

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of July 25th, 2016**

**Featured News**

[**PBS NewsHour Hosts Early-Childhood Panel in Cleveland**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2016/07/education_week_hosts_early_childhood_panel_in_cleveland.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=earlyyears) **Education Week**

There's been little discussion about early-childhood education so far on the floor of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland this week, but the PBS NewsHour filled the gap with a panel discussion Wednesday.  Sponsored by the Save the Children Action Network and moderated by Lisa Stark of Education Week, the panel included Ohio state Sen. Peggy Lehner, the Republican chairwoman of the Senate's education committee; Paul Clark, the regional vice president of PNC Bank; Sandra Russ, a professor of psychology at Case Western Reserve University who specializes in children's pretend play; and Katie Kelly, the director of PRE4CLE, a public-private partnership.

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

[**USDOE Proposes ESSA Rules to Reduce Testing**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203718) **Hannah**

The Obama administration has proposed new rules under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act -- recently reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) -- that are meant to ensure students take fewer but higher quality tests. The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) has been pursuing a "testing action plan" with a similar goal to that of former Superintendent Richard Ross' prescription for assessment reductions -- a 2 percent cap on the amount of annual classroom time dedicated to test-taking. Proposed rules released this month under Part A of Title I would implement changes meant to reduce testing across the board, while proposed Part B rules would give as many as seven states authority to pilot additional testing flexibility.

[**USDOE Offering 'Promise Neighborhoods' Grants**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203759) **Hannah**

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is making available $30 million in grants for up to five organizations that can provide coordinated, comprehensive services and school supports to improve outcomes for students and families. Funding can go to nonprofits, higher education institutions and Indian tribes. Goals of the grant program are as follows.

[**U.S. Education Department issues guidelines for supporting homeless students**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/education/wp/2016/07/27/u-s-education-department-issues-guidelines-for-supporting-homeless-students/) **Washington Post**

With millions of students across the United States set to begin returning to school in coming weeks, the U.S. Department of Education issued guidance Wednesday for states and school districts on how to respond to the specific needs of homeless students. The guidelines, provided in response to new provisions in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, emphasize practices aimed at providing stability and safety for the homeless public school population, which included more than 1.3 million students in the 2013-2014 school year.

[**U.S. Secretary of Education: Let's Educate, Not Incarcerate**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/07/26/us-secretary-of-education-lets-educate-not.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The return on investment in American education to individuals and to society at large has been growing in both relative and absolute terms since 1980. It is well known that, statistically, people who are well-educated earn substantially more, pay more in taxes, are less likely to be unemployed, live longer, are healthier, and are more likely to vote.

[**Donald Trump Promotes School Choice, Bashes 'Bureaucrats' in Speech**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/07/donald_trump_promotes_school_choice_bashes_bureaucrats.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

Republican Party presidential nominee Donald Trump gave a shout-out to a long-treasured GOP priority, school choice, in his nomination acceptance speech here Thursday, and in a section on education attacked a long-time party boogeyman, "bureaucrats." "We will rescue kids from failing schools by helping their parents send them to a safe school of their choice," Trump told delegates on the final night of the Republican National Convention. "My opponent would rather protect bureaucrats than serve American children."

[**GOP Platform Knocks Common Core and Data Collection, Praises School Choice**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/07/GOP_platform_education_2016_common_core_data_choice.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The Republican Party has released its 2016 platform on education, and while much remains unchanged from the 2012 platform, there are a few notable shifts from four years ago on the Common Core State Standards and other issues. Here are some highlights from the new platform.

[**Hillary Clinton Spotlighted Disability Rights Activism in Nomination Acceptance**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/speced/2016/07/hillary_clinton_disability_activism.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=onspecialeducation) **Education Week**

On Thursday night, Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton reintroduced herself to the nation, explaining how her lifetime of activism and public service qualifies her for the job of president. One of those stories involves her work to promote the 1975 law called the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, which would later become the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

[**Early Childhood Mentioned More Often at the Democratic National Convention**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2016/07/early_childhood_mentioned_more_often_at_the_democrats_convention.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=earlyyears) **Education Week**

Though neither party took time at their back-to-back conventions to lay out too many details concerning early childhood education, the topic was mentioned far more frequently at the Democratic National Convention this week. At the Republican National Convention, Ivanka Trump, Donald Trump's daughter, told delegates that her father would "focus on making quality childcare affordable and accessible for all." Trump himself didn't mention it. Nor is education listed as one of his "positions" on his campaign website.

[**Democratic Convention Speakers Praise Teachers, Decry Gun Violence in Schools**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/07/kaine_obama_biden_dnc_gun_violence_schools.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

Odes to teachers and calls to prevent gun violence in classrooms highlighted the K-12 talk during Wednesday night's Democratic National Convention program, devoted mainly to boosting presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and her running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine. During the final speech of the night, President Barack Obama said he was proud of teachers, but that more work remained to be done "for every child who needs a sturdier ladder out of poverty" and access to a quality education. He did not mention the Every Student Succeeds Act, which he signed last December and which reauthorized federal K-12 law.

[**Democratic Party Platform: End 'Test-and-Punish' for Students of Color, Teachers**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/07/democratic_party_platform_test_and_punish_end.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2) **Education Week**

Children in poverty should be given the same opportunities as others in the educational system, and test-based accountability systems that "falsely and unfairly label students of color," teachers, and schools must be opposed, according to the official Democratic Party platform released late last week. The platform reflects several of the top K-12 policy priorities of American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association, both of which have backed presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

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

**131st General Assembly**

***House***

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

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

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

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 2/1/16**

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

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee – Reported out; Passed by Senate, Vote 30-0**

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

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

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

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by House, Vote 65-22**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 2/1/16**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[**HB50**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-50)FOSTER CARE-ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGE (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda, Rep. Cheryl Grossman) - To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one, to provide a ward's bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; House concurs, Vote 87-7**

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

**STATUS: Passed House 96-0**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 3/23/16**

[**HB63**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-63)CHILD ABUSE-NEGLECT REPORTING (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda, Rep. Cheryl Grossman) To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them

**STATUS: Passed by House as amended on Floor, Vote 90-0**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 85-6**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; House concurs, Vote 81-11**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 90-0**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 30-0**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Reported out as amended**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Health & Human Services Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; House concurs, Vote 92-0**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Reported out**

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

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

[**HB372**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-372)EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL (Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require city, exempted village, and local school districts to employ, for each 1,000 students, at least five full-time equivalent educational service personnel in specified areas

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB379**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-379)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB382**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-382)OHIO PRINCIPALS MONTH (Rep. David Leland) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB383**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-383)INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state 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

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out Passed by House, Vote 69-16**

[**HB384**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-384)HIGHER EDUCATION AUDITS (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Mike Duffey) To specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State

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

[**HB391**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-391)FINANCE LITERACY PROGRAM (Rep. Louis Terhar) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; House concurs, Vote 95-1**

[**HB399**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-399)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-HOME INSTRUCTION (Rep. Kyle Koehler) To increase the earmarked funding for the College Credit Plus Program for home instructed students

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB410**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-410)TRUANCY (Rep. Jeff Rezabek, Rep. Bill Hayes) - With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance

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

[**HB420**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-420)OPT-OUTS-STATE ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) To prohibit the Department of Education from including students who "opt-out" of state assessments in calculations of certain grades in the state report card and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB425**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-425)RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION-STUDENTS (Rep. Bill Hayes) Regarding student religious expression

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

[**HB426**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-426)CAREER COLLEGES-JOB PLACEMENT (Rep. Niraj Antani) To require the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools to report and post job placement information

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB438**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-438)WEEK DESIGNATION (Rep. John Patterson) To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public Education Appreciation Week”

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**HB445**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-445)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-EXTRACURRICULARS (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Marlene Anielski) To make changes to the College Credit Plus program and to specify that students participating in the program shall not be denied the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities based solely upon participation in the CCP program

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB454**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-454)SALES TAX HOLIDAY-PERMANENT (Rep. John Patterson) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

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

[**HB455**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-455)BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 89-0**

[**HB458**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-458)FOSTER CARE-KINSHIP CAREGIVER (Rep. Janine Boyd, Rep. Jeffery Rezabek) - To provide foster care maintenance payments for children in the care of a kinship caregiver without requiring the caregiver to be certified to provide foster care and to require, rather than permit, the creation of the statewide program of kinship care navigators

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

[**HB459**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-459)EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER-AUDIT (Rep. Kirk Schuring) - To authorize the Auditor of State to conduct a performance audit of an educational service center and to require a comprehensive performance audit of all educational service centers

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB474**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-474)HIGHER EDUCATION-COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (Rep. Tim Brown) With respect to the coordination and administration of higher education programs and the College Credit Plus program

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB481**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-481)STUDENT ENROLLMENT REPORTING (Rep. Andrew Thompson, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To revise the requirements regarding student enrollment reporting for public schools, mandatory student withdrawal policies, and scholarship program eligibility relative to students who choose not to take state assessments during the 2015-2016 school year and to declare an emergency

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

[**HB482**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-482)EXEMPT PROPERTY-VALUE CALCULATION (Rep. Jonathan Dever) To change the calculation of the exempt value of improved property subject to a community reinvestment area exemption, to clarify the calculation of the exempt value of property subject to a brownfield remediation exemption, and to authorize the filing of a complaint with the county auditor challenging the assessed value of fully or partially exempt property

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

[**HB483**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-483)DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES-MBR (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To modify programs administered by the Department of Developmental Disabilities and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate as amended on floor, Vote 33-0; House concurs, Vote 91-3**

[**HB485**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-485)INCOME TAX DEDUCTION-TUITION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To reinstate the state income tax deduction for qualified higher education tuition and fee payments that expired December 31, 2005

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

[**HB487**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-487)STATE SEAL-BILITERACY (Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To require the State Board of Education to establish the state Seal of Biliteracy to be attached or affixed to the high school transcripts of qualifying students

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

[**HB496**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-496)STUDENTS-UNIFORMED SERVICES (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Student 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 Committee**

[**HB498**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-498)EXPULSION-THREAT OF VIOLENCE (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB501**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-501)YOUTH STEM PROGRAM (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Marlene Anielski) To support the Youth STEM Commercialization and Entrepreneurship Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB504**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-504)HIGHER EDUCATION-PUBLIC RECORDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To generally protect a private, nonprofit institution of higher education from liability for a breach of confidentiality or other claim that arises from the institution's disclosure of public records

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

[**HB508**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-508)FISCAL DISTRESS-LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Kristin Boggs) To make supplemental appropriations to the Auditor of State for purposes of distributing these funds to political subdivisions in fiscal caution, watch, or emergency

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB520**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-520)PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Dan Ramos) To revise the law governing the state's public retirement systems

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB524**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-524)STATE REPORT CARD MEASURE (Rep. Bob Cupp, Rep. Ryan Smith) To review the value-added progress dimension measure used for purposes of state report card ratings for school districts and schools

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB530**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-530)SICK-CHILD CENTER-LICENSURE (Rep. Wes Retherford) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers

**STATUS: Referred to House Commerce and Labor Committee**

[**HB544**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-544)HIGH SCHOOL CIVICS ASSESSMENT (Rep. Kyle Koehler, Rep. Al Landis) To permit high school students to take a civics assessment instead of the American government end of-course examination

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB547**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-547)OBM-MBR (Rep. Ryan Smith) To provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs and to make appropriations

**STATUS: House Finance Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB549**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-549)STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT (Rep. John Patterson) To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB550**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-550)SCHOOL FACILITIES-TECHNOLOGY PURCHASING (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: Introduced**

[**HB556**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-556)SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Heather Bishoff) To make boundaries of certain school districts that are parties to an annexation agreement permanent under state law

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB560**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-560)COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB563**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-563)INCOME TAX-LAYOFFS (Rep. Dan Ramos) To provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB564**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-564)STUDENT IMMUNIZATION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To make changes to the law governing immunizations for pupils

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB565**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-565)TAX CREDIT-STUDENT LOANS (Rep. Dan Ramos) To allow a credit against the income tax or commercial activity tax for graduates or employers who make payments on student loans obtained by the graduate to earn a degree from an Ohio college or university

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB568**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-568)EMPLOYEE DEFINITION-LABOR LAWS (Rep. Debbie Phillips, Rep. John Rogers) To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws, to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer, and to regulate the payment of wages via payroll card

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB570**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-570)INTERDISTRICT-OPEN ENROLLMENT (Rep. Brian Hill) Regarding funding for students enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, and other districts through interdistrict open enrollment

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB571**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-571)CAREER INFORMATION-STUDENTS (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Kristin Boggs) Regarding the presentation of career information to students

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Medicaid Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

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

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

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

**STATUS : Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB230**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-230)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB234**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-234)STUDENT ENROLLMENT-CHILDREN SERVICES (Sen. Capri Cafaro) To require specified public and nonpublic school officials to search the Uniform Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB235**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-235)INCREASED VALUE-PROPERTY TAX (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. William Coley) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until construction of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property commences

**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 22-11**

[**SB238**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-238)MONTH NAME DESIGNATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB240**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-240)FEDERAL FOSTER CARE (Sen. John Eklund) To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB241**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-241)EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS-EMPLOYMENT (Sen. Frank LaRose) With regard to the employment of specified education professionals by city, exempted village, and local school districts

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB246**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-246)CAUV COMPUTATION-CAPITALIZATION RATE (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup

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

[**SB247**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-247)SCHOOL DISTRICT-SUMMER MEALS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

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

[**SB250**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-250)CHARTER SCHOOLS-STATE MONEY (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To prohibit community schools from using state moneys to pay for advertising, recruiting, or promotional materials

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB264**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-264)SALES TAX HOLIDAY-PERMANENT (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Passed by House, Vote 94-1**

[**SB274**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-274)SMARTOHIO FINANCIAL LITERACY PILOT PROGRAM (Sen. Bill Seitz) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB309**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-309)SCHOOL BUS OPERATOR-REPORT (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require a school bus operator who files a report alleging that a vehicle passed the school bus while stopped to include in the report a description of the operator of the vehicle if possible, rather than requiring a description of the operator in all circumstances

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB310**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-310)CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS (Sen. Scott Oelslager) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects for the biennium ending June 30, 2018

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Finance Committee – Reported out**

[**SB321**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-321)PUBLIC RECORDS (Sen. Keith Faber) To create a procedure within the Court of Claims to hear complaints alleging a denial of access to public records and to modify the circumstances under which a person who files a mandamus action seeking the release of public records may be awarded court costs and attorney's fees

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Government Accountability & Oversight – Reported out as amended; Passed by House, Vote 91-0; Senate concurs, Vote 33-0**

[**SB323**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-323)CHILD ABUSE-NEGLECT REPORTING (Sen. Shannon Jones) To make changes in the child abuse and neglect reporting law

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

[**SB326**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-326)SCHOOL DISTRICTS-TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT (Sen. Randy Gardner) 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: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB328**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-328)HOST FAMILY AFFIDAVITS (Sen. William Coley) Regarding host family affidavits for the care of children

**STATUS: Senate Civil Justice Committee – Bill amended**

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Dropout School Study Panel Wants New Workgroup to Continue Discussions**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203751) **Hannah**

A study committee on how to measure dropout recovery and prevention (DOPR) schools laid out broad principles Wednesday for what could constitute quality but wants a successor workgroup to meet over the next several months to get deeper into the issues. Lawmakers created the study group in charter school reform measure HB2 (Dovilla-Roegner) to suggest a definition of quality for DOPR schools and also consider the merits of completion- or competency-based funding.

[**Fudge School Diversity Bill Draws Support from U.S. Education Department**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203771) **Hannah**

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is touting new legislation from U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-Warrensville Heights) intended to promote diversity in schools. Fudge, a member of the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce and lead Democrat on the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, joined U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) to introduce the Stronger Together School Diversity Act of 2016. The Obama administration says the bill will build on President Barack Obama's 2017 budget proposal.

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

[**ODE Plans ESSA Regional Meetings, Web Briefings**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203705) **Hannah**

Starting next month, the Ohio Department of Education will travel to 10 sites around the state to convene stakeholder meetings on preparations for sweeping changes in federal education laws. In the nearer term, the department also plans a series of webinars on how the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), successor to the No Child Left Behind Act, addresses various topics in the education system.

[**How good are private schools that take Ohio voucher students? Hard to know**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/07/17/performance-data-on-voucher-students-in-ohio-private-schools-hard-to-find.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Ohioans’ taxes paid for $117 million in tuition vouchers for private schools last year to give students a ticket out of public schools. But if those private schools perform any better, it’s tough for parents and taxpayers to find out.

[**State fights to see if $267 million paid to e-schools is justified**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/07/state_fights_to_see_if_267_mil.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The state's attempt to make sure that taxpayers get their money's worth for the $267 million paid to online charter schools each year flared into an ugly legal battle this week, with the state seeking proof that students at Ohio's largest e-school truly take classes and the school claiming that the demand threatens its very survival.

[**ODE Seeks Order for ECOT to Turn Over Records**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203783) **Hannah**

Ohio's largest online charter school is seeking a court ruling to block state information requests that it says violate a contract and threaten the school's existence, but the state now hopes to use the lawsuit to force the school to turn over the records it seeks. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) filed a discovery motion over the weekend in Franklin County Common Pleas Court, asking Judge Jenifer French to require that the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) turn over data showing students' log-in and log-out times.

[**Controlling Board Approves Voter Education, Straight A Fund Requests amid Objections**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203784) **Hannah**

The Secretary of State's Office saw a nearly $550,000 voter education request approved Monday by the Controlling Board, though a lawmaker took issue with the agency's contracting with a consulting firm that he was concerned would be partisan in its work. Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) objected to the secretary of state's request to contract with Pierce Communications Inc., a Columbus firm, for a voter education effort to use broadcast and cable television, radio and digital media ads ahead of November's general election to focus on voters' opportunities to cast absentee ballots in Ohio. Cera voiced concerns over Pierce Communications' having performed "partisan political work" in the past, later calling the company a "predominately GOP campaign-consulting firm."

[**ECOT Attorney Calls ODE Records Hunt 'Smokescreen' to Hide Agency's Inconsistency**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203808) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has changed its story multiple times and even surprised the state auditor's office with its recent shift of methods for verifying student attendance at online charter schools, attorneys for the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) argue in a letter to counsel for the state. A request from state special counsel Douglas Cole for records showing students' daily participation in online learning activities is "nothing more than a smokescreen designed to hide ODE's own misconduct and/or incompetence," writes ECOT attorney Marion Little of Zeiger, Tigges & Little. ECOT and ODE are battling in Franklin County Common Pleas Court over the state agency's review of attendance at the state's largest e-school. The school was denied a restraining order to block ODE's review, and Cole charged earlier this week that ECOT was withholding key records. A hearing on ECOT's request for an injunction against ODE is set for Monday, Aug. 8 before Judge Jenifer French.

[**ODE Weighs Options for Statistical Sample Size on Report Cards under ESSA**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203813) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) launched its webinar series Wednesday on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) with a presentation on a key statistical measure for the accountability system. Numerous webinars and regional meetings are planned for ODE to share information and gather feedback as it plans for implementation of the new federal law.

[**ECOT tells state why it won't turn over student log-in data**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/07/27/ecot-tells-state-why-it-wont-turn-over-student-log-in-data.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

The Department of Education set a Tuesday deadline for the state’s largest online school to turn over attendance data, and as officials expected the school declined. The department wants the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow to provide log-in durations so the state can complete a routine attendance audit used to determine if students are getting the minimum 920 hours of “learning opportunities” required by the state.

**Early Childhood**

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Department of Higher Education Announces Innovation Program Awards**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=203788) **Hannah**

The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) has approved $5 million in funding for projects meant to improve the quality of higher education throughout the state while making it more affordable for students by stabilizing or reducing tuition rates at colleges and universities. According to the department, "Schools receiving the funds designed collaborative, innovative projects that support academic achievement and economic efficiencies. The funds will be awarded for projects serving students at the community college and university level."

**Research**

[**50-State Comparison: K-3 Quality**](http://www.ecs.org/50-state-comparison-k-3-quality/) **Education Commission of the States**

The new [50-State Comparison: K-3 Quality](http://portal.criticalimpact.com/go.cfm?a=1&eid=893560c38a6375b240b32229e92119a4&c=25742&jid=17cbc55b9cbcf37c&d=5fb5a183c5307d163947229f28c3afba) from Education Commission of the States explores key state-level policies that impact the quality of K-3 programs. The [Companion Report](http://portal.criticalimpact.com/go.cfm?a=1&eid=893560c38a6375b240b32229e92119a4&c=25742&jid=17cbc55b9cbcf37c&d=fb6fda17dd4fa26d3947229f28c3afba) for this 50-State Comparison highlights significant research findings in key K-3 policy areas.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Berea school board gets first look at renderings for possible new high school**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2016/07/berea_school_board_gets_first.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Euclid School Board votes to fund additional building projects**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20160726/euclid-school-board-votes-to-fund-additional-building-projects) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Fairview Park City Schools hosting community tours**](http://www.cleveland.com/fairview-park/index.ssf/2016/07/fairview_park_city_schools_hos.html) **Sun News**

[**North Olmsted schools, teachers OK new 3-year pact**](http://westlife.northcoastnow.com/2016/07/north-olmsted-schools-teachers-ok-new-3-year-pact/) **Westlife News**

[**Olmsted Falls school board places bond issue on November ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/olmsted/index.ssf/2016/07/olmsted_falls_school_board_pla.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Strongsville school board places tax renewal on November ballot**](http://www.cleveland.com/strongsville/index.ssf/2016/07/strongsville_school_board_plac_1.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Westlake teachers approve 3-year contract to avert strike; board action is next**](http://www.cleveland.com/westlake/index.ssf/2016/07/westlake_teachers_approve_new.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Westlake City Schools hopes to build new elementary school without raising taxes**](http://www.cleveland.com/westlake/index.ssf/2016/07/westlake_city_schools_hopes_to.html) **Cleveland.com**

***Lorain County***

[**Learning goes beyond the norm by way of the Avon Lake City Schools Foundation as it celebrates its 30th anniversary**](http://www.cleveland.com/avon-lake/index.ssf/2016/07/learning_goes_beyond_the_norm.html) **Cleveland.com**

[**Elyria Schools bond issue sent to elections board**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20160720/elyria-schools-bond-issue-sent-to-elections-board) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Firelands Schools faces special election Tuesday**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/Local-News/2016/07/31/Firelands-Schools-faces-special-election-Tuesday.html) **Chronicle-Telegram**

***Medina County***

[**Medina police, city officials and school administrators take proactive stance on diversity**](http://www.cleveland.com/medina/index.ssf/2016/07/medina_police_city_officials_a.html) **Cleveland.com**

***Summit County***

[**State funding could shrink for Akron school construction**](http://www.ohio.com/news/local/state-funding-could-shrink-for-akron-school-construction-1.698490#.V49w-7JncMQ.twitter)  **Akron Beacon Journal**

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