

December 10, 2012

Greetings:

As you know, we have been working with the Auditor of State David Yost's office in their review of data reporting practices at the local level. While we released the preliminary data contained in the 2011-2012 Local Report Cards (LRCs) in October, we are waiting until the review is completed before producing the final report card. Initially, the Auditor estimated that the review would be wrapped up by the end of this year. We have since been informed that the completion date has been extended into early next year so the Auditor's staff may finish onsite reviews.

Once this work is completed and the report is released, we will be able to issue the 2011-2012 report cards.

In addition, HB 555, which contains the framework for letter grades for the LRCs, was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives and sent to the Senate for consideration. You can find the House version [here](#). Hearings are being held now in the Senate, with a vote expected later this week or early next week. When the legislative process is complete, we will share the final language and implementation information on our website.

Thank you for all you do for Ohio's children, especially this time of year. Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Michael L. Sawyers

Approaching deadlines or important dates mentioned in previous editions of *EdConnection*

- 12/15** Military Child of the Year nomination deadline ([12/03/2012](#))
- 12/17** Public comment period on Operating Standards for Children with Disabilities closes ([12/03/2012](#))
- 12/21** Speak Up Ohio survey closes Dec. 21 (see article below)
- 12/31** Early Literacy and Reading Readiness grant application deadline ([11/05/2012](#))
Current window for eTPES closes ([11/26/2012](#))
Web-Based Recruitment System user survey deadline ([11/26/2012](#))

For School superintendents and treasurers

Ohio improves educator preparation programs through new national agreement

Ohio is the first state to commit that all institutions preparing future educators in our state are nationally accredited. The Ohio Board of Regents (OBR) recently signed an agreement with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) to establish a state partnership that ensures all Ohio public and private college and university education preparation programs offer state or nationally approved educator preparation programs and meet state standards and performance criteria, as outlined in Ohio Administrative Code. CAEP's goal through national accreditation is to increase the effectiveness of candidates and graduates as educators in P-12 schools. Through CAEP accreditation, expectations for evidence will be clear, providers will know what is expected and the basis for judgment, and results will be shared.

Speak Up Ohio survey closes Dec. 21

Time is running out for students, families and educators to share their views through the Speak Up Ohio survey. The survey collects local data on topics such as teaching and learning with technology, online assessment and digital citizenship. To take the [survey](#), use the password – ohio (lower case).

Register now for professional development tour to China

BASA and the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators (OASSA) are co-sponsoring *Education in China*, a Professional Development Tour from June 10 – 19, 2013. The 10-day tour includes visits to Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai, with school visits, guided sightseeing tours, walking tours and entrance fees to attractions. The program fee also includes round-trip airfare, hotels, transfers as well as daily breakfast and dinner. For more information, see the Hot Topics on the [BASA webpage](#) or call toll-free (877) 253-5360.

For curriculum directors, teachers and school counselors

Ohio math teacher will guest on CCSSO webinar on new PARCC sample items

On Dec. 19, Ohio middle school math teacher Jim Mamer will participate in a webinar about sample assessment items in mathematics, recently released by the Partnership for Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) and Smarter Balance. Mamer, from Clark-Shawnee Local Schools in Springfield, currently is implementing the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics with his students. He received the 2012 Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics Elementary Teaching Award.

Mamer will offer his reactions and guidance to fellow teachers on what the new assessment items will illustrate about the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and accompanying assessments that students will be experiencing soon. He also will offer suggestions for teachers on how they can have conversations with their peers and reflect on the implications for their teaching practice. The webinar begins at 4:30. Registration is available [here](#).

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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