How many public schools are there in Ohio?

Senior High Schools	903
Junior High Schools	113
Middle Schools	584
Elementary Schools	2,234
Ungraded	24
Vocational Schools	10
Total	**3,868**

(includes 290 Community Schools)

How are Ohio schools funded?

Schools and districts rely on local, state and federal funding to support the daily costs of teaching children, as well as the expenses of maintaining the school district infrastructure. Districts receive the majority of funding from the local and state levels, with 45.7 percent coming from local sources and 44.1 percent from state sources. The remaining 10.2 percent comes from federal funding (FY2010).

In FY2010, Ohio school districts spent an average of $10,512 per pupil.

Because financial resources are so important for Ohio students, district revenue and expenditures are closely monitored at the local and state levels. Ohio law requires that the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) monitor districts to ensure they avoid deficits and make fiscally responsible decisions.

Are Ohio schools improving?

In 2010-2011, slightly more than 93 percent of school districts were rated as Excellent with Distinction, Excellent or Effective on the Local Report Card.

Ohio students continue to improve in many subject areas on the Ohio Achievement Tests for grades 3-8 and the Ohio Graduation Test.

Information about Local Report Cards for school districts, as well as Ohio's overall academic performance, can be found in the Accountability section of the ODE's Web site at **education.ohio.gov**.

Designation	Districts						Schools					
	2010-2011	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007	2005-2006	2010-2011	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007	2005-2006
Excellent with Distinction	86	81	116	74	–	–	316	305	215	158	–	–
Excellent	266	215	154	152	139	192	1,453	1,278	1,258	1,116	1,143	1,290
Effective	215	240	251	292	347	299	841	912	998	1,164	1,255	1,217
Continuous Improvement	36	64	79	83	113	112	439	525	562	589	693	643
Academic Watch	6	9	9	9	11	7	203	222	220	230	230	218
Academic Emergency	0	1	1	0	0	0	160	217	223	234	182	208

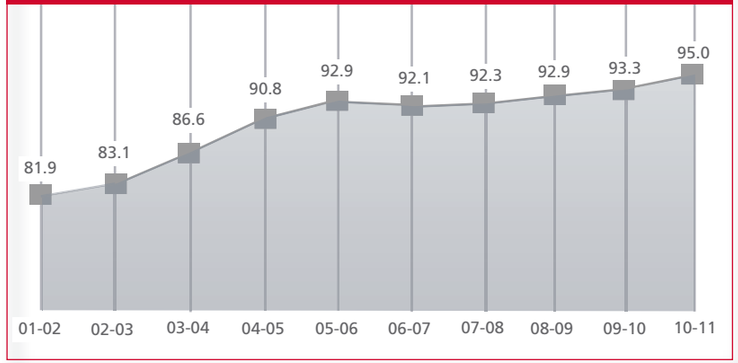
How can I contact the Ohio Department of Education?

The general information line for ODE is toll-free **(877) OHIOEDU/ (877) 644-6338**. Below are some numbers for frequently requested offices at ODE.

Educator Licensure	(614) 466-3593
Assessment and Testing	(614) 466-0223
Community (Charter) Schools	(614) 466-7058
Exceptional Children	(614) 466-2650
GED	(614) 466-1577

Performance Index Score Trend

Composite of all test scores



What is the role of the State Board of Education?

The State Board of Education was established in the Ohio Constitution in 1953 to ensure that citizens were given a voice in decisions relating to public education.

Today, the State Board of Education sets policy and directs the planning and evaluative functions of Ohio's public schools. These duties include setting policies to guide the administrative work of ODE, approving Ohio Administrative Code relating to K-12 education, and adopting legislative and budget recommendations for Ohio public education. The State Board also is in charge of appointing and evaluating the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Board is comprised of nineteen members – eleven who are elected and eight at-large members who are appointed by the Governor. The chairs of the education committees of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate serve as non-voting ex officio members. The Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as the secretary of the State Board of Education.

When does the State Board of Education meet?

The State Board generally meets on the second Monday and Tuesday of each month.

The State Board holds open meetings, and members of the public are invited to attend any of the presentations, discussions or votes that occur during these monthly meetings. Only the executive session is closed to the public.

Public participation is heard at several different times during the meeting. Those wishing to testify about a rule on the agenda for the administrative rules' hearing can do so on Monday afternoon at 4 p.m. During the business meeting on Tuesday, the public can address the Board on items on the agenda for vote, as well as other miscellaneous issues. Upcoming meeting dates and a time schedule for the next meeting are posted in advance online at **sboe.ohio.gov**.

State Board of Education

2011-2012

Officers

President, **Debe Terhar,** Cincinnati, District 4
Vice President, **Thomas Gunlock**, Dayton, At-large

Members

Angela Thi Bennett, East Cleveland, At-large
Deborah Cain, Unontown, District 8
Michael L. Collins, Westerville, District 9
Tess Elshoff, New Knoxville, At-large
Joe Farmer, Baltimore, At-large
Dannie Greene, Gallipolis, At-large
Jeff Hardin, Milford, District 10
Robin C. Hovis, Millersburg, District 5
Ann E. Jacobs, Lima, District 1
Todd C. Jones, New Albany, At-large
Kathleen McGervey, Avon, District 2
Kristen E. McKinley, Columbus, District 6
Jeffrey Mims, Dayton, District 3
Mary Rose Oakar, Cleveland, District 11
Dennis Reardon, Pickerington, At-large
Dennis Shelton, Delaware, At-large
Bryan C. Williams, Fairlawn, District 7

Ex-Officio Members

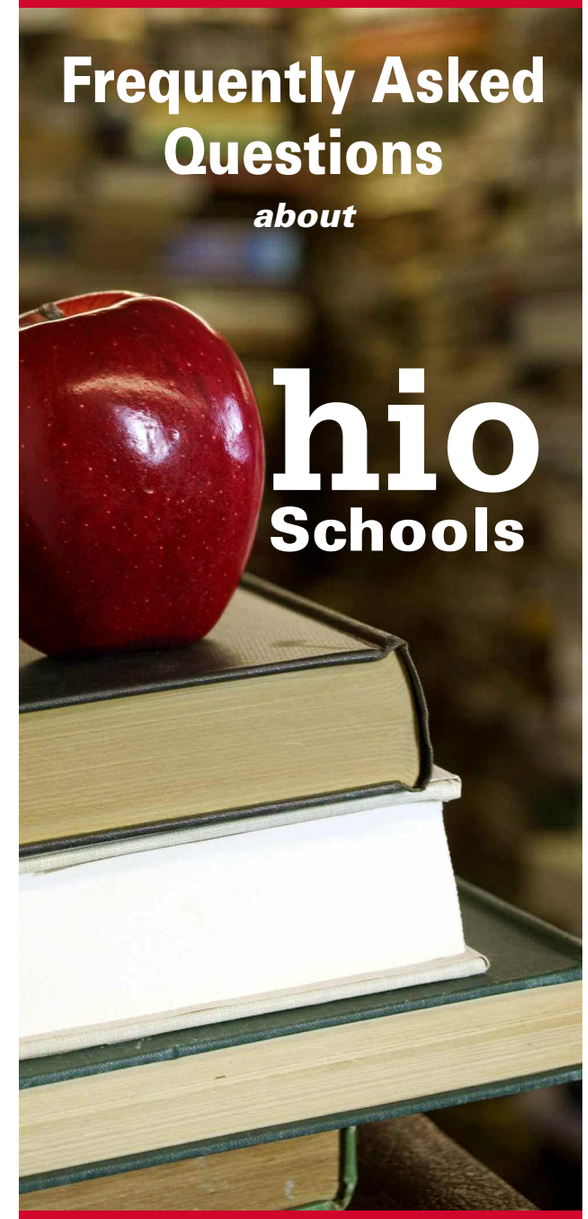
Senator Peggy Lehner, Columbus
Representative Gerald Stebelton, Columbus

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Stan W. Heffner

For more information about the State Board of Education, please contact:

Ohio Department of Education
Office of Board Relations
25 South Front Street, MS 703
Columbus, OH 43215-4183
(614) 466-4838
sboe.ohio.gov
j.c.benton@ode.state.oh.us

September 2011

The State Board of Education

Frequently Asked Questions *about* Ohio Schools