

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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

**Government and Education**

**For the Weeks of January 23rd and January 30th, 2017**

**Featured News**

[**OBM Spreadsheets Show Executive Budget’s School Funding Impacts**](http://gongwer-oh.com/public/130/k12budgetspreadsheet.pdf) **Gongwer Ohio**

Nearly half of school districts could see cuts under the executive budget’s school funding proposals, according to estimates included in Office of Budget & Management spreadsheets. Under Gov. John Kasich’s budget plan, schools that lose more than 5% of their populations will see their funding reduced.

[**Find how Gov. John Kasich's budget would impact each Ohio school district (database)**](http://www.cleveland.com/datacentral/index.ssf/2017/02/post_3.html) **Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Fifty-five percent of Ohio's school districts would receive less state money by the second year of Gov. John Kasich's proposed two-year budget, data released Friday by the administration showed. In comparing current state funding to the proposed amount for the 2018-19 school year, 338 districts would receive less, 262 districts would receive more and 10 districts would experience no change. Yet, for about a third of the districts the change would be less than 1 percent.

[**Keen Talks K-12 Budget, Medicaid Tax Replacement, LFG 'Capacity' Proposal**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205481) **Hannah**

Budget Director Tim Keen gave further explanation Friday of the administration's proposals for education funding, assistance to counties for lost Medicaid sales tax revenues and a shift in Local Government Fund (LGF) distribution based on local revenue capacity. At a roundtable with reporters at the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) offices in Columbus, Keen stressed repeatedly the argument that schools with "appreciable" reductions in student headcount should not keep getting paid the same amount. At the same time, he also shared analyses showing many of the districts' losses to be minimal. Because of that phenomenon, as well as the parameters developed for the proposed reductions, Keen expressed confidence the proposal would fare better than previous administration attempts to cut into funding guarantees.

[**What would Betsy DeVos mean for Ohio schools?**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/02/what_would_betsy_devos_mean_fo.html#incart_river_mobile_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Despite all the furor over Betsy DeVos, President Donald Trump's nominee to be U.S. secretary of education, she might make less of a difference for Ohio schools than you think. Ohio already is doing a lot of what she wants on her key issue - school choice. Trump and Congress already are promoting changes, even without her.

[**More than half of Ohio school districts would get cut or flat-funded under Kasich budget**](http://www.dispatch.com/news/20170204/more-than-half-of-ohio-school-districts-would-get-cut-or-flat-funded-under-kasich-budget) **Columbus Dispatch**

Gov. John Kasich's focus on declining school enrollment means 346 districts would lose money next fiscal year under his proposed budget, and most of them wouldn't see additional money in 2019, either. "You hear the rhetoric that schools are the priority but it doesn't show up in the state budget," said Damon Asbury, director of legislative services for the Ohio School Boards Association.

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

[**States Preparing Expanded Toolkit in Assessment of School Quality**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2017/01/04/states-preparing-expanded-toolkit-in-assessment-of.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The Every Student Succeeds Act gives states new responsibilities and wide latitude to rethink how they determine if a school is successful. But amid enthusiasm for that broader vision for accountability come questions and challenges as state leaders seek public opinions and buy-in from the educators and district-level administrators who will carry out their plans.

[**Federal Agencies Review Early Childhood Programs**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205293) **Hannah**

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is highlighting a recent report it completed with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that reviews the scope of early childhood education and development programs. The agencies' report responds to a call by Congress for the administration to review whether any of the available programs are overlapping or duplicative, following a report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) that suggested as much.

[**At Least 17 States Plan to Turn in ESSA Plans in April**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/state_edwatch/2017/01/at_least_14_states_plans_to_turn_in_essa_plans_in_april.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=stateedwatch)  **Education Week**

Seventeen states and the District of Columbia have told the U.S. Department of Education that they are aiming to file their plans for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Suceeds Act by early April, in time for the first deadline set by the Obama administration. Those states are Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, and Vermont, plus the District of Columbia.

[**Is government a ‘force for good,’ or does it ‘really suck’? Education Dept. is at a pivot point.**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/is-government-a-force-for-good-or-does-it-really-suck-ed-dept-at-a-pivot-point-between-obama-trump/2017/01/14/191f9438-c78c-11e6-bf4b-2c064d32a4bf_story.html?utm_term=.5f9d8ffdf1d2) **Washington Post**

The fiercest critics and most ardent supporters of President Obama’s Education Department — which has arguably wielded more influence and sparked more controversy than any of its recent predecessors — generally agree that the agency’s efforts were rooted in the faith that government has a critical role to play in improving people’s lives.

[**Federal Education Agency Opens Hub for Software Using Open Data**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205315) **Hannah**

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) said Tuesday it has launched a developer hub to help software makers make use of its open-source education data. The hub, available through software development site GitHub at <https://usedgov.github.io/>, is meant to create a centralized location for all developer content and showcase projects that make use of USDOE data and software code. The agency says it wants to increase access to application program interfaces (APIs) for more of its data features, already available for its College Scorecard, My Brother's Keeper and Civil Rights Data Collection projects.

[**Democrats Press Betsy DeVos on Privatization, ESSA, and LGBT Rights**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/01/betsy_devos_senate_confirmation_hearing.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

Betsy DeVos, Donald Trump's pick to lead the U.S. Department of Education, sought to use her confirmation hearing to beat back the notion that she would undermine public education as head of the department, as Democrats pressed her on everything from her views on the civil rights of gay and lesbian students, to states' responsibilities for students in special education, and guns in schools.

[**Split Responses to Betsy DeVos' Testimony After Testy Confirmation Hearing**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/01/reactions_vary_besty_devos_confirmation_hearing.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

The Tuesday confirmation hearing for Betsy DeVos, President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for education secretary, provided some clarity on her views, but also left some key questions only partially answered or unanswered. And her answers on special education, accountability, and school choice provoked both positive and negative reactions.

[**Education Department withdraws proposed Title I spending rule**](http://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/education-department-state-local-funding-minority-poor-233795)  **Politico**

The Education Department on Wednesday withdrew proposed regulations under the Every Student Succeeds Act meant to ensure that poor and minority students get their fair share of state and local education funding.

[**Education Department Facing Culture Shift Under Trump**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2017/01/18/education-department-ripe-for-culture-shift-under.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

A presidential transition always triggers some makeover at federal agencies. But when President-elect Donald Trump's team takes power this month, the transformation of the U.S. Department of Education could be particularly striking. The incoming president and his team have promised to change the culture—or "drain the swamp"—in Washington, with serious implications for the federal bureaucracy. And on the campaign trail, Trump pledged to get rid of the Education Department—or at least cut it "way, way down."

[**See Betsy DeVos' Responses to a Key Democrat on Common Core, ESSA, Civil Rights**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/01/betsy_devos_on_common_core_civ.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

The Senate education committee is meeting Tuesday to vote on President Donald Trump's nominee for education secretary, Betsy DeVos, a billionaire school choice advocate, best known for her work chairing the American Federation for Children.

[**Portman Announces Support for Education Nominee DeVos**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205474) **Hannah**

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) said Thursday that he will vote for the nomination of Betsy DeVos as the secretary of education as opponents of the nomination pressure him to block her. Democrats have unified against the nomination, saying DeVos does not have the experience with public schools and the qualifications to lead the agency. They were joined this week by Republicans Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, leaving only one other Republican needed to block DeVos’ appointment.

[**House Republicans Move to Scrap Rules on ESSA, Teacher Preparation**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/02/house_scrap_essa_teacher_rules.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

Republican lawmakers in Congress are moving to do away with regulations from the Obama administration regarding accountability under the Every Student Succeeds Act and teacher preparation. The resolutions of disapproval for those two sets of rules were announced Thursday in the House. They were filed under the Congressional Review Act, which allows Congress to overturn regulations set out by executive branch. Senate versions of these resolutions are expected sometime next week.

[**Senate Set to Decide Betsy DeVos' Fate Next Week**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/02/final_senate_vote_betsy_devos.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

The Senate voted Friday to move the nomination of Betsy DeVos for education secretary to a full vote next week. By a party-line vote of 52-48, the Senate voted to close debate on DeVos' nomination by President Donald Trump, which has sparked a controversy unlike any seen before over a potential secretary of education. The final vote on DeVos is expected to take place Monday or Tuesday.

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

**132nd General Assembly**

**(This Section will now reflect bills from the new 132nd General Assembly. You can find archived information on bills from the 131st General Assembly** [**here.**](http://www.esc-cc.org/BridgePortal.aspx)**)**

***House***

***Senate***

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Kasich Forecasts 1 Percent School Funding Bump, Showcases Innovative Practices**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205381) **Hannah**

Ohio K-12 school funding is in for about a 1 percent per year increase in the executive budget proposal due out next week, Gov. John Kasich said Tuesday at an event he called to highlight innovative practices at several Ohio schools. Kasich and his aides also previewed other elements of the budget proposal, indicating continuation of the Community Connectors mentoring grant program and efforts to encourage further use of credit flexibility, so students can earn high school credit for out-of-the-classroom experiences like internships.

[**Kasich Administration Unveils Final Budget**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205426) **Hannah**

Gov. John Kasich introduced his final biennial budget proposal Monday, describing a $144.3 billion total spending package with modest increases for K-12 education and a mix of tax changes meant to result in a net tax cut for Ohioans. The FY18-19 executive budget proposal includes $71.5 billion in all-funds appropriations for FY18, a 4.4 percent increase from estimated FY17 spending; and $72.8 billion in FY19, a 1.8 percent increase from FY18. For the General Revenue Fund (GRF), proposed appropriations are $33.1 billion in FY18, a 5.6 percent reduction from FY17 estimates; and $33.8 billion in FY19, a 2.2 percent increase from FY18. Excluding federal Medicaid appropriations, state share GRF appropriations total $22.8 billion in FY18, a 0.8 percent decrease from FY17, and $23.3 billion in FY19, a 2.3 percent increase from FY18.

[**Budget Overview: K-12 in for $200M Bump, But Shrinking Districts Could Face Cuts**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205428) **Hannah**

The Kasich administration proposes $200 million in increased funding for K-12 education over the next two years, but school districts that have lost more than 5 percent of their student population in the past five years could see funding drops of up to 5 percent, according to the executive budget proposal for FY18-19 rolled out Monday.

[**Budget Overview: New Assessment to Replace Medicaid Sales Tax**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205429) **Hannah**

Gov. John Kasich proposed a new "provider assessment" Monday to offset elimination of a managed care sales tax that's run afoul of federal regulations, and will seek to require small premium payments for Medicaid beneficiaries earning above the federal poverty line, among other elements of the health and human services portions of the FY18-19 executive budget. Ohio has levied a sales tax on Medicaid managed care companies to generate state matching funds to draw down federal money for the program, but the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has told the state it won't allow continued use of such a funding source. That left the state -- and counties -- with a substantial budget hole.

[**Budget Overview: Kasich Calls for Tuition Freeze, Textbook Help**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205431) **Hannah**

Ohio’s institutions of higher education will freeze their tuition and be required to cover the costs of textbooks for students under Gov. John Kasich’s budget proposal unveiled on Monday. The freeze would cover both years of the biennium and apply to tuition, general fees and special fees, according to Ohio Department of Higher Education Chancellor John Carey. While schools would be required to cover the costs of textbooks for students, they would be allowed to charge students up to $300 to partially offset those costs. Carey said the average Ohio college student spends about $600 a year on textbooks. Under the proposal, Ohio would be the first state to require colleges and universities to share the costs of textbooks with students.

[**Ohio could ban schools from expelling youngest students**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/ohio-could-ban-schools-from-expelling-youngest-students/XfBELdGuQu7pLcn0ByzCxJ/) **Dayton Daily News**

State Sen. Peggy Lehner said she will push for new law this year preventing Ohio schools from expelling or suspending their youngest students. Lehner, chair of the Ohio Senate Education Committee, told a group of Dayton-area education leaders last week that 36,000 Ohio students in kindergarten through fourth grade were expelled from school last year.

[**Ohio Gov. John Kasich proposes adding business experts to local school boards**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/02/gov_john_kasich_proposes_expan.html#incart_m-rpt-1) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

A proposal from Ohio Gov. John Kasich would add three non-voting members to every local school board to keep them apprised of the needs of the business community. The idea is one of several proposed by the Kasich administration in its 2017-2018 budget to bolster work training programs and Ohio's workforce

[**Cleveland mayoral race heats up: Ohio Politics Roundup**](http://www.cleveland.com/politics/index.ssf/2017/02/cleveland_mayoral_race_heats_u.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Brandon Chrostowski, the 37-year-old president and CEO of the renowned Edwins Leadership and Restaurant Institute (best known to Clevelanders as a fancy French restaurant in Shaker Square) made the surprise announcement on Thursday. He said he plans to take his restaurant's mission -- which trains ex-inmates for jobs in the culinary industry -- and take it citywide.

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

[**Charter Enrollment Falls, ODE Report Shows**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205300) **Hannah**

Ohio saw a second year of decline in the number of charter schools operating, and the first substantial drop in student enrollment in those schools, according to the latest annual report on charter schools from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). The report on the 2015-2016 academic year, completed at the end of 2016 and recently sent to the governor and lawmakers, counts 373 schools and 117,126 enrolled students for the charter school sector. That's down from 381 schools and 120,495 students in the 2014-2015 academic year. The high-water mark for the Ohio charter school sector since inception is 2013-2014, when the state had 395 schools and 120,893 students. For comparison, in 1998-1999, Ohio had 15 schools serving 2,242 students.

[**ODE Draft ESSA Plan Shows Smaller Subgroups, Truancy Focus**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205338) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education sketched the themes of its proposal for implementing new federal education laws Thursday, releasing an overview of the draft plan it plans to unveil early next month. Ohio's complete state plan for putting the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) into effect in the 2017-2018 school year will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE). ODE says once the full draft is released next month, it will take comments through March 6. "Input will continue to be incorporated throughout the development of the final plan," the department said in a statement Thursday.

[**Graduation Review Kicks Off with Workforce Trends Discussion**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205340) **Hannah**

The new group assigned to re-examine Ohio's graduation requirements started its work this week with a look at how, increasingly, a high school diploma won't suffice to launch students into careers with good wage prospects. Superintendent Paolo DeMaria gathered the panel, created by the State Board of Education, for the first time Wednesday afternoon and evening. After introductions, the group turned to a presentation by Neil Ridley of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. DeMaria said the next meeting in two weeks will feature a presentation on college readiness.

[**Ohio proposes no testing cuts in its ESSA plan -- yet -- despite feedback pleading for them**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/01/ohio_proposes_no_testing_cuts.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Ohio's proposed new state education plan under ESSA, the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, avoids making any changes in state tests or even any recommendations, despite [complaints of excessive testing of students](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/11/too_much_testing_charter_schoo.html) dominating surveys and feedback sessions across the state.

[**New state board member: Don’t soften graduation standards**](http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/new-state-board-member-don-soften-graduation-standards/qvN4U9TAnl6vlyWbnzAOQP/) **Dayton Daily News**

Charlotte McGuire just replaced A.J. Wagner as the Dayton area’s state school board member, and she has a very different approach on one of the board’s top issues. Wagner, who resigned in November, was the lead voice pushing to soften the graduation standards that will take effect for current high school juniors. McGuire disagrees, saying she still needs to do more research, but is sure she doesn’t want to “cheapen” the diploma.

[**ODE Announces School Improvement Grant Recipients**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205401) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) announced sub-grantees Thursday for the $16.3 million in federal funding it received late last year to improve the lowest performing schools. Ohio was awarded the funding in October as part of a national release of $427 million. ODE awarded grants to 51 Ohio school buildings, following an application process in which 25 districts applied for funding for 90 total buildings. Most of the awarded buildings are in Cleveland Municipal or Columbus City schools.

[**Graduation Workgroup Hears of Lifelong Retraining Outlook**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205464) **Hannah**

The state workgroup examining Ohio's graduation requirements followed its initial presentation on workforce needs with a discussion of college readiness Wednesday, though the researcher leading the briefing stressed the two realms should not be seen as "mutually exclusive." Susan Therriault, director of the College and Career Readiness and Success Center, said students will need a set of transferable, higher-level skills that enable repeated retraining through life, regardless of whether their post-high school plans are to enter the job market directly, attend community college or seek a four-year degree.

[**ODE Releases Full Draft of ESSA Plan**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205471) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) released the full draft of its plan to implement the federal Every Student Succeeds Act Thursday, two weeks after unveiling an overview of major components of the plan. The draft plan includes state-level goals for achievement, graduation, English language proficiency and other measures, and highlights discipline and chronic absenteeism as the basis for the new "school quality" measure on Ohio's report card as required by ESSA. It also will require data reporting in greater detail for student subgroups, in a bid to develop more targeted interventions.

[**ODE Seeking Sites for Summer Meals Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205486) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is looking for nonprofit groups to sponsor or host meal service this summer for students who rely on school breakfasts and lunches during the academic year. ODE says it has increase participation in the Summer Food Service Program by 10 percent since 2014 and hopes for further expansion. The program provides meals at schools, colleges and universities, nonprofits, parks, camps, community centers, swimming pools, libraries, low-income housing complexes and other sites. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by ODE.

[**State Opens Applications for Education Scholarships**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=205489) **Hannah**

The application window for four state scholarship programs that assist with the costs of attending private schools opened this week and will run into April. The Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship, Cleveland Scholarship, EdChoice Scholarship and income-based EdChoice expansion program all started taking applications Wednesday for the 2017-2018 academic year. The application deadline is April 15 for the Peterson program and April 30 for the others. The two EdChoice programs will have a second application window in July.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Uneven Access, Equal Success**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/01/19/rich-students-flock-elite-colleges-study-finds-graduating-college-levels-playing) **Inside Higher Ed**

Although students who come from wealthy backgrounds are far more likely to attend highly selective colleges than students from poor families, rich and poor students who go to the same college will achieve equal financial success, a new study from the Equality of Opportunity Project found.

[**In era of fiscal concern, colleges look to new degree programs to boost bottom lines**](http://www.educationdive.com/news/in-era-of-fiscal-concern-colleges-look-to-new-degree-programs-to-boost-bot/433948/) **Education Dive**

The Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education recently revealed that costs are the number [one](http://www.educationdive.com/news/college-cost-is-top-barrier-to-meeting-workforce-demands-in-georgia/433803/) [challenge to college access in the state](http://www.educationdive.com/news/college-cost-is-top-barrier-to-meeting-workforce-demands-in-georgia/433803/) and that without significant investments in need-based scholarships, the region’s workforce will suffer from a lack of qualified employees.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Beachwood superintendent addresses Trump's immigration ban in message to school community**](http://www.cleveland.com/beachwood/index.ssf/2017/01/beachwood_schools_superintende_2.html#incart_river_index) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Berea district officials share concerns about State Report Card process, other mandates during state of the schools address**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2017/02/berea_district_officials_share.html) **Cleveland.COm**

[**Brecksville-Broadview Heights schools place tax increase on May ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/brecksville/index.ssf/2017/01/brecksville-broadview_heights_375.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Brooklyn City Schools to put permanent improvement levy on May 2 ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/brooklyn/index.ssf/2017/01/brooklyn_city_schools_to_put_p.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**2 Cleveland Heights-University Heights Preschools Earn Top Honor from State**](http://patch.com/ohio/cleveland/2-cleveland-heights-university-heights-preschools-earn-top-honor-state) **Cleveland Heights Patch**

[**Euclid City Council, School Board continue collaborative efforts in approval of Memorial Park shared usage plan**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20170202/euclid-city-council-school-board-continue-collaborative-efforts-in-approval-of-memorial-park-shared-usage-plan) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Fairview Park City Schools introduce unique running program**](http://www.cleveland.com/fairview-park/index.ssf/2017/01/fairview_park_city_schools_int.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Independence Local Schools expands Power of the Pen to high school level**](http://www.cleveland.com/independence/index.ssf/2017/01/independence_local_schools_exp.html)**Independence Local Schools**

[**Parma school board to put 5.9 mill levy on May 2 ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/parma/index.ssf/2017/01/parma_school_board_to_put_59_m.html) **Cleveland.Com**

[**Shaker Heights Schools Hosting Bond Levy Meeting**](http://patch.com/ohio/shakerheights/shaker-heights-schools-hosting-bond-levy-meeting)  **Shaker Heights Patch**

[**Lyndhurst's former Bolton School property sold; nursing facility could be built**](http://www.cleveland.com/lyndhurst-south-euclid/index.ssf/2017/02/lyndhurst_bolton.html) **Cleveland.Com**

***Geauga County***

[**Berkshire Schools**](http://www.geaugamapleleaf.com/schools/berkshire-schools-99/) **Geauga Maple Leaf**

***Lake County***

[**Madison Schools vote to place levy on May ballot**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20170126/madison-schools-vote-to-place-levy-on-may-ballot) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Perry Elementary Art + Design students create installation exhibition project for ‘An Evening At The Bluffs’ reception**](http://www.news-herald.com/arts-and-entertainment/20170130/perry-elementary-art-design-students-create-installation-exhibition-project-for-an-evening-at-the-bluffs-reception) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Riverside Schools seeking community input in facilities design plan**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20170201/riverside-schools-seeking-community-input-in-facilities-design-plan) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria visits Lorain Schools**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170117/ohio-superintendent-of-public-instruction-paolo-demaria-visits-lorain-schools) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Avon Key Club Senior Tech Connect event brings youth and seniors together**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170122/avon-key-club-senior-tech-connect-event-brings-youth-and-seniors-together) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Get with the Program makes STEM fun for children in Oberlin**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170122/get-with-the-program-makes-stem-fun-for-children-in-oberlin) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Lorain School Board meets district review team**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170123/lorain-school-board-meets-district-review-team) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Lorain Schools’ Jay Nimene wraps services around families**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170129/lorain-schools-jay-nimene-wraps-services-around-families) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Amherst Schools preparing for new elementary building**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20170202/amherst-schools-preparing-for-new-elementary-building) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***Portage County***

[**New Projects Bring Savings and Facelift to Garfield Schools**](http://weeklyvillager.com/new-projects-bring-savings-facelift-garfield-schools/) **Weekly Villager**

***Summit County***

[**Akron Board of Education establishes first school foundation for scholarships**](http://www.ohio.com/news/education/akron-board-of-education-establishes-first-school-foundation-for-scholarships-1.742664)  **Akron Beacon Journal**

[**Akron-area voters to see plenty of tax issues on May ballot**](http://www.ohio.com/news/local/akron-area-voters-to-see-plenty-of-tax-issues-on-may-ballot-1.744786) **Akron Beacon Journal**

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