

## GENERAL NEWS

### ***New and improved ODE website preview now online***

The Ohio Department of Education is pleased to share with you a preview of our new website. You can access the site by going to our existing webpage at [education.ohio.gov](http://education.ohio.gov) and clicking on the *Preview* link or banner at the top of the page. You also can reach the site directly at <http://preview.education.ohio.gov/>. The department built the new website using data and ideas from representatives of the more than three million people who used our website each year. Tests with parents and educators have garnered positive reactions, but your feedback is welcome as well.

Here are some features that will make the site easier to use:

- The site's content is organized by what users say they need, instead of by the department's internal organizational structures;
- Topics and quick links found on the home page provide a list of the most frequently accessed information;
- A "How do I?" function directs users to answers for the most frequently asked questions;
- A greatly improved search feature helps in more easily finding relevant information;
- Thousands of outdated items have been removed;
- Page loading is much faster, even during peak usage times;
- It is easier to share individual pages with colleagues through social media and email;
- Pages can be printed more easily; and
- The site auto-adjusts how its pages display to accommodate smartphones and tablet computers.

On May 29, the new website will become ODE's official Web home and the existing system will move to archive status. While many existing links will automatically connect to the new website, some bookmarks may need to be changed.

The department values the time you and your staff spend each day supporting Ohio's children, and we hope the new site will assist in that work. If you have additional ideas or suggestions about the new website, please send it to [WebCommSupport@education.ohio.gov](mailto:WebCommSupport@education.ohio.gov).

### ***Apply to become an assessor of resident educators by June 30***

Teachers, administrators and university education faculty are invited to apply by June 30 to become assessors in the Ohio Resident Educator Program next school year. Selected applicants, who will be compensated, will review and score a new summative assessment taken by beginning teachers who will be entering their third year of support and mentoring through the resident educator program next year. Resident educators will need to successfully complete the summative assessment, among other requirements, to qualify for their five-year professional educator licenses.

Each assessor applicant must have a current professional educator license or have worked in teacher education at a college or university for at least five years. Retired professionals are welcome to apply. Selected applicants:

- Must be willing to complete 30 hours of online and in-person training;
- Must commit to approximately 60 hours in reviewing and scoring assessments during 2013-2014 (approximately 20 hours in each of three month-long windows);
- Preferably are familiar with, or have experience scoring, performance-based assessments.

For more information and a link to the application, click [here](#). Questions may be directed to Jennifer Ross at (614) 728-6916 or [jennifer.ross@education.ohio.gov](mailto:jennifer.ross@education.ohio.gov).

## **CURRICULUM UPDATES**

### ***Update on physical education licensure requirements***

The final provision of a legislative package in Senate Bill 210, which requires licensure for physical education, goes into effect this summer. The provision requires any classroom teacher hired to teach physical education by a school district after **July 1, 2013**, to hold a physical education teaching license. A teacher hired by the district before July 1, 2013, does not need to hold the physical education teaching license, but may continue to teach physical education under another appropriate license such as an elementary certificate or license. The Certification and Licensure Dictionary Web page can be found [here](#) to locate licensure codes. Additional questions concerning these licensure requirements can be answered by [Lisa Lyle Henry](#) at (614) 728-7732.

### ***Local boards must select interim end-of-course tests in history and government by July 1***

Local school district boards of education must adopt interim end-of-course examinations to assess mastery of American history and American government standards by July 1. These interim examinations will be used until the superintendent of public instruction and the chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents select end-of-course examinations in American history and American government, which are currently scheduled to become operational in spring 2015.

The interim end-of-course examinations require demonstration of mastery of the American history and American government content in the social studies standards and the historic documents identified in Senate Bill 165, passed last year. At least 20 percent of the interim end-of-course examination in American government must address the topics within American history and American government identified in state law. Items addressing the historic documents should make up at least 20 percent of the points possible on an end-of-course examination in American government. For more information, click [here](#).

### ***2013 Chinese Bridge Delegation applications are due by June 14***

School and district leaders are invited to apply to participate in the College Board's 2013 Chinese Bridge Delegation, which will take place Nov. 6-14 in China. This program provides participants with the necessary background needed to start up or strengthen Chinese language programs and partnerships. The week-long trip will include tours of K-12 schools, educational workshops, interaction with Chinese educators and cultural activities. Superintendents, principals, curriculum directors, world language supervisors and other educational leaders with oversight of world language learning are invited to apply. Educators from institutions already offering Chinese language and culture programs also may apply, but previous Chinese Bridge Delegation participants may not. Delegates must pay a nonrefundable registration fee and are responsible for securing their own travel insurance. They must also arrange their own domestic travel to a designated U.S. departure hub and pay the associated cost. Delegates are provided free international round-trip airfare, accommodations, food and transportation while in China. The deadline to apply is **June 14** and the application will be posted [here](#) soon. For additional information, contact [k12chinese@collegeboard.org](mailto:k12chinese@collegeboard.org).

### ***Host an international high school exchange student sponsored by the U.S. Department of State***

The U.S. Department of State invites Ohio families and schools to engage in citizen diplomacy by hosting an international high school exchange student starting this fall. Approximately 2,000 Department of State-sponsored exchange students from more than 50 countries, all of whom have undergone a competitive, merit-based selection process, will spend the 2013-2014 academic year in communities across the United States. These exchange students live with American families, attend American high schools, and participate in American culture, leadership activities and community service. Exchange students can help internationalize classrooms and bring foreign affairs to life. Please learn more or submit an interest form at [hosting.state.gov](http://hosting.state.gov) and share this announcement with others. Direct questions about the program to [youthprograms@state.gov](mailto:youthprograms@state.gov).

### ***Career connection learning strategies to be embedded into model curricula***

Updated academic curricula embedded with career strategies will be available on the Ohio Department of Education website at the start of the 2013-2014 school year. The new curricula, informed by a diverse group of stakeholders in regional meetings during the past several months, will assist teachers of K-12 English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies with integrating career connections into their

academic content. As required by Senate Bill 316, the model curricula shall be adopted by the State Board of Education no later than June 30, 2013.

## ASSESSMENT UPDATES

### ***Be a part of something big***

ODE is again recruiting districts for the Ohio Performance Assessment Pilot Project, which is aimed at evaluating performance-based assessments as well as defining the nature and implementation of the tasks to be used as part of statewide test instruments. Applications to field-test performance assessments for Ohio's Next Generation Assessment System are available [here](#) on the department's website for Cohort 4.5 (high school mathematics, English language arts, science, social studies and career-technical assessments) and for Cohort 5 (elementary assessments in mathematics, English language arts, science and social studies). Applications for both cohorts are due **May 24** with notifications of acceptance made by June 14. Potential applicants may learn more about the pilot by viewing recorded webinars and video newsletters [here](#). Questions may be directed to Lauren Monowar-Jones at [lauren.monowar-jones@education.ohio.gov](mailto:lauren.monowar-jones@education.ohio.gov) or (614) 728-1759.

### ***Chartered nonpublic schools – please respond to the Intent to Participate Survey by June 21***

All chartered nonpublic school principals are to respond to the 2013-2014 Intent to Participate Survey, whether participating or not in the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) or the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT). The survey was emailed from Sarah Stirling to principals on **May 8** with the subject line: **OAA & OGT Intent to Participate Action Required**. Please check your Inbox and, if needed, your Junk or Spam folders to locate the email. Any school not responding will continue to receive reminder emails. If you cannot locate the email, contact Stirling at Sarah [Stirling@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Stirling@education.ohio.gov) or (614) 644-7356.

Chartered nonpublic schools have the option of assessing students with the OAA and OGT by responding to survey by Aug. 1. Students in the EdChoice, Cleveland Scholarship and Jon Petersen programs are required to be assessed with the OAA and OGT. A school should print and retain the confirmation page at the survey's completion. Schools also may revise a submitted survey until Aug. 1. ODE will not send any validation or hard-copy reminders on this matter.

### ***Spring 2013 OGT results are posted***

Spring 2013 OGT results for all students whose answer documents were returned to Data Recognition Corporation by March 25 were posted in the Ohio Online Assessment Reporting System on **May 13**. Printed score reports will be delivered to districts and interactive data will be posted in the system by **May 23**.

### ***Procedure for spring 2013 OGT rescoring and verifications outlined***

The [Test Information Distribution Engine](#) (TIDE) will accept Spring 2013 OGT rescore and verification requests **May 13 to June 21**. Requests for rescoring will be subject to ODE approval. There will be a \$25 charge for processing each rescore unless it results in a score change and for each verification request.

To enter a rescore/verification request in TIDE, click *Create Appeals* on the TIDE home page. Purchase orders for OGT rescoring and verifications should be payable to Data Recognition Corporation and faxed to (866) 377-1249 or mailed to Ohio Customer Service, Data Recognition Corporation, 13490 Bass Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN 55311. The purchase requisition number is required for each rescore or verification request; results will not be posted until the purchase order number is received. When the results are available, district test coordinators will be notified via email to access the results through TIDE by clicking on *Appeals*. Printed results will not be sent to the district.

### ***Get ready for summer 2013 OGT***

[TIDE](#) will be open **May 27 to June 25** for districts to indicate their intent to participate in the Summer 2013 OGT administration. During this time, districts also may order additional materials and special versions (large-print and Braille test booklets, as well as language translation scripts). TIDE will accept Pre-ID files for Summer 2013 OGT testing from **May 13-17**. Students should be pre-identified under the district and school where their results should be sent. The Summer 2013 OGT will be administered **June 17-30**. Summer testing is optional. Participating schools and districts do not need to offer all five tests. Test materials will be sent only to districts that indicate their intent to offer the OGT. If the district is unsure if it will conduct summer

testing, please confirm participation. If the district will not offer summer testing after having confirmed participation in TIDE, it can cancel its order by calling (877) 231-7809, option 1, no later than **May 27**.

### **Who can take the summer 2013 OGT?**

Students who may participate in the summer 2013 OGT include those who:

- Have completed grade 10 or above by June 30, 2013; or
- Are below grade 10, but are enrolled in state-approved STEM schools; or
- Are in an adult high school program; or
- Have completed curriculum requirements for graduation, but have not passed all required tests.

If students taking the summer OGT are enrolled in school, they are required to complete 10 hours of intervention for each subject area in which they will be tested. Students who have completed curriculum requirements for graduation may test without the required 10 hours of intervention.

### **Window to order OGT half-length practice tests opens May 21**

[TIDE](#) will be open **May 21 to June 27** for OGT half-length practice test orders. The tests can be used to prepare students for the OGT. The half-length practice tests include these special versions: Braille, large print and English audio CDs. Practice tests will be shipped in September only to districts that indicate in TIDE that they would like to receive them. TIDE will open again for additional half-length practice test orders from **Sept. 5 to Oct. 3**. Note: Districts that are required to administer the full-length practice tests must download and print the full-length versions from the ODE website.

### **Here's how to access OGT, OTELA and OAA results**

OGT, OTELA and OAA results can be accessed through the [Success website](#) by selecting the *Educator's Workroom*. After logging in, access the downloadable student data file for the desired test at left. Select the appropriate administration from the drop-down menu. From the batch type drop-down menu, select *General* for on-time results. The data are available in .csv and .txt versions. To access interactive data, on the right side of the screen, click a test name to access a list of available administrations. Select a grade and then a subject to access available reports.

### **Make note of the OAA pre-reporting record change and invalidation window in TIDE**

The Pre-Reporting Record Change window is the last opportunity districts have to modify Pre-ID data and/or associate a student's demographic information with the label/bar code affixed to the student's scorable test booklet (grades 3-4) or answer document (grades 5-8). Districts also may submit requests for invalidations for the OAA through the Pre-Reporting Record Change window in [TIDE](#). **Any district that used an OAA breach form must submit a request for invalidation for the test that was compromised during the TIDE window even if the test was marked *Do Not Score*.** The window is open **May 29-30** and closes at **6 p.m. on May 30**.

### **Be sure data is entered for OAA spring 2013 classroom reports**

Classroom reports are based on the teacher name, course name and section number fields in the student record. At least one of these fields must be completed in the student record to ensure that classroom reports (teacher reports) are received. Districts will receive **no classroom reports** if these data are not included on the Pre-ID file or entered into the TIDE record-change system during the Pre-Processing (**April 15 to May 17**) or Pre-Reporting Record Change windows. **(The May 29-30 window closes at 6 p.m. on May 30.)** Once results are reported, it is too late to complete the fields to generate a classroom report (teacher report).

### **Information about spring 2013 OTELA results and verifications presented**

Spring 2013 OTELA downloadable data were available **May 8**. Printed student score reports will be delivered to districts by **May 16**. Interactive data will be posted online **May 23**. [TIDE](#) will be open **May 8 to June 5** for districts to submit verification requests. There will be a \$25 charge for each verification. There are no rescoring for OTELA. Purchase orders for OTELA verifications should be payable to American Institutes for Research and faxed to (614) 220-9012 or mailed to American Institutes for Research, Attn: Beth Flint, 41 South High Street, Suite 2425, Columbus, OH 43215. The purchase order number is required for each verification request. District test coordinators will be notified via email when the results are available. Note that results will not be posted until the district's purchase order is received. Test coordinators can access the

results through TIDE by clicking *Appeals*. Printed results will not be sent to the district. There are no rescoring for OTELA.

### ***Online assessment pilot opportunity continues through May 31***

The Online Assessment Pilot (OAP) will be available **May 6-31**. Participation is optional and there is no need to register. Additional details related to the pilot, including an overview of procedures, technology requirements, schedules, documents, links and software, are available on the pilot's portal [here](#). Please note that the procedures and requirements apply only to the spring 2013 OAP. These technology requirements should not be used to make formal plans for future assessments or to make purchasing decisions regarding hardware or software.

The pilot's purpose is to provide educators, administrators and students with an opportunity to experience online assessments. The pilot will use grade 4 social studies content for demonstration purposes and is not an assessment of fourth-grade students' proficiency in social studies. Participation in the pilot will be limited to schools that have participated in the spring 2013 OAA administration and grade 4 students who have a statewide student identifier number. Information related to the implementation of the pilot will be collected and used by the department to inform the development of Ohio's next generation of assessments.

Please direct questions regarding the pilot's technology, software or websites to the Ohio Help Desk at 1-888-944-5001 or [ohhelpdesk@air.org](mailto:ohhelpdesk@air.org). Other questions concerning the pilot should be directed to Paula Mahaley at (614) 466-0223 or [paula.mahaley@education.ohio.gov](mailto:paula.mahaley@education.ohio.gov).

### ***Make note of spring 2014 OAA administration schedule***

The Spring **2014** OAA administration period will begin **April 21** and end **May 9**. In 2014, Easter will be on Sunday, April 20, and Passover will end on Tuesday, April 22. In addition, some spring breaks may affect district test schedules. Please note that the Spring 2014 OAA administration window will not change. In 2011, a similar scheduling situation occurred. The same suggestions given in 2011 for districts to schedule the OAA will be shared in future newsletters.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### ***What do we know improves education?***

Knowledge is power. It tells us where we are and how we can get where we need to be. On **June 17**, Ohio's school leaders driving improvement are gathering for a hands-on, interactive event to examine the latest data and research. The Ohio Education Research Center offers this free opportunity to any interested educators who wish to work with data and research for school improvement and innovation. Learn more and register on the center's [website](#).

### ***Still a few spots left for some summer workshops for Advanced Placement teachers***

Some of the free Advanced Placement (AP) workshops being offered next month still have room available. The workshops provide teachers with in-depth content and resources to enhance their teaching of AP courses. Teachers must register through STARS, which is accessible through [SAFE](#) accounts. The following workshops are still open:

- June 17, AP Psychology, Bowling Green State University;
- June 24, A Day with an AP English Language Arts Reader, State Library of Ohio, Columbus;
- June 24, A Day with an AP Calculus Reader, State Library of Ohio, Columbus;
- June 24, A Day with an AP Biology Reader, State Library of Ohio, Columbus;
- June 24, Calculus AB, Walnut Hills High School, Cincinnati.

### ***Ohio ASCD summer conference to be held in Columbus***

On **June 25**, the Ohio Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) will host its summer conference, *The Journey to 2014: Implementing Rigor, Relevance and Relationships in Ohio Classrooms*. Speakers include Sasheen Phillips, senior executive director at the Ohio Department of Education and Bobby Moore, Battelle for Kids. Conference topics include transformational leadership, the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System pilot process, Ohio's college and career readiness standards, PARCC assessments and more. For a conference brochure and registration, please visit the [ASCD website](#) or call (937) 996-4211.

### **Partnership for Global Learning Conference to be held June 27-29**

The Asia Society Partnership for Global Learning will feature the theme Engage the World during its sixth annual conference in Brooklyn, New York. The conference will feature more than 45 hands-on workshops organized by strands titled *Deeper Learning*, *Expanded Learning*, *A Digital World* and *Take Action*. The formal conference will take place **June 28-29**. On June 27, participants may take part in one of four pre-conference workshops led by master educators. These three-hour offerings include: Develop Globally Competent Students Through Project-Based Learning; Learning and Leadership in the Digital Age; Service Learning: Academic, Engaging, Real; and Deep Dive into the K-5 Global Education Toolkit. To learn more about this event, click [here](#). To register for the conference, use [this link](#).

### **Register now for Engineering by Design Summer Institutes**

This summer, [ITEEA's STEM Center for Teaching and Learning](#) is hosting [Engineering by Design](#) (EbD) Summer Institutes for middle and high school educators in Columbus from **July 29 to Aug. 2**. EbD course materials provide an integrative approach towards STEM education that intentionally integrates the concepts and practices of science and mathematics with those of technology and engineering. The courses are geared towards any teacher, administrator or pre-service teacher who is interested in gaining the underlying pedagogy and skills necessary to implement these courses in schools. An *EbD™ trained Teacher Effectiveness Coach* will run the hands-on, five-day institutes. Register for the Exploring Technology (Middle School) institute [here](#) and the Foundations of Technology (High School) [here](#). For a copy of the EbD™ Professional Development Planner, please click [here](#). Discounts are available for EbD Network Schools.

### **Attend the Career Development through Career Connections conference**

Teachers of all content, school counselors and administrators are encouraged to attend the Career Development through Career Connections conference on **July 31** in Columbus. Chad Foster, nationally recognized career readiness author and speaker, will deliver a keynote address. In addition to providing time for networking, the conference also will offer breakout sessions related to career readiness, innovative school counseling and integrated career-based learning for academic classrooms. Registration is open and available under the title *pre-conference* [here](#). The program is presented by the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Career-Technical Education.

### **New collaborative resources for science educators are available**

A new one-stop-shop has been created [here](#) to house resources and updates for science educators in Ohio. Currently, there is additional information on collaboration opportunities, a blog to catalogue Model Curriculum updates, resources on science content and instruction, information on the Next Generation Science Standards and a new LinkedIn group to facilitate communication between science teachers.

### **Handbook offers varied resources to guide formative instructional practices**

Whether you're just beginning to work on formative instructional practices or you are deep into implementation, the FIP Your School Implementation Handbook has strategies and tools that can help school leadership teams thoughtfully plan how to advance and sustain the use of these practices. [Learn more and access the handbook here.](#)

### **Principals – learn how formative instructional practices support the new evaluation systems**

Want to know how formative instructional practices connect to the Ohio Principal Evaluation System? Many of Ohio's Standards for Principals depend on the effective use and support of these practices. This brochure includes information on how leading and modeling formative instructional practices can advance principal effectiveness. [Download the brochure here.](#)

### **INFOhio offers no-cost and low-cost professional development for summer 2013**

If you need professional development credit this summer, INFOhio offers a variety of digital options that you can complete as your schedule allows:

- **The 21 Things for 21st Century Learning** – Work through one or all of this course's 21 modules that teach you how to integrate Web 2.0 technologies and 21st century learning skills into K-12 classrooms. There is no charge for completing the modules on your own. However, INFOhio and the Northwest Ohio Educational Technology Foundation are working with Bowling Green State University and Ashland

University to offer credit options for reasonable fees. You can earn professional development hours, a skills certificate or actual graduate credit. For summer 2013 credit, register by June 14 and complete work by July 19. Learn more about credit options and fees at INFOhio's [website](#). Or call the foundation at (800) 966-9638.

- **Learn With INFOhio Webinar Archive** – Take advantage of no-cost professional development opportunities throughout the summer by clicking on the *Recordings* link on the [INFOhio Webinar page](#). You can earn a certificate for contact hours by answering a short quiz at the end of each webinar.
- **INFOhio's Second Annual Virtual Conference, Aug. 5-7** – Take some time to recharge before the start of the 2013-14 school year at INFOhio's second annual virtual conference. The conference will include a keynote address from Gwyneth A. Jones, aka The Daring Librarian. There also will be interactive online workshops on the latest on instructional shifts in Ohio's New Learning Standards and the American Association of School Librarian's new lesson plan database; tools for college and career readiness; and curation tools, such as Pinterest and Symbaloo. You can earn up to 15 contact hours or one hour of graduate credit toward professional development requirements. Check the [INFOhio website](#) in early July for registration information.

### ***Thought of the month***

"Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation." – *John F. Kennedy*

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