

DECEMBER 2025

# MID-OHIO ESC COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## REMINDERS

- Review OEDS and Ensure Information is Correct
- Ensure Website is up to date
- Ohio EdTech Conference
  - February 10-12, 2026
  - [Register](#)
- Digital Learning Annual Conference
  - February 18-20, 2026
  - [More Information](#)

**Don't Forget to Review Epicenter regularly to stay current!**

## UPCOMING MOESC PD OPPORTUNITIES

- CSTAG - Refresher
  - 1/12/26
- Title IX Training
  - 1/12/26
- Curriculum Instruction and Assessment Network
  - 1/16/26
- Special Education Coordinators Network
  - 1/16/26
- Testing Coordinator Network
  - 1/16/26
- Intervention Specialist Network
  - 1/27/26
- Student Services Network
  - 1/28/26
- CPI Initial
  - 1/30/26
- Art Network
  - 2/13/26
- CPI Refresher
  - 2/19/26

To Register visit  
[www.moesc.net/register](http://www.moesc.net/register).

## GENERAL UPDATES

The Ohio Department of Education uses a Quality Practices Rubric to evaluate community school sponsors on their adherence to quality sponsoring practices. The rubric consists of 33 standards designed to evaluate sponsors on various sponsoring practices. These standards are aligned with the National Association of Charter Schools Authorizers (NACSA) standards and Ohio laws and rules.

One of the standards (F.04), "Relationships with Schools' Governing Authorities" requires that the sponsor takes steps to build a positive working relationship with each school's governing authority. The sponsor must adhere to the following two key indicators to achieve the maximum number of points for this standard.

- The sponsor attends at least three governing authority meetings annually for each school.
- The sponsor communicates with and provides information about the school and written guidance on rules, laws, and/or policies that impact community schools at least quarterly, beyond the monthly financial and enrollment reviews.

This month, we are asking each school's governing authority member to complete the survey (see link below). Over the course of the school year, we are required to collect data from stakeholder groups associated with the school. The responses to the survey questions provide the sponsor with valuable feedback regarding sponsorship practices.

If you have any questions, please contact us. As always, thank you for all you do to support our students and staff.

[Governing Board Member Survey](#)

## LEGAL AND POLICY

Does your school/school district have a cell phone use policy in place? Beginning in January, Ohio law requires that schools/school districts have a cell phone use policy in place that prohibits the use of cell phones during school time.

Although members of the General Assembly have been enjoying the winter holidays, before leaving Columbus the Legislature left a number of approved bills for the Governor to sign into law or veto. Among those bills are several which will impact traditional schools tax collections

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## LEGAL AND POLICY CONTINUED

Among the property tax bills recently signed into law by the Governor are:

- HB-186 which limits the growth in unvoted school property tax increases to the rate of inflation.
- HB-335 which limits the growth of revenue increases from inside milage for all local governments. Under the bill's provisions revenue increases from property reappraisals are tied to the rate of inflation over the previous 3 years.
- HB-129 changes the calculation of the 20-mil floor (school districts) so that emergency and substitute levies are included in the calculation.
- HB-309 grants county budget commissions the authority to reduce voted property tax levies if the commission determines that the local government is collecting unnecessary or excessive funds.
- HB-124 seeks to make the property valuation process more understandable by giving county auditors greater oversight in the use of sales information in determining property valuation.

Prior to the winter holidays several bills of interest to schools were approved by the originating chamber and forwarded to the other chamber for consideration in the new year. Legislation approved by the Senate and forwarded to the House for consideration include:

- SB-19 which seeks to require school districts to provide intervention services to students scoring "limited" on state assessments or end-of-course exams in Math and English/Language Arts. SB-19 was amended to eliminate exemptions based on course grades and diagnostic assessments.
- SB-34 seeks the display of certain historical (founding) documents of significance. The bill includes a list of 9 documents considered to be of historical significance. Among the documents of significance is the Ten Commandments giving rise to some controversy.
- SB-144 which, if approved in its current form, would once again change the grade bands of teacher license to PreK-5, 4-8, and 7-12. Teachers would continue to be permitted to teach 2 years outside of the grade band of their license, but only after teaching for a period of time within the grade band of their license. Thus, after a period of service as a PreK-5 teacher the holder of this license might teach students as old as 7th graders or the holder of a 4-8 license might teach students as young as 2nd grade or as old as 10th grade. Holders of the previous 4-9 (Middle Childhood) license were licensed to teach 2 of the core content subjects (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies). If SB-144 is approved in its current form, holder of the 4-8 license will be generalists, able to teach any of the core content subjects.

The House has forwarded to the Senate HB-486 which seeks to permit (but not require) public school teachers to offer instruction on the influence of Christianity.

The Ohio Senate is not scheduled to have a Session Day (when bills are formerly introduced, voted on, etc.) until the end of January 2026. The House's first scheduled Session Day of 2026 is not until mid-February.