

M A Y 2026

# NEWSLETTER

Mid-Ohio ESC Community School

## REMINDERS

### June 10

Attend Ohio 2026

### June 12

CTE Access Grant Applications Due

### June 15

ED STEPS Final Expenditure Report Webinar

### June 17

ED STEPS One Funding Application Webinar

### June 17

CSP & CFGI Grant Applications Due

### July 1

AI Policy Adoption Deadline

### July 1

Gifted Performance Indicator Opt-In Form Due

### July 15

K-12 Ohio Direct Admission Opt-In Deadline

### July 15

EMIS Data Collection Deadline

### July 15

Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid & Student Wellness and Success Funds Report Due

### July 20

Business Advisory Council Town Hall

### August 15

Sponsor Expenditure Reporting Due

### October 1

E-School Sponsor Certification Plan Due

## KEY CALLOUTS

### AI Policy Due

July 1, 2026

### CSP & CFGI Applications

Due June 17, 2026

### EMIS Collections

Due July 15, 2026

### Sponsor Expenditure Reporting

Due August 15, 2026

## General Updates

### Background Check Reminders

Candidates applying for their first Ohio educator license, or returning after a gap in licensure, should complete all required background check requirements before or at the same time they submit their licensure application. Obtaining complete background check results, including rapsheets or other BCI documentation related to rejected or failed fingerprints, can take **60 days or longer**.

The State Board of Education cannot begin reviewing a submitted application until all required background check information has been received. Schools hiring new staff should encourage candidates to begin the background check process as early as possible to avoid delays in licensure and employment.

*Action: Encourage prospective employees and newly hired staff to complete all background check requirements well in advance of anticipated licensure deadlines.*

### Artificial Intelligence Policy Deadline Approaching

Under **House Bill 96**, all Ohio school districts and community schools are required to adopt a formal **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy** by **July 1, 2026**. The newly released model policy provides a framework that schools may adopt as written or customize to meet local needs.

Developed through Ohio's AI in Education Coalition, the model policy reflects input from educators, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government leaders. It addresses appropriate AI use by students and staff, promotes ethical practices and academic integrity, and establishes expectations related to data privacy and security.

The model policy also provides guidance for integrating AI into curriculum and instruction, evaluating third-party AI tools, and aligning AI use with existing policies regarding bullying, academic integrity, technology use, and procurement.

*Action: Review the model policy and ensure your governing authority adopts an AI policy prior to the **July 1, 2026** deadline.*

### Community School Grants: CSP & CFGI Application Window Opens June 3

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has announced the opening of the **Charter School Program Grant (CSP)** and **Charter School Facilities Incentive Grant (CFGI)** application window beginning **June 3, 2026**. Both competitive grant programs are intended to expand access to high-quality community schools across Ohio.

Eligibility requirements and lists of eligible schools are available on the respective grant webpages. Applications for both programs must be completed through the **One Funding Application in ED STEPS** no later than **June 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.** Late applications will not be accepted.

Upcoming office hours will be held via Microsoft Teams and are intended to provide applicants an opportunity to ask questions regarding the application process:

- **June 10:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.
- **June 15:** 10:00–11:00 a.m.

Applicants are encouraged to review the grant webpages for Requests for Applications, webinars, scoring rubrics, and required application documents.

*Resources: Additional information is available on the CSP and CFGI webpages. Questions may be directed to [CommunitySchoolGrants@education.ohio.gov](mailto:CommunitySchoolGrants@education.ohio.gov).*

### OhioMeansJobs K-12 Survey

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is seeking feedback from educators on how schools use the tools and resources available through the **OhioMeansJobs K-12 website**. Information collected through the survey will help inform future enhancements and resource development to better support career awareness, career planning, and workforce readiness initiatives across Ohio schools.

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## UPCOMING MOESC PD

### July 27

OTES • 8:00 AM–3:00 PM

### July 28

OTES • 8:00 AM–3:00 PM

### July 29

OTES • 8:00 AM–3:00 PM

### July 30

OPES • 8:00 AM–3:30 PM

### August 4

MOESC Administrative  
Conference • 8:00 AM–3:30 PM

## BILLS TO WATCH

### SB-144

Creates a 4–8 teaching license while retaining existing grade bands. Passed Senate; pending House consideration.

### SB-311

Senator Brenner's omnibus education bill addressing testing, facilities, governance, and other education issues. Additional amendments expected.

## KEY LINKS

[Legislative Service Commission](#)  
— [Pending Legislation](#)

[AI Model Policy](#)

[CSP Grant Information](#)

[CFIG Grant Information](#)

[OhioMeansJobs K-12](#)

[One Funding Application Resources](#)

## Legal & Policy Updates

### Ohio General Assembly Update

As we roll toward the General Assembly's hoped-for recess at the end of the week, the House Education Committee met earlier today, and the Senate Education Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow.

The agenda for today's House Education Committee meeting did not include **SB-144**, proposed legislation seeking to once again change the license grade bands. In this version, the **PreK–8 license** is replaced by a **PreK–5 license** and a **4–8 license**. Holders of the 4–8 license would become generalists, dropping the subject-area concentrations held by 4–9 license holders.

Although the committee did not hear **SB-144**, seven other bills received a hearing:

- **SB-7:** Seeks to require instruction in the dangers of substance abuse.
- **SB-328:** Seeks to establish a DEW return-on-investment initiative.
- **SB-19:** Seeks to establish strategies to improve student performance in math, including a math equivalent of RIMPs.
- **SB-276:** Seeks to have Ohio join the Interstate Compact on the licensing of school psychologists.
- **HB-715:** Seeks to bring some oversight to the private school scholarship program.
- **HB-574:** Seeks to establish a pilot program for the merging of political subdivisions, including the merger of small school districts and ESCs.
- **HB-304:** Seeks to require schools to offer recess and establish alternative activities that can be used to fulfill the PE requirement.

The Senate Education Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow, and **SB-311**, Senator Brenner's omnibus education bill, is on the agenda. Other bills on the agenda include:

- **HB-455:** Seeks to clean up out-of-date DEW rules and regulations.
- **SB-326:** Seeks to require students to complete a computer science course.
- **SB-272:** Seeks to permit the passage of a civics assessment to replace the requirement that students complete a course in American Government.

### HB-523: Student Teacher Provisions

Last week the House gave its approval to **HB-523** by a vote of **91–0**. As approved, however, the bill is a ghost of its former self.

In its original form, **HB-523** would have given public schools permissive authority to pay student teachers at an established rate and provide benefits equal to those provided to teachers; permitted public universities to lower tuition and fees during student teaching and other field experiences; required DEW to provide student teachers with a cost-of-living stipend if funded by the General Assembly; required the State Board of Education to reimburse incoming teachers for licensing assessment costs if funded; and required publication of information regarding in-demand teaching jobs.

As approved by the House, the bill retains the provision granting authority to schools and districts to pay student teachers, but permits each district electing to pay students to set its own stipend. The bill also retains the provision permitting universities to lower tuition and fees charged to students during student teaching or other field experiences. Finally, the bill assigns Jobs and Family Services the responsibility to provide information on in-demand teaching jobs.

**HB-523** now moves to the Senate for consideration. The Senate will likely not begin its consideration until after the fall election. The bills discussed above likely will not advance to law unless they are attached to a "Christmas Tree" bill during lame duck. Given the popularity of **SB-144**, it is possible that it may be destined to become the lame duck Christmas Tree bill for education legislative proposals.