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**Government and Education**

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

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

[**Stateline: States' Focus on All-Day Kindergarten Grows**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195183) **Hannah**

As Ohio leaders talk more about the effects of early-childhood learning, *Stateline.org* reports that some states are moving to expand kindergarten offerings: "In the not too distant past, kindergarten was a place where children learned to color, share and play. But a higher regard for kindergarten is emerging, including a move toward all-day sessions in some states, as a growing body of research underscores the importance of learning in the earliest years.

[**New Federal Budget Adds Money to Programs for College-Going Students**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2014/01/proposed_federal_budget_contains_mixed_messages_for_college-going_students.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+edweek%2FBVuj+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+College+Bound%29) **Education Week**

The federal budget for fiscal year 2014 passed by Congress and signed by President Obama last week increases funding for career technical education, enhances college-readiness programs for at-risk students, and boosts the maximum amount of Pell Grant awards—all good news for college-going students. The new $1.1 trillion spending plan funds the Pell Grant program at last year's level of $22.8 billion, but increases the maximum award next year to $5,730, an $85 increase.

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

**130th General Assembly**

***Introduced***

[**HB 405**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=i5Y_pNEZukyx52SJ1GHXzTjAsGSR7tBIAXyO7LnqEnRpYjG6t-TWKo5X47xgGddoN2pUiuCL89U.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_405)INCOME TAX CREDIT-CERTAIN DEGREES (BUDISH A, HOTTINGER J) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study **STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB 413**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=i5Y_pNEZukyx52SJ1GHXzTjAsGSR7tBIAXyO7LnqEnRpYjG6t-TWKo5X47xgGddoN2pUiuCL89U.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_413)PARTNERSHIP FOR ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS (STAUTBERG P, BRENNER A) To prohibit the administration of the assessments developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers for the 2014-2015 school year, to prohibit the renewal of the state's memorandum of understanding with the Partnership, and to declare an emergency

**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: Passed by House, Vote 62-28 Bill amended**

[**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) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

**STATUS: 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: Passed by House, Vote 88-1**

[**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) Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

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

[**HB 405**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=i5Y_pNEZukyx52SJ1GHXzTjAsGSR7tBIAXyO7LnqEnRpYjG6t-TWKo5X47xgGddoN2pUiuCL89U.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_405)INCOME TAX CREDIT-CERTAIN DEGREES (BUDISH A, HOTTINGER J) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study **STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB 413**](https://webmail.esc-cc.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=i5Y_pNEZukyx52SJ1GHXzTjAsGSR7tBIAXyO7LnqEnRpYjG6t-TWKo5X47xgGddoN2pUiuCL89U.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.legislature.state.oh.us%2fbills.cfm%3fID%3d130_HB_413)PARTNERSHIP FOR ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS (STAUTBERG P, BRENNER A) To prohibit the administration of the assessments developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers for the 2014-2015 school year, to prohibit the renewal of the state's memorandum of understanding with the Partnership, and to declare an emergency

**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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**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: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

**Ohio Politics/Budget**

[**Kasich Administration Awards $30 Million for Workforce Training**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195179) **Hannah**

The Kasich administration has announced a new round of economic development awards totaling $30 million in grants and loans from the Ohio Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program, benefiting more than 50,000 workers at 600 companies around the state. Under the public-private partnership, businesses will work to maintain and improve their economic competitiveness and the stability of their workforce with annual state reimbursements of up to $4,000 per employee, equaling 50 percent of eligible training costs. Companies pay all costs up-front and receive the state match when the worker completes the training. Each qualifying employer must be in operation for one year or more and may receive as much as $250,000 in FY14, the second year of program awards.

[**Ohio lawmakers push for more guns in schools while some educators balk**](http://www.wcpo.com/news/education/ohio-lawmakers-push-for-more-guns-in-schools-while-some-educators-balk) **WCPO Cincinnati**

The steady, sickening drumbeat of school shootings across the United States, punctuated by the mass slaughter of kindergarteners at Sandy Hook Elementary a year ago, has prompted many parents, educators and politicians to find new ways to keep children safe. In Ohio, members of the conservative super-majority that now holds power in the statehouse say the answer is more guns in schools and on school grounds, prompting a new round of debate about who, if anyone, should be armed in schools.

[**New teacher evaluation system concerns schools**](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20140118/NEWS01/301180016/New-teacher-evaluation-system-concerns-schools?nclick_check=1) **Newark Advocate**

One hundred and ten hours. That’s nearly 14 eight-hour workdays, with no breaks, and that’s how long, at bare minimum, John Clem Elementary School Principal Lynda Nabors will spend on teacher evaluations this school year. Nabors has 33 teachers to evaluate, twice each. Each evaluation includes a preconference (roughly 30 minutes), the observation period (at least 30 minutes, often more), and the post-observation conference (another 30 minutes).

[**House Passes School Safety Bill, Reauthorization of SCIP**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195204) **Hannah**

A divided House passed legislation Wednesday that would clarify existing law when it comes to school safety, including the arming of school employees. Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) said the HB8 (Roegner-Kunze) “provides a thoughtful framework to make existing law work better.” It would allow school boards to designate a school employee that may carry a concealed firearm, make the decision a non-collective bargaining decision, and give districts qualified immunity in situations where that employee may discharge a firearm.

[**Lone Opponent of SB167 Testifies before Senate Education Committee**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195212) **Hannah**

The Senate Education Committee concluded hearings Wednesday evening on SB167 (Tavares), legislation which proposes rescinding the "zero tolerance" policies for the state's local schools, until after "interested party" meetings are held to find common ground on a balanced approach to the issue, the committee chairwoman, Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering), announced. This came after the committee heard the only opponent testimony presented -- this from recently retired school superintendent Dennis Leone. He told the committee, "a bill to completely eliminate Ohio's zero tolerance law is of great concern to me."

[**Ohio concealed-carry for teachers advances**](http://www.toledoblade.com/State/2014/01/23/Ohio-concealed-carry-for-teachers-advances.html) **Toledo Blade**

School districts that designate teachers and other personnel to carry hidden firearms must undergo pretraining and a psychological assessment after the fact if they use the weapon under a bill that passed the House with bipartisan support Wednesday. But opponents objected to provisions to take the issue off the collective bargaining table and questioned the wisdom of arming teachers in classrooms.

[**House bill would let Ohio schools delay new state tests**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/23/house-bill-would-delay-new-testing.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohio schools would get more time to prepare for new graduation tests and would receive new guidelines when designating employees who are allowed to carry guns under bills that passed the House yesterday. A near-unanimous House attempted to address concerns that a number of Ohio school districts need more time to prepare for end-of-course exams that are set to replace the Ohio Graduation Test.

[**Higher Ed Funding Commission Capital Budget Plan Focuses on Updates, Renovations**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195218) **Hannah**

A group of college and university leaders convened by Gov. John Kasich to make recommendations on higher education projects in the FY14-15 capital budget turned in a report Thursday that calls for $404.5 million in projects that have a focus on renovating and updating current facilities. Ohio University President Roderick McDavis, a co-chairman of the Ohio Higher Education Funding Commission along with Southern State Community College President Kevin Boys, said the commission wanted to target funding toward repairing existing facilities rather than building new facilities. Although McDavis said the commission did not direct universities and colleges to any particular area, he said they were pleased when the suggestions they received matched their goals.

[**Building Commissions Talk School Security, Capital Budget**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195221) **Hannah**

The two state commissions that oversee building projects in Ohio discussed school safety, construction reform and the state's upcoming capital budgets at meetings Thursday. Budget Director Tim Keen was elected chairman and Administrative Services Director Robert Blair vice chairman of both the Ohio School Facilities Commission and the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission at back-to-back meetings Thursday.

[**$404 million statewide public higher education budget proposal stresses modernization**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2014/01/404_million_statewide_public_u.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Ohio's public colleges and universities — especially those in Northeast Ohio — shouldn't expect the state to help foot the bill for much brick-and-mortar expansion in the near future. Instead, money for renovating and modernizing existing classroom buildings, especially science labs, may be coming to a college campus near you.

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

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**In Strong Common-Core Endorsement, NEA and Firm Unveil Curricula by 'Master Teachers'**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/teacherbeat/2014/01/nea_and_firm_unveil_curricula.html?cmp=ENL-CCO-NEWS2) **Education Week**

The National Education Association and the for-profit firm BetterLesson today unveiled a jointly designed, $7 million free platform with more than 3,000 lessons aligned to the Common Core State Standards—a move that comes concurrent with NEA's strongest endorsement yet for the standards.

**Technology**

[**Districts Get Creative to Build Faster Internet Connections**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2014/01/15/17fiber_ep.h33.html?tkn=QYWFiAq7oMffXY2icGlM7LXFplkUykhu9Le2&cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS1)  **Education Week**

Desperate for access to high-speed fiber-optic cable that can meet their demands for bandwidth, and frustrated with the ways in which federal regulations and large telecommunications companies often get in the way, some districts are getting creative.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Board of Regents Recommends Dual-Credit Changes**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=195178) **Hannah**

The Board of Regents is recommending changes to dual-credit programs that allow high school students to earn college credit, calling for creation of a "seamless and equitable system" for students and more collaboration among the educational institutions involved.

[**Tracking Alternative Credentials**](http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2014/01/17/new-census-data-non-college-credentials-and-work-force) **Inside Higher Ed**

The federal government for the first time has data on the 50 million U.S. adults who hold some form of educational credential that isn't a college degree. The U.S. Census Bureau on Thursday released a report on the numbers and characteristics of people who hold certificates, professional certification and licenses. It also includes wage information.

[**Ohio’s college-savings plan halts some automatic contributions**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/business/2014/01/21/ohios-college-savings-plan-halts-some-automatic-contributions.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Relatives and friends accustomed to making regular, automatic contributions to Ohio’s CollegeAdvantage 529 savings accounts that they don’t control will have to make changes to keep the money flowing into the accounts. The Ohio Tuition Trust Authority has switched to a new recordkeeping system that offers several improvements but, for now, doesn’t allow that type of automatic contribution.

[**Completion Rates Aren’t the Best Way to Judge MOOCs, Researchers Say**](http://chronicle.com/blogs/wiredcampus/completion-rates-arent-the-best-way-to-judge-moocs-researchers-say/49721) **The Chronicle of Higher Education**

When it comes to measuring the success of an education program, the bottom line is often the completion rate. How many students are finishing their studies and walking away with a credential? But that is not the right way to judge massive open online courses, according to researchers at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. “Course certification rates are misleading and counterproductive indicators of the impact and potential of open online courses,” write the researchers in the first of a series of working papers on MOOCs offered by the two universities.

[**Study Showing Value of Liberal Arts Education Counters Skeptics**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/college_bound/2014/01/study_showing_value_of_liberal_arts_education_counters_skeptics.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+edweek%2FBVuj+%28Education+Week+Blog%3A+College+Bound%29) **Education Week**

While incoming college students are told to follow their passions, the reality is many also look at the earning potential for various majors—not surprising considering the high cost of getting a degree. A new study supports the value of a liberal arts education over time, countering some of the claims that science, math, engineering, and technology are the most lucrative career paths.

**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**

***Bay Village***

[**Bay Village school district continues bond issue projects**](http://www.cleveland.com/bay-village/index.ssf/2014/01/bay_village_school_district_co.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***CMSD***

[**Cleveland schools nudging parents to comply with the law and meet their kids' teachers**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_schools_nudging_pare.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Squeals, applause greet Cleveland school cafeteria's makeover through Love for the Lunchroom project (video and slideshow)**](http://www.cleveland.com/insideout/index.ssf/2014/01/squeals_applause_greet_clevela.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***Cleveland Heights-University Heights***

[**Cleveland Heights-University Heights schools superintendent talks about low state report card marks, other challenges**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2014/01/cleveland_heights-university_h_54.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Lakewood***

[**Lakewood school officials unveil plans for relocating elementary school students during 2-year construction project**](http://www.cleveland.com/lakewood/index.ssf/2014/01/lakewood_school_officials_unve.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

***North Olmsted***

[**North Olmsted school superintendent presents board with draft of new district strategic plan**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-olmsted/index.ssf/2014/01/north_olmsted_school_superinte.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***North Royalton***

[**North Royalton school board approves $49.8 million bond issue for May ballot (photo gallery)**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-royalton/index.ssf/2014/01/north_royalton_school_board_ap_3.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Olmsted Falls***

[**Olmsted Falls Middle School discusses suicide prevention and township police chief holds coffee klatch: community news**](http://www.cleveland.com/olmsted/index.ssf/2014/01/olmsted_falls_middle_school_di.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Parma***

[**Parma schools will use outside firm to develop strategic plan**](http://www.cleveland.com/parma/index.ssf/2014/01/parma_schools_will_use_outside.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**