



# Annual Report on OFFICE OF SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019



Office of School Sponsorship



Ohio

Department  
of Education



# Office of School Sponsorship Annual Report

[Ohio law](#) requires that each year the Ohio Department of Education issue a report on its Office of Ohio School Sponsorship to the [Ohio General Assembly](#) and governor, including information about the number of community schools taking part in the program and their compliance with the law. This is the 2018-2019 school year report.

## Introduction to the Office of School Sponsorship

Ohio law established the Office of Ohio School Sponsorship to perform sponsorship duties for community schools the Ohio Department of Education sponsors. Under law, the office may take applications for new schools, continue to sponsor existing schools and assume sponsorship of additional schools any time during the school year as a matter of law. During the 2018-2019 school year, the Office of School Sponsorship sponsored 33 schools. It assumed five of these during the school year. Due to the significant increase in the number of sponsored schools over the last four years, the Office of School Sponsorship did not accept applications for new schools. Instead, the office focused on its current portfolio of schools.

During the spring of 2018, the Office of School Sponsorship began reviewing its mission to ensure it aligned with Ohio's strategic plan for education, [Each Child, Our Future](#). As a result, the office amended its mission and began aligning its internal processes and procedures with the four learning domains, or key learning areas. The office continued working during the 2018-2019 school year to create a strategic plan for school sponsorship that aligns to the state plan's vision, core principles and strategies for supporting the whole child. The result of the work is a strategic school sponsorship office that is student-focused and promotes equity, partnerships and quality schools.

It is the mission of the  
**Office of School Sponsorship**  
to be an innovative and resourceful  
partner to schools, using a holistic  
approach to support the continuous  
improvement of the schools the  
office sponsors.



## Demographics and Portfolio

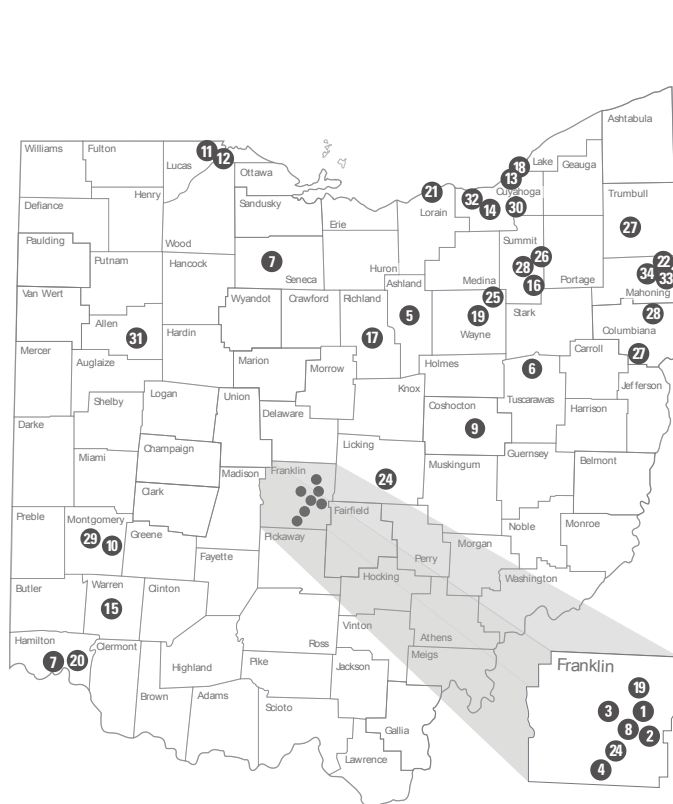
The Office of School Sponsorship sponsors community schools in both challenged school districts and non-challenged school districts.

The office assumed most of its schools from sponsors that lost their sponsorship authority through poor performance on sponsor evaluations or through settlements with the Ohio Department of Education. Other schools in the portfolio applied for Department sponsorship several years ago. In recent years, the Department has not accepted applications from new community schools or schools looking for new sponsors.

**Assumed schools:** When the Ohio Department of Education assumes a school under Ohio Revised Code [3314.015](#) or [3314.016](#), the office is tasked with onboarding the school and evaluating the specific needs of the school. The onboarding process takes up to 24 months as the office reviews and provides technical assistance and guidance regarding operations of the school, compliance matters and building staff capacity.

As part of its quality goals, the Office of School Sponsorship focused this year on building the capacity of the school leadership and using data to make decisions that support overall school improvement. Another focus included making sure sponsored schools are providing support and appropriate education to students with disabilities. During the 2017-2018 school year, approximately one in five students who received instruction in a school sponsored by the Office of School Sponsorship was a "student with a disability" according to the federal definition. The office's overarching goal, aligned to Ohio's strategic plan for education, is for all students to be *challenged, prepared* and *empowered* for their futures.

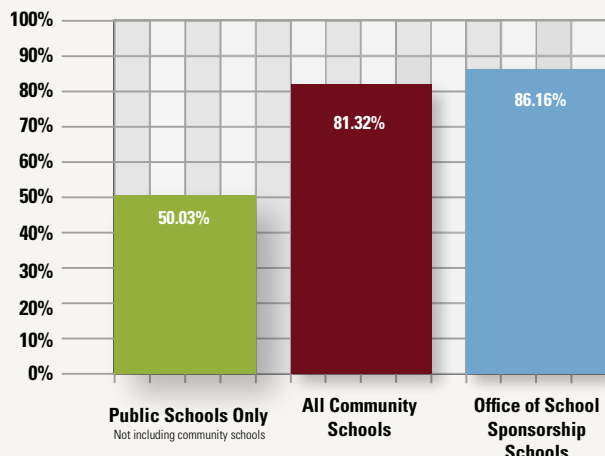
## Map of Schools Sponsored by Office of School Sponsorship



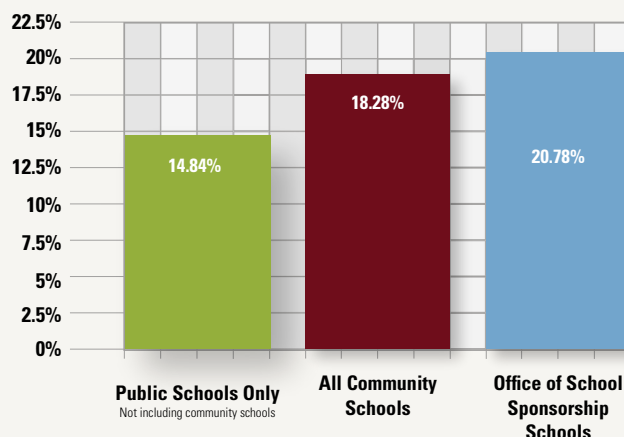
- 1 **A+ Arts Academy**  
270 S. Napoleon Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43213
- 2 **A+ Arts Academy**  
2633 Maybury Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43232
- 3 **A+ Arts Academy**  
1395 Fair Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43205
- 4 **A+ Children's Academy**  
114 Obetz Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43207
- 5 **Ashland County Community Academy**  
716 Union St.  
Ashland, OH 44805
- 6 **Beacon Hill Academy**  
10470 Winesburg Rd.  
Dundee, OH 44624
- 7 **Bridges Community Academy**  
190 S. Francis Ave.  
Tiffin, OH 44883
- 8 **Brookwood Academy\***  
2685 E. Livingston Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43209
- 9 **Coshocton Opportunity School**  
1205 Cambridge Rd.  
Coshocton OH 43812
- 10 **Dayton Business Technology High School**  
348 W 1st St.  
Dayton OH 45402
- 11 **Discovery Academy**  
2740 W. Central Ave.  
Toledo, OH 43606
- 12 **Eagle Learning Center**  
2665 Navarre Ave. #C  
Oregon, OH 43616
- 13 **East Academy\***  
15720 Kipling  
Cleveland, OH 44110
- 14 **Global Village Academy**  
5720 State Rd. #1  
Parma, OH 44134
- 15 **Greater Ohio Virtual School**  
1879 Deerfield Rd.  
Lebanon, OH 45036
- 16 **Greater Summit County Early Learning Center**  
1651 Massillon Rd.  
Akron, OH 44312
- 17 **Interactive Media and Construction**  
455 Bowman St.  
Mansfield, OH 44903
- 18 **Lakeshore Intergenerational School**  
18025 Marcella Rd.  
Cleveland, OH 44119
- 19 **Liberty Preparatory School**  
243 N. Milton St.  
Smithville OH 44677
- 20 **Lighthouse Community School**  
6100 Desmond St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45227
- 21 **Lorain K-12 Digital Academy**  
401 Broadway Ave.  
Lorain, OH 44052
- 22 **Mahoning County High School**  
940 Bryn Mawr Ave.  
Youngstown, OH 44505
- 23 **Ohio Construction Academy**  
1725 Jetway  
Columbus, OH 43219
- 24 **Par Excellence**  
1350 Granville Rd.  
Newark, OH 43055
- 25 **Rittman Academy**  
75 North Main St.  
Rittman, OH 44270
- 26 **Schnee Learning Center**  
2222 Issaquah St.  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
- 27 **STEAM Academy of Warren\***  
261 Elm Rd. NE  
Warren, OH 44483
- 28 **Steel Academy**  
1570 Creighton Ave.  
Akron, OH 44310
- 29 **Summit Academy Transition HS-Columbus**  
2521 Fairwood Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43207
- 30 **T2 Honors Academy**  
18450 S. Miles Rd.  
Warrensville, OH 44128
- 31 **West Central Learning Academy II**  
522 W. North St.  
Lima, OH 45801
- 32 **West Park Academy\***  
12913 Bennington Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44135
- 33 **Youngstown Academy of Excellence\***  
1408 Rigby St.  
Youngstown, OH 44502
- 34 **Youngstown Community School**  
50 Esses St.  
Youngstown, OH 44502

# Student Demographics

Percentage of Economically Disadvantaged Statewide



Percentage of Students with Disabilities Statewide



## Diversity of Portfolio

The Department sponsors a diverse portfolio of schools that consists of elementary schools, high schools, and dropout prevention and recovery schools. Each fills a need in the community through a specific mission.

During the 2018-2019 school year, the Department sponsored one online school and 32 brick-and-mortar schools. Of the brick-and-mortar schools, five used a blended-learning model.

**Innovation:** Schools offer innovative learning experiences for all students through academic programs, in-demand job preparedness, individualized learning or planning for postsecondary schools.

**Literacy:** Schools are integrating literacy through all courses and programs to improve literacy across all grade levels. The sponsored schools have found that improving literacy will result in overall school improvement across all subjects.

**Arts and Humanities:** Student creativity is a focus in office-sponsored schools, including performing arts and public speaking. Students learn to use the arts and humanities to showcase their talents and passions.

**Social-Emotional Supports:** Each child's social and emotional well-being is important, and schools are purposefully incorporating social-emotional support to meet the needs of the whole child. This includes providing safe, welcoming schools where students understand the importance of social interaction and personal feelings. These skills help children become resilient and persistent in life.

**Postsecondary Planning:** Sponsored schools expose students to certified career-technical education programs and give them opportunities to earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal on their diplomas. High schools work to ensure students are prepared for future success.

**A+ Arts Academy:** This Columbus elementary school actively promotes academics by infusing the arts into its curriculum and encourages all students to strive for excellence in all aspects of life.

**A+ Children's Academy:** Serving elementary students, A+ Children's Academy cultivates a passion for learning in all students by offering a standards-based, integrated curriculum that addresses students' social, emotional, academic and cognitive needs.

**Ashland County Community Academy:** (School assumed in January 2019) The school serves an at-risk population of dropout prevention and recovery students in the Ashland area and offers opportunities for students to recover credits, learn welding skills and prepare to enter the workforce or continue to earn advanced degrees.

**Beacon Hill Academy:** (School assumed in January 2019) The school serves a unique population of students in grades 7-12 who, for religious reasons, terminate their educations after the eighth grade. The school focuses on teaching seventh- and eighth-graders knowledge and skills that are well above grade level and promotes positive behavior and self-esteem for its students.

**Bridges Community Academy:** An elementary and high school serving students in the Fostoria and Tiffin areas, the school focuses on individual learning and building bridges between parents, students, the community and technology.



**Brookwood Academy:** The school's governing authority voted to close the school at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

**Coshocton Opportunity School:** (School assumed in December 2018) The school serves an at-risk population of dropout prevention and recovery students and operates during late afternoon and early evening hours to provide an environment conducive for students balancing work and earning their high school diplomas.

**Dayton Business Technology School:** (School assumed in December 2018) This high school serves an at-risk population of dropout prevention and recovery students in the Dayton area and offers students opportunities to recover credits, learn business skills and prepare to enter the workforce or continue working toward advanced degrees.

**Discovery Academy:** This elementary school in the Toledo area focuses on project-based learning and social and emotional growth of all students. The school recently opened a program for students with autism to provide specialized educational opportunities to special needs students.

**Eagle Learning Center:** This high school serving at-risk dropout prevention and recovery students in the Oregon and Toledo areas offers day and evening hours for its students to recover credits and earn their high school diplomas.

**East Academy:** East Academy's governing authority decided to switch to another sponsor effective July 1, 2019.

**Global Village Academy:** An elementary school with one of the highest-rated Ohio School Report Cards in the state, Global Village Academy primarily serves migrant families in Parma. The school focuses on academic excellence and student achievement.

**Greater Ohio Virtual School:** This school serves at-risk youth through a virtual curriculum they can access any time. The school focuses on student achievement and community partnerships to offer students a variety of post-high school options.

**Greater Summit County Early Learning Center:** This elementary school focuses on student achievement and individualized learning, challenging its students to present their lessons to their parents and community throughout the school year.

**Interactive Media and Construction (IMAC):** This dropout prevention and recovery high school offers career-technical education to students in the Mansfield area.

**Lakeshore Intergenerational School:** This school's goal of creating lifelong learners helps students both learn at their own pace and work in groups to master skills.

**Liberty Preparatory School:** (School assumed in January 2019) The school serves an at-risk population of dropout prevention and recovery students in the Wayne County area and provides opportunities for students to recover credits while preparing to enter the workforce.

**Lighthouse Community School:** (School assumed in February 2018) This Cincinnati school serves foster children in grades 7-12. Using a unique urban-gardening backdrop, the school bridges the gap between community and school and allows students to learn both indoors and outdoors.

**Mahoning County High School:** This school in Youngstown primarily serves at-risk students who have been involved in the juvenile justice system. It strives to create a safe culture and climate for students while providing post-high school options.

**Ohio Construction Academy:** This unique dropout prevention and recovery high school in Columbus offers students career-technical education focused on plumbing, HVAC and the construction trades. Students receive a quality education and training for post-high school careers.

**Par Excellence Academy:** (School assumed in June 2018) This elementary school in Newark starts each day with 90 minutes of reading and literacy activities. The school's unique approach to individualized, outdoor learning has helped it become one of the area's fastest growing community schools.

**Rittman Academy:** This small high school serving at-risk students in a rural setting is a dropout prevention and recovery high school. It helps students recover credit and earn their high school diplomas.

**Schnee Learning Center:** (School assumed in May 2018) A small dropout prevention and recovery high school in Cuyahoga Falls, Schnee Learning Center helps students recover credits and earn their high school diplomas. The school shows students they can succeed in postsecondary education or military service.

**STEAM Academy of Warren:** This school's governing authority decided to switch to another sponsor effective July 1, 2019.

**Steel Academy:** This elementary school primarily serving students with disabilities incorporates steel drumming into its curriculum.

**Summit Academy Transition High School – Columbus:** This school primarily serving high school students with disabilities focuses on individualized learning and martial arts.

**T2 ("T squared") Honors Academy:** This school focuses on individualized learning and college preparation, requiring students to understand social issues that affect their communities while providing a rigorous curriculum.

**West Central Learning Academy II:** This high school focuses on providing a safe, flexible, blended learning environment for students to learn at their own pace.

**West Park Academy:** This school's governing authority decided to switch to another sponsor effective July 1, 2019.

**Youngstown Academy of Excellence:** The school's governing authority decided to switch to another sponsor effective June 28, 2019.

**Youngstown Community School:** Focused on academics and community involvement, this school truly is embedded in the community. It works to help its students achieve academic excellence while preparing them for high school.

## Accountability

Ohio law requires the Office of Ohio School Sponsorship to oversee each school's [compliance with all applicable laws and rules](#). The office reviews each school's policies and ensures each school's governing authority reviews these policies as needed. Last year, the office restructured its school compliance review, implementing new ways to ensure schools have appropriate policies and procedures and are following them precisely. The Office of School Sponsorship received the rating of "Exceeds Expectations" on the Ohio Department of Education's community school sponsor evaluation for 2018-2019, as office-sponsored schools exceeded the expectations of meeting the requirements of all laws and rules. In addition, the Office of School Sponsorship received an overall "C" for the academic performance component of the evaluation and was found to meet standards for quality sponsorship practices in Ohio.