



John R. Kasich, *Governor*
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Board to Board, December 2013

Board to Board is an outreach effort, intended to keep local school board members apprised of important education-related issues, as well as the work of the State Board of Education.

Straight A Fund Update

Congratulations to the more than 150 Ohio school districts and partners that the Straight A Fund Governing Board recommended to receive grants. The state Controlling Board formally announced the winners and recently released the funds. You can see a list [here](#).

The process was extremely competitive, with many more applications submitted than could be funded during the initial round of awards. If your district was part of a proposal that didn't make the list of finalists, please remember that districts, schools and their partners may apply again next fiscal year for an additional \$150 million in Straight A Funds. I encourage you to take a close look at the projects funded this time to get a sense of the degree of innovation and financial stewardship for which the Straight A Fund Governing Board is looking. With some adjustments, your proposal may have a good chance of being selected next year.

Final paper licensure applications due Dec. 31

Because the process for submitting and reviewing teacher licensure applications is moving to a completely paperless system as of Jan. 1, any paper applications must be received by Dec. 31 to be processed. Thereafter, applicants and authorized reviewers must complete the process online. Additional information is available [here](#).

Ohio Secretary of State offers resource and contest to encourage civic participation

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted's office has two new initiatives to help encourage civic participation of Ohio's students. [Ohio Founding Fathers](#) is an online educational resource to learn more about the leaders of our past and the founding documents they helped create. This initiative gives students and teachers a one-stop shop to find out more about leaders like Jefferson, Franklin and Hamilton and key historical documents like the *U.S. Constitution*, *The Ohio Constitution* and the *Declaration of Independence*. Students can test their knowledge of our state's history with the *Do You Know Ohio* online quiz. Teaching students about the past can encourage them to be better participants in our democracy when choosing our future leaders.

Additionally, the Secretary of State's office is sponsoring a Public Service Announcement poster and video contest called *School Your Parents*. The PSA contest, currently ongoing through March 14, 2014, will engage young Ohioans to think about the importance of voting and remind registered voters to participate in elections. Winning entries will be used in a marketing effort for the 2014 General Election. More information on the contest, including guidelines and rules, can be found by clicking [here](#).

Again, thank you for all you do on behalf of Ohio's schoolchildren. Have a wonderful holiday season.

All the best,

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The State Board of Education has set education policy and directed the planning and evaluative functions of Ohio's public schools, as well as appointed and evaluated the superintendent of public instruction since 1956. The vision of the State Board is for all students to graduate well prepared for success. The State Board is made up of 19 members, including 11 elected and eight appointed members. The chairs of the education committees of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate serve as ex-officio members.