

April 9, 2012

Good Afternoon,

Senate Bill 316, which includes the education portions of the Mid-biennium Budget Review, was recently introduced in the Ohio Senate. The General Assembly plans to hold hearings on this legislation over the next several weeks. If you are interested in a detailed look at the provisions of the bill, please view the Legislative Service Commission's [bill analysis](#). You may also view the bill in its entirety [here](#). ODE staff have also prepared a [brief summary](#).

I have been asked to provide testimony before the Senate Education Committee next Tuesday, April 17. Stay tuned for further updates as Senate Bill 316 moves through the legislative process.

If you were watching the Masters this weekend, you may have noticed ads by ExxonMobil promoting the Common Core initiative as part of the "Let's Solve This" campaign to improve U.S. math and science performance. We appreciate the support for this important effort to ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and careers. If you missed it, the spot can be found [here](#).

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 – Districts required to use Iowa Acceleration Scale – Third Edition for whole-grade/early entrance, Grant opportunity available to regional partnerships, Ohio Resident Educator Program survey coming

For curriculum directors, teachers and school counselors – Physical education evaluation training workshops to be held April and May, May 10 webinar will focus on new health and wellness measures, Website contains resources to stop bullying, Free May 25 event about new educator evaluation system

For School superintendents and treasurers

Districts required to use Iowa Acceleration Scale – Third Edition for whole-grade/early entrance

The Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS) is currently the only acceleration assessment process approved by ODE for evaluating candidates for early entrance to kindergarten and whole-grade acceleration for students in kindergarten through Grade 8. As previously announced, districts may continue to use the IAS Second Edition until **May 1**, when use of the IAS Third Edition will be required. During district gifted on-site reviews for school year 2012-2013, ODE will request verification of use of the IAS Third Edition.

ODE selected the IAS because it is the only tool that uses longitudinal research studies on acceleration to reliably predict success for students whose parents and teachers are considering these options. Local

evaluation committee members who determine accelerated placement for students have found the tool useful. For more information about acceleration, click [here](#).

Grant opportunity available to regional partnerships

ODE is seeking proposals from LEAs, ESCs, and IHEs that want to lead regional partnerships to develop examples of locally determined student growth measures using the Student Learning Objectives (SLO) process. The SLO process is for using measures that are specific to relevant subject matter. Measures for SLOs must be district-approved and may include:

- District-approved, locally developed assessments;
- Pre/Post assessments;
- Interim assessments;
- Performance-based assessments;
- Portfolios.

ODE will provide additional resources and tools for developing these measures to the fiscal agents selected for this project. Subsidy grant funds up to \$25,000 per consortium are available to support this work at the local level. Applications must be received by April 30, 2012.

For additional information, go to the Educator Evaluation Systems in Ohio [Web page](#) and scroll to *Subsidy Grant Opportunity*.

Ohio Resident Educator Program survey coming

The Ohio Resident Educator Program provides new teachers with quality mentoring and guidance essential for a long and flourishing career. To examine the degree of implementation of the RE program Year 1 formative assessment protocols, processes and tools, as well as the perceived value of the program, surveys will be administered to Resident Educators, mentors, program coordinators and principals the week of April 9.

Mentor Training

Instructional Mentoring (IM) and Resident Educator-1 (RE-1) trainings are required for mentor certification. While there is no new *required* mentor training for Year 2, additional mentor training opportunities to support Year 2 Resident Educators will be available beginning June 2012. Registration will be open in STARS in May 2012.

End-of-Year Reporting

End-of-the-year reporting requirements include completion of the Resident Educator Year 1 Formative Progress Review and documentation by program coordinators in CORE by June 30.

Year 2 Professional Development Planning

Guidance to help plan for the type(s) of Year 2 professional development districts or schools will provide to Resident Educators is now available. The *Year 2 Professional Development Planning Guide: Part I and Part II* can be found on the [Resident Educator Web page](#). In addition to the planning guide, a webinar will be available the week of April 24, with registration available in STARS the week of April 9. Please submit inquiries about the Ohio Resident Educator Program to: REProgram@education.ohio.gov.

For curriculum directors, teachers and school counselors

Physical education evaluation training workshops to be held April and May

Senate Bill 210 identifies four components that will make up a new measure related to health and wellness that will appear on Local and State Report Cards for 2012-2013. Those components are benchmark evaluation, body mass index (BMI), physical activity and compliance with local wellness policy.

To help teachers determine if the benchmarks of the first component are being met, ODE has developed

an evaluation instrument that will measure student success in meeting targets contained in the physical education academic content standards. To learn more about the physical education evaluation, educators can attend one of following free ODE workshops:

Space is limited and pre-registration is required through STARS by accessing your [SAFE](#) account. For more information, see the calendar link at education.ohio.gov or contact Lisa Lyle Henry at lisa.henry@ode.state.oh.us.

May 10 webinar will focus on new health and wellness measures

Registration will begin on April 10 for a webinar that will help districts plan for meeting the health and wellness requirements that will appear on Local and State Report Cards for 2012-2013. The webinar will be on May 10 from 2 – 3:30 p.m. It will feature a panel of experts and will include a short presentation, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Space is limited to 200 participants, with pre-registration in STARS through your [SAFE](#) account. For more information, please contact Lisa Lyle Henry at lisa.henry@ode.state.oh.us.

Website contains resources to stop bullying

Stopbullying.gov is a website developed by the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services that contains a wealth of information to help schools and families deal with bullying. Recent updates to the site include interactive videos for young people, practical strategies for schools and communities, and suggestions on how parents can talk about bullying with their children. It also contains maps that detail state policies about bullying, as well as other information.

Free May 25 event about new educator evaluation system

The Statewide Educator Evaluation Symposium at the Greater Columbus Convention Center will discuss key aspects of Ohio's system for evaluating educator performance. Learn about evaluation models, findings from pilot programs in Ohio, and promising ideas from around the nation. Registration is free, but required through STARS via SAFE [sign-in](#). Use "evaluation" in the keyword search. Enter May 25 as the event date.

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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