

**The ESC BRIDGE**

**Bridging Resources, Information, and Data from**

**Government and Education**

**For the Week of January 8th, 2018**

Colleagues,

The ESC Bridge is a weekly review of important news, research and legislation from national, state and local education entities presented in one document to help you stay up to date on issues that affect your district or organization.   I welcome your feedback as we work to improve this resource to meet your needs.  If you are aware of any other colleagues that are interested in receiving this weekly document, please have them send an email to me at Bob.Mengerink@esc-cc.org.

                                                                                                                             Bob

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

[**U.S. Judge Bars District Policy Against Kneeling During National Anthem**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/school_law/2018/01/us_judge_bars_district_policy_.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=theschoollawblog) **Education Week**

A federal district judge has granted a preliminary injunction blocking a California school district's rules requiring students to stand during the National Anthem at sporting events. The case was prompted by a varsity football and basketball player at San Pasqual Valley High School who kneeled during the anthem at two games in the fall. The student, identified as V.A., engaged in the protest to express his "personal feelings and concern about racial injustice in our country," he said in a court declaration.

[**High Court Sets Feb. 26 Arguments on Future of Union Agency Fees**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/school_law/2017/12/us_supreme_court_sets_feb_26_f.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=theschoollawblog) **Education Week**

The U.S. Supreme Court has set the date for oral argument in a case critical to the future of the teachers' unions and other public-employee labor organizations. Argument will be Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. for [Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Council 31](http://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/janus-v-american-federation-state-county-municipal-employees-council-31/). At issue is whether the court will overrule its 1977 decision in [Abood v. Detroit Board of Education](http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-supreme-court/431/209.html), which first authorized public-employee unions to collect so-called agency fees from those in the bargaining unit who refuse to join the union.

[**Trump Administration Backs Challenge to Public-Employee Union Service Fees**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/school_law/2017/12/trump_administration_backs_cha.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=theschoollawblog) **Education Week**

President Donald Trump's administration has filed a brief urging the U.S. Supreme Court to overrule its 1977 precedent that authorizes public-employee labor groups, including the teachers' unions, to collect service fees from workers in the bargaining unit who refuse to join. The position is a reversal of that taken by President Barack Obama's administration in two recent cases in which the justices considered overruling [Abood v. Detroit Board of Education](http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-supreme-court/431/209.html), the 40-year-old decision that has been targeted by union opponents and defended by teachers' unions for years.

[**Trump Taps Stanford Researcher for NCES Commissioner**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2018/01/trump_taps_stanford_researcher.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week** President Donald Trump has appointed James Lynn Woodworth to the top post at the [National Center for Education Statistics](https://nces.ed.gov/). He'll serve a six-year term as commissioner, ending in June of 2021. Woodworth is currently a quantitative research analyst at the [Center for Research on Educational Outcomes (CREDO)](https://credo.stanford.edu/) at Stanford University's Hoover Institute, a conservative think tank. CREDO has done extensive research on charter schools, school closures, online education, and other issues.

[**Few States Want to Offer Districts Chance to Give ACT, SAT Instead of State Test**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2018/01/act_sat_test_district_essa_local_college.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

The [Every Student Succeeds Act](http://www.edweek.org/ew/issues/every-student-succeeds-act/index.html?intc=content-exlaineressa) may have kept annual testing as a federal requirement. But it also aims to help states cut down on the number of assessments their students must take by giving districts the chance to use a nationally-recognized college entrance exam, instead of the regular state test, for accountability purposes. When the law passed back in 2015, some superintendents hailed the change, saying it would mean one less test for many 11th graders, who would already be preparing for the SAT or ACT.

[**The Nation Spends $649 Billion on K-12. How Much Does Your State Spend?**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/state_edwatch/2018/01/how_much_does_america_spend_on_its_schools.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=stateedwatch) **Education Week**

American taxpayers spent close to $649 billionon its K-12 schools in 2015. That's according to [a new survey](https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018301.pdf) released by the National Center for Education Statistics. That's up 3 percent from the $628 billion the country spent in fiscal year 2014, according to the Jan. 9 report (that does not include facilities costs).

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

**132nd General Assembly**

***House***

[**HB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-3)DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Christina Hagan) 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 appropriations

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

[**HB8**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-8)PUBLIC RECORDS-MINORS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To exempt from the Public Records Law certain information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee – Reported out**

[**HB21**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-21)COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 94-0**

[**HB37**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-37)SCHOOL SAFETY-STRUCTURES (Rep. Steve Arndt) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB47**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-47)STUDENTS IN MILITARY (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges

**STATUS: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB49**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-49)OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget

**STATUS: (Passed by House) (Passed by Senate) Signed by Governor – Effective July 1, 2017; House has voted to override several vetoes; Senate considering**

[**HB53**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-53)PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation

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

[**HB58**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-58)CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Marilyn Slaby) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Reported out**

[**HB66**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-66)TENURED TEACHING REQUIREMENTS (Rep. Ron Young) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 86-8**

[**HB69**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-69)LEVY REVENUE REIMBURSEMENT (Rep. Bob Cupp) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0; House concurs, Vote 85-7**

[**HB74**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-74)INCREASE COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to the state's 529 college savings program from $2,000 to $3,000 per beneficiary per year

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

[**HB77**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-77)SICK-CHILD CARE LICENSURE (Rep. Wes Retherford) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers

**STATUS: Referred to House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**HB80**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-80)SCHOOL FOOD-SUMMER INTERVENTION (Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Kent Smith) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

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

[**HB87**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-87)COMMUNITY SCHOOL PUBLIC MONEYS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB89**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-89)AUGUST SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

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

[**HB98**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-98)CAREER INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Kristin Boggs) Regarding the presentation of career information to students

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

[**HB102**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-102)SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To replace locally levied school district property taxes with a statewide property tax and require recipients of certain tax exemptions to reimburse the state for such levy revenue lost due to those exemptions; to increase the state sales and use tax rates and allocate additional revenue to state education purposes; to repeal school district income taxes; to require the Treasurer of State to issue general obligation bonds to refund certain school district debt obligations; to create a new system of funding schools where the state pays a specified amount per student that each student may use to attend the public or chartered nonpublic school of the student's choice, without the requirement of a local contribution; to eliminate the School Facilities Commission; to eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program, Pilot Project Scholarship Program, Autism Scholarship Program, and Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program; to eliminate interdistrict open enrollment; to require educational service centers to transport students on a countywide basis; and to permit school districts to enter into a memoranda of understanding for one district to manage another

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB103**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-103)FISCAL EMERGENCY PROVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

**STATUS: (Passed by House) (Passed by Senate) Signed by Governor**

[**HB108**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-108)INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT ACT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of financial literacy in the high school curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act"

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB110**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-110)COLLEGE CREDIT APPRENTICESHIPS (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Bill Dean) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs

**STATUS: Referred to House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB118**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-118)TAX COMPLAINT DISMISSAL (Rep. Derek Merrin) To expressly prohibit the dismissal of a property tax complaint for failure to correctly identify the property owner

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0**

[**HB124**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-124)VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TAX LEVY (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To authorize a joint vocational school district to submit the question of a renewal tax levy to voters who did not have an opportunity to vote on the levy at an election held in November of 2015 because the levy was only placed on the ballot in one of several counties in which the district has territory

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

[**HB129**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-129)SCHOOL EXTERNSHIPS-GOVERNOR (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require the Governor to complete a forty-hour externship consisting of on-site work experience in city, local, and exempted village school districts in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years

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

[**HB134**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-134)SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To allow community improvements board grants to a school district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB163**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-163)PREVAILING WAGE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Craig Riedel) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB166**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-166)WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke, Rep. Bob Cupp) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB170**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-170)COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Mike Duffey) With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology **STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days**

[**HB176**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-176)SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB179**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-179)IMMIGRATION LAW COMPLIANCE (Rep. Candice Keller) To require state and local authorities to cooperate with the federal government in the enforcement of immigration laws, to prohibit a local government that fails to do so from receiving certain state funds, to provide for the removal of officers of a local government that fails to do so, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB181**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-181)ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT STANDARDS (Rep. Ron Hood, Rep. Tom Brinkman) With regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB186**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-186)COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Gary Scherer) To enact the "Blair Deduction" to allow an individual obtaining a postsecondary degree or credential from an eligible educational institution to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB200**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-200)OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Koehler, K) - To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB217**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-217)COLLEGE APPLICATIONS-DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission

**STATUS: Referred to House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB220**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-220)NONPUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS (Rep. David Leland) With regard to the use of funds by community schools and nonpublic schools

**STATUS: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB224**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-224)RE-SERVING SCHOOL LUNCH ITEMS (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging

**STATUS: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB227**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-227)LICENSE PLATE-KENSTON LOCAL SCHOOLS (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To create the "Kenston Local Schools" license plate

**STATUS: House Transportation & Public Safety Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB235**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-235)EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT PROCEDURE (Rep. Theresa Gavarone) Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act

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

[**HB237**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-237)MULTICOUNTY LOCAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To require a political subdivision with territory in more than one county that places an issue on the ballot to notify the board of elections of every county in which the political subdivision has territory, to require the Secretary of State to establish a database to facilitate communication between the boards of elections and the Secretary concerning local elections, and to make an appropriation

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

[**HB242**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-242)SCHOOL RETIREMENT-COST OF LIVING (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding School Employees Retirement System annual cost-of-living adjustments

**STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB246**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-246)DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY CLASSROOMS (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide funding to certain county boards of developmental disabilities to assist in the acquisition of classroom facilities

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill**

[**HB262**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-262)INDEPENDENT BUDGET PROCESS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Mark Romanchuk) To provide for the preparation of a state biennial budget independent of that submitted by the Governor and to authorize the Legislative Service Commission, upon the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, to arrange for an independent actuarial review of a proposed bill, specified analyses of economic policy initiatives and state benchmarking data, and a study of the state's long-range financial outlook

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

[**HB298**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-298)PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SICK DAYS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB312**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-312)LOCAL GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Dave Greenspan) Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions

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

[**HB318**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-318)SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINITION (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB322**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-322)SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANS (Rep. Adam Miller, Rep. Bernadine Kent) To revise the law regarding emergency management plans and school safety drills; to require each educational service center to employ an emergency response planner; to make an appropriation; and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

[**HB337**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-337)TEXTBOOK SALES TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

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

[**HB338**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-338)BUS DRIVER MEDICAL EXAMS (Rep. Tim Ginter) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

[**HB342**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-342)LOCAL TAX ISSUES-ELECTION DATES (Rep. Derek Merrin) To permit local tax-related proposals to appear only on general and primary election ballots and not on an August special election ballot and to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB343**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-343)PROPERTY VALUE CONTEST-RESOLUTIONS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each contest and to notify property owners

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB360**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-360)ANTI-BULLYING AND HAZING (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To enact the "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and public colleges

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB361**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-361)PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINTS TIMEFRAME (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To increase the time within which boards of revision must decide property tax complaints

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB363**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-363)CAMPUS FREE SPEECH (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To enact the "Campus Free Speech Act" with respect to the freedom of speech and assembly at state institutions of higher education and the charging and allocation of student activity fees

**STATUS: Referred to House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB369**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-369)PER PUPIL FUNDING GUARANTEE (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To prescribe a per pupil funding guarantee for certain school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB377**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-377)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EDUCATION (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Dan Ramos) 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: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB383**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-383)CHILD CARE HEALTH & SAFETY RISKS (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding parental notice of serious risks to the health or safety of children receiving child care

**STATUS: Referred to House Community & Family Advancement Committee**

[**HB396**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-396)STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation

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

[**HB399**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-399)HEALTH INSURANCE SAVINGS INCENTIVES (Rep. Michael Henne, Rep. James Butler, Jr.) To enact the Ohio Right to Shop Act to require health insurers to establish shared savings incentive programs for enrollees

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB413**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-413)PERS ADJUSTMENT-DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES EMPLOYEES (Rep. Gary Scherer) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) annual cost-of-living adjustments granted to allowance and benefit recipients and PERS service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities

**STATUS: Referred to House Aging & Long Term Care Committee**

[**HB418**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-418)SCHOOL RECORDS TRANSFER (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To require a public or chartered nonpublic school to transmit a student's records within five business days when the student transfers to another school

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB426**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-426)SCHOOL SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with certain students

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

[**HB428**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-428)STUDENT RELIGIOUS LIBERTIES ACT (Rep. Tim Ginter, Rep. Sarah LaTourette)Regarding student religious expression and to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2018”

**STATUS: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

[**HB432**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-432)STUDENT LOAN OMBUDSMAN & LICENSURE (Rep. Kristin Boggs, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require student loan servicers to be licensed by the Division of Financial Institutions and to create the position of student loan ombudsperson in the Division of Financial Institutions to provide assistance to student loan borrowers

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB438**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-438)ESC ANNEXATION (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB442**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-442)SCHOOL ATHLETICS-F1 VISA (Rep. Niraj Antani) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB443**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-443)MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To require school district boards of education to incorporate mental health instruction into their health education curricula

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB449**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-449)CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR RATINGS-UNIVERSITIES (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. John Patterson) To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

[**SB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-3)WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. Troy Balderson) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Passed by House, Vote 93-1; Senate concurs, Vote 32-0**

[**SB5**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-5)INCREASING INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS (Sen. Jay Hottinger, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to college savings accounts and disability expense savings accounts to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; Emergency clause, Vote 32-1**

[**SB8**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-8)SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sen. Randy Gardner, Sen. Louis Terhar) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

**STATUS: Signed by Governor (12/22/17) – Effective after 90 days**

[**SB9**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-9)AUGUST TAX HOLIDAY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

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

[**SB15**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-15)COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (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: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB17**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION (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 General Revenue Fund each month

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB34**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-34)SCHOOL YEARS (Sen. Gayle Manning) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-39)COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-39)COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB54**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-54)SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

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

[**SB72**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-72)PREVAILING WAGE LAW (Sen. Matt Huffman) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB82**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-82)SCHOOL ABSENCES-PARENTAL NOTIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require a public school to place a telephone call within one hour of the start of the school day to a parent whose child is absent without legitimate excuse

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-85)OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Sen. Matt Huffman) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB88**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-88)SUBDIVISION COMMISSIONS-FISCAL EMERGENCY (Sen. Louis Terhar) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0**

[**SB97**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA132-SB-97)REGIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE CREATION (Sen. Frank LaRose, Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances

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

[**SB104**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-104)PROHIBIT SECLUSION USE-SCHOOLS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB105**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-105)MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

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

[**SB111**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-111)SCHOOL ZONE SIGN LIGHTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights or that indicate the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced, and to make an appropriation

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

[**SB123**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-123)PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PROCESS (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**

[**SB124**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-124)COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college and career and technical programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges’ career certification programs

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

[**SB133**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-133)STUDENT DISCIPLINE-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (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 and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB140**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-140)PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To create the Public-Private Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to develop, enhance, and promote educational programs to address regional workforce needs; to create the Sector Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to identify and provide grants to industry partnerships; to support programs that improve access to workforce training opportunities for students; to support economic development and revitalization programs; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB149**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-149)ELECTION POLLING PLACES-SCHOOLS (Sen. Frank LaRose) Regarding the use of a school district building as a polling place for elections

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

[**SB151**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-151)SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS (Sen. Cliff Hite) To permit, rather than require, the School Employees Retirement System to grant annual cost-of-living adjustments to retirement, disability, and survivor benefit recipients and to reduce the maximum amount of the adjustment

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee**

[**SB172**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-172)HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS RIGHTS (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act to require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB175**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-175)RECOVERED FUNDS-SCHOOL AUDIT (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school.

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

[**SB191**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-191)ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB196**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA132-SB-196)AGGRAVATED BULLYING-OFFENSE CREATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee**

[**SB197**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-197)SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB199**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-199)OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. Cliff Hite) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB203**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-203)MUNICIPAL TAX RULE REINSTATEMENT (Sen. Matt Dolan) To reinstate the municipal income tax "throw-back rule" used in apportioning business income among municipalities

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB209**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-209)PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS-TIF (Sen. William Coley, Sen. John Eklund) To modify the conditions that determine the relative priority of property tax exemptions when a parcel subject to a tax increment financing arrangement concurrently qualifies for another exemption

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

[**SB213**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-213)ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PLAN (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To enhance economic and employment opportunities and improve local infrastructure in Ohio by providing additional assistance to workforce development and employment programs; establishing a revolving loan program for small businesses seeking to expand operations; extending job tax credits to smaller businesses; enabling expanded participation in public sector contracting by smaller companies; enhancing support for childcare centers; funding additional local infrastructure and public transit; authorizing tax incentives for hiring military veterans, for donating money to local programs assisting distressed communities, or for improving distressed property; exempting the homes of disabled veterans from property taxation; terminating the income tax deduction and reduced tax rate for business income; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB216**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-216)PUBLIC SCHOOL DEREGULATION ACT (Sen. Matt Huffman) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB226**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-226)PERMANENT SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax

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

[**SB239**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239)REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS (Sen. Matt Dolan) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB240**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA132-SB-240)REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Sen. Peggy Lehner) With regard to teacher evaluations

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB241**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-241)ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY (Sen. Louis Terhar, Sen. Cecil Thomas) To establish a category of nonpublic schools called "accredited nonpublic schools" and to prescribe requirements and exemptions for such schools

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB246**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-246)STUDENT SAFETY ACT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Gayle Manning) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

[**Rep. Duffey Plans Bill for 'Dashboard' Report Card without Letter Grades**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208462) **Hannah**

Later this month or early in the next, Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington) hopes to introduce legislation to overhaul state report cards for local school districts, which he said suffer from arbitrary measures, questionable methodology and a lack of buy-in from local communities, among other problems. The bill would end the assignment of A-F letter grades. "I think everyone is in agreement now that the state report card does need to be reformed," Duffey told *Hannah News*, noting disenchantment among local educators, rumblings in the General Assembly and the Fordham Institute's recent proposal to whittle down how many grades the state issues. The State Board of Education is set to debate a proposal next week to appoint a working group to recommend changes to the report card.

[**Graduation Proposal Envisions Long-Term Plan by Year's End; Report Cards Up for Debate**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208464) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education next week will consider asking the General Assembly to extend new graduation options for the class of 2018 into 2019 and 2020, while setting up a process to design a revamped diploma system by December to the classes of 2021 and beyond. The board's Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee reached broad consensus last month about the need to provide stability and consistency by extending provisions in HB49 (R. Smith) that create two additional pathways to a diploma on top of the three previous routes to graduation. The committee plans to vote on an extension resolution Tuesday and seek emergency consideration so it can be approved by the full board that same day.

[**Superintendent Gives Rundown of Report Card to Kick Off Reform Discussions**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208490) **Hannah**

Superintendent Paolo DeMaria and Ohio Department of Education accountability chief Chris Woolard gave State Board of Education members a broad overview Monday of the components of Ohio's A-F report card for local school districts, priming the pump for future discussions on how the accountability system can change in response to various public pressures and criticisms. “Why did we do this today? Because we're launching into a deep discussion of accountability, in response to the fact that this is one of the mostly commonly raised issues," DeMaria said. "We need to move forward with what we've done in the past, an inclusive policy development process that leads us to making some recommendations."

[**School Board Committee OKs Changes to Report Card for Test Retakes**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208481) **Hannah**

School districts could see improvements on their state report card grades under a change approved by a State Board of Education committee Monday that will modify how high school test re-takes affect local ratings. The Accountability and Continuous Improvement Committee voted to approve creation of a new end of course improvement indicator as part of the report card's Achievement component.

[**Board Backs Diploma Flexibility as Brenner Hints at House Plan; Report Card Proposal Delayed**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208494) **Hannah**

Students in the graduating classes of 2019 and 2020 could get the same flexibility on graduation requirements as those in the class of 2018 after a vote Tuesday by the State Board of Education. But the move ultimately requires action by the General Assembly, and one key legislator said Tuesday the House is already working on its own plan. Rep. Andrew Brenner (R-Powell), chairman of the House Education, showed up near the end of Tuesday's debate in the board's Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee and quickly dumped cold water on a proposal to extend the 2018 options for two more years.

[**Sponsor Plans to Shutter ECOT Next Week**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208513) **Hannah**

Electronic Classroom of Ohio (ECOT) warned repeatedly for months that the state's move to reclaim past funding and garnish ongoing payments could force it to close this year. But the end might instead be imposed by its sponsor, which wrote a letter Wednesday telling ECOT officials it wants to shutter the school next week. In an official notice of its intent to suspend school operations, the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Lake Erie West cites fiscal management problems, inability to follow the law and concerns about the disruptions that would result if ECOT has to shut down this spring in the middle of a semester.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Sayrs Named Interim Executive Vice President, Provost at OU**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208473) **Hannah**

Ohio University (OU) announced Friday that Elizabeth Sayrs is the university’s new interim executive vice president and provost. She will begin her new role on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Sayrs will lead OU’s academic core during the next few months while the university works to identify a permanent executive vice president and provost, the university said.

[**What attributes should a high school graduate have? It's not just the "three R's" anymore**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/01/what_attributes_should_a_high_1.html#incart_river_mobile_index) **The Plain Dealer**

The state school board has been weighing that broad and sweeping topic the last few months as members develop long range goals that can shape the future of Ohio's schools. Should students know lots of facts they can recite on tests? Do they need to know a trade? Should STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Math - be a key aim? Should they be focused on citizenship? Critical thinking?

[**Why Free College Tuition Is Spreading From Cities to States**](http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2018/01/05/why-free-college-tuition-is-spreading-from-cities-to-states) **The pew Charitable Trusts**

To churn out more workers with marketable skills, an increasing number of states are offering residents free tuition to community colleges and technical schools. The move also is a reaction to fast-rising tuition costs — increases that stem, in part, from states reducing their financial support of public colleges and universities. Morley Winograd, president of the Campaign for Free College Tuition, a Seattle-based nonprofit, described the movement as “the fastest-growing policy idea in the country” — one with bipartisan support.

[**Who Is Studying Online (and Where)**](https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/article/2018/01/05/new-us-data-show-continued-growth-college-students-studying) **Inside Higher Ed**

The number of college students enrolled in at least one online course -- and the proportion of all enrolled students who are studying online -- continued to rise at U.S. institutions in the 2016 academic year, newly released federal data show. The statistics, part of [a major release of provisional data](https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018002.pdf) on enrollments, employment and other topics from the Education Department's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, provide the most up-to-date information on enrollments in online and distance education.

[**UT Names Cockrell New VP for Student Affairs**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208488) **Hannah**

The University of Toledo (UT) has named Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell vice president of student affairs. He had served in the role in an interim basis since last June. The appointment is effective as of Jan. 1. “Flapp is a passionate leader who is committed to student success and motivating his team to provide the best service possible,” UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. “I look forward to his continued leadership and the initiatives he will put in place to enhance student life on our campus.”

[**Ohio Universities' Online Programs Recognized**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208499) **Hannah**

Ohio State University’s online bachelor degree programs were ranked number one in the 2018 rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report*. Ohio State’s online graduate nursing program was ranked second best out of 159 programs. “Over the course of the last five years, we have been focused on not just growing our online portfolio, but doing so with a commitment to engaging, high quality learning,” said Mike Hofherr, vice president and chief information officer. “Seeing the hard work of our faculty and staff recognized with these rankings is extremely gratifying. We look forward to continuing to expand our offerings and connect with students across the country.”

[**Junior Achievement of Ashtabula County seeks volunteers to teach classes**](http://www.starbeacon.com/community/junior-achievement-of-ashtabula-county-seeks-volunteers-to-teach-classes/article_0828a13f-0651-5a2c-8964-aa8617903765.html) **Star Beacon**

Junior Achievement of Ashtabula County is seeking classroom volunteers to help teach lessons on financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Last year, JA of Ashtabula County reached 2,142 students in 100 classrooms. More than 68 volunteers gave 13,560 hours of their time and talents to work with the young people in our community.

[**Ohio State University offers best online bachelor's programs, according to U.S. News & World Report ranking**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/01/ohio_state_university_offers_b.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Ohio State University's online bachelor's degree programs are the best in the latest rankings by U.S. News & World Report. The [online program rankings](https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education) were released Tuesday for current students and adults looking to further their education and improve career-related skills.

[**University of Toledo gets grant to target human trafficking**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Education/2018/01/10/University-of-Toledo-gets-grant-to-target-human-trafficking.html) **The Toledo Blade**

The University of Toledo received a $15,000 grant to implement a human-trafficking prevention curriculum for at-risk youth. UT is one of seven organizations across the state to receive the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund grant money. Recipients are to use the money to help identify and assist at-risk youth populations and provide them with information and resources to prevent trafficking.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**District residents appeal to Berea school board for pool on proposed high school campus**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2018/01/district_residents_appeal_to_b.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Fairview High School students featured on 'Today' show**](http://www.cleveland.com/fairview-park/index.ssf/2018/01/fairview_high_school_students_3.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**How To Register For Kindergarten In Lakewood**](https://patch.com/ohio/lakewood-oh/how-register-kindergarten-lakewood) **Lakewood Patch**

[**Lakewood Students Rack Up Record 67 Awards At Art Competition**](https://patch.com/ohio/lakewood-oh/lakewood-students-rack-record-67-awards-art-competition) **lakewood Patch**

[**Maple Heights teacher wins a teaching 'Oscar' and $25,000**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/01/maple_heights_teacher_wins_an.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Help children love to read by donating books: Olmsted Dates and Data**](http://www.cleveland.com/olmsted/index.ssf/2018/01/post_252.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Solon school board authorizes 8.5-mill levy to appear on May ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/solon/index.ssf/2018/01/solon_school_board_authorizes.html) **Cleveland.Com**

***Lake County***

[**Mentor schools closing buildings, restructuring in cost-saving move**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/01/mentor_schools_closing_buildin.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Mentor planning to close two schools to save $7 million dollars**](http://fox8.com/2018/01/10/mentor-planning-to-close-two-schools-to-save-7-million-dollars/) **Fox 8 Cleveland**

[**Mentor Public Schools announce closures and repurposing of schools for 2018-2019**](https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/oh-lake/mentor-schools-plan-closures-consolidations) **News 5 Cleveland**

[**FERC Decision on Nuclear Plants Could be Expensive for Perry Schools and Others**](http://www.ideastream.org/news/ferc-decision-on-nuclear-plants-could-be-expensive-for-perry-schools-and-others) **Idea Stream**

***Lorain County***

[**School's out for weather, but districts won't have to make up the days**](http://www.chroniclet.com/Local-News/2018/01/08/School-s-out-again-Will-students-have-to-make-up-the-time.html) **The Chronicle**

[**Democrat Bill O'Neill chooses Lorain principal Chantelle Lewis as his running mate**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2018/01/democrat_bill_oneill_chooses_l.html) **Cleveland.com**

***Medina County***

[**Highland board appoints officers for 2018**](http://www.akron.com/akron-ohio-education-news.asp?aID=36616) **Akron.com**

***Summit County***

[**Akron Public Schools Board of Education elects 2018 officers**](http://www.cleveland.com/akron/index.ssf/2018/01/akron_public_schools_board_of.html#incart_river_index) **Cleveland.Com**

**Follow the ESC of Cuyahoga County on  and **