

April 23, 2012

Good Afternoon,

Last Tuesday, I testified before the Ohio Senate Education Committee on SB 316, the Mid-Biennium Review bill that contains education-related matters. My testimony focused on early childhood, the need for intervention as part of the third grade guarantee, changes in the local report card, blended learning and career connections as part of the model curriculum. It also included proposals that will provide better accountability systems for career-technical education schools and for dropout recovery schools and more options for conducting teacher evaluations. You can find the full text of my testimony [here](#). The hearings will continue in the Senate this week.

Thank you 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 – Plans for makeup of excess calamity days via online lessons due July 31, BMI screening tools contain minor modifications

For curriculum directors, teachers and school counselors – Register now for the 2012 Coordinated School Health Conference

For School superintendents and treasurers

Plans for makeup of excess calamity days via online lessons due July 31

Schools in Ohio are permitted to use five calamity days for circumstances such as hazardous weather conditions, disease epidemic, damage to school building, inoperability of buses or other equipment necessary to the school's operation, or temporary conditions making the school building unfit, such as utility failure.

To make up calamity days in excess of five, schools have the option to use their contingency plans or use online lessons for up to three days. To use the online option, schools must submit a plan to ODE on or before July 31, 2012. For more information, including Frequently Asked Questions and a link to BASA's model resolution for use in obtaining local board and teacher sign-off on your district plan, [click here](#).

BMI screening tools contain minor modifications

ODE has made several minor modifications to the Body Mass Index (BMI) Collection and Submission Tools. All screening data must be submitted no later than June 1 each year. If you already have completed and/or submitted your data for the 2011-2012 school year, you do not need to resubmit.

Changes on the Collection Tool include: the CDC BMI submission tool is mentioned as an alternate tool;

variables to be collected/submitted were made clearer; and the date for submission to the district was deleted (this should be determined by the district). On the Submission Tool, changes include the addition of IRN and school year entries and a note to send as a worksheet, not a scanned copy or pdf. The new forms are available [here](#).

For curriculum directors, teachers and school counselors

Register now for the 2012 Coordinated School Health Conference

Strengthening Academic Achievement with Healthier Kids is the theme of the 2012 Coordinated School Health Conference to be held June 25-27 at the Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark. The registration deadline is May 25.

The conference is open to anyone who wants to address the non-academic barriers to students' academic success, including district wellness team coordinators, administrators, school nurses, food service directors, guidance counselors, physical education and health teachers and community organizations.

Schools/districts that bring a team are eligible for discount pricing. For more details, including a flyer and registration information, click [here](#). If you have other questions, please contact Jackie Sharpe at (614) 387-2241 or via email at jacqueline.sharpe@education.ohio.gov.

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

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