

April 2, 2012

Good Afternoon:

Work is progressing toward refining and implementing a new system for evaluating teachers and principals. The goal is to provide them with a richer and more detailed view of their performance, focusing primarily on their specific strengths and opportunities for improvement. The new system relies on two key evaluation components -- a rating of educator performance (based on classroom observations and other factors), and a rating of student academic growth – with each component weighted at 50 percent.

I encourage you to visit the Educator Evaluation Systems in Ohio [Web page](#) to stay current on the latest developments in the process. Some of the recent additions to the page provide details about the student growth measures component of the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System, including: [A] Student Growth Measures overview, [B] ODE Approved List of Assessments, [C] Student Learning Objectives information, and [D] Steps for Designing Local Student Growth Measures.

This will be a busy summer for the teacher evaluation initiative as we begin providing extensive training and learning opportunities for educators in how the new evaluation system can help improve student learning. We will keep you updated as new items become available.

Thanks for your continuing efforts on behalf of Ohio's children. Make it a great week.

Sincerely,



Stan W. Heffner

***Note:** Below are news items of interest to all superintendents and principals. Please share these items as appropriate with other suggested educators who will benefit from the information.*

For school superintendents and treasurers –

- Talent Pool nomination deadline extended to May 1
- Please update Home Education contact information
- Free student motivation surveys available for Grades 6-12
- Additional EMIS updates to affect foundation payments

For curriculum directors, administrators, teachers and counselors –

- Girl Aggression is April 4 webinar topic
- Moving Forward Safe and Supportive Learning webinars offered

For school superintendents and treasurers

Talent Pool nomination deadline extended to May 1

ODE maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state and who may ultimately receive prestigious recognition.

We are currently looking for K-5 educators who are relatively new to the profession, but demonstrate unusual instructional and leadership ability. Anyone may nominate an educator for this award, a fellow teacher, a student, or an administrator. Please nominate candidates in your district! For additional information, [click here](#).

Please update Home Education contact information

ODE is currently updating its list of district personnel who serve as liaisons for home education. Please check the [listing](#) posted under the *Resources* heading on ODE's home education Web page to see if the district or county representative for your school is correct. If changes are needed to the names, telephone numbers or email addresses listed, contact Nina Pace at nina.pace@education.ohio.gov or (614) 752-5068. Please provide the district name in the subject line of email messages.

Free student motivation surveys available for Grades 6-12

Students who are motivated to learn achieve more. But what motivates your students? Find out through a free student survey for Ohio schools with Grades 6-12. This generous offer, valued at \$1 million, is the result of a partnership among the Pearson Foundation, the Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations and ODE. The *My Voice* survey is available now to Ohio schools at no cost; results are free and immediate. To register your school to receive the surveys, click [here](#).

Additional EMIS updates to affect foundation payments

Please note that ODE is applying more data and factor updates to the FY2012 Bridge Foundation Payment calculations through the end of the fiscal year. In addition, the EMIS October reporting period has been extended to **April 19**. As a result, some districts will see further ADM adjustments in upcoming payments. Additionally, the March number 1 foundation payment calculation reflected updated gifted-unit data for educational service centers, as well as updated school-age ADM data for boards of developmental disabilities.

As a result of these FY2012 ADM adjustments, there was a need to update the statewide per-pupil adjustment factor. This per-pupil reduction, which stood at \$159 in all the payment calculations from the start of the fiscal year through the February #2 payment, is now \$148, which effectively increases the foundation payments to each district. This amount will be adjusted again, as ADM and other factors are updated. Please direct funding related questions to Daria Shams at daria.shams@education.ohio.gov.

For curriculum directors, administrators, teachers and counselors

Girl Aggression is April 4 webinar topic

The Ohio Department of Mental Health, in partnership with ODE, is hosting a free webinar about girl aggression on Wednesday, April 4, from 3 to 4 p.m. This webinar is part of a series of Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (Anti-HIB) events designed to provide resources for families, schools and communities. It is open to 100 participants who register on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration opens 30 minutes before each program. The webinar will be recorded and posted online after the event. Registration and links to archived webinars are available [here](#).

Moving Forward Safe and Supportive Learning webinars offered

Join ODE in a webinar conversation (choose April 16, 18 or 23) to take an intense look at both academic and non-academic learning supports for student success. National guest speakers, Drs. Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor, will continue a discussion started in a fall 2011 webinar regional series and update national progress on learning supports. This is an opportunity to join the Safe and Supportive Learning Collaborative, an educational learning community that provides resources and technical assistance, promotes sharing of best practices and encourages school, family and community partnerships. For more information, register [here](#) for one of the April conversations.

ODE is interested in your thoughts about how EdConnection fulfills your information needs. Please send any comments or suggestions to Superintendent@education.ohio.gov.

Follow our new Facebook page for Ohio families by clicking [here](#).

Follow ODE's Twitter feed by clicking [here](#).