



SPONSOR CONNECTION

for Schools Sponsored by St. Aloysius

September 2021

Reminders

- 9/17 | Submit [Student Wellness and Success Funds annual report](#)
- 9/30 | Submit [career-technical middle school programming waivers](#)
- 10/8 | Deadline to [review and verify Fiscal Year 2021 report card data](#)
- 10/15 | Deadline to set up district [educator evaluation systems](#)
- 10/22 | School annual budgets due to sponsor
- 10/31 | School annual report due to sponsor and parents
- 11/23 | Five year forecasts due to sponsor
- 12/28 | School annual signed budget resolution due to sponsor



Restart Readiness Assessments and Resources Now Available

The 2021-2022 Restart Readiness Assessments are now available for districts and schools on the Restart Readiness Assessment [portal](#). These optional assessments, consisting of Benchmark and Checkpoint tests, are designed to help schools and districts identify student progress early and receive actionable performance data. Benchmark tests are full-length assessments that mirror the content and test characteristics of Ohio's State Tests. Checkpoint assessments are short, six to 10 item tests that offer a range of opportunities to assess within each reporting category.

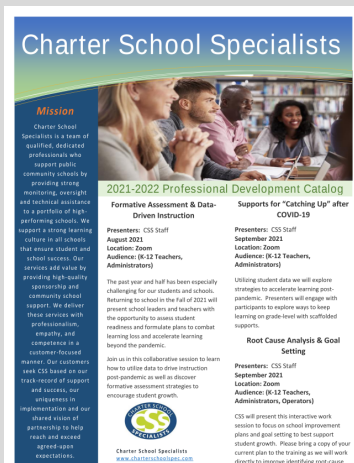
Additionally, all released item tests from Spring 2021 are included on the Restart Readiness Assessments portal.

All benchmark tests and most checkpoint assessments are machine-scored and results are immediately available in the [Centralized Reporting System](#).

Resources for the Centralized Reporting System can be found on the [portal](#). These resources include:

- [Centralized Reporting System Quick Guide](#)
- [Centralized Reporting System User Guide \(for Benchmark and Checkpoint Tests\)](#)
- [Centralized Reporting System Webinar \(recorded\)](#)
- [How to Access Your Restart Readiness Assessments Data Training Module](#)
- [How to Hand-Score Unscored Items and Modify Machine Scores Training Module](#)
- [How to Use the Advanced Features of the Centralized Reporting System](#)

For questions regarding the Restart Readiness Assessments, contact the Office of Assessment at statetests@education.ohio.gov.



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

September is Attendance Awareness Month

September is Attendance Awareness Month! Celebrate with the Stay in the Game! Network by participating in [planned events and activities every week to celebrate school attendance](#).

Legal Updates



Changes coming at the Ohio Department of Education

As some of you may be aware, changes are coming at the Executive level of the Ohio Department of Education. The current Superintendent of Public Instruction, Paolo DeMaria, will be retiring and leaving the Department at the end of September. Deputy State Superintendent, Dr. John Richard, will also be moving to a new position back in

his hometown of Canton, Ohio in early October. The State Board of Education will select a search firm to find a new Superintendent. It is estimated the search will take until January or February of 2022.

Highlights from HB 110

Direct Funding for Charter Schools – What Does it Mean?

The final version of the budget bill (HB 110) granted Senate-proposed increases to funding for school choice programs. It also maintained the direct funding policy for choice programs like vouchers and charter schools. What does this mean? Not even the Ohio Department of Education knows. The FTE manual is currently under review/revision by ODE and it set to be released on September 13. Keep an eye out for this release to learn more on how the Department will implement this direct funding requirement.

Virtual Meetings

Sadly, there was not an extension to the virtual meeting provision in HB 110. As of July 1, all governing authority meetings must be conducted in-person. As a reminder, all governing authority members must be present in-person at the meeting to vote and receive stipends. Any member not present will not be counted toward a quorum, cannot vote and should not receive a stipend.

Automatic Closure of Charters suspended until 2022-2023

Also in HB 110, the legislator suspended considering any community school for auto-closure based on the local report card grades until the 2022-2023 local report card is released. Good news for all the students and teachers that need to bridge the divide created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transportation

Many good changes to the transportation laws in favor of community schools were passed in HB 110. The Superintendent of Public Instruction sent a memo to all school districts in July. To read more, click on the link [HERE](#).

Credit Card Usage Reminder

House Bill 312 which became effective in November of 2018 provides specific guidelines that are relevant to public charter (community) schools in Ohio. We wanted to take a moment to remind our governing authorities and other stakeholders of important information concerning use of credit cards.

- School must have a written policy concerning use of credit cards
- Debit cards are not allowed
- Credit cards or credit card account includes any bank issued credit card account, store based credit card account or any other card account or credit account allowing the holder to make purchases on credit
- Credit card accounts do not include gasoline cards
- The School's credit card policy must include the following:
 1. Appointment of a compliance officer where applicable;
 2. Officers or positions authorized to use a credit card;
 3. Procedures for acquisition, use and management of credit card accounts;
 4. Procedures for submitting itemized receipts to the fiscal officer or designee;
 5. Maximum credit limit;
 6. Procedures for credit card issuance, reissuance, cancellation and reporting process for lost or stolen credit cards.
 7. Fiscal officer must annually file a report with the governing authority detailing all rewards received based on the use of the card.
 8. A School can approve a Custody and Control Model or a Compliance Officer Model

We encourage governing authorities to work closely with their legal counsel to develop and approve credit card policies that meet all requirements.



Federal Program Updates

This school year will be focused on closing learning gaps brought on by the pandemic and school closures. Here are two guides of strategies that can help your teachers focus on addressing the learning gaps:

Marzano's 9 Strategies: [Click HERE](#)

Hattie's Influences: [Click HERE](#)

Upcoming Professional Development

The latest updates on Federal Programs will be presented at the annual Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs (OAASFEP) on October 25 and 26th at the Columbus Hilton at Easton. To get more information go to OAASFEP.org.

Announcements from Ohio Department of Education

New fall Federal Programs Monthly Topics and New Coordinators Academy Sessions. The Department is pleased to announce new monthly training sessions for federal programs starting in September 2021. Two types of trainings will be provided:

- Federal Programs Monthly Topic Sessions with each meeting covering a different relevant topic to current federal program coordinators and staff; and
- New Coordinators Academy sessions covering topics relevant to new coordinators with two years of experience or fewer.

All sessions will include a presentation or demonstration related to the session topic followed by an opportunity for questions and answers. These sessions will occur on Microsoft Teams. Attendees will be able to join using the Teams meeting link shared in the STARS event confirmation. Meeting hosts also will record the sessions to share with attendees following the session.

The New Coordinators Academy is an introductory series for federal programs coordinators that will cover a relevant topic for that month. **These sessions will be on the second Thursday of each month from 9-10 a.m.** New coordinators will learn about activities they should attend to each month, how to create a system for compliance to federal programs throughout the school year, key information on each fund and how to navigate the federal programs systems, such as the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP), Compliance System and Nonpublic Data System. Please register in STARS V2.0, which can be accessed through the OH|ID Portal under Training and Registration. To find the session information, search on Event Name: Federal Programs Trainings. Search on keywords for **New Coordinators Academy Sessions**: Federal Programs, CCIP, New Coordinators Academy, Consolidated Funding Application. Upcoming topics include:

- Sept. 9, 2021: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, American Rescue Plan, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Funds
- Oct. 14, 2021: Parent Involvement: How to Engage Parents
- Nov. 9, 2021: English Learners – Title III
- Dec. 9, 2021: Spending the Funds – Final Expenditure Report, Carryover, 9/30 Sweeps, Comparability
- Jan. 13, 2022: One Needs Assessment – Facilitating a Needs Assessment; How to Identify Priority Needs.
- Feb. 10, 2022: Updates: Maintenance of Effort and Maintenance of Equity – Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, Maintenance of Effort and Maintenance of Equity
- March 10, 2022: Nonpublic Equitable Services – Updates and Nonpublic Data System
- April 14, 2022: Wrapping Up Compliance System
- May 12, 2022: Homeless Education and Foster Children
- June 9, 2022: Funding the Plan with One Needs Assessment and One Plan

Federal Programs Monthly Topics Sessions provide details on specific topics relevant to the work of federal programs administrators and staff who work with federal programs funding. **These sessions will be held the fourth Thursday of each month from 9-10 a.m.**

Please register in STARS V2.0, which can be accessed through the OH|ID Portal under Training and Registration. To find the session information, search Event Name: Federal Programs Trainings and any of these keywords: Federal Programs, CCIP, Consolidated Applications. Upcoming topics include:

- Sept. 23, 2021: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, American Rescue Plan, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Funds
- Oct. 28, 2021: Parent Involvement: How to Engage Parents
- Nov. 18, 2021: English Learners – Title III
- Dec. 16, 2021: Spending the Funds – Final Expenditure Report, Carryover, 9/30 Sweeps, Comparability
- Jan. 27, 2022: One Needs Assessment – Facilitating a Needs Assessment. How to Identify Priority Needs.
- Feb. 24, 2022: Updates: Maintenance of Effort and Maintenance of Equity – Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, Maintenance of Effort and Maintenance of Equity
- March 17, 2022: Nonpublic Equitable Services – Updates and Nonpublic Data System
- April 28, 2022: Wrapping Up Compliance System
- May 26, 2022: Homeless Education and Foster Children
- June 23, 2022: Funding the Plan with One Needs Assessment and One Plan.

The Department may reschedule individual sessions if needed. If you have any questions or need help navigating the ESSER Grants or Consolidated Grants requirements, please contact: Nannette Sherman at 740-607-9174 or nsherman@charterschoolspec.com.



with **Schoolhouse.world**

Educators, preservice educators, students and others interested in helping students learn outside of the classroom can sign up to tutor other students in Ohio, the United States and around the world on [schoolhouse.world](https://www.schoolhouse.world).

The Department and [schoolhouse.world](https://www.schoolhouse.world) are partnering to provide high-quality virtual tutoring to thousands of learners at no cost to students. This online platform, founded by Salman Khan, pairs students with tutors around the globe. Currently, sessions are available for high school math subjects and exam prep for grades 6-12. Tutoring for Advanced Placement (AP) courses and other content areas will be available soon.

Join the Department and [schoolhouse.world](https://www.schoolhouse.world) Sept. 1 at 3:30 p.m. for an informational webinar to learn about how to become a tutor and the benefits of serving.

For more information and the link to this webinar, please visit the Department's [Virtual Meetups page](#).



The Safer Ohio School Tip Line is a free safety resource available to all Ohio schools. The tip line is an anonymous reporting system that accepts both calls and texts 24 hours a day. This tip line allows students and adults to anonymously share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to student safety—whether that involves a threatened mass incident or harm to a single student. Encourage your Administrator's to register!

[Safer Ohio School Tip Line | Ohio School Safety Center](#)

Threat Assessment Teams

Districts and schools are required to submit their emergency management plans to DPS, instead of ODE. Requires each emergency management plan to include (1) a threat assessment plan and (2) a protocol for threat assessment teams.

[download \(ohio.gov\)](#)

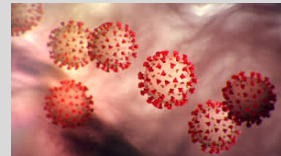
Threat Assessment Training

The Ohio Attorney General's Office produced a free, virtual, publicly-accessible training for schools and law enforcement on creating a threat assessment team.

[Ohio School Threat Assessment Training - Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost](#)

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 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](#)