

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of February 1, 2016**

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

[**Obama seeks $4B for computer science classes**](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/30/obama-seeks-4b-computer-science-classes/79540268/) **USA Today**

President Obama will ask Congress for more than $4.2 billion to reboot computer science education programs in what the White House is calling an "Eisenhower moment" for technical education. The three-year initiative, called Computer Science For All, would help train teachers, equip classrooms, and develop new class materials.

[**Federal Pell Proposal Encourages Completion, Shorter Time to Earn Degree**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202162) **Hannah**

The Obama administration is proposing two changes to the Pell Grant college financial aid program meant to help students finish their degrees, and to do so more quickly.A proposed "Pell for accelerated completion" program would give full-time students eligibility for a third semester of classes, whereas students usually are limited to two semesters per year. According to the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), about 700,00 students would benefit from an additional $1,915 on average.

[**Most States Saw Pre-K Funding Increases, Report Shows**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202181) **Hannah**

Ohio's boost to early childhood education funding in the FY16-17 budget bill was part of a trend nationwide in states' increasing support for pre-k for the 2015-2016 academic year, according to a recent report from the Education Commission of the States. The trend crossed partisan lines, with 22 states with GOP governors and 10 with Democratic governors, plus the District of Columbia, all increasing funding levels. Five states with GOP governors and three led by Democrats decreased funding, meanwhile. State funding overall increased nearly $767 million compared to the 2014-2015 academic year.

[**After ESSA's Passage, Republicans in Congress Get Better Grades from NEA**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/01/after_essas_passage_republican.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

Last year, lawmakers completed the ultimate assignment, as far as the National Education Association is concerned: a long-awaited reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The new law—the Every Student Succeeds Act—paves the way for states to de-emphasize test scores in accountability and focus more attention on factors like school climate and teacher engagement. And it gets rid of evaluations that take student outcomes into account, both big NEA priorities.

**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 2/1/16**

[**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 2/1/16**

[**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**

[**HB50**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-50)FOSTER CARE-ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGE (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda, Rep. Cheryl Grossman) - 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, to provide a ward's bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation

**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 3/23/16**

[**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 & reported out**

[**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 – Reported out**

[**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: Passed by House, Vote 95-0**

[**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: Passed by House as amended on Floor, Vote 93-1**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

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

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

[**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: Passed by House, Vote 90-0**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB410**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-410)TRUANCY (Rep. Jeff Rezabek, Rep. Bill Hayes) - With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB420**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-420)OPT-OUTS-STATE ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) To prohibit the Department of Education from including students who "opt-out" of state assessments in calculations of certain grades in the state report card and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB425**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-425)RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION-STUDENTS (Rep. Bill Hayes) Regarding student religious expression

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB426**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-426)CAREER COLLEGES-JOB PLACEMENT (Rep. Niraj Antani) To require the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools to report and post job placement information

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB438**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-438)WEEK DESIGNATION (Rep. John Patterson) To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public Education Appreciation Week”

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB445**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-445)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-EXTRACURRICULARS (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Marlene Anielski) To make changes to the College Credit Plus program and to specify that students participating in the program shall not be denied the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities based solely upon participation in the CCP program

**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**

[**SB246**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-246)CAUV COMPUTATION-CAPITALIZATION RATE (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup

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

[**SB247**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-247)SCHOOL DISTRICT-SUMMER MEALS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) 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: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB250**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-250)CHARTER SCHOOLS-STATE MONEY (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To prohibit community schools from using state moneys to pay for advertising, recruiting, or promotional materials

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB264**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-264)SALES TAX HOLIDAY-PERMANENT (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

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

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Ohio’s higher preschool spending still lags most states**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/02/02/ohio-to-spend-more-on-preschool-but-still-lags-nationwide.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohio’s spending on public preschool programs increased this year, like most states. But despite the higher investment, Ohio funding for early childhood education continues to lag, a new report found. Among the 45 states and District of Columbia that funded preschool in 2015-2016, Ohio ranked 27th in total spending, according to the analysis of state data by the Education Commission of the States. The non-partisan Denver-based organization tracks education policy trends.

[**Ohio Awards $9.1M to Strengthen Early Childhood Mental Health Services**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202164) **Hannah**

In an effort to promote healthy social and emotional development and school readiness among children age 6 and younger, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) recently announced $9.1 million in funding that will benefit 75 counties through the agency’s “Whole Child Matters: Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) Initiative.”

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

[**Applications Open for State K-12 Scholarships**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202127) **Hannah**

The state opened applications Monday for scholarship programs that can help families pay for private schools. The EdChoice Scholarship, Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship and Cleveland Scholarship are all open for interested students and families to apply. The EdChoice Scholarship has two facets. The traditional program is available to students who are assigned to attend an underperforming public school, and 60,0000 scholarships are available in maximum amounts of $6,000 for high school students and $4,650 for younger students.

[**Students from failing schools use less than half of school vouchers available**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/02/02/students-from-failing-schools-use-less-than-half-school-vouchers-available.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Students at 261 failing public schools, more than a quarter of them in Columbus, have the opportunity to attend a private school for free next year.Tax-funded EdChoice vouchers are available to students attending, entering or assigned to the schools across 32 school districts statewide in the 2016-2017 school year, according to the Ohio Department of Education. They include 72 elementary, middle and high schools in the Columbus Public School District and one elementary school in the Groveport Madison School District.

[**State revises number of failing charter schools to get federal grant money**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/02/04/charter-school-federal-grant.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

As state education officials seek the release of a $71 million federal charter school grant, they now say Ohio has nearly 10 times as many failing charter schools as previously claimed.

[**ODE Continues Reporting to Feds on Charter School Grant Inquiry**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202176) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) sent more information to the federal government last week as part of an effort to provide assurances it can properly administer tens of millions of dollars in grant funding for charter schools. The latest letter explains how the state designates more charters as poor-performing and fewer as high-performing than it did when originally seeking the grant.

[**ESSA, Gifted Standards on Tap for State School Board**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202173) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education will spend much of its monthly meeting next week getting up to speed on how the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will affects its upcoming work. Four of the standing committee meetings Monday will set aside an hour to discuss the new federal law and the relevant policy issues they'll face in complying with ESSA -- the Achievement Committee, Capacity Committee, Accountability Committee, and Urban and Rural Renewal Committees.

[**ODE, Feds Seek More Participation in Summer Food Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202180) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and its federal counterpart are seeking greater participation in the Summer Food Service Program, which provides daily meals to students while school is out.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**PARCC Scores Lower for Students Who Took Exams on Computers**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/02/03/parcc-scores-lower-on-computer.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

Students who took the 2014-15 PARCC exams via computer tended to score lower than those who took the exams with paper and pencil—a revelation that prompts questions about the validity of the test results and poses potentially big problems for state and district leaders.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**A Push to Finish on Time**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/01/29/fifteen-finish-campaign-wins-fans-stokes-worries) **Inside Higher Ed**

A campaign for students to take 15 credits a semester is growing. But some worry 15-credit course loads could become a requirement for financial aid, or might prod job-holding students to take on too much.

[**Colleges could be held accountable for students' bad debts**](http://www.tribstar.com/news/colleges-could-be-held-accountable-for-students-bad-debts/article_c6a71077-bdaf-5f9a-90d2-5ae2975d261d.html)  **Tribune Star**

Since they began repaying student loans in 2012, about a third of the former students and graduates of Martin University in Indianapolis have defaulted. At Kentucky State University in Frankfort, about one-quarter of those who took out federal loans to take classes have defaulted since beginning repayment three years ago. Alumni of other colleges and universities around the country haven't done much better, according to U.S. Department of Education. Nationally, about 12 percent of those who began payment that year were in default as of last September.

[**Nation’s prominent public universities are shifting to out-of-state students**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/nations-prominent-public-universities-are-shifting-to-out-of-state-students/2016/01/30/07575790-beaf-11e5-bcda-62a36b394160_story.html) **Washington Post**

America’s most prominent public universities were founded to serve the people of their states, but they are enrolling record numbers of students from elsewhere to maximize tuition revenue as state support for higher education withers.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Berea's aging schools in need of major renovations, new construction**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2016/02/bereas_aging_schools_in_need_o.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Cleveland Heights-University Heights Schools Superintendent Dixon speaks of energy savings, meeting goals in address**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2016/01/ch-uh_schools.html) **Sun News**

***Lorain County***

[**In Lorain schools, life preparation means special needs inclusion**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20160131/in-lorain-schools-life-preparation-means-special-needs-inclusion) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Avon school students celebrate their 100th day of school**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20160201/avon-school-students-celebrate-their-100th-day-of-school) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Lorain school board rejects ODE’s recommendations about fired administrator**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2016/02/05/lorain-school-board-rejects-odes-recommendations-administrator-remains-fired/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

[**Lorain Schools mull withdrawing from LCCC Early College High School program**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2016/02/04/286690/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

[**Lorain schools see slight progress with test scores**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2016/02/05/286819/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

***Medina County***

[**Medina schools to hold community meetings in search for superintendent**](http://www.cleveland.com/medina/index.ssf/2016/02/medina_schools_to_hold_communi.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Brunswick schools could save $2 million, performance audit says**](http://www.cleveland.com/brunswick/index.ssf/2016/01/brunswick_schools_could_save_2.html) **Cleveland.Com**

***Summit County***

[**Revere board approves administration contracts**](http://www.akron.com/akron-ohio-education-news.asp?aID=29673) **West Side Leader**

[**Twinsburg schools exceed state averages for similar socioeconomic districts**](http://www.twinsburgbulletin.com/education/2016/01/29/Twinsburg-City-Schools-exceed-state-averages-for-similar-socioeconomic-districts) **Twinsburg Bulletin**

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