

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of July 13, 2015**

**Featured News**

[**3,000 reasons to support youth who age out of foster care: Mark Mecum, Ohio Fostering Connections**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/3000_reasons_to_support_youth.html#incart_river_mobileshort) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

In Ohio, we show our most vulnerable children the proverbial door at age 18, putting them on a path to potentially tragic consequences. At this moment, there are 3,000 young Ohioans between the ages of 18-21 who are struggling to survive after aging out of foster care, with limited means and support. Three thousand young people who face obstacles to success, including unemployment and insufficient education. Three thousand young people more likely to experience homelessness, incarceration, or dependence on public assistance. Three thousand young people with an increased rate of substance abuse issues. Three thousand young people who are more likely to fall prey to human trafficking.

[**Ohio’s struggling schools way behind peers**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/news/ohios-struggling-schools-way-behind-peers/nmw5C/) **Dayton Daily News**

Ohio has one of the biggest gaps in the nation between its worst-performing schools and the rest of the state’s schools, according to a report released last week by the White House. The report, titled Giving Every Child a Fair Shot, said the gap in math proficiency between the bottom 5 percent of schools in Ohio and the rest of the state was 52 percentage points – worse than every state in the U.S. except South Dakota.

[**Ohio's Common Core math and English tests will be cut to 3 hours each**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/ohios_common_core_math_and_english_tests_will_be_cut_to_3_hours_each.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Ohio's new Common Core math and English tests will be about three hours per subject each year, the [state school board](http://education.ohio.gov/State-Board) was told this afternoon. Jim Wright, the testing director of the [Ohio Department of Education](http://education.ohio.gov/), said he is working with the [American Institutes for Research](http://www.air.org/) to keep each exam to a three-hour maximum as AIR and the state develop new tests for next spring.

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

[**Two years of free college possible with proposed bill**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/news/local-education/two-years-of-free-college-possible-with-proposed-b/nmw82/) **Dayton Daily News**

Lawmakers have introduced legislation that attempts to make a community college education accessible to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay for it. The bill proposed last week — called The America’s College Promise Act of 2015 — would make a two-year, community college education free for students. The federal government would foot 75 percent of costs, and states the remaining 25 percent.

[**Students' Reading And Math Skills Are Still All Over The Map**](http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2015/07/09/421456098/students-reading-and-math-skills-are-still-all-over-the-map) **NPR**

A federal report out today reinforces the notion that when it comes to state standards, proficiency is still in the eye of the beholder. A top-scoring student on Arizona's reading test may fall far below average in states with more rigorous exams, like Massachusetts or Wisconsin. The new report, by the National Center for Education Statistics, compares each state's performance on state tests with their performance on the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Performance – or NAEP.

[**Education reform bill concerns Sen. Sherrod Brown**](http://limaohio.com/news/146719/education-reform-bill-concerns-sen-sherrod-brown) **Lima News**

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-OH, on Wednesday expressed concern over an education reform bill that would alter the formula for Title 1 funding — a move he said would slash $69 million in funding for more than 600 Ohio school districts.

[**Last-minute change in U.S. Senate averts $70 million cut for Ohio’s poorest school children**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/last-minute-change-in-u-s-senate-averts-70-million-cut-for-ohio-s-poorest-school-children-1.609156) **Akron Beacon Journal**

A last-minute change in the U.S. Senate could avert a $69.1 million federal funding cut for Ohio’s poorest school children.

**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: Passed by Senate 30-0 (Earlier REPORTED-AMENDED SUBSTITUTE)**

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

[**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: Introduced; Referred to House Commerce & Labor 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: House Judiciary Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: House State Government Committee – Bill amended**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Health & Aging 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: Introduced**

[**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: 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, Vote 32-0**

[**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**

**Ohio Budget/Politics**

[**John Kasich raises $11.5 million for White House bid**](http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/07/10/john-kasich-new-day-for-america-fundraising-presidential-campaign/29967413/) **Cincinnati Enquirer**

John Kasich's presidential operation raised $11.5 million in May and June -- enough to back up the credibility of his likely White House bid, but an amount that trails the bank accounts of other 2016 operations that started fundraising earlier. The figure compares with the $103 million raised by the political action committee supporting former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, although Bush's team had been raising money since January. Including Bush's official campaign, he and his allies have raised $114 million.

[**Kasich Chief of Staff Leaving to Join Presidential Campaign**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200272) **Hannah**

Gov. John Kasich’s chief of staff is leaving his administration to run his presidential campaign, a spokesman for the governor confirmed Monday. Beth Hansen, who ran Kasich’s successful 2010 gubernatorial campaign and then became his chief of staff, will serve her last day in her current role on Tuesday. Rob Nichols, a spokesman for Kasich, said Wayne Struble, who serves as the governor’s director of policy, will take over as chief of staff. Kasich has been visiting primary states in anticipation of a presidential bid that he will kick off July 21 in Columbus

**[John Kasich's chief of staff to leave post and take key role in presidential](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/07/john_kasichs_chief_of_staff_to.html" \l "incart_river)**

**[campaign](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/07/john_kasichs_chief_of_staff_to.html" \l "incart_river) The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

A top adviser in Gov. John Kasich's administration is poised to become his campaign manager for his soon-to-launch presidential campaign. Beth Hansen, Kasich's chief of staff, will leave the state payroll Tuesday and be in place to manage the campaign, said Chris Schrimpf, a spokesman for Kasich's political operation, New Day for America. "I have total confidence in Beth," Kasich told reporters after touring an off-road motorcycle factory in Rochester, N.H. "We're close. ... Forget everything else, I love the fact that she's a woman. What a fantastic thing that is. I like to have women in high places in organizations."

[**Treasurer Asks School Employees' Pension to Join Spending Database**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200307) **Hannah**

Treasurer Josh Mandel continued Thursday making the rounds of state pensions he hopes to sign up for his Ohiocheckbook.com initiative, visiting the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). The website, originally designed to showcase checkbook-level spending of state government, expanded to include voluntary posting by local governments and other entities in April*.* Mandel recently took his sales pitch to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund, and he plans visits next month to the Highway Patrol Retirement System and the State Teachers Retirement System.

[**Resignation of Ohio school superintendent Richard Ross sought by state lawmaker**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/resignation-of-ohio-school-superintendent-richard-ross-sought-by-state-lawmaker-1.608769) **Akron Beacon Journal**

A House lawmaker has called for the resignation of Ohio’s superintendent of public schools after a top Department of Education employee altered a scoring system that made charter schools look better than they are, something officials say broke state law.

[**Charter exclusion has Yost concerned**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/07/17/charter-exclusion-has-yost-concerned.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Saying he sees “concerning similarities” with the Columbus City Schools data scandal, state Auditor Dave Yost is examining how the Ohio Department of Education excluded poor student-performance data from online charter schools when it rated the schools’ sponsors last spring. “I’m concerned about the process,” Yost said on Thursday, adding that he has not launched an official investigation.

[**Kasich inks Youngstown Plan**](http://www.vindy.com/news/2015/jul/17/governor-signs-bill-on-city-school-distr/) **Youngstown Vindicator**

Despite objections from some members of the Youngstown community, Gov. John Kasich signed the legislation Thursday that will allow a chief executive officer to manage and operate the city school district.

[**Gov. Kasich signs controversial bill to overhaul state takeovers of "failing" school districts**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/gov_kasich_signs_controversi.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Gov. John Kasich signed today a controversial bill  that drastically changes how the state can step in to run "failing" school districts by creating a new CEO position, allowing mayors to appoint school board members and giving the CEO power to override parts of union contracts.

[**A quick look at the new state takeover plan for failing school districts**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/a_quick_look_at_the_new_state_takeover_plan_for_failing_school_districts.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Here are the basics of how [House Bill 70](http://media.cleveland.com/plain_dealer_metro/other/House%20Bill%2070%20academic%20distress%20commissions.pdf) will change so-called [Academic Distress Commissions](http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/School-Improvement/Academic-Distress-Commission) - the state's way of taking over "failing" school districts to turn them around. The biggest changes: Hiring a CEO to run the district, promoting more charter schools, possible mayoral control and possibly overriding parts of union contracts. It's a plan that has many similarities to changes made in Cleveland over the last several years, many as a pre-emptive move to [avoid being placed under an Academic Distress Commission](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/04/cleveland_school_district_acad.html) itself.

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

[**It's in the Budget: HB64 Lays Out Requirements for SBOE to Tackle**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200279) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education (SBOE) spent the better part of its meeting Monday afternoon reviewing a 12-page summary of education-related changes in the FY16-17 state budget, HB64, which can be found on the *Hannah News* homepage. A report on the discussion around those items will be published in a future issue of *The* *Hannah Report.* In addition, Jessica Voltolini, director of the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs, handed out a summary of items the SBOE must tackle under various budget provisions.

[**School Board Panels Set Job Skills Test Cutoff, Grumble about Shifting Indicator Targets**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200275) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education's Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee voted Monday to set phased-in cut scores for ACT WorkKeys, a job skills assessment that students can pair with an industry credential as one way to earn a high-school diploma. Also Monday, the board's Accountability Committee reacted harshly against new legislation permitting the board to temporarily lower the bar on one report card measure. Under a resolution approved by the Achievement and Graduation Requirement Committee, students in the classes of 2018 and 2019 taking the workforce pathway to a diploma would need to score 13 out of 20 on WorkKeys. Starting with the class of 2020, students would need a 14. Under each scenario, students would have to score a minimum of three points on each of WorkKeys' three sections.

[**Superintendent Awards $6.8 Million in Mentoring Grants**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200271) **Hannah**

State Superintendent Richard Ross awarded grants worth $6.8 million Monday to dozens of local partnerships under Community Connectors, a Kasich administration initiative to join schools, businesses, faith and civic groups to help provide role models and career guidance to students. Monday's awards come from a $10 million pool created in the 2014 mid-biennium review for the program, and the Ohio Department of Education says Ross "will continue to analyze and work with the other grant applicants over the next month in an effort to award" the remaining $3.2 million.

[**State School Board Debates Charter Schools, New Youngstown Commission at Length**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200280) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education took a wide-ranging look at charter schools Tuesday with a review of their history, recent administrative actions to boost accountability for the sector and an outlook on legislative proposals seeking further improvements. Members followed that with a debate on the revamped Academic Distress Commission model, which will take effect in Youngstown this fall after last-minute legislative action in June. During the charter school discussion board President Tom Gunlock and Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) insisted on answers from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) on why dropout recovery and online charter schools' academic performance was excluded in the recent rating of school sponsors.

[**Ohio schools program training school leaders**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/07/13/program-training-school-leaders.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Amy Berio has taken on multiple roles during her career with the Ohio Army National Guard, from soldier to platoon sergeant. But when she looked at all of her experiences, she realized that she was missing a deeper purpose in life. She started exploring other fields when she stumbled onto the Bright New Leaders for Ohio Schools program.

[**State broke the law by ignoring online school F's, state school board says**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/state_didnt_follow_the_law_in.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

State school board members accused the [Ohio Department of Education](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CB4QFjAAahUKEwir48jBzNvGAhUIFpIKHSugDNU&url=http%3A%2F%2Feducation.ohio.gov%2F&ei=ZYOlVeucGYisyASrwLKoDQ&usg=AFQjCNF60wyRO50Vn1oJmRuKbhefx9B9xQ&sig2=wdaunYc-S0IpiMpVG_pG3Q&bvm=bv.97653015,d.aWw) Tuesday of breaking state law by throwing F grades for online schools out of a key charter school evaluation this year. Members of the state school board and state [Sen. Peggy Lehner](http://www.ohiosenate.gov/lehner) said David Hansen, ODE's school choice director, was [required by state law to include online schools and dropout recovery schools in evaluations of charter school oversight agencies.](http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3314.016)

[**State school board finds fault with charter school evaluations**](http://www.cantonrep.com/article/20150715/NEWS/150719619/10971/NEWS) **Canton Repository**

State school board members have accused the Ohio Department of Education of breaking the law by throwing failing grades for online schools out of a charter school evaluation. The Plain Dealer in Cleveland reports that officials confirmed Tuesday that School Choice Director David Hansen left failing grades for those schools out of the evaluations of charter school oversight agencies. The omission boosted the rating of two oversight agencies.

[**State superintendent won't answer questions about F grades for the ECOT e-school**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/will_f_grades_for_the_ecot_e-s.html#incart_river)  **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

State Superintendent Richard Ross is refusing to say whether he will count the F grades for the [Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT)](https://www.ecotohio.org/), Ohio's largest online school and one run by a major Republican contributor, in a key charter school evaluation coming soon.

[**State Yanks Charter School Sponsor Ratings**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200317) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) said Friday it is retracting recent ratings of charter school sponsors under a new performance review system following criticism over the exclusion of online and dropout recovery schools from academic evaluations of the sponsors' schools. "In response to the concerns that have been raised and our own preliminary review, the Ohio Department of Education is retracting the community school sponsor evaluations that have been completed so far. The department will be seeking input from independent experts to make sure the methodology for evaluating all sponsors, including those already evaluated, is credible, accurate and compliant," the department said in a statement.

[**It's in the Budget: ODE Announces Launch of Adult Diploma Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200322) **Hannah**

State Superintendent of Education Richard Ross announced the launch of the Adult Diploma Program at the State Board of Education meeting this week -- shortly after the General Assembly approved a number of administration-sponsored changes as part of the FY16-17 biennial budget last month, HB64. Citing the one million adult Ohioans who lack a high school diploma, Ross related a story from his days as a school administrator when he was approached by an individual seeking to get a high school diploma -- not just a GED -- and there was no option to do so.

[**State's top school choice official resigns after illegal e-school omission**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/states_top_school_choice_offic.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

David Hansen, the school choice director for the [Ohio Department of Education](http://education.ohio.gov/), resigned late Saturday after throwing failing grades for online schools out of key charter school evaluations.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**Ohio's not totally done with PARCC as this year's tests are graded**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/ohios_not_totally_done_with_parcc_as_this_years_tests_are_graded.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The state legislature and Gov. John Kasich may have [booted the PARCC Common Core tests out of Ohio](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/06/ohio_dumps_the_parcc_common_core_tests_after_woeful_first_year.html), but the state is still sticking with the consortium as it figures out grades from this year's tests. Ohio educators and representatives of the [Ohio Department of Education](http://education.ohio.gov/) will be in Washington, D.C., late this month and into August to work with other 11 states in deciding how to interpret the scores from the first year of the exams.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Study IDs ways to explore options**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/07/16/new-study-identifies-best-way-make-low-income-families-aware-federal-financial-aid) **Inside Higher Ed**

A new [study](http://cl.exct.net/?qs=134dbea2b0fc48666224c6428ad2cfb1f9a0272f2a3750d3ca4f8b80d627d920) identifies new ways to help make middle-schoolers and their families aware of their financial aid options, letting them know that college can be a reality for those who might think they can't afford it.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

[**Audience Assails Kasich Plan to Reform City Schools**](http://businessjournaldaily.com/audience-assails-kasich-plan-to-reform-city-schools/) **Youngstown Business Journal**

[**Rocky River, Independence schools rank at bottom in Ohio for state funding per pupil; see rankings**](http://www.cleveland.com/datacentral/index.ssf/2015/07/rocky_river_independence_schoo_1.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**7 local school districts targeted for $4.8 million teen pregnancy prevention grant**](http://www.cleveland.com/healthfit/index.ssf/2015/07/cuyahoga_county_board_of_healt_1.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Cleveland State University receives $1 million grant to help students from Cleveland**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/07/cleveland_state_university_rec_9.html#incart_river)  **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**CMSD, MetroHealth launch program for high school freshmen to explore health care careers**](http://www.crainscleveland.com/article/20150720/NEWS/150729982/cmsd-metrohealth-launch-program-for-high-school-freshmen-to-explore) **Crain’s Cleveland Business**

[**Cleveland Heights-University Heights school board will discuss possible tax hike next week**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2015/07/cleveland_heights-university_h_82.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Orange Schools offered state of the art video scoreboard**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-valley/index.ssf/2015/07/orange_schools_offered_state_o.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Geauga County***

[**Chardon School Board extends in-house bus service**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150711/chardon-school-board-extends-in-house-bus-service) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Lorain schools offering counseling after fatal crash**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20150713/lorain-schools-offering-counseling-after-fatal-crash) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***Portage County***

[**Aurora schools get grant for Chromebooks**](http://www.auroraadvocate.com/education/2015/07/15/schools-get-grant-for-chromebooks) **Aurora Advocate**

[**Principal from Aurora hired in Streetsboro**](http://www.auroraadvocate.com/news%20local/2015/07/15/principal-from-aurora-hired-in-streetsboro) **Aurora Advocate**

***Summit County***

[**Akron school board looks to include public in its decisions**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/akron-school-board-looks-to-include-public-in-its-decisions-1.607895) **Akron Beacon Journal**

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