

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of January 13, 2014**

**Featured News**

[**State to award $4M for Ohio school safety**](http://www.newsnet5.com/news/state/state-to-award-4m-for-ohio-school-safety) **NewsNet 5**

The state Department of Transportation will award $4 million to Ohio schools this year for projects designed to help children from kindergarten through eighth grade walk or bike to school safely. The department will accept applications until March 3 for the Safe Routes to School Program. Department Director Jerry Wray encourages every community that needs the program to apply.

[**Citywide school choice campaign starts to take shape for the Cleveland Transformation Alliance**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/citywide_school_choice_campaig.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The Cleveland Transformation Alliance's school choice awareness campaign for this year will start next month with the launch of the panel's website, ClevelandTA.org. Though it will have details about each school in the city, both district and charter, it won't have a single overall grade or rating for each school until the state starts giving one again on state report cards in 2015.

[**Cleveland Push for Universal Preschool Goes Beyond the School District**](http://stateimpact.npr.org/ohio/2014/01/17/cleveland-push-for-universal-preschool-goes-beyond-the-school-district/) **State Impact Ohio**

Your ideas are welcome for the task forceof school, city, and business leaders trying to expand access to preschool programs around Cleveland. Their work stems from an element of the Cleveland Plan, the broad strategy Cleveland Schools officials developed to boost academic achievement.

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

[**Boosts for Head Start, Title I, Special Education in Federal Spending Bill**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2014/01/big_increase_for_head_start_an.html) **Education Week**

Federal funding for most schools would be largely restored after the biggest cuts to K-12 spending in history, under a giant spending bill unveiled Monday night by Republican and Democratic leaders in Congress. And the Head Start early childhood program would see a major, $1 billion boost.

[**White House Report Puts Spotlight on Expanding College Opportunities**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2014/01/white_house_releases_report_on_increasing_college.html) **Education Week**

As part of a White House College Opportunity Summit, the Obama administration has issued a report outlining promising models to improve the chances that students from disadvantaged backgrounds will enroll in and complete college. The 47-page report is accompanied by a 90-page list of commitments made by participants attending the college summit in Washington. The detailed list includes several colleges agreeing to expand recruiting and scholarships for low-income students, and nonprofits outlining efforts to increase their services for access and success in college.

[**Early Education Funding Sees Increase in Federal Budget Bill**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2014/01/early_education_funding_sees_increase_in_federal_budget_bill.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+EarlyYears+%28Early+Years%29) **Education Week**

Federal funding for most schools would be largely restored after the biggest cuts to K-12 spending in history, under a giant spending bill unveiled Monday night by Republican and Democratic leaders in Congress. And the Head Start early childhood program would see a major, $1 billion boost.

[**Gifted Education, Special Education See Funding Increases in Federal Budget Bill**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/speced/2014/01/gifted_education_special_educa.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+OnSpecialEducation+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+On+Special+Education%29) **Education Week**

The federal budget bill is being lauded by early childhood education supporters for its large boosts to Head Start, but the bill is also receiving praise from gifted education advocates for restoring funding to the Jacob Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act, which was defunded by Congress in fiscal 2011.

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

**130th General Assembly**

***Introduced***

[**HB 403**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_403)CONCEALED CARRY HANDGUN LICENSE (BECKER J) To generally authorize a person who has a valid concealed handgun license to carry a handgun concealed into any publicly owned facility that is not a secure facility, to limit this general access with respect to a nonsecure school building so that it applies only if the person is a government official **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 264**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_264)SCHOOLS- OCCUPATIONAL-PHYSICAL THERAPISTS WORKLOADS (SCHAFFER T) To require the Department of Education to solicit from school districts and educational service centers regular studies of the time spent by occupational and physical therapists on certain activities and to use the studies to determine appropriate workloads **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 266**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_266)PUBLIC SCHOOLS-BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION (SKINDELL M, LEHNER P) With respect to the use of seclusion and physical restraint on students and positive behavior intervention supports in public schools **STATUS: Introduced**

***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: House State & Local Government Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**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) Senate Education Committee – Reported out; Passed by Senate**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Finance 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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate 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: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**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) Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0**

[**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: Passed by House, Vote 78-15, Bill amended on House floor**

[**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: House Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate 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: House Education Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**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: Passed by House, Vote 62-27**

[**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: House Education Committee – Bill Amended; Reported out**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

[**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: Referred to House Policy & Legislative Oversight Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

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

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 264**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=uS7xiC28FkeQpPwi_ikL7nVgnv9Ni9BI_mn8IdSRNPQVmF0bXHmXjehHW_fdpFlz2KPygAlDMoo.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_264)DIABETES CARE-SCHOOLS (WACHTMANN L, BARNES, JR. J) Regarding care for students with diabetes in schools **STATUS: Introduced and Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 267**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_267)HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY (BARBORAK N) 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: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 285**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=gFa3abMLHUG2JddzXl-svtLzTH05ltBIMOcjqTocz1_KeFsd-pnbpazDQ0JBlZgfB8rVSrUrZHs.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_285)PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PENSION (BECKER J, LYNCH M) To provide that an individual retiring on or after the effective date of this act from one of the state's public retirement systems who is re-employed as a public employee will not receive the pension portion of the retirement allowance for the period of employment **STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB 290**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_290)SCHOOL PREMISES LIABILITY (STEBELTON G) Regarding the use of school district premises by members of the public and immunity from civil liability for a school district and schools when permitting members of the public to use school premises **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 293**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_293)SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION CONSOLIDATION PILOT PROGRAM (BRENNER A) To establish the School District Transportation Consolidation Pilot Program and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 294**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_294)SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE LICENSE PLATE (BRENNER A) To create a "Support School Choice" license plate **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Transportation, Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**

[**HB 296**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=3cWFp7J7XUu__aNs3k9fyLxoMJAXnNBI3CWKoWCb_pM2d7LEvLHuP-QrWVLLcvxDzDzoqeD7PxE.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_296)SCHOOLS-EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS (JOHNSON T, DUFFEY M) To permit public schools to procure epinephrine autoinjectors in accordance with prescribed procedures and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of epinephrine autoinjectors **STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee**

[**HB 299**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_299)PROPERTY VALUATION COMPLAINTS (GROSSMAN C) To require counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school boards that file complaints against the valuation of property they do not own to pass a resolution approving the complaint **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 303**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_303)STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION (HAYES B) Regarding student religious expression **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 304**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_304)PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACCESS (HAYES B) Regarding student access to public school facilities **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 321**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_321)DATAOHIO BOARD (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To create the DataOhio Board, and to specify requirements for posting public records online. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 322**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_322)UNIFORM ACCOUNTING SYSTEM (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 323**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_323)ONLINE PUBLIC DATA CATALOG (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 324**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_324)LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION EXCHANGE GRANT PROGRAM (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program and to make an appropriation. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 334**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_334)STUDENT EXPULSION (HAYES B, HOTTINGER J) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees and to declare an emergency. **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 337**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_337)LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BUDGETING REQUIREMENTS (TERHAR L) To revise budgeting requirements that apply to local governments, mandate that certain actuarial standards be applied in political subdivisions that have independent retirement systems, and authorize the Auditor of State to impose sanctions **STATUS: Referred to House State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB 342**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_342)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM (BRENNER A, DRIEHAUS D) To permit an educational service center to be a partner or the lead applicant of an education consortia seeking a grant under the Straight A Program and to modify the goals of projects supported by the program. **STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 92-0**

[**HB 343**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_343)EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS-NON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (STEBELTON G) Regarding educational programs for certain students and individuals who have not received a high school diploma. **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 348**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_348)HIGHER EDUCATION-STUDENT HEALTH CARE PLAN REQUIREMENT (HENNE M, HAGAN C) To prohibit state institutions of higher education from requiring students to be covered by a health insurance policy or a health care benefits plan as a condition of enrollment or from automatically enrolling students in such policies or plans **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 362**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_362)STEM SCHOOLS (SCHERER G, DERICKSON T) To authorize the STEM Committee to grant a designation of STEM school equivalent to a community school or chartered nonpublic school and to make other revisions to the law regarding STEM schools **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 367**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_367)OPIOID ABUSE PREVENTION INSTRUCTION-SCHOOLS (DRIEHAUS D, SPRAGUE R) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction in prescription opioid abuse prevention **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 370**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_370)BOARDS OF EDUCATION-PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS (PHILLIPS D) To make a board of education of a school district or the governing board of an educational service center subject to the Prevailing Wage Law for public improvement contracts **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 374**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_374)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM (PATTERSON J, ROGERS J) To make an appropriation for additional funding for the Straight A Program **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 376**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_376)OHIO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESTORATION ACT (DERICKSON T, PATMON B) To enact the Ohio Religious Freedom Restoration Act **STATUS: Referred to House Judiciary Committee**

[**HB 380**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_380)GENERAL REVENUE FUND-CASH TRANSFER (BOOSE T, GERBERRY R) To require the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash from the General Revenue Fund to the Local Government Fund and to make an appropriation **STATUS: Referred to House Finance & Appropriations Committee**

[**HB 393**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_393)CAREER DECISION GUIDE PUBLICATION (BAKER N, LANDIS A) To require public high schools to publish annually a career decision guide in its newsletter or on its web sit **STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB 403**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_HB_403)CONCEALED CARRY HANDGUN LICENSE (BECKER J) To generally authorize a person who has a valid concealed handgun license to carry a handgun concealed into any publicly owned facility that is not a secure facility, to limit this general access with respect to a nonsecure school building so that it applies only if the person is a government official **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: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education 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 158**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=bFNFcBqgnUqhZSf5hXLX3rTNQxwSkdBIk_zgH7CF2sRy2ioQLS4Dgoz4lC9lI9ND0_U2wiqj1F8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_SB_158)SCHOOL CLOSURE EXEMPTION (TAVARES C) To exempt from closure certain community schools that enroll students receiving behavioral health services **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education 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: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**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: Referred to Public Safety, Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee**

[**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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

[**SB 190**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=uS7xiC28FkeQpPwi_ikL7nVgnv9Ni9BI_mn8IdSRNPQVmF0bXHmXjehHW_fdpFlz2KPygAlDMoo.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_SB_190)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OPERATION (SCHIAVONI J) To revise the laws regarding the operation of community schools and, for each of fiscal years 2014 and 2015, to limit a community school’s or a STEM school’s gain in aggregate state funding over the previous fiscal year **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 195**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=bFNFcBqgnUqhZSf5hXLX3rTNQxwSkdBIk_zgH7CF2sRy2ioQLS4Dgoz4lC9lI9ND0_U2wiqj1F8.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_SB_195)SCHOOL ENROLLMENT-ADJUDICATED CHILD (TAVARES C) With respect to enrollment in a school district of a child who is alleged or adjudicated an abused, neglected, or dependent child **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 220**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_220)POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS PROGRAM (GARDNER R) To remove the prohibition on charging students fees for participating in dual enrollment programs or in alternative funding arrangements under the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program. **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 223**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_223)INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS (GARDNER R) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to develop a procedure for awarding information technology infrastructure grants to public primary and secondary schools and school districts. **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 229**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_229)TEACHER PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS (GARDNER R) Regarding teacher performance evaluations. **STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB 231**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_231)SCHOOL PROPERTY SALES PROCEEDS (GARDNER R, HITE C) With respect to the distribution of proceeds from the sale of school district real property **STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB 237**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_237)COMMON CORE INITIATIVE ACADEMIC STANDARDS (JORDAN K) With respect to the Common Core Initiative academic standards, powers of the State Board of Education, and the distribution of student information **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 239**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_239)STUDENT EXPULSION (SCHAFFER T) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB 241**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_241)STRAIGHT A PROGRAM GOVERNING BOARD (SAWYER T) To modify the membership structure of the Straight A Program Governing Board **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 242**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_242)BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (SAWYER T) To revise the membership composition of the State Board of Education **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 243**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_243)SALES TAX HOLIDAY (BACON K) To provide a three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing, school supplies, personal computers, and personal computer accessories are exempt from sales and use taxes **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 244**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_244)INCOME TAX DEDUCTION-COLLEGE SAVINGS CONTRIBUTIONS (JONES S, GARDNER R) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for college savings contributions to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 264**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_264)SCHOOLS- OCCUPATIONAL-PHYSICAL THERAPISTS WORKLOADS (SCHAFFER T) To require the Department of Education to solicit from school districts and educational service centers regular studies of the time spent by occupational and physical therapists on certain activities and to use the studies to determine appropriate workloads **STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB 266**](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/bills.cfm?ID=130_SB_266)PUBLIC SCHOOLS-BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION (SKINDELL M, LEHNER P) With respect to the use of seclusion and physical restraint on students and positive behavior intervention supports in public schools **STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Politics/Budget**

[**Senate Committee Hears from Proponents of Bill Eliminating 'Zero Tolerance' Policy for Schools**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195152) **Hannah**

The Senate Education Committee Wednesday heard from supporters of SB167 (Tavares), legislation which overturns current state policy by prohibiting local school districts from implementing a "zero tolerance" policy "for violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior, including excessive truancy ...." Kate Mitchell, an attorney with Advocates for Basic Legal Equality in Toledo, and Shakyra Diaz, policy director for ACLU Ohio, both told the committee the state's zero tolerance policy disproportionately affects black, male, poor and disabled students with Diaz adding those children speaking English as a second language as another affected group.

[**Are Dennis Kucinich and Todd Portune joining forces against Ed FitzGerald in Ohio governor's race?**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2014/01/are_dennis_kucinich_and_todd_p.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The early days of a gubernatorial election year bring plenty of tips to a political reporter’s inbox. Many don’t pan out, and others we drop quickly because of their absurdity. But here’s one that became even more intriguing after we went directly to the subjects.

[**Credit for religious education bill passes through House, pits Cleveland area Democrats against each other**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2014/01/credit_for_religious_education.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

A bill that would allow public school boards to give credit to high school students for off-campus religious education pitted two Statehouse Democrats from Greater Cleveland against each other Wednesday. The bill, which passed through the Ohio House of Representatives by a 78-15 margin, would let school boards determine credit for an off-campus religious course based on "purely secular criteria," including classroom time, coursework, assessment methods and instructor qualifications. The credits wouldn't substitute any "core" curriculum courses, but could serve as electives.

[**FitzGerald Taps Dayton Attorney in Second Running Mate Choice**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195164) **Hannah**

Cuyahoga County Executive Ed FitzGerald raised eyebrows Friday when he announced that Sharen Neuhardt, a Dayton attorney who ran for Congress twice, is his second pick for lieutenant governor. Neuhardt replaces Sen. Eric Kearney (D-Cincinnati) on the ticket just more than a month after he announced he would be withdrawing a bid for lieutenant governor. Kearney’s candidacy lasted less than a month after questions about state and federal taxes he owed came to light.

[**Number of school vouchers expand faster than demand**](http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/article/20140119/NEWS01/301190009/Number-school-vouchers-expand-faster-than-demand?nclick_check=1) **Mansfield New Journal**

Ohio repeatedly has moved to expand school choice throughout the state, but it appears the Legislature is well ahead of demand. The state offers 60,000 vouchers for children in struggling public schools each year, and fewer than one-third were used this school year. In June, as part of the state budget bill, the Legislature created 2,000 vouchers for low-income kindergartners across the state. Slightly more than half of those were claimed.

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

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[**29 percent of Ohio charter schools close**](http://www.tribtoday.com/page/content.detail/id/598043/29-percent-of-Ohio-charter-schools-close.html?nav=5021) **Tribune Chronicle**

Twenty-nine percent of Ohio's charter schools have closed dating back to 1997, including 17 schools last year in Columbus. Publicly funded charter schools that are often privately run became legal in Ohio in 1997, The Columbus Dispatch reports. About 75 of the almost 400 charter schools currently operating in the state are in Columbus, where nine of the 17 schools that closed in 2013 lasted only months.

[**ODE Refers Districts for Licensure Review in Data Scrubbing Investigation**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195115) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Office of Professional Conduct will look into the actions of staff in seven school districts to see whether attendance data problems warrant official sanctions or license revocations. The department investigated eight districts identified by Auditor Dave Yost as having scrubbed student data. A ninth, Columbus City Schools, also has faced major allegations of data scrubbing, but Yost segregated the district from his broader statewide review on the basis that the Columbus case was likely to lead to criminal prosecution.

[**Board of Education Opens Process on Geauga County School Consolidation, Hears Update on Straight A Fund**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195117) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education started discussions Monday on its role in the proposed consolidation of two Geauga County school districts that are looking to get ahead of declining enrollment projections. Representatives of the Berkshire and Newbury local school districts told board members the idea has been kicked around in their communities for decades, but now the situation has come to a head. Berkshire Superintendent Doug DeLong and Newbury Superintendent Richard Wagner said downward trends for finances and student headcount were threatening to imperil educational priorities, like AP classes and all-day kindergarten.

[**Education Panel OKs Reading Standards; Terhar Asks AG for Advice on Gifted Rules**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195118) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education's Achievement Committee Monday approved a list of topics and methods teachers should know in order to instruct children under Ohio's third grade reading guarantee. Reading competencies, which are set for consideration by the full board on Tuesday, will eventually be incorporated into universities' teacher preparation programs and the state's licensure tests for elementary educators. The full board has to adopt competencies by Jan. 31, per SB21 (Lehner), passed last year. That law spells out items to be included in the competencies, including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, appropriate use of assessments, differentiated instruction, and selection of appropriate instructional materials and application of research-based instructional practices.

[**Battelle for Kids Briefs State Board on Value Added Measures**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195133) **Hannah**

State Board of Education members and a small group of state lawmakers heard a primer Tuesday on details of Ohio's value-added system and what it does and doesn't measure. Jamie Meade, Battelle for Kids' managing director for strategic measures, said the emergence of value-added measures more than a decade ago represented a "paradigm shift" from the mindset of point-in-time achievement measures.

**HB 193 causes consternation among State Board of Education members** **Hannah**

The State Board of Education's Legislative and Budget Committee focused discussions Tuesday on provisions in the latest version of HB193 (Brenner), which revises current high school diploma requirements including state-administered assessments for all grades, and which runs counter to recent recommendations from the board and concerns from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Board member C. Todd Jones, chairman of the board's Graduation Committee, expressed "disappointment" although not "surprise" at the House Education Committee's not only passing the bill "without consulting the board" but even "deciding to reverse what we recommended."

[**State Superintendent Says Ohio Schools Too ‘Old School’**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195145) **Hannah**

While admitting change is sometimes “hard,” “expensive” and “unpopular,” State Superintendent of Public Instruction Richard Ross said “we must have more innovation in our schools.” “My friends, the world has changed, and I can’t remember the last time I saw the inside of an encyclopedia,” Ross told a panel and attendees of an “Education Equation” luncheon held at the Columbus Metropolitan Club. “Even I, as un-technologically oriented as I am, use Google to find information.”

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Improvements recommended for college credit programs**](http://www.vindy.com/news/2014/jan/13/chancellor-college-credit-programs-for-h/) **Youngstown Vindicator**

Improvement in programs to allow dual high school and college credit is an important component as the state strives to bolster students’ college and career readiness and postsecondary success, according to a report from the Ohio chancellor. Chancellor John Carey made his recommendations on the College Credit Plus program last month in a report to Gov. John Kasich and the state Legislature. He was required by law to issue the recommendations regarding the program that enables high school students to earn credits through Ohio colleges and universities.

[**Analyst: More reforms needed of federal education loans to parents**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/analyst-more-reforms-needed-of-federal-education-loans-to-parents/2014/01/08/48c9c3ea-7873-11e3-8963-b4b654bcc9b2_story.html) **Washington Post**

For the past two years, many colleges have scrambled to help students find the money they need to stay in school because the federal government tightened standards for lending to parents. The flux was especially intense for historically black colleges and universities, including Howard and Morgan State universities, which serve a large share of students in financial need.

[**GED launches in new format**](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20140113/NEWS01/301130038/GED-launches-new-format) **Newark Advocate**

Some were rushing at the end of the year to get the best shopping deals; others were rushing to take the GED exam. Starting Jan. 2, the general equivalency diploma test got a makeover: It’s more expensive (though there are vouchers to offset that), computerized, and will require more analytical thinking from test-takers. At the C-TEC Adult Education Center, 448 people took the GED test in 2013. That’s a 55 percent increase from 2012, when 289 people took the test.

[**College presidents, including several from Ohio, to meet with President Obama Thursday**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/college_presidents_including_s.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The presidents of Cuyahoga Community College, Oberlin College and Kenyon College will join about 100 other higher education leaders at the White House Thursday to discuss how to improve college access for low-income students. Each president will make a pledge on how his or her institution can improve access, which is likely to include programs to improve recruitment and remediation.

[**Cuyahoga Community College to encourage minority students to enter science and technology fields: Higher Education Roundup**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/cuyahoga_community_college_to.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Cuyahoga Community College is recruiting minority students to study science, technology, engineering or math and continue on to a four-year degree. The college plans to award $1,000 stipends to 40 qualified full-time students each year who agree to participate in project interventions and activities, including advising, mentoring, tutoring, a summer bridge program and undergraduate research experiences.

[**Forty percent of high school graduates who enrolled in a public college in 2012 required remedial math or English**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/forty_percent_of_high_school_g.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Nearly every Ohio high school sent students who were not prepared to take college-level math or English to a public two- or four-year college, according to the latest report on remediation by the Ohio Board of Regents. According to the report, 40 percent of the 51,627 students who graduated from an Ohio high school in 2012 and enrolled in a public two- or four-year college that fall took developmental, or remedial, math or English. More students needed remediation in math, 34 percent, than English, 20 percent. And 14 percent needed to take both.

**Research**

[**Commission: Early Childhood Investment Key to Healthier America**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2014/01/commission_early_childhood_investment_key_to_healthier_america.html) **Education Week**

Investing in early childhood through high-quality preschool programs and community support programs is an essential element to creating a more healthy country, says a commission convened by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation—the nation's largest philanthropy devoted solely to health issues.  The report, *Time to Act: Investing in the Health of Our Children and Communities,* is a follow-up from the Commission to Build a Healthier America, which first released 10 sweeping recommendations in 2009. One of its recommendations then was "ensure that all children have high-quality early developmental support (child care, education, and other services)."

[**U.S. Urged to Give Incentives to States on College Funding**](http://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2014/01/15/us-urged-give-incentives-states-college-funding) **Inside Higher Education**

The federal government should create a matching grant program to reward states that maintain and increase their funding for public colleges, by linking the maximum Pell Grant awarded to students in states to per-student funding or higher education, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities argues in a new report.

**Grant Opportunities**

***Private***

[**PreK-8 Preservice Teacher Action Research Grants**](http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=15479#sthash.p4DmBOLa.dpuf) **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Deadline: May 2, 2014)**

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is inviting proposals for collaborative research projects aimed at improving the teaching of mathematics in preK-8 classrooms. Through its 2014-2015 PreK-8 Preservice Teacher Action Research grants program, NCTM will support collaborative projects conducted by teams of researchers consisting of university, elementary/middle school teachers, and pre-service teachers at the undergraduate level. The action research should be designed, implemented, and completed with a focus on enhancing the teaching and/or learning of mathematics in grades preK-8.

[**Program of Mathematics Study & Active Professionalism Grants for Grades PreK-6 Teachers**](http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=22370) **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Deadline: May 2, 2014)**

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is inviting proposals from pre- K teachers seeking to improve their understanding and appreciation of mathematics by completing course work in school math content and pedagogy, working toward an advanced degree, and taking an active professional approach toward teaching mathematics.

[**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**

[**Ledgemont School Board passes inside millage proposal to raise money without a vote (with document)**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20140115/ledgemont-school-board-passes-inside-millage-proposal-to-raise-money-without-a-vote-with-document) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Bay Village***

[**Bay Village schools treasurer, Deborah Putnam, retiring**](http://www.cleveland.com/bay-village/index.ssf/2014/01/bay_village_schools_treasurer_2.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Beachwood***

[**Beachwood School Board discusses goals for year ahead**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20140116/beachwood-school-board-discusses-goals-for-year-ahead) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Bedford***

***Berea***

***Brecksville-Broadview Heights***

***Brooklyn***

***Chagrin Falls***

***CMSD***

[**Cleveland principals deciding how to spend their school's budgets as they gain authority under the Cleveland Plan**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_principals_deciding.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Ribbon cutting for new Cleveland school**](http://www.19actionnews.com/story/24472622/ribbon-cutting-for-new-cleveland-school) **WOIO Cleveland**

***Cleveland Heights-University Heights***

***Cuyahoga Heights***

***Cuyahoga Valley Career Center***

***East Cleveland***

***Euclid***

***Fairview Park***

***Garfield Heights***

***Independence***

***Lakewood***

***Maple Heights***

***Mayfield***

***North Olmsted***

[**North Olmsted School Board decides to pay private school parents instead of busing**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20140116/north-olmsted-school-board-decides-to-pay-private-school-parents-instead-of-busing) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***North Royalton***

[**North Royalton school board passes bond issue resolution**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-royalton/index.ssf/2014/01/north_royalton_school_board_pa.html) **Sun News**

***Olmsted Falls***

***Orange***

***Parma***

***Polaris Career Center***

***Richmond Heights***

***Rocky River***

[**Rocky River planning new artificial turf for high school field**](http://www.cleveland.com/rocky-river/index.ssf/2014/01/rocky_river_planning_new_turf.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Shaker Heights***

[**Shaker Heights schools to seek 6.9-mill levy**](http://www.cleveland.com/shaker-heights/index.ssf/2014/01/shaker_heights_schools_to_seek.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Solon***

***South Euclid-Lyndhurst***

***Strongsville***

***Warrensville Heights***

***Westlake***

[**Westlake school board considers 'pay to participate' proposal**](http://www.cleveland.com/westlake/index.ssf/2014/01/westlake_school_board_consider.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Westlake's Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. recognized as Superintendent of the Year**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20140118/westlakes-dr-daniel-j-keenan-jr-recognized-as-superintendent-of-the-year) **Lorain Morning Journal**