



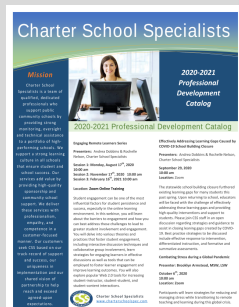
# SPONSOR CONNECTION

## for Schools Sponsored by St. Aloysius

April 2021

### Reminder

- 4/5 | Join the [social and emotional learning virtual meetup](#)
- 4/8 | Register for [Cohorts 2 and 3 One Plan training](#)
- 4/12 | Submit [Charter Schools Program grant intent to apply](#)
- 4/16 | Indicate interest to be a [Charter Schools Program grant reader](#)
- 4/22-23 | Register to attend the [Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs conference](#)
- 4/23 | [Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment \(OELPA\) testing window](#) closes
- 4/30 | Apply for [McKinney-Vento subgrant](#)
- 5/1 | Open Meetings/Public records training due to sponsor
- 5/1 | Annual disclosures/COIs due to sponsor
- 5/1 | Submit [grade 3 paper testing resolution for 2021-2022](#)
- 5/3 | Join the [social and emotional learning virtual meetup](#)
- 5/6 | Register for [Cohorts 2 and 3 One Plan training](#)
- 5/18-19 | Register for the [Trauma-Informed Care Summit](#)
- 5/24 | Five Year forecasts due to sponsor for review



Click on the icon above for the current CSS Professional Development Catalog

### Planning for Extended Learning

We have received several questions about the plans for extended learning. At this point, the plans are still not mandatory (although there is still talk about making them mandatory in upcoming legislation). We will keep you posted if that legislation is passed. Until then, we would suggest that you visit ODE's website frequently, as updates are posted weekly, if not daily. The link is provided below.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Planning-for-Extended->

### Community Schools

### Towpath Trail High School - Making Science Accessible During Hybrid Learning



Hybrid learning has been a challenge for many students, but at Towpath Trail High School in Akron, they are having fun doing easy, accessible science experiments, not only with students who attend in person, but with students who are working from home. Giving students the opportunity to hands-on learning helps them better connect to topics that are being taught in class that week.

The science teacher, Erin Mundorf and the English teacher, Sara Watts, held a live lesson day to practice writing hypothesis statements, connect vocabulary/prefixes to science terminology, and do some fun experiments with water. So far they've done experiments balancing candles on water, milk food-coloring fireworks, and making observations around reflection and refraction through water. Students who are working at home receive a kit with all of the items they need to complete the same experiments at home. Students are asked to follow the instructions they're given with their kit and post a video of themselves conducting the experiment to our Facebook page.

Towpath Trail High School also held a science photo contest, asking kids to submit an original photo of their choice and explain what their subject was, why they chose that photo, and how the photo demonstrates a scientific concept. The school had students submit photos of their pets, nature, themselves, their kids, their adventures, and even an attempt to capture a photo of gravity. It was interesting to see what the students chose to submit, and their responses to the prompts ranged from fun and silly to deep and philosophical.

By providing individualized opportunities for students practice their science skills at home, Towpath Trail High School is not only building academic knowledge, they are supporting the emotional and personal connection that is missing for so many students and teachers during this difficult time.

[Learning#:~:text=To%20submit%20an%20Extended%20Learning,%40education.ohio.gov](#)

Of course, if you have any questions, please feel free to ask. We will get them answered!

### New webpage offers tips to support attendance and student engagement

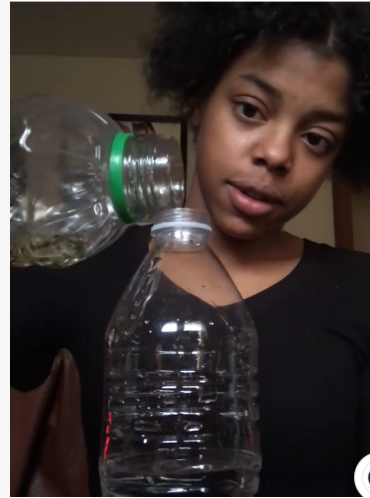
Supporting student engagement and attendance can be challenging under normal circumstances and even more difficult during the pandemic. [The Department is pleased to offer a new webpage with tips educators can use to address these issues.](#)



Towpath Trail High School

Posted by Megan Caranna  
22h · 🌐

Another at-home experiment by LaMiaraye B. with oil and water particles! Great job!!!! Keep it up!  
... See More



## Introducing CSS' New Director of School Improvement - Buddy Harris



We are excited to announce that Buddy Harris joins CSS as the new Director of School Improvement. Prior to joining CSS, Buddy held several senior-level positions at the Ohio Department of Education including the director of the Office of Innovation and Senior Policy Analyst in the Office of the State Superintendent. He's excited to work with the great partners across the CSS network to continue to provide exceptional learning experiences for the students, families, and communities we serve.

Porsche Chisley decided to step down as Director to spend more time with her recently expanded family. We are so happy to still have her as a school improvement team member part-time.

## HB 67 Provides Testing and Graduation Flexibility

HB 409 was passed at the beginning of the year with some COVID-19 measures for the 20-21 school year. Some of these measures became effective January 7, 2021 and some would have become effective April 12, 2021. **BUT WAIT.....** HB 67 was recently passed that amended some of the changes from HB 409. Below is a brief re-cap of the HB 67 changes.

### Assessment related provisions

- Exempts public and chartered nonpublic schools from administering the state required American history end-of-course exam in the 2020-2021 school year.
- Mandates dates for spring testing windows for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Requires the Department of Education or any entity with which the Department contracts for the scoring of the third-grade English language arts assessments to send to each school district or school a list of individual scores on that assessment by June 28, 2021.

### High school graduation

- For the 2020-2021 school year, permits an 11th or 12th grade student who takes or retakes or who is unable to take or retake an end-of-course exam to use the final course grade in a course associated with the exam in lieu of a score on that exam to satisfy conditions for a high school diploma.
- Permits school districts, other public schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to grant a high school diploma in the 2020-2021 school year to any student on track to graduate and for whom the principal, in consultation with teachers and counselors, determines has successfully completed the high school curriculum or individualized education program.
- Permits a district or school that has previously adopted a resolution to exceed the state minimum high school curriculum requirements to elect to require only the minimum
- curriculum for the purpose of determining high school graduation for the 2020-2021 school year.
- For the 2020-2021 school year, permits a student to qualify for a high school diploma by both successfully completing the curriculum requirements and earning the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal.

### Data reporting

- Requires the Department to report any data that it has regarding the performance of school districts and buildings for the 2020-2021 school year by October 14, 2021, instead of by September 15, 2021, as under current law.

### Community school sponsor ratings

- For the 2020-2021 school year, prohibits the Department of Education from issuing a rating to a community school sponsor for the academic performance component.
- Requires that a sponsor's rating for the 2020-2021 school year be based on only the adherence to quality practices and compliance with laws and rules components, and not include the academic performance component.
- States that a sponsor's rating for the 2020-2021 school year does not qualify the sponsor for any incentive for which the sponsor was not previously eligible prior to receiving that rating.

### Home instructed students

- Exempts parents of homeschooled students from the administrative rule requirement to submit an academic assessment record for the 2020-2021 school year to the student's resident school district superintendent as a condition of allowing the student to continue receiving home instruction in 2021-2022.

### Federal waiver

- Requires the Department to seek a waiver from the U.S. Secretary of Education from federal accountability and school identification requirements.

## RemotEDx Partners Increasing the Number of Students Earning Industry-Recognized Credentials Subgrant Awardees Announced

[RemotEDx](#) recently awarded subgrants to business advisory councils, industry sector partnerships, regional- and state-positioned industry groups and nonprofit organizations focused on education or student success. The awardees are partnering with a school, district or consortium of schools or districts aimed at building and strengthening education and industry partnerships to increase the number of students earning industry-recognized credentials. Eleven subgrantees were selected from a pool of 49 applicants. The full list of awardees and project summaries are [available here](#).

Subgrantees were awarded up to \$150,000 from Ohio's CARES Act funds to achieve one or more of the following:

- Deploy an awareness campaign that emphasizes the importance of high school students earning industry-recognized credentials and promotes locations credential training can be completed.
- Provide professional learning opportunities for educators or other key professionals who will assist with credential training or mentoring.
- Design, develop and implement creative remote learning solutions for assisting students in earning qualifying credentials in a remote setting.

The award period for these funds is March 12, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

## McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Subgrant

The application for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education subgrant closes on April 30, 2021. Applicants may apply through the Ohio Department of Education's unified grants application and verification system, the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). These subgrants will be available to districts, community schools and educational service centers to help improve, enhance and enrich whole child services and supports for the academic success of students experiencing homelessness.

Applicants may apply for grant awards of \$100,000 up to \$400,000. Applications should outline a plan for use of funds that will achieve two or more of the following indicators:

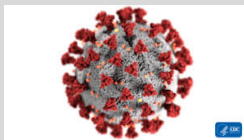
- Increased identification, enrollment and awareness of populations served, including preschool and unaccompanied youth;
- Increased academic achievement in reading, language arts, math and science;
- Increased attendance;
- Increased graduation rate;

Details about the application and the grant requirements are found in the [Request for Applications document](#).

A [prerecorded technical assistance webinar](#) will support interested applicants' questions and concerns.

Additional resources for the subgrant application process, the [memorandum of understanding](#), and [Eligibility Workbook](#), are available on the [McKinney-Vento Resources for Awareness website](#).

Please email questions to [HomelessEducation@education.ohio.gov](mailto:HomelessEducation@education.ohio.gov).



## Ohio Schools to Receive COVID-19 Test Kits

The Ohio Department of Education in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Educational Service Center Association today announced plans to provide an estimated 200,000 Abbott BinaxNOW Home Tests to Ohio public and private schools as another means of providing a safe learning environment for students, in addition to staff vaccinations and continued adherence to safety protocols like surface cleaning and facial coverings.

The state purchased the tests and will work closely with Ohio's network of educational service centers to distribute them to schools and districts.

The 15-minute [BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card Home Test](#) has received FDA Emergency Use Authorization and is packaged with instructions to access a telehealth professional who will oversee test administration, prescription writing and result reporting. Schools and districts are encouraged to work with their local departments of health to determine the best strategies for using the tests at their locations. It would be appropriate to use the tests for symptomatic students, teachers and staff members.

"It was important to get these tests in the hands of school leaders because we know how important it is for students to be able to continue learning in their classrooms," said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. "In addition to the staff vaccinations, masks and physical-distancing practices that Ohio's schools already employ so well, these tests will be a big help in our efforts to keep students, staff and communities safe."

"Convenient access to testing is one more tool in our toolbox as we all work together to help slow the spread of COVID-19," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria. "Even with these tests and school staff members having the opportunity to be vaccinated, it still will be important to continue protective strategies like mask wearing, frequent hand-washing and maintaining social distancing."

"We've worked very closely with leaders at the state and local levels to make sure Ohio's schools have access to the resources they need to ensure the safety and health of their students and staff members," said Ohio Educational Service Center Association Director Craig Burford. "We're proud to be able to assist in this effort by distributing test kits to public and private schools across the state."

Schools and districts should contact their regional educational service centers for more information on how to obtain tests.

[Find more information about the BinaxNOW At Home COVID-19 Test including a list of Frequently Asked Questions and Answers here.](#)

## Updates on Federal Grants One Needs Assessment and One Plan



Great News! The timeline for Cohort 1 has been extended until April 30th. Cohort 2 and 3 must complete their One Needs Assessment and complete their plan in CCIP.

### Upcoming Ohio Federal Programs Conference

Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Educational Programs (OAASFEP) will be virtual this year on April 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. 12 Contact Hours are available through Ashland University. Here is the link to register: <https://sites.google.com/view/oaasfep/home>. Remember, attendance for this conference can be paid with Title funds!

### American Rescue Plan Act

American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Act will give schools even more federal funds. Please note that the Tydings Amendment gave SEAs and LEAs a 12-month extension for each fund. The Periods of Availability are 9/30/22 (ESSER I), 9/30/23 (ESSER II), and 9/30/24 (ESSER III/ARP Act). The recently released federal guidelines for all the relief programs can be found here: [https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/03/FINAL\\_ARP-ESSER-FACT-SHEET.pdf](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/03/FINAL_ARP-ESSER-FACT-SHEET.pdf).

### Federal Programs Monitoring Deadline

The deadline for completing the Federal Programs Monitoring Self-Survey is May 28th.

If you have any questions regarding federal programs or need assistance in navigating either the One Needs Assessment, One Plan, CCIP, please feel free to contact Nannette Sherman at [nsherman@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:nsherman@charterschoolspec.com).





### Submit grade 3 paper testing resolution for 2021-2022 by May 1

Schools and districts have the option to administer third-grade state assessments on paper or online. This week, each district's superintendent and test coordinator will receive a secure link from Cambium Assessment. [Superintendents and administrators can use this link to indicate they will administer paper tests in 2021-2022](#)



### [3314.035 Publication of names of members of governing authority.](#)

This is a reminder that governing authority members are to be listed on the school's website. The website should be updated promptly when there is a change in membership.



### subscribe to the Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC) Quarterly Newsletter!

OSSC has a new website that can be accessed [HERE](#). You can subscribe at the bottom of the page for the quarterly newsletter.



### Nonrenewable Temporary Licenses Expiring Soon

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department was granted authority to issue non-renewable, one-year temporary licenses to applicants who met all other qualifications for licensure but were unable to complete their required licensure examinations. [Candidates should make arrangements to take their licensure exams now to obtain standard or alternative licenses before their temporary licenses expire on July 1.](#)



### January TechCred Round Funds Nearly 5,000 Credentials, Program Updates Announced Next application period opens April 1<sup>st</sup>

Lt. Governor Jon Husted, who serves as Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, today announced the results of the January round of TechCred, which will provide the opportunity for Ohioans to earn nearly 5,000 technology-focused credentials.

The most recent TechCred application period closed at the end of January. Today, 384 Ohio employers were approved for funding, resulting in Ohio employees earning up to 4,736 technology-focused credentials. The January round was record-setting, as almost 100 more employers were approved, in addition to more credentials being approved, than the previously most successful round.

With the approvals announced today, a total of 1,168 Ohio employers have been approved for funding, supporting the earning of 19,841 tech-focused credentials by Ohio employees.

#### Starting with the April round, the following updates have been implemented to further streamline the program:

- The length of the grant will be reduced from 18 months to 12 months from the award date.
- Training programs must start on or after the date of the award, not before, and must be completed in less than 12 months.
- Training providers are no longer eligible to receive reimbursement for employees trained in-house. If a training provider wishes to utilize TechCred to upskill their employees, they must use an external training provider.

The next TechCred application period opens Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and closes April 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Businesses with employees who have completed their TechCred training should submit proof of credential completion to receive reimbursement at [TechCred.Ohio.gov](http://TechCred.Ohio.gov).

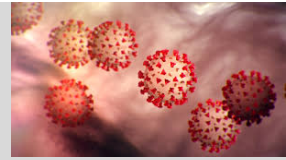
You can learn more about the program at [TechCred.Ohio.gov](http://TechCred.Ohio.gov).

## Covid-19 Reporting

The Ohio Department of Health issued a [K-12 reporting order](#) for all student and staff COVID-19 cases. This order is specific in the requirements and is attached for your review. The requirements began September 8, 2020. To our knowledge, there is no duty to report any cases that occurred prior to September 8.

The most important steps for all schools are:

1. Name a COVID-19 Coordinator to facilitate reporting of information.
2. Within twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of a student, teacher, staff member or coach who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19, notify parents/guardians of the COVID-19 case.
3. Within twenty-four (24) hours of becoming aware of a student, teacher, staff member or coach who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19, report the case to the local health department.
4. Copy your sponsor at [coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com](mailto:coronavirus@charterschoolspec.com) when reporting to the local health department.



Forms for notification and reporting can be found [HERE](#). If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

**CHARTER SCHOOL SPECIALISTS**

*If you would like to submit an article on the accomplishments of your school, students or staff members, please submit [HERE](#)*

Charter School Specialists | 40 Hill Road S, Pickerington, OH 43147

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by cskaggs@charterschoolspec.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!