

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of September 2, 2013**

**Featured News**

[**State aid could fall for nearly 200 school districts under new budget, once money for charter schools is deducted (database)**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/09/state_aid_could_fall_for_nearl.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

More than a quarter of Ohio school districts will likely receive less money from the state this school year than they did last school year, according to calculations by The Plain Dealer and new estimates from the legislature's research arm. Though Republican legislators promised that no district would have a decrease in state aid under the new state budget they passed this summer, that doesn't hold up once you account for increases in the amount of money flowing out of school districts to charter schools under the new plan.

[**Obama Pre-K Program Could Save $75 Billion, Report States**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2013/09/obama.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2) **Education Week**

President Barack Obama's proposed universal preschool program could reduce the number of people incarcerated nationwide by 200,000 every year and lead to a savings of $75 billion over 10 years, according to a new study released Tuesday by the Washington-based advocacy organization Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, which includes 5,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and violence survivors. The report, entitled "I'm the guy you pay later," compiled research from various states linking preschool participation and home visits to crime and further polled law enforcement officers on which types of activities would be most likely to prevent crime.

[**Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's big ideas, Part 2: Transformation of Cleveland schools**](http://www.cleveland.com/cityhall/index.ssf/2013/09/cleveland_mayor_frank_jacksons.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

In the second installment of our five-part series exploring the big ideas of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's second term in office, we take a look at his aggressive plan to overhaul the city's schools. The Cleveland Plan for Transforming Schools, which was approved and signed into law last June, promises to improve dismal graduation rates by granting the mayor unique power to close or reconstitute schools and to partner with the best charter schools in the city to keep the focus on students and not just the city’s school system.

**National, Federal and US Department of Education**

[**Education Research Experts to Testify Before House Committee**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2013/09/house_education_research_heari.html) **Education Week**

It's official: The House Education and Workforce Committee is going to take up discussion of reauthorizing the Education Sciences Reform Act next Tuesday, Sept. 10. During the hearing, "Education Research: Exploring Opportunities to Strengthen the Institute of Education Sciences," the committee said it planned to "to discuss ways to improve the quality, timeliness, and usefulness of education research."

[**Possible Changes To Pell Grant Program Outlined**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2013/09/possible_changes_to_pell_program_outlined_in_report.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+edweek%2FBVuj+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+College+Bound%29) **Education Week**

The good news for low-income students is that more money has been poured into the Pell Grant program in recent years, helping more students pay for college. But many policymakers are concerned that the 158 percent growth over four years in the federal student aid program, at an annual cost now of nearly $34 billion, is not sustainable. The Congressional Budget Office released a report Thursday that chronicles the expansion of the Pell Grant program and discusses options for reforming the program.

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

**130th General Assembly**

***House***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**HB 111**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=5H4d_Cvhe0Wzv4BWXoMZysdsG4K3AdBIbfWJL6CbUOcyjWEMTNlO6-1BvdHi3p8dEWUdJ_YFXbE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_111)STATE UNIVERSITIES-STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (DUFFEY M, STINZIANO M) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 113**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=OFXP5tjrdkqmVnFZ1-Ceyj_1pIT9DNBI6-MzsVRH8sGG4-XiAYzWB6U2J8Lz9o5uIZC8o_2W6a8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_113)HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION (ANTONIO N, HENNE M) To specify that school districts and chartered nonpublic schools may excuse from high school physical education students who participate in a school-sponsored athletic club **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 115**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=OFXP5tjrdkqmVnFZ1-Ceyj_1pIT9DNBI6-MzsVRH8sGG4-XiAYzWB6U2J8Lz9o5uIZC8o_2W6a8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_115)LOCAL GOVERNMENT BRIDGE FUND (SCHURING K) To create the Local Government Bridge Fund for the purpose of providing grants to local governments up to the reduced amount of funds the government received in fiscal years 2012 and 2013 from the Local Government Fund **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

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

[**HB 152**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=W7BggD-xEEuwkYspyBGmHbo3WW6-HNBIrcgq3Bflb8_yjf8Xm0vVwqItYNqMX6sLfAfoIOrW_Ao.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_152)RIGHT TO WORK-PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (MAAG R) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization. **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**HB 228**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_228) SCHOOL FUNDING (BRENNER A) To reform the system of funding elementary and secondary education **STATUS: Introduced**

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

[**HB 240**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_240)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (ADAMS J, BECKER J) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August **STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB 241**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_241)SCHOOL EMPLOYEES-SEXUAL CONDUCT (HAGAN C) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school **STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

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

***Senate***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**SB 42**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_42)PROPERTY TAXES-SCHOOL SECURITY (MANNING G, GARDNER R) To authorize school districts to levy a property tax exclusively for school safety and security purposes **STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 31-2; Referred to House Way & Means Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**SB 96**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_96) HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM (LAROSE F) To require one unit of world history in the high school social studies curriculum **STATUS: Senate Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**SB 174**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=vzR_CwSh_kqdOw-LLppqcXPdkJ1LatBIfitSE3SDRLJ3c-cPST_xFZZWC3f3qPMegP1_r7oSP7E.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_SB_174)STATE UNIVERSITIES-STUDENT VOTING POWER (SAWYER T) To require the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University to adopt a resolution to grant or not grant to student members voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions **STATUS: Introduced**

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

**Ohio Politics/Budget**

[**Charter schools’ failed promise**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/09/01/charter-schools-failed-promise.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Fed up with persistently poor student results in Ohio’s eight largest urban school districts, Republican state legislators enacted a law in 1997 allowing charter schools to locate exclusively within the boundaries of the “Big 8” systems. Sixteen years later, charters statewide performed almost exactly the same on most measures of student achievement as the urban schools they were meant to reform, results released under a revamped Ohio report-card system show. And when it comes to graduating seniors after four years of high school, the Big 8 performed better.

[**Medicaid covered 38% of births in Ohio in 2011**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Medical/2013/09/03/Medicaidcovered-38-of-births-inOhio-in-2011.html) **Toledo Blade**

Ohioans are turning more to the government-sponsored program when it comes to paying for births — likely the result of a poor economy and fewer moms having private insurance. Medicaid payments represented 38 percent of total births in 2011, up 4 percentage points from 2007, according to a Beacon Journal analysis of the most recent data available from the Ohio Department of Health. Meanwhile, births paid for with private insurance fell 5 percentage points to 46 percent.

[**School Bus Transportation Grant Program Opens Sept. 12**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=193934) **Hannah**

The Capitol Square Foundation’s transportation grant program will begin accepting applications for the 2013-2014 school year on Thursday, Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. Grants are approved on a first-come, first-served basis, and only one grant will be awarded to each school regardless of the number of buses or students. The program is designed to help schools defray bus transportation expenses to visit the Ohio Statehouse Museum Education Center.

[**Ohio legislators to pursue U.S. balanced-budget law**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/public/2013/09/04/balanced-budget-amendment.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohio House Republicans have joined Gov. John Kasich in calling for a national constitutional convention to enact a federal balanced-budget amendment. About half of the 34 states needed to convene a constitutional convention have passed the request, and Rep. Matt Huffman, R-Lima, thinks Ohio will join them this year. “It’s like the state legislatures need to put their hand on the shoulder of their friend the national government and say, ‘You’ve got a problem, and I need to solve your problem for you, ’because they can’t do it,” Huffman said. “The way the federal government is set up, the way decisions are made, it simply is not going to be solved.”

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

[**Ohio Report Card Database - Districts**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/pages/data/school-education/2012-13-report-cards/2013-report-card-district.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Public schools and districts in Ohio this year received letter grades - A through F - based on students' success last year. The revamped report-card system is, in some ways, more complex than in previous years. The state won't issue overall grades until 2015. Until then, many of the measures that previously have been part of the report cards will be assigned letter grades, as will some new ones, for a total of nine A-F grades.

[**Education Group Touts Ohio's 'Parent Power' with 3rd-Place Ranking**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=193963) **Hannah**

Ohio ranks third on the latest "parent power" index from the Center for Education Reform, which measures states on their school-choice options and their efforts to give parents the information needed to help them choose among those options. The state's 82 percent showing ranks behind Indiana's 87 percent and Florida's 84 percent, and ahead of Louisiana's 81 percent and Arizona's 80 percent. The rankings measure states' school-choice environments across four categories -- charter schools, school choice, teacher quality and online learning -- and awards bonus points for the existence of a parent-trigger law and the availability of public information on schools and school board elections.

**Early Learning**

[**Sesame Workshop, Success for All Launch Classroom Partnership**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2013/09/sesame_workshop_success_for_all_launch_classroom_partnership.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+EarlyYears+%28Early+Years%29) **Education Week**

Big Bird and Cookie Monster have schooled preschoolers via television in homes for 44 years, but this September, they're working in actual classrooms on a daily basis. Sesame Workshop, the educational New York-based nonprofit which created the beloved characters, has partnered with Success for All, a whole-school reform model, to launch a pilot targeting disadvantaged four-year-olds in five states. "The partnership with Sesame Workshop will help the Success for All Foundation add to the effectiveness and appeal of its early childhood approaches," said Robert Slavin, chairman of the Success for All Foundation and professor at The John Hopkins University School of Education, in a statement.

**College and Career Readiness/Preparation**

[**Sagging state funding jacks up college tuition**](http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/personalfinance/2013/09/02/state-funding-declines-raise-tuition/2707837/) **USA Today**

The start of a new school year is punctuated by what's become a new financial norm for public universities: massive cuts in state funding that lead to rising tuition, cuts in enrollment, sporadic class schedules and staff layoffs. Despite some recent tuition freezes for the 2013-14 school year, public universities continue to suffer from significant spending cuts by their own states. The state funding cuts are the primary driver of tuition inflation in recent years, education experts say.

[**Graduates of community colleges earn more at first**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/national_world/2013/09/04/graduates-of-community-colleges-earn-more-at-first.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Students who earn associate degrees and occupational certificates often earn more in their first year out of college than those with four-year college degrees, according to a new study examining the average salaries of graduates in five states. For the study, College Measures, a partnership between the American Institutes for Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, worked with Arkansas, Colorado, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia to obtain data on how much graduates from two- and four-year colleges in those states earned in their first year after graduation.

[**Colleges' search for former students eligible for an associate degree is moderately successful**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2013/09/community_colleges_search_for.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

More than 4,000 former college students who were either eligible for an associate degree or a few classes short were located by their institutions and have received a degree, according to results of a national initiative. While the results of Project Win-Win are encouraging, the process at 61 colleges -- including four in northeast Ohio -- was time-consuming and frustrating as staffers combed records to find eligible students and then tried to track them down, officials said.

[**College costs drive record number of high school kids to start early**](http://hechingerreport.org/content/college-costs-drive-record-number-of-high-school-kids-to-start-early_12962/) **Hechinger Report**

She’s one of a record number of students getting a head start on college credits while still in high school, cutting costs and speeding toward degrees—and jobs—as quickly as possible to avoid dragging out costly higher educations. “Everyone is looking for a leg up,” said Dave Taylor, principal of the Dayton Early College Academy in Ohio, a charter high school whose students simultaneously enroll in classes at nearby Sinclair Community College to get some college credits out of the way.

[**Higher Education Tuition Increases Vary for the 2013-14 School Year**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=193975) **Hannah**

As part of HB59 (Amstutz), the Ohio General Assembly put a 2 percent cap on tuition increases for Ohio’s public college and universities in the 2013-14 school year. With that guidance, a number of Ohio universities worked to hold rates steady for the year, freezing tuition to 2012-13 rates. Others went with a full increase. The University of Toledo (UT) was among the first universities to announce a tuition freeze. It said undergraduate students will pay about $3,931.93 per semester if they are Ohio residents, while non-residents will pay $8,491.92 per semester. Graduate students at UT will pay $6,517.80 if they are residents, or $11,634.84 if non-residents.

**Research**

[**Feds Invest $10 Million Into Research for Severe Learning Disabilities**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/speced/2013/09/feds_invest_10_million_into_research_for_severe_learning_disabilities.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+OnSpecialEducation+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+On+Special+Education%29) **Education Week**

Developing strategies to help elementary students with the most severe learning disabilities is the focus of a new research project to be based at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. The National Center for Special Education Research awarded a 5-year, $10 million grant to the university to create an "Accelerated Academic Achievement Research Center." Between 2,000 and 3,000 students in Nashville schools will participate in the research.

[**Connecting With Students Key to Their Academic Success**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2013/09/connecting_with_students_key_to_their_academic_success.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+edweek%2FBVuj+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+College+Bound%29) **Education Week**

As educators from middle school to high school and college try to figure out the secret to improving academic performance, the idea of building relationships with students is a recurring theme. An article in this month's Association for Middle Level Education newsletter makes the case for carving out time for advisory programs to help schools improve interpersonal relationships and promote cooperation in achieving student and school goals.

[**Earnings Linked Closely to Field of Study in College, Report Shows**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2013/09/earnings_linked_closely_to_field_of_study_report_shows.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+edweek%2FBVuj+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+College+Bound%29) **Education Week**

High school seniors obsessed with where to apply to college should pay attention to a report released today that emphasizes the importance of what they study over where they go. The research by College Measures, a joint venture of the American Institutes for Research and the Matrix Knowledge Group, shows the wide range of salaries that college graduates earn and finds incomes are more closely tied to career choice than the institutions from which students graduate.

[**NCES Releases Details on Homeschooling**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2013/08/nces_releases_details_on_homes.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2) **Education Week**

Homeschooling is becoming a hot topic as parents find more flexible ways to teach their children out of school and researchers find homeschooling may provide a healthier sleep schedule for teenagers. New data from a federal study of parent involvement helps provide a picture of homeschooling today.

**Grant Opportunities**

***Federal***

[**Race to the Top District (RTT-D)**](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-district/index.html)  **US Department of Education (Deadline: October 3, 2013)**

This year, the Race to the Top-District competition seeks to build on the innovative strategies already employed in classrooms across the country. This year's competition invites applicants to demonstrate how they can personalize education for all students and is aimed squarely at classrooms and the all-important relationship between teachers and students. The competition will encourage transformative change within schools, providing school leaders and teachers with key tools and support in order to best meet their students' needs. Applicants from all districts are invited to apply. The Department plans to support high-quality proposals from applicants across a variety of districts, including rural and non-rural as well as those already in a State with a Race to the Top grant and districts that are not. These 4-year awards will range from $4 million to $30 million, depending on the population of students served through the plan.

***Private***

[**FirstEnergy Accepting STEM Grant Applications From Educators**](https://www.firstenergycorp.com/content/fecorp/community/education/educational_grants.html) **First Energy Corp (Deadline: September 16, 2013)**

FirstEnergy Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Classroom Grants are awarded for creative individual classroom projects in grades pre-K-12. Any creative project in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics will be considered. Grants may be used to compensate experts who come to work with students but not to pay teachers or staff. The resources requested should be an integral component of a well-planned classroom project/lesson plan and important to its success.

[**National Science Teachers Association Accepting Entries for Shell Science Lab Challenge**](http://www.nsta.org/shellsciencelab/) **National Science Teachers Association (Deadline: December 20, 2013)**

The National Science Teachers Association, with support from Shell Oil Company, is accepting entries for the fourth annual Shell Science Lab Challenge. The challenge invites middle and high school science teachers (grades 6-12) in the United States and Canada (with special attention to urban and underrepresented groups) to illustrate replicable approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources.

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

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

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

[**Bay Village, Rocky River and Westlake schools fare better than many after budget deductions for charter schools**](http://www.cleveland.com/rocky-river/index.ssf/2013/09/bay_village_rocky_river_and_we.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Cleveland Heights-University Heights***

[**CH-UH Schools Names New Co-Coordinator of Educational Services Department**](http://clevelandheights.patch.com/groups/schools/p/chuh-schools-names-new-cocoordinator-of-educational-services-department) **Cleveland Heights Patch**

***Euclid***

[**Euclid Schools works on busing woes**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20130907/euclid-schools-works-on-busing-woes) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***North Olmsted***

[**North Olmsted school district considers new approach for math education**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-olmsted/index.ssf/2013/09/north_olmsted_school_district.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***South Euclid-Lyndhurst***

[**New school year, new books for South Euclid-Lyndhurst**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20130903/new-school-year-new-books-for-south-euclid-lyndhurst) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Westlake***

[**Westlake High School ready as students return to new building Wednesday**](http://www.cleveland.com/westlake/index.ssf/2013/09/westlake_high_school_ready_as.html)  **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**