



Dropout Prevention and Recovery Advisory Council

Date: July 22, 2025

Council members present: John Hagan, Adam Clark, Sheila Vitale, Dean Manke, Tiffany Delong, Cris Gulacy-Worrel

Department staff in attendance: Colleen Grady, Jennifer Stump, Elena Sanders, Lily Bartholomew, Katie Beahr

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Hagan called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. With six members present, a quorum was met.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dean Manke made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes. Cris Gulacy-Worrel seconded the motion. April 2025 minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0.

BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennie Stump, Chief of Policy & Legislative Affairs at the Department, provided House Bill 96 updates to the Council. These updates included revisions to the community school financial forecasts, Science of Reading training requirements, new cell phone and AI policies for schools, attendance absence prevention strategies, changes to Sponsor Assurances, updates to Sponsor Evaluation, and the removal of deadlines for the CTE provider application window. Chairman Hagan questioned the length of the approval process for new CTE programs. Jennie Stump noted that it depends on quality of application and the degree of collaboration with Career Tech Planning District, but currently applications can be approved in as short as a month. House Bill 96 requires a new competency based adult learning program to be created that replaces the Adult Diploma and 22+ Programs. Jennie also shared that beginning July 1, 2027, DOPR schools must be limited to students aged 14-21. Schools have until July 1, 2027, to divest themselves of students younger than 14 by either no longer offering these grades or creating a spin-off school.

FOUNDATION FUNDING UPDATE

Elena Sanders, Senior Financial Manager with the Office of Budget and School Funding, provided House Bill 96 funding updates that immediately took effect and updates that are to take effect in 90 days. These updates included changes to DPIA funding, a new base funding supplement. House Bill 96 updates included adjustments to the Quality Community and Independent STEM School Support: payments will now be spread throughout the year instead of a lump sum, as well as live data being used throughout the school year.



22+ PROGRAM CHANGES

Colleen Grady provided additional details on the elimination of the 22+ and Adult Diploma Programs and the creation of a new competency based adult learning program. The Department will adopt administrative rules to establish standards for the new program.

UPDATE ON COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Colleen Grady provided the list of the current resolutions that the Council has adopted. The Council then discussed which resolutions were included in the budget.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Colleen Grady informed the Council that the Department has applied for the Charter Schools Program Grant and the Charter Schools Facilities Grant. The Department expects to hear results by the end of September. Colleen also noted that the Department has a new Deputy Director for K-12 Education and will join the Council at a future meeting.

The following updates were provided to the Council.

- [Final correction opportunities](#) close July 25 for 2025 assessment and student data
- Ohio Department of Health releases [revised guidelines for school emergencies](#)
- Announcing [Ohio's Plan for K-12 Mathematics](#)
- [New report card training series](#) this month

NEW BUSINESS

The Council has decided to cancel the August meeting.

FUTURE MEETING ITEMS

The Department will provide a full analysis of the budget at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adam Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Dean Manke seconded the motion. There were no objections offered. Chair Hagan adjourned the Council meeting at 1:08pm.