

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of October 12, 2015**

**Featured News**

[**County Executive Armond Budish proposes $10M infusion into Cuyahoga County pre-K program**](http://www.cleveland.com/cuyahoga-county/index.ssf/2015/10/county_executive_armond_budish_proposes_10m_infusion_into_cuyahoga_county_pre-k_program.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Cuyahoga County will target an additional $10 million toward universal pre-kindergarten programs, under the budget proposed by County Executive Armond Budish. The funding would be added to money the county already puts toward pre-K education, with a focus on improving and expanding the programs and bolstering enrollments. "We are leading the effort to expand the availability of high quality pre-kindergarten education for kids in this county," Budish said Tuesday in a meeting with Northeast Ohio Media Group. "There's nothing more important, nothing that can be more transformational than a high-quality -- and I'm not talking about day care -- I'm talking about high-quality pre-K education. The statistics and the studies are clear."

[**Plenty of College Talk, But K-12 Takes a Backseat in First Democratic Debate**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/10/democratic_debate_education.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1)  **Education Week**

There were plenty of quick shout-outs to education during the Democratic presidential candidates' very first debate in Las Vegas. But if you were hoping for a meaty discussion of the big issues facing K-12—testing, teacher evaluation, fixing low-performing schools—you were out of luck. There were some substantial exchanges on college access, however.

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

[**Senate lets student loan program expire, triggering Strickland-Portman spat**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/10/senate_lets_student_loan_progr.html#incart_2box_open_index.ssf) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

Congress last week let the federal Perkins student loan program expire, prompting political finger-wagging and claims that Republicans such as Ohio's Rob Portman finally got his way. But Perkins loans, used by colleges to help students in deep need, may not be dead yet. And Portman, once a critic of the program that his party -- and some Democrats -- considered duplicative and inefficient, has lately been a major GOP supporter of continuing the program.

[**John Kasich will lay the framework for his first 100 days as president this week. Here's a preview.**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/10/john_kasich_will_lay_the_frame.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

John Kasich would work to establish a "common sense court" to challenge government regulators and eliminate an unspecified federal department if he's elected president, the Ohio governor said during a campaign stop Tuesday.

[**John Kasich calls for a balanced federal budget in 8 years and a Department of Education overhaul**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/10/john_kasich_calls_for_a_balanc.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

Ohio Gov. John Kasich this morning will pledge to work with Congress as president to balance the federal budget in eight years. The goal is among many listed in [a two-page overview](https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/john-kasich-assets/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/KASICH-PLAN-SUMMARY1.pdf) the Republican White House hopeful posted to his website in advance of a 10:30 speech in Nashua, N.H. Kasich believes the budget can be balanced "by reducing spending, reforming entitlements, and encouraging economic growth," according to the overview.

[**Arne Duncan to Step Down as Ed. Sec., John King to Head Up Department**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/10/arne_duncan_to_step_down_in_de.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who pushed through an unprecedented level of change in K-12 education in his nearly seven years in office, has announced that he's stepping down in December. John King, who is currently filling the duties of the deputy secretary of education, will head up the department as acting secretary until the end of the Obama administration.

[**Arne Duncan's on His Way Out: Does That Help or Hurt ESEA's Chances?**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/10/arne_duncans_out_does_that_hel.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

Education advocates, school district officials, teachers, and the rest of the edu-universe have been waiting for a reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to make it over the finish line since 2007.

[**Arne Duncan Stepping Down as Education Secretary**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/10/02/arne-duncan-stepping-down-as-education-secretary.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1)  **Education Week**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who plans to step down in December as one of President Barack Obama’s longest-serving Cabinet members, has pushed through an unprecedented level of change in K-12 education in his nearly seven years in office—and drawn the ire of critics from across the ideological spectrum in the process.

[**Leadership Issues Could Cloud Federal K-12 Picture**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/10/14/leadership-issues-could-cloud-federal-k-12-picture.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The one-two punch of turnover in the top leadership of Congress and the U.S. Department of Education complicates the prospects for completing unfinished business on the federal K-12 policy agenda. As both Speaker of the House John A. Boehner and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan prepare to step down, the inevitable uncertainty during such transitions further unsettles the outlook for an Elementary and Secondary Education Act overhaul and for any new regulatory moves by the Obama administration.

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

**131st General Assembly**

***House***

[**HB1**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-1)WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Nathan Manning) To establish the Workforce Grant Program, to authorize an income tax credit equal to 25% of the student loan payments a grant recipient makes per year, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Re-Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB2**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-2)CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Kristina Roegner) With regard to sponsorship and management of community schools

**STATUS: (Passed by House) (Passed by Senate) Conference Committee – Reported out as amended; House accepts Conference Committee report, Vote 91-6; Senate accepts Conference Committee report, Vote 32-0**

[**HB5**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-5)PUBLIC OFFICE-STATE AGENCY EFFICIENCY STUDIES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To allow the Auditor of State to conduct business case studies regarding the efficiency of local public offices and state agencies

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

[**HB7**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-7)ASSESSMENT SCORE DETERMINATIONS (Rep. Jim Buchy) To prohibit individual student scores from certain elementary and secondary achievement assessments administered for the 2014-2015 school year from being used to determine promotion or retention or to grant course credit

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

[**HB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-12)TIF-INCENTIVE DISTRICTS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Tony Burkley) To establish a procedure by which political subdivisions proposing a tax increment financing (TIF) incentive district are required to provide notice to the record owner of each parcel within the proposed incentive district before creating the district

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

[**HB15**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-15)STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To change the voting membership of the State Board of Education to consist of a member from each of several electoral districts with boundaries coinciding with the state's Congressional districts and a president to be appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-20)CONCEALED CARRY-SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE (Rep. Anne Gonzales, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To expand and clarify the authority of a concealed handgun licensee to possess a handgun in a school safety zone

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB25**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-25)FOOD-DRINK SCHOOL SALES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules regarding the sale of beverages and food during the regular school day in connection with a school-sponsored fundraiser

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB27**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-27)FINANCIAL AID-FINISH FUND (Rep. Dan Ramos) To create the Finish Fund and the Finish Reserve Fund to provide grants to students who are nearing completion of their associate or bachelor's degrees and display financial need or hardship

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB28**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-28)SUICIDE PREVENTION-HIGHER EDUCATION (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to suicide prevention programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**HB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-39)SCHOOL-CAMP INHALER PERMIT (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To permit schools and camps to procure and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powdered inhaler used to alleviate asthmatic symptoms in accordance with prescribed policies and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of these inhalers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0; House concurred with Senate amendments, Vote 91-0**

[**HB42**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-42)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (Rep. Ron Gerberry, Rep. Jack Cera) To require that, for fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Local Government Fund must receive the same proportion of state tax revenue that the Fund received in fiscal year 2005

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

[**HB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-43)CLASSROOM FACILITIES-PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACKS (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To revise the law governing classroom facilities assistance programs and to restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to school district tax levies approved on or after the effective date of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly

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

[**HB44**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-44)LOTTERY PROFITS-SCHOOLS (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To require that a portion of lottery profits be distributed annually on a per pupil basis to public and chartered nonpublic schools

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

[**HB46**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-46)GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

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

[**HB52**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-52)WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW (Rep. Robert Hackett) To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs

**STATUS: Passed House 96-0**

[**HB54**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-54)VOCATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS-OFFICE TERMS (Rep. Marlene Anielski) To revise the law regarding terms of office of members of certain joint vocational school district boards of education

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

[**HB55**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-55)THIRD-GRADE READING GUARANTEE (Rep. Robert Sprague) To specify deadlines for the administration of reading skills assessments for purposes of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

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

[**HB56**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-56)PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT-CRIMINAL RECORDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Stephen Slesnick) To limit the use of criminal records in the hiring and employment practices of public employers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB64**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-64)OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs

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

[**HB70**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-70)SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING (Rep. Denise Driehaus, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To authorize school districts and community schools to initiate a community learning center process to assist and guide school restructuring

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**HB74**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-74)PRIMARY-SECONDARY ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) With regard to the administration of state primary and secondary education assessments

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

[**HB81**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-81)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Steve Hambley) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and to require a political subdivision to prepay sixty-five per cent of the estimated cost of a special election

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

[**HB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-85)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (Rep. Dan Ramos, Rep. Christina Hagan) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention

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

[**HB89**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-89)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: House Health & Aging Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-92)SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES-SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor at least four years younger than the employee who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school or who is enrolled in or attends that institution of higher education

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

[**HB99**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-99)INCOME TAX-SCHOOL FUNDING (Rep. Mike Curtin) To require that an amount equal to state income tax collections, less amounts contributed to the Ohio political party fund via the income tax checkoff, be distributed for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs

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

[**HB113**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-113)CPR-GRADUATION REQUIREMENT (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Nathan Manning) To require instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator as a requirement for high school graduation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB114**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-114)SCHOOL DOOR-BARRICADE (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Heather Bishoff) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB118**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-118) **TUITION FEES** (DeVitis, T., Patmon, B.) With respect to tuition overload fees at state institutions of higher education.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB120**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-120) **HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS** (Schuring, K.) To create the Ohio Higher Education Innovation Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB130**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-130)PUBLIC RECORDS-DATA BOARD (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Mike Duffey) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Re-referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB132**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-132)CONTRACEPTION COVERAGE-EDUCATION (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan, Rep. Heather Bishoff) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB133**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-133)NONPROFIT DEGREE-TAX CREDIT (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Michael Ashford) To authorize an income tax credit for individuals that earn a nonprofit management degree or certain professional designations and to allow a sales tax exemption for out-of-state nonprofit corporations that relocate jobs to Ohio

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

[**HB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-136)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Rep. Ron Young, Rep. John Rogers) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB137**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-137)ORGAN DONATION-HEALTH CURRICULUM (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction on the positive effects of organ and tissue donation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB138**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-138)STATE TESTING WAIVER (Rep. Paul Zeltwanger, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To revise the requirements regarding the administration of the state achievement assessments, to require the Department of Education to request a waiver from federal testing requirements, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB145**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-145)STEM PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (Rep. Robert McColley, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To establish the STEM Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program to provide high school students the opportunity to receive education in a targeted industry while simultaneously earning high school and college credit and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB146**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-146)CURSIVE HANDWRITING (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-148)CLASSROOM FACILITIES ASSISTANCE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide classroom facilities assistance to a school district resulting from the consolidation of two or more school districts or from the voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a school district if specified conditions are satisfied

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB153**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-153)PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY DATE (Rep. Mike Dovilla) - To change the date on which presidential primary elections are held

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 9/10/15**

[**HB156**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-156)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. John Patterson) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-158)INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY TERM (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To change the variations of the term "mentally retarded person" to "person with an intellectual disability”

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB160**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-160)TEXTBOOKS-HIGHER EDUCATION (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) With regard to the selection, availability, and purchase of textbooks that are required for a course offered by any state institution of higher education

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB166**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-166)LOCAL TAX-FISCAL REVISIONS (Rep. Doug Green) To extend the deadline for filing an application for the homestead exemption or 2 1/2% property tax rollback to the end of the tax year, to require that auditors certify Local Government Fund allocations to subdivisions by regular or electronic, rather than certified mail, and to repeal laws requiring county auditors to issue permits for traveling shows, issue licenses for new merchandise public auctions, certify the annual state tax interest rate to local courts, and provide certain certifications related to the repealed personal property tax

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB174**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-174)GRADUATE DEGREE-ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) With regard to entrepreneurial skills education requirements for professional graduate degree programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB181**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-181)ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION-AUTO UPDATE (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline to do so and to create an online voter registration system

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

[**HB183**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-183)STUDENT TRUSTEE-VOTING AUTHORITY (Rep. Niraj Antani, Rep. Michael Stinziano) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions

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

[**HB192**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-192)SAFETY ENHANCEMENT STANDARDS (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Rick Perales) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB200**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-200)EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS (Rep. Christina Hagan) To permit epinephrine autoinjectors for which no prescriptions have been written to be stored and accessed for use in case of emergency

**STATUS: House Health & Aging Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB212**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-212)ACADEMIC STANDARDS-CURRICULA (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

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

[**HB221**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-221)TOBACCO USE-PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl, Rep. Michael Ashford) To revise the law regarding tobacco and nicotine use in public schools and at public school-sponsored functions

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB223**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-223)YOUTH ATHLETICS-MINOR EMPLOYMENT (Rep. Michael Stinziano) To allow minors to be employed by a youth athletic program if certain conditions are satisfied

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

[**HB231**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-231)PROPERTY VALUATION COMPLAINTS (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Jeffrey McClain) To require counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school boards that file complaints against the valuation of property they do not own to pass a resolution approving the complaint and specifying the compensation paid to any person retained to represent the county, municipal corporation, township, or school board in the matter of the complaint

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB274**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-274) **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS** (Hagan, C.) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs. Am. 3365.16

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB287**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-287)YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth

**STATUS: Referred to House Economic & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB299**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-299)CUSTODIAN-AUTISM SCHOLARSHIP (Rep. Louis Blessing III, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To permit the temporary, legal, or permanent custodian of a qualified child to apply for an Autism Scholarship

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB308**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-308)TEXTBOOKS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Michael Stinziano) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

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

[**HB311**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-311)PENSION-SALARY PERCENTAGE (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To base the percentage of an employee's salary that must be contributed to the State Teachers Retirement System to mitigate the effect of the employee's participation in an alternative retirement program on the average percentage used to amortize the Retirement System's unfunded actuarial accrued pension liabilities

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB323**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-323)SCHOOL DISTRICTS-LICENSE PLATES (Rep. Marlene Anielski, Rep. Bill Patmon) To provide for the issuance of public school district license plates and private school license plates

**STATUS: Referred to House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee**

[**HB340**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-340)LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION COUNCIL (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To extend the operation of the Local Government Innovation Council until December 31, 2019, and to declare an emergency

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

[**HB346**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-346)PER-PUPIL STATE FUNDING (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require that each city, local, and exempted village school district receive a per-pupil amount of state funding that is at least as much as the statewide per pupil amount paid for chartered nonpublic schools in Auxiliary Services funds and for administrative cost reimbursement

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

[**HB350**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-350)AUTISM TREATMENT-COVERAGE (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Louis Terhar) To mandate coverage of autism treatment

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

[**HB355**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-355)EMPLOYEE DEFINITION (Rep. Wes Retherford) To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws and to prohibit employee misclassification under those laws

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

[**SB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-3)HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICT EXEMPTION (Sen. Cliff Hite, Sen. Keith Faber) To exempt high-performing school districts from certain laws

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

[**SB4**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-4)IN-STATE TUITION REDUCTION (Sen. Keith Faber) To require each state institution of higher education to develop a plan to reduce in-state student cost of attendance by five per cent for the 2016-2017 academic year

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

[**SB6**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-6)JOINT COMMITTEE ON OHIO COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY (Sen. Shannon Jones, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for college savings contributions to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-12)INCOME TAX CREDIT-SCIENCE RELATED DEGREE (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study

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

[**SB19**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-19)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT (Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the Ohio College Opportunity Grant, to limit state university over load fees, and to make an appropriation

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

[**SB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-20)CHARTER SCHOOLS-RECORD KEEPING (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding audit and record-keeping requirements for community school sponsors and operators

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

[**SB22**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-22)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND-ALLOCATION INCREASE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the GRF each month

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

[**SB24**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-24)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT QUALIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges’ career certification programs

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

[**SB34**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-34)SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY-DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR (Sen. Charleta Tavares) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior

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

[**SB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-39)PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY-SCHOOL ZONE (Sen. Bill Beagle) To increase the penalties for failing to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who is crossing a roadway within a crosswalk when the crosswalk is located within a school zone

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

[**SB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-43)COLUMBUS STATE LOGISTICS PROGRAM (Sen. Jim Hughes) To establish the Columbus State Logistics Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB59**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-59)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-STATE APPROPRIATED FUNDS (Sen. Michael Skindell) With respect to the use of state-appropriated funds by operators of community schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB71**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-71)TRIO-PROGRAM APPROPRIATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To make an appropriation for the provision of state matching funds for federal TRIO programs at Ohio institutions of higher education for FY 2016 and FY 2017

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB73**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-73)MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB78**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-78)GED GRANT PROGRAM (Sen. Sandra Williams) To create the GED Grant Program for undergraduate students who have earned high school equivalence diplomas and are enrolled in two-year state institutions of higher education and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB82**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-82)GED-TEST COST (Sen. Sandra Williams) With regard to the administration and cost of the tests of general educational development required to earn a high school equivalence diploma

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-85)PROPERTY-TAX COMPLAINTS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

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

[**SB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-92)SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB93**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-93)BULLYING PREVENTION FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of bullying prevention and education funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB94**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-94)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Sen. Kevin Bacon, Sen. Peggy Lehner) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Medicaid Committee**

[**SB101**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-101)CONTRACEPTION EDUCATION (Sen. Capri Cafaro) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

[**SB121**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-121) **IMMUNIZATIONS** (Hite, C.) To require pupils to be immunized against meningococcal disease at an age recommended by the Department of Health.

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**SB122**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-122) **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION** (Gentile, L.) To extend eligibility for the homestead exemption to elderly or disabled homeowners who did not receive the exemption for 2013 and have $30,000 or more in Ohio adjusted gross income.

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB125**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-125) **SCHOOL BARRICADES** (LaRose, F., Hottinger, J.) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation.

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**SB126**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-126) **OPEN ENROLLMENT** (Sawyer, T.) To terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings.

**STATUS : Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-136)SCHOOL SECLUSION ROOMS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB144**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-144)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Sen. John Eklund) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-148)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

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

[**SB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-158)AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote

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

[**SB163**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-163)COMMON CORE STANDARDS (Sen. Kris Jordan) With respect to the Common Core State Standards academic standards, powers of the State Board of Education, and the distribution of student information

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB168**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-168)STUDENT VIOLENT BEHAVIOR INFORMATION (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student’s violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed

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

[**SB173**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-173)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Sen. Kris Jordan) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August

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

[**SB217**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-217)LOCAL OFFICIAL-CONTINUING EDUCATION EXEMPTION (Sen. John Eklund) To permit exemptions for local officials from continuing education requirements of the office for an illness or disability or for out-of-state military service

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

[**SB220**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-220)OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEE-ROTH FEATURES (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or nontaxdeferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans

**STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Auditor ‘shocked’ by $71 million grant for charter schools**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/10/03/auditor-shocked-by-71m-grant-for-charters.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohio Auditor Dave Yost said he’s shocked that the federal Department of Education gave Ohio a $71 million charter-school grant, given the state’s poor track record at ensuring that charters don’t misspend tax dollars.

[**Special Tutoring Audit Finds Thousands in Misspending; Yost Talks Charter Grant Oversight**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201091) **Hannah**

Auditor Dave Yost released special audit findings Monday for a now-defunct tutoring program in Columbus City Schools, showing improper payment of hundreds of thousands of dollars for tutoring that never happened or was for students who weren't in the district. He also announced the unsealing of a federal indictment against one tutoring provider. Meanwhile Monday, Yost said he'll be looking for the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to take special care in distributing money from its recent $71 million federal grant for charter schools.

[**Charter school reform changes on Tuesday won't grant many charter requests, House leaders say**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/charter_school_reform_changes.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The compromise version of Ohio's [charter school reform bill](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/09/reform_of_ohios_1_billion_charter_school_industry_back_for_controversial_vote_today.html) coming out Tuesday will have several small changes, but will not include some of the big ones that charter operators seek, said members of [a special committee handling the bill.](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/conference_committee_for_much-delayed_charter_school_reform_bill_named_negotiations_to_start_tuesday.html)

[**Compromise Charter School Legislation Draws Unanimous Support in Conference**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201104) **Hannah**

House and Senate conferees agreed unanimously Tuesday to a compromise version of charter school reform measure HB2 (Dovilla-Roegner), adopting changes meant to prevent a repeat of recent problems with sponsor evaluations and to counteract the effects of a recent Ohio Supreme Court ruling on ownership of charter school property.  
  
[**Ohio poll bad news for John Kasich, Hillary Clinton**](http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/07/ohio-poll-bad-news-john-kasich-hillary-clinton/73501384/) **Cincinnati Enquirer**

John Kasich has slipped in his home state, a new poll shows — a shot to one of the Ohio governor's strongest selling points in his presidential bid. For the first time, billionaire Donald Trump leads the GOP field in Ohio, with 23 percent of Republicans telling Quinnipiac University pollsters they'd vote for him. Neurosurgeon Ben Carson netted 18 percent among Republicans, while Kasich received 13 percent.

[**Charter school reform bill tackles controversies over White Hat property, sponsor evaluations, new school rating measure**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/charter_school_bill_tackles_controversies_over_white_hat_property_sponsor_evaluations_new_school_rating_measure.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

There's no clear magic bullet in Ohio's [new charter school reform bill](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/charter_reform_bill_sails_through_to_compromise_final_vote_wednesday.html) that will go up for final approval from the state House and Senate Wednesday, but it addresses recent charter school controversies.

[**No state pensions for some teachers under charter school reform bill; Ohio Federation of Teachers upset over the late change**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/no_state_pensions_for_some_tea.html#incart_river)  **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

A last-minute addition to the state's [charter school reform bill](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/charter_reform_bill_sails_through_to_compromise_final_vote_wednesday.html) would block some teachers - those teaching at charters run by for-profit companies - from being part of the state pension system. The change, which would apply only to new teachers at those schools and not to any current teachers, was a surprise amendment to House Bill 2 on Tuesday and drew angry complaints from some legislators and the [Ohio Federation of Teachers.](http://oh.aft.org/)

[**Revised charter school bill applauded**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Education/2015/10/07/Revised-charter-school-bill-applauded.html) **Toledo Blade**

A long-awaited bill to put some teeth into state oversight of charter schools is expected to reach Gov. John Kasich’s desk today. Fans and critics of charter schools serving on a House-Senate conference committee on Tuesday applauded the final version of House Bill 2 headed for House and Senate approval today. Sen. Peggy Lehner (R., Kettering), chairman of the Senate Education Committee, said she approached the conference committee with a “certain amount of trepidation,” fearing it could water down provisions designed to reverse Ohio’s reputation of lax oversight of charter schools

[**House, Senate Easily Pass Final Charter School Legislation, though Pension Changes Worry Some**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201115) **Hannah**

Compromise charter school legislation drew broad support in final votes Wednesday, passing the Senate unanimously and the House with just six dissenters. Late-breaking pension system changes caused some grumbling and a handful of no votes, but lawmakers overall lauded the conference committee's version of HB2 (Dovilla-Roegner) as likely to promote quality schools and rein in abuses. The conference report on HB2 passed the House 91-6 and the Senate 32-0 and now heads to the desk of Gov. John Kasich, whose office indicated he supports it.

[**Whose pension changes under Ohio's new charter school reform law? Details are emerging**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/whose_pension_changes_under_ohios_new_charter_school_reform_law_details_are_emerging.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The [late pension changes](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/no_state_pensions_for_some_tea.html) to Ohio's [charter school reform bill](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/10/ohio_passes_major_charter_school_reform_bill_pension_controversy_to_have_more_study.html) don't seem to block as many teachers and other school employees from state pensions as union officials and some legislators worried. Right now, the law change is only supposed to affect about 600 positions at 10 charter schools that belong to the [National Heritage Academy](https://www.nhaschools.com/en/pages/default.aspx) chain. And the teachers there now that are already in the pension system will remain in it.

[**Bill would alter new school plan in Youngstown**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/10/17/bill-would-alter-new-school-plan-in-youngstown.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

A proposal announced by two Ohio Democrats on Friday seeks to give teachers, parents and others more of a role in a law that puts an appointed chief executive in control of the beleaguered Youngstown City Schools.

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

[**SBOE President Refuses to Release Records Requested by Auditor**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201148) **Hannah**

State Board of Education (SBOE) President Tom Gunlock has told Auditor of State Dave Yost he is not willing to provide Yost's office with certain records related to the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) charter school data manipulation scandal.  In a letter to Yost, Gunlock said he was "surprised" by the auditor's request for the department to waive attorney-client privilege for any communications between ODE's attorneys and all ODE officers and employees regarding the sponsor evaluation process, which has been under scrutiny since the department's top school choice official resigned amid questions about the integrity of ratings for charter school sponsors

[**Charters, Youngstown Plan on Agenda for State School Board**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201208) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education will return next week to the high-profile debates on charter schools and new state plans for the governance of failing districts, both of which have seen substantial developments since the board's September meeting. Superintendent Richard Ross will focus most of his board report on those topics Tuesday.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**Confusing Ohio test results are latest effort to unravel Common Core’s promise**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/confusing-ohio-test-results-are-latest-effort-to-unravel-common-cores-promise/2015/10/03/59bb1306-6157-11e5-9757-e49273f05f65_story.html?wprss=rss_education) **Washington Post**

As the first wave of new Common Core test scores trickle out, Ohio policymakers did something that threatens to undermine the reason why Ohio and dozens of other states agreed to a set of national K-12 academic standards in the first place. Ohio officials opted to interpret their test results differently than other states, inflating the performance of their students and making it tricky to compare Ohio with the rest of the country.

**Data and Research**

[**Studies Probe How Schools Widen Achievement Gaps**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/10/07/schools-help-widen-academic-gaps-studies-find.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

For children from racial minorities or impoverished backgrounds, schools may actually compound the disadvantages they may face in learning fundamental math skills. Two separate new studies—one on the National Assessment of Educational Progress in 8th grade math, the other on 15-year-olds' math performance on the Program for International Student Assessment—both find that achievement gaps within schools account for more of the overall achievement disparities among students of different races or economic backgrounds than do gaps between schools.

**School Funding**

[**The Data Are Damning: How Race Influences School Funding**](http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/09/public-school-funding-and-the-role-of-race/408085/) **The Atlantic**

In America, schools with a lot of minority students are chronically underfunded. Is that the case because these students are poor, and poor communities have fewer resources for funding their schools? Or, is it because of the color of these students’ skin?

**Personnel and Professional Development**

[**To Tailor PD, D.C. Looks to Groom Teacher Leaders**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/09/30/to-tailor-pd-dc-looks-to-groom.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

On a sweltering morning in late July, dozens of stalwart District of Columbia teachers were gathered around tables in an air-conditioning-challenged elementary school gymnasium, laptops and water bottles spread before them. "I want you to close your eyes … and imagine you are a teacher and one of your colleagues is going to be your coach," said presenter Matt Radigan, a leadership coach with the New Orleans-based nonprofit Leading Educators. "What would you want in an initial conversation?"

[**To Fix Teacher Shortages, First Understand What They Are**](http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/teaching_ahead/2015/10/fix-teacher-shortages-by-first-understanding-them.html?cmp=eml-enl-tu-news1) **Education Week**

To understand how to fix teacher shortages, we must understand what they are and what causes them. Teacher shortages come in part from a lack of candidates interested in teaching in highly demanding settings and, even moreso, from an inability to retain teachers in those settings. We also must acknowledge the double shortage in segregated settings, where students of color are denied consistent educators and denied educators who share their race or ethnic background.

[**New Teacher Requirements Jeopardize Dual-Credit Classes**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/10/14/new-teacher-requirements-jeopardize-dual-credit-classes.html?cmp=eml-enl-cm-news1) **Education Week**

A new rule that threatens to hobble or shutter dual-enrollment programs in 19 states has sparked widespread objections from educators who fear it could undermine students' chances of going to college. A ruling by the Higher Learning Commission, a Chicago-based group that accredits colleges and universities across a big swath of the West and the Midwest, requires high school teachers of dual-credit courses to have a master's degree. If that advanced degree isn't in the subject they're teaching, teachers must have earned 18 graduate credits in that subject.

**Special Education**

[**Training Gains a Toehold for Instructional Aides in Special Education**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/10/07/training-gains-a-toehold-for-instructional-aides.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

By the hundreds of thousands, the instructional aides known as paraeducators, paraprofessionals, or simply "paras" help enable students with disabilities to take part in the general education classroom through instructional, behavioral, and personal support. But these workers—crucial in assuring that school inclusion happens for students receiving special education—often are left out of the loop when it comes to professional development.

**Early Learning**

[**Redshirting: Waiting an extra year to start kindergarten has its risks**](http://www.tnledger.com/editorial/Article.aspx?id=84439) **Tennessee Ledger**

Mary-Michael and Joe Horowitz know their son Armour, 5, can handle the academics of kindergarten. But instead of pushing him through to meet state age cutoff standards, they decided to delay his start until next year when he is older and emotionally ready.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**New Federal College Data Elicit Praise, Skepticism**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/09/30/new-federal-college-data-elicit-praise-skepticism.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

With the federal government's updated College Scorecard, the public now has access to information on the earnings, debt load, and graduation rates of former students at more than 7,000 individual public and private colleges. Although not the rating system that the Obama administration promised, the new statistics added to the College Scorecard website earlier this month aim to help prospective students evaluate colleges on their own with a focus on value.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Chagrin Falls school board considering asking voters for permanent improvement tax in March**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-falls/index.ssf/2015/10/chagrin_falls_board_of_educati.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Geauga County***

[**Geauga School, Higher Education Officials Push Merger Legislation**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=201109) **Hannah**

***Lake County***

[**Painesville preschoolers conduct chemistry experiments at Lake Erie College**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20151005/painesville-preschoolers-conduct-chemistry-experiments-at-lake-erie-college) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Mentor community raises funds for students with disabilities to attend homecoming**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20151006/mentor-community-raises-funds-for-students-with-disabilities-to-attend-homecoming) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation earns praise from state Sen. Kenny Yuko**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20151015/willoughby-eastlake-school-of-innovation-earns-praise-from-state-sen-kenny-yuko) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Lorain Schools ask for sponsor options for stadium renovation**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20151006/lorain-schools-ask-for-sponsor-options-for-stadium-renovation) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***Summit County***

[**NSF grant connects Akron students with engineering design**](http://www.vindy.com/news/2015/oct/05/akron-students-to-get-experience-in-engi/)  **Youngstown Vindicator**

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