

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Honorable Ian Rosenblum  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs,  
Delegated the authority to perform the functions and  
duties of the Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Rosenblum:

Pursuant to section 8401 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), I am pleased to submit this request for a waiver to Ohio's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) consolidated state plan due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 national emergency. The education community in Ohio is grateful for the flexibilities provided through this waiver process.

Ohio's waiver is submitted with the intent of limiting the consequences of any data generated from assessments or other sources during the 2020-2021 school year to the extent allowable and make allowable technical adjustments to relevant aspects of the state's accountability system and report card.

Education stakeholders across the state were given the opportunity to review and provide feedback to the Ohio Department of Education prior to the submission of this waiver request. The waiver draft was shared directly with Ohio's ESEA Committee of Practitioners, all major education associations and stakeholder groups in Ohio covering superintendents, teachers, and parents. The materials were also shared through distribution lists and the Department's weekly newsletter. Public comment was received via email on these materials.

The Ohio Department of Education received positive feedback on the waiver request. Specifically, those submitting comments were in support of pushing forward the school improvement identification to years with more complete data. Additionally, a network of English Learner Administrators supports the intent of providing data on student's improvement in acquiring English language proficiency but reducing the impact of that data on accountability ratings.

Thanks for your consideration of our waiver request. Please email [Shelby.Robertson@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Shelby.Robertson@education.ohio.gov) if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Ohio Department of Education