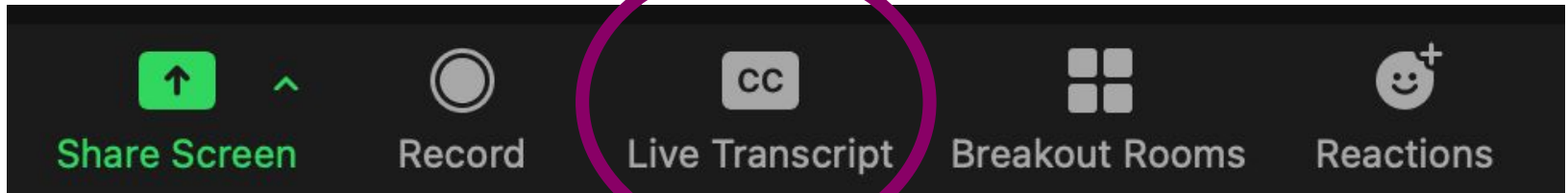


CLOSED CAPTIONING

Click on **CC icon** to enable captioning



Honesty Lunch & *Learn*

BIG Changes for Ohio Education
How the New State Budget Will Impact Public Education

OEA

OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



Honesty for
Ohio Education

Welcome!

Cynthia Peebles (she/her)

*Founding Director
Honesty for Ohio Education*



We Are

Coalition

Nonpartisan, Statewide, Diverse Stakeholders

Pillars

Educate • Advocate • Build Community

Priorities

Statehouse • State Board of Ed • Schools

Resources

News, Info, Events, Programs, Organizing



Agenda

State of Education

Overview of State Budget

Education Funding

State Takeover of Public Education

Conservative Thought Centers in Higher Ed

Q&A

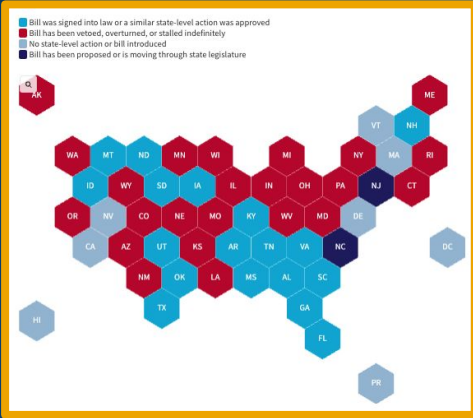
TAKE ACTION

Resources

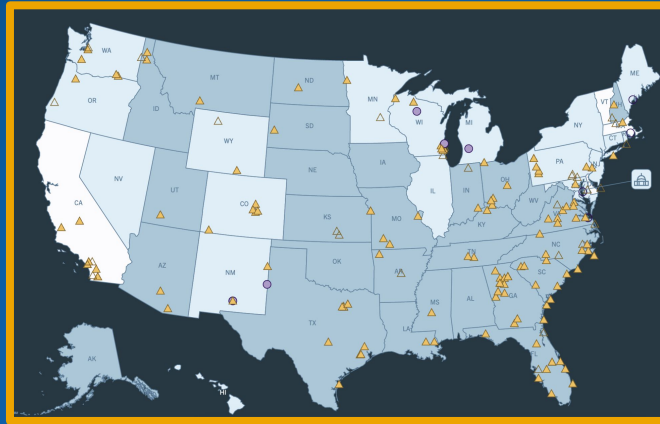


State of Education

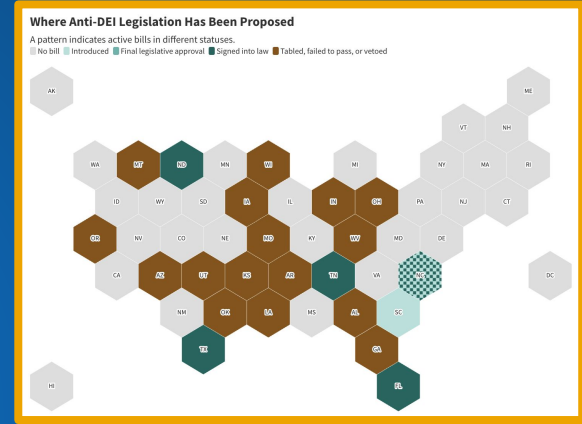
K-12 Censorship Bills



K-12 Anti-CRT Bills



Higher Ed Destruction Bills



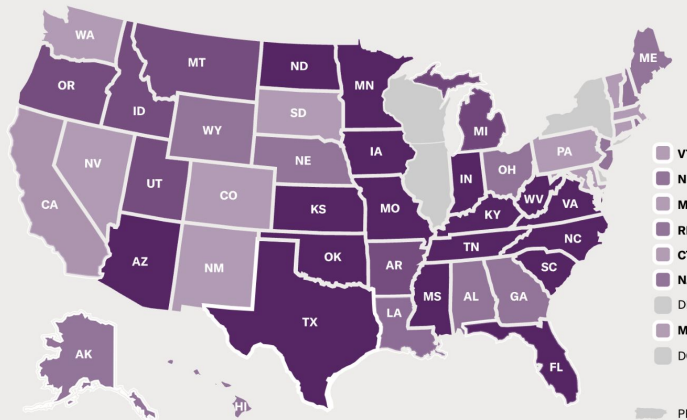
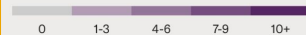
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACLU is tracking **492** anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

Choose a state on the map to show the different bills targeting LGBTQ rights and take action. While not all of these bills will become law, they all cause harm for LGBTQ people.

[View past legislative sessions.](#)

Bills per state



Anti-LGBTQ+

STATEHOUSE

National extremist agenda imported into Ohio

GOAL:

- Disrupt, dismantle, defund public education
- Create flight to privatized education
- Distract from REAL education issues
- Perpetuate othering, discrimination, hate

HOW:

- Weaponize race, identity, faith
- Villainize educators and staff
- Cast chilling effect on education
- Pass extremist legislation

Academic Standards & Curricula

HB 103 - State Overhaul of K12 Social Studies Standards

HB 171 - Multicultural K12 Social Studies Curricula

SB 17 - Free market capitalism in financial literacy

SB 83/HB 151 - Higher Ed Destruction Act

Anti-LGBTQ+

HB 8 - Unsafe Student Act - forced outing of students

HB 68 - Gender-affirming care and sports ban

HB 183 - Restroom Ban

Staff, Conduct, Governance

SB 14 - US military veterans as unlicensed teachers

HB 48 - Teacher conduct, values, beliefs

HB 214 - Alignment of district values and staff values

HB 240 - Chaplains as unlicensed school counselors

HB 206 - Expulsion of “dangerous” students

HB 235 - Restructure of State Board of Education

2024-25 State Budget

Education Funding

Honesty Welcomes

Jeff Wensing (*he/him*)

Vice President

Ohio Education Association

OEA

OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION





House Bill 33

Overview and Vouchers

Jeff Wensing
OEA Vice President

House Bill 33 – Overview

- State Operating Budget for FY 2024 and FY 2025
 - Governor introduced his proposal at the end of January.
 - House Bill 33 (Edwards) was introduced in the House on February 15.
 - The House Committee and Subcommittee process lasted until Mid-April.
 - The House Passed its version of HB 33 on April 26, 2023.
 - The Senate then took up the bill in early May. The Senate Committee process ran through June.



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EDUCATORS AND **STUDENTS**

House Bill 33 – Overview

- State Operating Budget for FY 2024 and FY 2025
 - The Senate passed its version of the bill on June 15, 2023, and the House Refused to concur with Senate amendments on June 21, 2023.
 - Conference Committee began on June 21, 2023, and a final conference report was approved by both chambers on June 30, 2023.
 - The Governor applied line-item vetoes and signed the budget on June 3, 2023



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House Bill 33 – Appropriations

- Fiscal provisions of budget are effective immediately, policy provisions effective October 3, 2023.
- Total appropriations in final budget are \$41.4B in FY24 and \$44.7B in FY 25.
 - K-12 accounts for \$11.1B in FY 24 and \$11.4B in FY 25.
 - Higher Ed accounts for \$2.87B in FY24 and \$2.95B in FY 25.



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House Bill 33 – Summary

- Major gains made in state budget for K-12.
 - School Funding Improvements
 - Third Grade Reading Guarantee Revision
 - Educator Recruitment and Retention
 - Free Meal Expansion
 - SB 83 Not Included in Budget
- However, the final budget also included items we opposed:
 - Universal Voucher Expansion
 - SB 1 (State Takeover of ODE/SBOE)
 - SB 117 (Conservative Think Tanks at State Universities)



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School Funding Improvements

- Updates base cost inputs for the Fair School Funding Plan from FY 18 to FY 22 and phases in the formula to 66.67% by FY 25.
- With updated cost components, estimated per pupil funding will increase from \$7,352 to \$8,241.
- Increases the per pupil amount by 12.1% over the biennium and increases state funding to public schools by nearly \$1 billion.
- Funds an economically disadvantaged student cost study.
- Increases the minimum state share percentage for traditional schools and vocational schools from 5% to 10%.



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Third Grade Reading Guarantee

- Ends mandatory student retention based on test score.
- Permits a student to be promoted if the student's parents, in consultation with educators and administrators, request the student to be promoted.
- Creates a safe harbor for students retained for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Requires that high-dosage tutoring be provided to students promoted under this new rule.



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Educator Recruitment and Retention

- Increases the state minimum teacher salary from \$30,000 per year to \$35,000 per year and updated the statutory salary schedule.
- Creates a “Grow Your Own Teacher” program that provides up to \$7,500 per year to a qualifying student who commits to teach in a qualifying school to pay for the costs associated with a teacher training program at a state institution of higher education, or a private, nonprofit college or university in Ohio.
- Repeals the prohibition against requiring student teachers preparing to be educational assistants to hold an educational aid permit or paraprofessional license and that those students receive compensation for working in a school district.



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Free School Meals Expansion

- Requires the state to provide reimbursements to make school breakfasts and lunches free for all students eligible for reduced-priced meals.
- Requires public and private schools to provide a meal at no cost to a student who is eligible for a reduced-price meal.
- Increases the appropriation for the School Meals Program funding by \$8.4m over the biennium.



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Universal Voucher Expansion

- Expands eligibility for income-based EdChoice vouchers to all K-12 students.
- A full voucher (\$6,165 for K-8 and \$8,407 for high school) is provided to any student with a family income up to 450% of poverty level (\$135,000 for a family of four).
- Establishes a sliding scale for smaller voucher amounts for higher income families.
- Highest income families will receive at minimum 10% of the full voucher amount.
- Eliminates the provision that a private school waive tuition above the voucher amount for a student with a family income at or below 200% of poverty.
- Requires the Department to develop a student growth measure for EdChoice students by July 1, 2025.



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Universal Voucher Expansion

- Largest expansion of voucher program in Ohio. Budget increased voucher funding by 77% (\$825m) over current voucher spending.
- Expansion may result in the transfer of millions of dollars of state education funds to largely unregulated, unaccountable private schools.
- With the elimination of the 200% waiver, General Assembly essentially creates a system that could transfer millions if not billions to the wealthiest Ohioans and will only exacerbate segregation in our education system.
- President Huffman now has his sights on public facilities dollars to have the state fund the construction and expansion of private schools.



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Continue Our Advocacy

- Now that the budget is done and as we now debate the use of public facilities dollars for private schools, we need to continue to advocate that the GA:
 - Fully fund and implement the fair school funding plan in the next state budget.
 - Address the growing mental health crisis among students and staff in Ohio.
 - Continue to address the education staffing recruitment and retention challenges.
 - Establish accountability, transparency, and academic standards for private schools that receive state voucher funding.
 - Stop the continued transfer of state funds to unaccountable, non-transparent private schools via state facilities monies.



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EDUCATORS AND **STUDENTS**

THANK YOU!

www.ohea.org

OEA
175
YEARS
AS THE **VOICE** FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATORS
AND **STUDENTS**

The OEA will lead the way for the continuous improvement of public education while advocating for members and the learners they serve.

2024-25 State Budget

State Takeover of K12 Education

Honesty Welcomes

Dr. Christina Collins (*she/her*)

District 7

State Board of Education





State Board of Education

Dr. Christina Collins

What is it?

Constitutional Body

19 members - 11 Elected, 8 Appointed

Operationalized the Law

General Governance

Local Control

Power in Committees

State Board History

1953 Amendment

- Legislative-referred referendum
- Passed by 56%
- Rhetoric: Governor should not control education - nepotism, politicization
- See language (next slide)

1955 Commission

- "Ohio School Survey Commission"
- \$75k investment by Ohio legislature
- Survey responses from over 600 organizations

1956 ORC

Enacted ALL of the responsibilities from the survey in ORC 3301.07

Today

- SB1 / HB 12
- Budget Bill: Significantly stripped powers from the Board to:
 - Teacher Licensure
 - Teacher & Counselor Evaluation
 - Territory Transfers

There shall be a state board of education which shall be selected in such manner and for such terms as shall be provided by law. There shall be a superintendent of public instruction, who shall be appointed by the state board of education. The respective powers and duties of the board and of the superintendent shall be prescribed by law.

--Ohio Constitution,
Article VI, Section 4

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- Territory Transfers

More than 70 percent of the opinion reports approved giving to the state board of education the following responsibilities:

1. Formulate general educational policies for the state.
2. Give general supervision over public elementary and secondary education in the state.
3. Prescribe minimum standards for public education.
4. Formulate procedures for the distribution of state funds.
5. Establish standards for the certification of teachers.
6. Exercise some supervision over school building planning.

--1955 Ohio School Survey
Commission

State Board History

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-- New Structure

Director of DEW &

Two Deputy Directors

- ODE changes to DEW
- Governor-Appointed
Director

State Board of Education

- Approx. 70 ODE
Employees
- Hires Superintendent
- HB235 - Introduced

Implications



Loss of Transparency / Voice

"Advisory" Function of Board

Loss of Stakeholder Involvement

Standards, Rule-Writing

Politicized Education

Governor, Legislature in Control, Florida

Loss of Buffer

Ex. Dyslexia Work

2024-25 State Budget

Higher Ed Partisan Thought Centers

Honesty Welcomes

Steve Mockabee (he/him)

Associate Professor, Political Science

University of Cincinnati

Chair, Gov't Relations, Ohio Conference AAUP



Update on SB 117: Centers for “Constitutional Thought”

Steve Mockabee, Ohio Conference AAUP

Honesty for Ohio Education Lunch & Learn, August 4, 2023

SB 117 timeline

- 5/3/23: Introduced (Sponsors: Sen. Cirino (R-Kirtland), Sen. McColley (R-Napoleon))
- 5/4/23: Referred to Workforce & Higher Education Committee
- 5/9/23: 1st hearing (sponsor testimony)
- 5/17/23: 2nd hearing (13 proponents, 1 opponent)
- 5/31/23: 3rd hearing (11 opponents, 1 IP)
- 6/7/23: 4th hearing (21 opponents)
- 6/7/23: Sub bill reported out of committee, vote of 4 to 1 (party line vote)
- 6/28/23: Amended bill reported out of committee, vote of 4 to 1
- 6/28/23: Amended bill passed by the Senate, vote of 25-7 (party line vote)
- 6/30/23: SB 117 language included in final budget bill, HB 33

Synopsis

- Creates a “Center for Civics, Culture, and Society” at U. of Cincinnati, Cleveland State U., Miami U., and Ohio State U.
 - Independent academic unit within each university, physically located in a college or public affairs or a college of arts and sciences. Has authority to house tenure-track faculty who hold appointments within the center (may be joint appointments).
 - Not fewer than 10 tenure-track faculty positions shall be allotted to teach under the center. *Except for OSU, which is 15 positions.
 - \$2 million allocation each fiscal year (\$4 million total) *except for OSU, which is \$5 million per year (\$10M total)
- Creates the “Institute of American Constitutional Thought and Leadership” at U. of Toledo
 - Independent academic unit within UT, physically located in the College of Law
 - No fewer than 5 tenure-track positions, \$1M allocation per year (\$2M total)
- Centers/institutes are governed by 7-member “academic council” appointed by Board of Trustees with advice and consent of Ohio Senate

Purpose/charge

- The center shall conduct teaching and research in the historical ideas, traditions, and texts that have shaped the American constitutional order and society. The center shall do all of the following:
 - Educate students by means of free, open, and rigorous intellectual inquiry to seek the truth;
 - Affirm its duty to equip students with the skills, habits, and dispositions of mind they need to reach their own informed conclusions on matters of social and political importance;
 - Affirm the value of intellectual diversity in higher education and aspire to enhance the intellectual diversity of the university;
 - Affirm a commitment to create a community dedicated to an ethic of civil and free inquiry, which respects the intellectual freedom of each member, supports individual capacities for growth, and welcomes the differences of opinion that shall naturally exist in a public university community.

Purpose/charge, cont.

- The center shall offer instruction in all of the following:
 - The books and major debates which form the intellectual foundation of free societies, especially that of the United States;
 - The principles, ideals, and institutions of the American constitutional order;
 - The foundations of responsible leadership and informed citizenship.
- The center also shall focus on both of the following:
 - Offering university-wide programming related to the values of free speech and civil discourse
 - Expanding the intellectual diversity of the university's academic community.
- The center shall be granted the authority to offer courses and develop certificate, minor, and major programs as well as graduate programs, and offer degrees.

Concerns

- Composition and selection of “academic councils”
 - Board of Trustees appointments subject to veto by Ohio Senate
 - Not more than one university employee, only “best efforts” to see that no fewer than three of seven are from Ohio
 - Councils conduct searches for Director, recommend to President
- Director is given broader authority than any university employee
 - No checks and balances on hiring and firing decisions, spending, quality
 - Curriculum is purview of the Faculty, not of one person
- Structure of centers/institutes isolates them from rest of university
 - This runs counter to stated goals of encouraging discussion of competing ideas and enhancing “intellectual diversity”
 - What happens when budget appropriation ends?

What can we do?

- Don't be in a hurry
- Follow academic norms and best practices for shared governance
- Advise administrations on appointments to “academic councils” governing the new centers
- Advocate against use of university resources beyond legislative appropriations
- Follow Ohio's long-standing procedures for curricular development
- Defending faculty governance rights is a defense of quality education!

Let's Talk!

What can you do?

TAKE ACTION!



Statehouse

Learn About Bills & Policy
Prepare Testimony
Engage Legislators
Share Info & Action Alerts
Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
VOTE!!!



State Board of Ed

Follow SBOE Activities
Attend SBOE Meetings
Engage SBOE Members
Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
VOTE!!!



Local Schools

Research Your District
Attend Board Meetings
Engage Brd, Admin, Tchrs
Organize Community
Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
VOTE!!!

Coming Up...

August 8 Special Election!

Early Vote thru Mon, Aug 7; Polls open Tues, Aug 8, 6:30am - 7:30pm | VoteNoInAugust.org
GOTV Family Fun Day | Sun, Aug 6, 12-4pm, Liberation Park Dayton

School Board Organizing Training: Public Narrative and Messaging - SURJ

Tues, Aug 8, 8pm, Virtual | [REGISTER](#)

Erase The Space BBQ School Year Kickoff

Wed, Aug 9, 4-7pm, Mayme Moore Park, Columbus | [REGISTER](#)

SBOE Monthly Meeting

Mon & Tues, Sept 18 & 19 | ODE, 25. S Front St, Columbus or [The Ohio Channel](#)

Stay Connected

- JOIN** the Honesty Mailing List
- FOLLOW** @Honesty4OhioEd
- ATTEND** Events & Programs
- SHARE** Alerts, Newsletter, Info
- INVITE** Us to Your Community/Org



Resources

Honesty for Ohio Education

- Mailing List [HERE](#)
- Legislation Tracker [HERE](#)
- Website [HERE](#)
- Social Media: [FB](#) ● [Instagram](#) ● [Twitter](#)

State of Education

- Track Actions Across US [K-12](#) | [CRT](#) | [HE](#) | [LGBTQ+](#)
- Roots of Critical Race Theory Campaign [HERE](#)

Statehouse

- Honesty Legislation Tracker [HERE](#)
- Ohio Legislature Site [HERE](#)

State Board of Education

- Each Child Our Future Strategic Plan [HERE](#)
- Whole Child Framework [HERE](#)
- Education Resources [HERE](#)
- Anti-LGBTQ+ Resolution [HERE](#)
- Anti-Racism and Equity Resolution [HERE](#)
- Gerrymandering SBOE Districts [HERE](#)

Local Schools

- 2022 KIDS COUNT Data Book [HERE](#)
- 2022 KIDS COUNT Ohio Data Profile [HERE](#)
- Finding Unity and Common Ground [HERE](#)
- ACLU Ohio Student Rights Handbook [HERE](#)

Thank You

