

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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

**Government and Education**

**For the Week of December 25th, 2017**

Colleagues,

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

                                                                                                                             Bob

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

[**USDOE Offers Guidance to Schools on Supreme Court Ruling on Disability Education**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208413) **Hannah**

U.S. Supreme Court justices ruled earlier this year that schools must offer educational plans "reasonably calculated" to enable academic progress for students with disabilities, and the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is now offering advice to school districts on how to address the issues raised in the case, *Endrew F. v Douglas County School District*. In the case, parents of a child with autism, Endrew F., enrolled him in a private school over concerns his academic progress had stalled under the individualized education programs (IEPs) developed over the years by the Douglas County School District in Colorado. They then sought reimbursement for the private school tuition via a complaint under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to the Colorado Department of Education. 

[**Here's Where the GOP Tax Bill Could Hit School Funding the Hardest**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/tax_bills_GOP_hit_school_funding_hardest_education.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

The most significant change for schools in the Republican tax reform plan is likely how state and local taxes are handled because of its potential impact on school funding. But why? And where could it have the greatest impact? Buckle up. **Here's a bit of background:**[The final bill agreed to by a group of House and Senate lawmakers](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/gop_tax_bill_teacher_deduction_deductions_state_local_deductions.html) on Friday imposes a new cap of $10,000 on deductions taxpayers can take for either property and income taxes, or property and sales taxes. That's much less than what some people, particularly in high-tax states, can deduct now. However, the standard deduction is doubled in the bills, meaning some taxpayers may no longer take state and local tax deductions yet still benefit.

[**Final Tax Bill Keeps Teacher Deduction at $250, Cuts State and Local Deductions**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/gop_tax_bill_teacher_deduction_deductions_state_local_deductions.html) **Education Week**

After extensive negotiations, a congressional conference committee has agreed to [a final tax reform bill](http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20171218/CRPT-115HRPT-466.pdf) that could impact state and local funding and teachers' pocketbooks, as well as school choice. The legislation still needs to be passed by both the House and Senate and be signed into law by President Donald Trump, who wants a tax bill to sign before Christmas. Here are a few key details we know about it.

[**Senate OKs Tax Bill Changing Teacher Deduction, Expanding School Choice**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/senate_tax_bill_passes_teacher_deduction_school_choice.html) **Education week**

The U.S. Senate has passed its version of a tax overhaul package that contains potential changes for how teachers do their taxes and for state and local education funding, as well as a provision aimed at boosting school choice. Senators passed the GOP-backed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in the early hours of Saturday morning after extensive negotiations. It contains numerous changes to the current tax code with notable implications for K-12. The legislation approved by a 51-49 vote must now be reconciled with a House tax bill, which passed last month.

[**Senators Fail (So Far) to Attach School Choice Measures to Tax Bill**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/11/senate_tax_bill_school_choice_early-education.html) **Education week**

The proposed amendments described below from Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., are not slated to receive a vote, according to a source. A proposed amendment to the Senate tax bill resembles the House legislation's plan to allow for college savings plans to be used for private school choice expenses.

[**Trump Education Department Will Reconsider Rules for Title I, Charter Schools**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/trump_education_department_reconsider_rules_title_I_charter_schools.html) **Education Week**

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos and her team will be taking a second look at rules for Title I, Part A, also known as the part of the Every Student Succeeds Act that deals with accountability, testing, standards, and more. And they are also considering a revamp of language governing the charter schools program. The department put out a notice Thursday alerting everyone who spends their life combing the federal register that they planned [to examine Title I](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaViewRule?pubId=201710&RIN=1810-AB47) rules.

[**Four Things Educators Should Know About the Tax Bill Trump Just Signed**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/tax_bill_five_things_to_know_education_schools_congress_passed.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1&M=58320161&U=865266) **Education week**

President Donald Trump just signed a major tax bill into law. It took two votes in the House to finally get it done, and the holdup was related to education. (More on that below.) So what does it mean for education? Here's a short list.

[**How Well Is Your State Improving High School Graduation Rates?**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/inside-school-research/2017/12/how_well_is_your_state_improving_graduation_rates.html) **Education Week**

Nationwide, high school graduation rates have climbed for the past five years, but the improvement has been far from equal across states. Iowa, for one example, has led other states, both for the class of 2010-11 and the most recent class of 2015-16, when it graduated 91.3 percent of its students. For comparison, the national graduation rate is 84.1 percent, also a record high.

[**Ten Politics K-12 Headlines You Probably Won't See in 2018**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/ten_politics_k-12_headlines_2018_trump_devos_ESSA_alexander_murray.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

It's that time of year again! We're taking stock of the past year and looking forward to 2018. We don't know for certain what the New Year will bring, but something tells us we almost certainly won't be writing any stories with these headlines.

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

**132nd General Assembly**

***House***

[**HB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-3)DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Christina Hagan) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

[**HB170**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-170)COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Mike Duffey) With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology **STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0; House concurs, Vote 85-8**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB377**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-377)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EDUCATION (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Dan Ramos) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) (Passed by House) Conference Committee – Reported out; Senate accepts report, Vote 32-0; House accepts report, Vote 88-4**

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

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

[**SB15**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-15)COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

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

[**SB17**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the General Revenue Fund each month

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

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

[**SB123**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-123)PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PROCESS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

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

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

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

[**SB133**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-133)STUDENT DISCIPLINE-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student's violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Lehner’s bill aims to change Ohio teacher evaluation system**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/lehner-bill-aims-change-ohio-teacher-evaluation-system/QFZRRDO7IFckR6jxlaqQcL/) **Dayton Daily News**

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) could see significant changes if a bill recently introduced by State Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) becomes law. Lehner, chair of the Senate Education Committee, spotlighted several changes proposed in Senate Bill 240.

[**Kasich Administration Changes Higher Ed Capital Budget Process**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208376) **Hannah**

After two previous rounds where Gov. John Kasich convened a panel of higher education leaders to pare down capital requests from institutions, the administration has changed things up for the upcoming capital budget. Instead of using a higher education funding commission, Cleveland State President Ron Berkman is working with four-year institutions on a list of their needs, while Stark State President Para Jones is working with the community colleges. According to the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), both presidents are asking their colleagues for input and are narrowing the list of requested projects to those that align closest with the principles given to them by the administration.

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

[**Ohio Dept. of Education Unveils Job Readiness Seal**](https://businessjournaldaily.com/ohio-dept-education-unveils-job-readiness-seal/) **The business journal**

The Ohio Department of Education has announced that, beginning with the class of 2018, graduating high school seniors can earn the [OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal](http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/New-Skills-for-Youth/SuccessBound/OhioMeansJobs-Readiness-Seal" \t "_blank). Those earning the distinction will have the seal printed on their diplomas and added to their official transcripts.

[**OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal for High School Graduates Shows Workplace Readiness**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208364) **Hannah**

Ohio high school students can now earn recognition by showing they are prepared to contribute to the workplace and their communities. The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal is a formal designation students can earn on their high school diplomas and transcripts indicating they have the personal strengths, strong work ethic and professional experience that businesses need. “The 21st century workplace is rapidly changing, and businesses need to know graduates are leaving high school with job-ready professional skills,” explained Paolo DeMaria, state superintendent of public instruction. “Along with Ohio businesses, our team identified essential skills for workplace success and developed the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal for students to demonstrate those attributes.”

[**ODE to Distribute $35M in Federal Reading Assistance**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208394) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) will start the application process next month for schools interested in subgrants from the $35 million Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grant the state recently received from U.S. Department of Education (USDOE). Ohio received the grant in October. (See *The Hannah Report*, 10/3/17.) About 95 percent of the state grant will be awarded to schools and early childhood education programs.

[**Meet the State School Board: Linda Haycock**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208395) **Hannah**

After watching state and federal decision-making crowd out home-grown policy development, Linda Haycock saw an opportunity last year to bring her local school board experience to the state level. Congress had recently enacted new laws with a promise of greater flexibility, and term limits were creating an opening on the State Board of Education. "I thought I could be an advocate for public education at the state level,” she said in an interview with *Hannah News*. “I take it so personally. I'm a mother of four kids ... in my mind, I extend that to all of the kids of Ohio, and I want to do what's best for them.”

[**Lehner’s bill aims to change Ohio teacher evaluation system**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/lehner-bill-aims-change-ohio-teacher-evaluation-system/QFZRRDO7IFckR6jxlaqQcL/) **Dayton Daily News**

The Ohio Teacher Evaluation System (OTES) could see significant changes if a bill recently introduced by State Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) becomes law. Lehner, chair of the Senate Education Committee, spotlighted several changes proposed in Senate Bill 240.

[**Testing would have a smaller role in Ohio teacher evaluations under new bill**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/12/testing_would_have_a_smaller_r.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Student test scores would have less impact on teacher evaluations in Ohio, under a new bill from State Sen. Peggy Lehner. The just-introduced Senate Bill 240 keeps much of the evaluation system that Ohio put in place a few years ago in attempt to weed out bad teachers and help others improve.

**Early Learning**

[**HPIO Examines Link between Early Childhood Education, Health Outcomes**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208401) **Hannah**

The Health Policy Institute of Ohio (HPIO) recently released its third policy brief in its series titled “Connections between Education and Health” that focuses on intersections between early childhood education and health outcomes, and according to the institute, a high-quality early childhood education can lay the groundwork for increased educational outcomes through adulthood that correlate with increased health outcomes. *Hannah News* previously covered the first policy brief in the series, which broadly outlined links between health and educational attainment, and the second policy brief, which advocated for increased health services to be provided in Ohio schools.

**At Risk Youth**

[**Children's Services Group Sends SOS on Deluge of Foster Care Placements amid Drug Crisis**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=208393) **Hannah**

One thousand more children are in foster care this holiday season than last, and the state is on pace to see the number of kids in public custody rise from the current 15,500-plus to more than 20,000 by the end of the decade. With the drug crisis accelerating, a trend that started with the financial collapse, the system is being overwhelmed, according to a report released Thursday by the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO). "We are sounding the alarm now -- we need help," said PCSAO Executive Director Angela Sausser in a statement. "We need substantially more state resources before we lose the ability to provide essential services to vulnerable children."

**Technology In Schools**

[**Interesting: Rural schools are outpacing others on in-school tech access**](https://www.eschoolnews.com/2017/12/15/rural-schools-outpacing-access/?all) **eSchool News**

Although schools in rural areas traditionally hit roadblocks when it comes to securing technology tools and high-speed internet access in classrooms and student homes, [a new study](http://www.brightbytes.net/techlearninginsights) suggests students in those schools actually outperform their urban and suburban peers in access at school. The data comes from data management and learning analytics firm BrightBytes, which analyzed more than 180 million data points collected via a national survey gauging educational technology access, use and effectiveness across 8,558 U.S. schools.

[**OER Adoptions on the Rise**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/12/19/more-faculty-members-are-using-oer-survey-finds) **Inside Higher Ed**

More and more instructors are choosing open educational resources over traditional textbooks, a survey of more than 2,700 faculty members reveals. The "Opening the Textbook" [survey](https://www.onlinelearningsurvey.com/oer.html), published by the Babson Survey Research Group today, reports that the number of faculty members at two- and four-year institutions using OER as textbooks has nearly doubled in the last year -- from 5 percent in 2015-16 to 9 percent in 2016-17.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**University of Toledo offers four-year tuition guarantee**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Education/2017/12/18/University-of-Toledo-offers-four-year-tuition-guarantee.html) **Toledo Blade**

University of Toledo students who begin their first semester in the fall of 2018 or later will have a locked-in tuition rate for four years. UT trustees on Monday approved a tuition guarantee plan, joining 10 other public universities in Ohio — including neighboring Bowling Green State University — that have adopted similar practices.

[**Cincinnati ranks among top cities to work through college, avoid student loan debt**](https://www.bizjournals.com/cincinnati/news/2017/12/22/cincinnati-ranks-among-top-cities-to-work-through.html) **Cincinnati business courier**

Cincinnati ranks among the best cities to work your way through college and avoid student loan debt while living on your own, according to a new study. The Queen City ranks No. 9 out of 100 metro areas surveyed by MagnifyMoney, a subsidiary of online loan broker LendingTree. To determine the best cities to avoid student loan debt while living your own, the firm compared four factors (Cincinnati numbers in parentheses).

[**Charter school graduation rates way behind Ohio’s urban districts**](http://www.dispatch.com/news/20171226/charter-school-graduation-rates-way-behind-ohios-urban-districts) **the Columbus Dispatch**

Even when excluding dropout-recovery schools, the four-year graduation rates of charter schools in Ohio are half that of traditional schools, and 28 points lower than the largest urban districts. Charter schools not classified as dropout recovery have a four-year graduation rate of just under 45 percent, compared with 73 percent in Ohio’s six biggest urban districts — Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dayton, Akron and Toledo.

[**Guarantee for a degree**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Editorials/2017/12/26/Guarantee-for-a-degree.html) **The Toledo Blade**

One of the toughest challenges for families preparing to send their high school seniors off to college is planning for the expense of four years — or more — of tuition. The University of Toledo has joined the ranks of schools offering a four-year tuition guarantee beginning with the freshman class that arrives on campus next fall.

[**Study: More States Requiring Students to Learn Financial Literacy**](http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2017-12-14/education/study-more-states-requiring-students-to-learn-financial-literacy/a60643-1) **Public News Service**

A new report shows that while most states, including Texas, are doing a better job of teaching high school students financial skills, there is still room for improvement. The Center for Financial Literacy at Champlain College [issued a recent report card](https://www.champlain.edu/report-making-the-grade) on how well the 50 states are doing at sending students out into the world knowing the basics of personal finance. John Pelletier, director of the Center, said while high school students need to know how to handle things such as checking accounts, investing and credit cards, if they plan on going to college, they will also need to know how a student loan works.

[**Monitoring Undergraduate STEM Education**](https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2017/12/14/monitoring-undergraduate-stem-education) **Inside Higher Ed**

Quality instruction goes a long way toward keeping students -- especially underrepresented minorities and women -- in the sciences, technology, math and engineering. But measuring educational quality isn’t easy. A new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, “[Indicators for Monitoring Undergraduate STEM Education](https://www.nap.edu/catalog/24943/indicators-for-monitoring-undergraduate-stem-education),” says that assessing quality and impact in STEM at the national level will require the collection of new data on changing student demographics, instructors’ use of evidence-based teaching approaches, student transfer patterns and more.

[**New research shows Latinos closing the racial gap on college degrees, but still lagging far behind whites**](http://hechingerreport.org/new-research-shows-latinos-closing-racial-gap-college-degrees-still-lagging-far-behind-whites/) **The Hechinger report**

Latino students have made progress closing the college graduation gap between themselves and their white peers, but results vary widely by institution, a new study shows. The college graduation gap between Latinos and whites is 10 percentage points on average, according to [A Look at Latino Student Success](http://www.edtrust.org/LatinoStudentSuccess), a new report from the Education Trust.

[**Completion after six years at 38%**](http://www.ccdaily.com/2017/12/completion-six-years-38/) **Community College daily**

Almost 38 percent of students who began at a public two-year institution completed a degree in six years, according to anew study by the [**National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) Research Center**](https://nscresearchcenter.org/)that tracked a cohort of students at public and private two- and four-year colleges and universities from 2011 to 2017. Students who started at private four-year nonprofit institutions had the highest completion rates (76 percent), followed by students at public four-years (64.7 percent), public two-years (37.5 percent) and private four-year for-profits (35.3 percent).

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Mayor reappoints four Cleveland school board members**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/12/mayor_reappoints_four_clevelan.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Strongsville student takes part in Poverty Outreach program house at The College of Wooster: Strong Points**](http://www.cleveland.com/strongsville/index.ssf/2017/12/strongsville_student_takes_par.html) **Strongsville Community Blog**

***Lake County***

[**Painesville students prepare to spend the holidays away from home, family**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20171220/painesville-students-prepare-to-spend-the-holidays-away-from-home-family) **News-Herald**

***Medina County***

[**PC Juvenile Court, School Officials Join Forces To Prevent Truancy**](http://www.westbendnews.net/autonews/2017/12/27/pc-juvenile-court-school-officials-join-forces-to-prevent-truancy/) **The West Bend News**

***Portage County***

[**Ravenna Schools receive Auditor Award**](http://www.record-courier.com/news/20171226/ravenna-schools-receive-auditor-award) **Record- Courier**

***Summit County***

[**Woodridge planning for levy on May ballot**](http://www.akron.com/akron-ohio-community-news.asp?aID=36487) **West Side Leader**

[**Revere board recognizes member**](http://www.akron.com/akron-ohio-education-news.asp?aID=36504) **West Side Leader**

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