

OEA

OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



The Governor's Education Reform & Funding Plan

Context, Position & Overview



Background/History

- ▶ From July – December 2008, Gov. Strickland hosted 17 education reform and school funding forums
- ▶ OEA along with other education stakeholder groups have been at the table with the Gov. throughout this process
- ▶ Education has been protected from an estimated \$900 million in budget cuts—and the Governor is adding \$925 million in education funding over the next two years





OEA Position

- ▶ The Governor's leadership on the state budget related to school funding and reform demonstrates that public education is a top priority
- ▶ Even though academic standards and financial accountability are tougher, the Governor understands the needs of the whole child extend beyond the classroom, (i.e., family and community)





Components of the Governor's Education Plan

- ▶ 21st Century Learning Environments
- ▶ Expanded Learning Opportunities
- ▶ High Quality Educators
- ▶ Measure Ohio Students Against the World
- ▶ School District Accountability
- ▶ Effective Funding for a 21st Century System of Education





21st Century Learning Environments

- ▶ Help students develop the 21st Century skills they need—prepare Ohio's students for success in life.
- ▶ Charge the ODE with setting standards for Ohio schools to require innovative teaching techniques, (e.g., interdisciplinary methods, project-based learning, real world lessons and service learning)





Expanded Learning Opportunities

- ▶ Establish universal all day kindergarten
- ▶ Build on the Governor's Closing the Achievement Gap initiative
- ▶ Require each district to have a Family & Community Engagement Team – that will work with the county and state Family & Children First Councils
- ▶ Place a Family & Community coordinator in each building





High Quality Educators

- ▶ **4 Licensure Levels –**
 - ▶ Resident Educator License (4 years)
 - ▶ Professional Educator License (5 years)
 - ▶ Senior Professional License (5 years)
 - ▶ Lead Professional Educator License (5 years)





High Quality Educators (cont'd)

- ▶ This portion of the plan seeks to:
 - ▶ Provide additional time for teacher collaboration, mentoring and professional development
 - ▶ Strengthen the licensing standards for school principals
 - ▶ Establish standards for the mastery of both education and management principles that will be expected of superintendents and other school business officials





Measure Ohio Students Against the World

- ▶ **Revise Ohio's current requirements for high school graduation**
- ▶ **Replace the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) with "ACT Plus":**
 - ▶ ACT college entrance exams
 - ▶ End of course exams
 - ▶ Completion of a service learning project
 - ▶ Submission of a senior project
- ▶ **Revise current assessments for grades 3-8 in the core subjects to integrate 21st Century skills**





School District Accountability

- ▶ Facilitate performance audits of school districts to ensure they are maintaining the academic and operating standards established in this plan
- ▶ Require the ODE to conduct a visit of each school building every five years
- ▶ Direct the ODE to revise current operating standards to align with the education reform plan





School District Accountability Continued

- ▶ **Establish accountability in charter schools**
 - ▶ Prohibit for-profit companies from managing charter schools
 - ▶ Require charter schools to meet the same high standards for academic and fiscal accountability as traditional public schools
 - ▶ Grant the Department of Education authority to regulate charter schools and sponsors
 - ▶ Require charter schools to hire licensed teachers





Effective Funding for a 21st Century System of Education

- ▶ Under the Governor's plan, the state will eliminate the use of phantom revenue, which has increased the local tax burden
- ▶ Districts that pass a conversion levy will see their tax revenues grow with increased property values, helping schools keep up with inflation





Effective Funding for a 21st Century System of Education Continued

- ▶ **Increasing the state's share of public education funding**
 - ▶ To 55% in the upcoming two-year budget
 - ▶ To 59% by fiscal year 2017,
- ▶ **The Ohio Instructional Quality Index would drive resources to the students that need it most based on**
 - ▶ Poverty
 - ▶ Property Wealth
 - ▶ Educational attainment





Key Issues

- ▶ Lengthen the school year by twenty days
- ▶ Utilize student performance data as one criterion for determining licensure levels
- ▶ Increase the number of years required for tenure from three to nine





For More Information and Action

- ▶ See the OEA web site, www.ohea.org , for:
 - ▶ OEA Talking Points on the Governor's Proposals
 - ▶ The Governor's Proposals in a downloadable .pdf file
 - ▶ A downloadable version of this slide show in .pdf format
 - ▶ More news on Ohio's budget for public education
- ▶ **And please take action**
 - ▶ Attend OEA's 2009 Educator Lobby Days:
March 10, April 28, and May 12, 2009
- ▶ **Tell your legislators to pass a solid education budget!**

