposals for a professional search firm at the board's meeting next week. He said he has yet to decide who'll be on the panel, other than himself, but said all board members will be welcome at meetings of the search committee.

[**Former state school board member, White Hat lobbyist Colleen Grady joining Ohio Department of Education**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/former_state_school_board_memb.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Colleen Grady, who has advised Republican members of the Ohio House on education issues since 2012, is leaving to join the Ohio Department of Education. Grady will leave her $80,000 per year post as senior policy advisor of the House Republican Caucus on Friday and take the same position at ODE Monday, Nov. 16. In her new position, she will report directly to the superintendent, according to ODE spokesperson Kim Norris. Her new salary was not immediately available.

[**Gunlock Names Search Committee for Search Firm for New State Superintendent**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201469) **Hannah**

Ohio Board of Education President Tom Gunlock Thursday appointed a committee of the board to help the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) develop a request for proposals (RFP) to solicit bids from potential search firms to assist in the process to find a new state superintendent of education. Members of that search committee are Gunlock, C. Todd Jones, Melanie Bolender, Tess Elshoff and Roslyn Painter-Goffi. Ex officio members include the House and Senate education committee chairmen, Rep. Andrew Brenner (R-Powell) and Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering), and a representative of the governor's office.

[**Ohio school superintendent search committee causes stir**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/11/12/ohio-superintendent-search.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

While it’s the Ohio Board of Education’s job to hire a state schools superintendent, a search committee will be dominated by Republican Gov. John Kasich. The eight-member committee named on Thursday by school board President Tom Gunlock includes four board members, including himself, appointed by Kasich and a representative from the governor’s office.

[**State School Board Hears Pushback on Proposal to Change Gifted Rules, Addresses Other Issues**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201500) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education took an initial look Monday at responses to a survey on proposed new rules for gifted education, and heard directly from parents and educators worried that the changes will diminish the services gifted children receive. Discussion of proposed revisions to the state operating standards for gifted education in the Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee also spiraled into a debate over board policies and procedures that might resurface at the full board meeting Tuesday.

[**School Board Asks Lawmakers to Replace ESC Performance Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201516) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education voted Tuesday to ask lawmakers to remove a budget program that would rate certain educational service centers as high-performing and award them additional funding, but pledged to work to craft a more workable proposal. Board members and representatives of ESCs have complained that the program wrongly reduces evaluation of the centers' performance to one metric, cost savings. They also point out that while ESCs are to apply for the program, school districts are the ones who house and will have to compile and provide most of the information relevant to the application. In addition, they said the financial incentive of the high-performing designation is likely not worth the effort, especially given that ESCs already receive a pro-rated amount of their $33-per-student formula aid, because lawmakers didn't appropriate enough to fully fund ESCs.

[**Search for new state superintendent dominated by political jockeying and rumored return of Susan Tave Zelman**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/search_for_new_state_superintendent_dominated_by_political_jockeying_and_rumored_return_of_susan_tave_zelman.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Who'll replace Dick Ross as Ohio's next superintendent? Right now, there are only questions, speculation and political maneuvering around replacing Ross when he retires at the end of the year. The words "Have you heard anything?" quickly followed standard greetings like "Hi" and "How are you?" as state officials and education advocates gathered at Ohio Department of Education offices this week for the state school board's monthly meeting.

[**State superintendent tries to save $71 million federal charter-school grant**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/blogs/the-daily-briefing/2015/11/111715state-superintendent-tries-to-save-71-charter-school-grant.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohio Schools Superintendent Richard A. Ross sought to assure federal regulators today that the state would use a $71 million grant to help open high-quality public charter schools. In a 69-page letter to Stefan Huh, head of the U.S. Department of Education’s charter schools program, Ross responded to a list of concerns that led the federal agency earlier this month to place a hold on Ohio’s grant.

[**State Answers Federal Call for More Information on Charter School Oversight**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201538) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) this week submitted its first batch of responses to federal officials who want assurances the state can properly administer a recent $32 million grant to expand and improve Ohio's charter school sector. As part of the submission, ODE pledged to complete new evaluations of charter school sponsors by October 2016. Ohio won the grant, which could grow to as much as $71 million over several years, in late September. But shortly after submitting its application in July, the state told the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) the application had errors.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**Ohio teachers vet new state tests**](http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/story/news/local/2015/11/15/ohio-teachers-vet-new-state-tests/75728232/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin)**= Lancaster Eagle Gazette**

From students opting out to computer glitches and the eventual firing of their parent company, Ohio’s standardized tests had a rough year in 2014-2015. But many educators across the state believe the exams will be improved this school year, in part because they are playing a direct role in creating them.“ From what I saw, this is going to be a much more valid and stronger test than previous ones,” said Rick Bates, a seventh grade language arts teacher in Lancaster.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**It's in the Budget: ODE Picks 3 More Sites for Adult Diploma Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201434) **Hannah**

Three community colleges will receive a quarter million dollars apiece to plan programs for awarding high school diplomas to adults as part of career-focused instruction, the Ohio Department of Education said Monday. State Superintendent Richard Ross awarded the planning grants to Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Columbus State Community College, and North Central State College under the Adult Diploma Pilot Program. The planning grants support programs for launch in FY17.

[**New Guide to Remediation**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/11/11/groups-release-principles-improving-remedial-education) **Inside Higher Ed**

Colleges and states have spent years working on ways to improve remedial education, especially as they find more students are graduating high school unprepared for the rigors of college. Sixty-eight percent of community college students and 40 percent of students at public four-year colleges take at least one remedial course, and even more students are referred to developmental courses but never enroll in them, according to the Community College Research Center.

[**Process eased for Ohio veterans to get college credit for service**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/11/15/process-eased-for-ohio-veterans-to-get-college-credit-for-service.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Not so long ago, military veterans trying to get college credit for their time in the service could do so, but only if they could convince their college that their training equaled a course. Jay Favuzzi, a veteran of two Army tours in Afghanistan, was granted 21 credit hours from State University of New York-Potsdam in 2002, but only after “basically doing a 20-page paper” and navigating military bureaucracy to make his case.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Beachwood schools administration recommends $35.7 million school consolidation**](http://www.cleveland.com/beachwood/index.ssf/2015/11/beachwood_schools_administrati_1.html#incart_river_index) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Cleveland schools show gains on a major test but more is needed: editorial**](http://www.cleveland.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/cleveland_schools_show_small_g.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Cleveland students protest: They say plans to split up Rhodes High will ruin the "traditional high school experience"**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/cleveland_students_protest_they_say_plans_to_split_up_rhodes_high_will_ruin_the_traditional_high_school_experience.html#incart_river)  **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Cleveland and Dayton are national leaders in charter school enrollment**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/11/cleveland_and_dayton_are_national_leaders_in_charter_school_enrollment.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

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