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Bill Analysis

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Jessica Sutton, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Revises or eliminates a series of programs, requirements, and provisions related to the Department of Education and Workforce and public and chartered nonpublic schools.
- Revises the performance measures used to calculate performance ratings for the state report card's Graduation and the College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness components.
- Eliminates the American History and American Government end-of-course exams for students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2025.
- Revises the procedures for public schools' parental notification of (1) instruction with human sexuality content, (2) services related to a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, (3) changes in a school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment, and (4) the provision of health care services to students.
- Eliminates obsolete provisions regarding the state report card and state assessments.

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DETAILED ANALYSIS

Department of Education and Workforce

State report card – CCWMR component

The bill modifies how the Department of Education and Workforce must determine performance ratings for the state report card’s College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness (CCWMR) component. More specifically, it revises the calculation of the post-secondary readiness measure, which under current law is the only performance measure used to determine CCWMR performance ratings. It also creates an additional performance measure, which is based on students who complete a year of college after graduating high school, to be factored into determining CCWMR performance ratings.

For additional information on state report card ratings, see the [Guide to 2024-2025 Ohio School Report Cards \(PDF\)](https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Report-Card-Resources), which is accessible on the Department’s report card resources page: education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Report-Card-Resources.

Post-secondary readiness measure

Under continuing law, the post-secondary readiness measure is based on the percentage of students in a school district’s or school’s four-year adjusted graduation cohort who demonstrate readiness by meeting at least one of several different conditions.

Under one of those conditions, a student demonstrates readiness by earning 12 college credits through an advanced standing program, such as the College Credit Plus Program. The bill permits a student to earn college credit, or the equivalent, toward that goal through a

combination of advanced standing programs and AP exams, IB exams, or college-level examination program (CLEP) exams.

Continuing law permits a student to demonstrate readiness, under a different condition, by earning designated scores on three or more AP, IB, or CLEP exams.¹

New performance measure for CCWMR

The bill creates a new performance measure to be factored into the calculation of CCWMR performance ratings. That performance measure is based on the percentage of students from the prior school year's four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate who did not demonstrate readiness on the post-secondary readiness measure, but who, within one year of graduating high school, completed one academic year of college credits at an institution of higher education without taking remedial courses. The bill requires the Department, to the extent possible, to include the students who meet the requirements under the new measure in the calculation of CCWMR.

The bill requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to collect and report the data necessary for the Department to calculate the measure. Districts may also report relevant data on each cohort until the date by which the Chancellor must report data for that cohort.²

State report card – Graduation component

The bill also revises the performance measures that the Department uses to determine performance ratings for the state report card's Graduation component. Specifically, the bill replaces the four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation rates as performance measures with new four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation measures. The Department must calculate the new four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation measures in the same manner as the four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation rates, respectively, except that both measures must include as "graduates" any students with an individualized education program (IEP) who have satisfied the conditions for a high school diploma but opted not to receive a diploma and are still receiving services. Under the bill, instead of serving as performance measures, a district's or school's four-year and five-year adjusted cohort graduation rates become report-only data on the state report card.³

EMIS guidelines

The bill modifies which Education Management Information System (EMIS) instructional documents are subject to the public review and comment procedure established under continuing law. Specifically, the bill subjects the Department's EMIS manual to that procedure. That manual contains the uniform and consistent instructions for reporting the student, staff, and financial information to be collected and includes data-element definitions, procedures, and requirements for the submission, review, validation, and correction of data. Under current law,

¹ R.C. 3302.03(A)(10).

² R.C. 3302.03(A)(11).

³ R.C. 3302.03(B)(13) and (14).

any Department-issued guidance on student, staff, and financial information to be collected and reported, and any guidelines necessary to implement EMIS, is subject to that procedure.

Additionally, the bill expressly exempts the Department doing any of the following from the public review and comment procedure:

- Issuing any supplemental documents designed to assist school districts and schools in understanding and using EMIS or the EMIS manual;
- Creating or updating the EMIS manual to implement a newly enacted state or federal law that takes effect within 90 days after the date of the new law's enactment; and
- Removing data items from the EMIS manual to reduce the reporting burden on districts and schools.⁴

DPIA reporting

The bill eliminates the requirement that public schools annually report to the Department a description of their initiatives funded by disadvantage pupil impact aid (DPIA). It also eliminates the requirement that the Department issue a report with that information to the General Assembly by December 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Instead, the bill requires the Department, in consultation with the Auditor of State, to develop a uniform mechanism for each public school to annually report its total DPIA funding and the expenditure of that funding. The Department must, by October 31 of each year, publish that expenditure data on its website.⁵

Innovative education programs

Continuing law permits a school district, educational service center (ESC), or chartered nonpublic school to request approval from the Department to establish an innovative education pilot program that exempts the district, ESC, or school from specified requirements established in state statute or rule. However, the law also identifies certain requirements from which a district, ESC, or school may *not* be exempted, such as providing special education services. The bill adds the implementation of the Science of Reading to the list of requirements from which a district, ESC, or school may not be exempted.⁶

The bill also requires the Department to promote innovative educational programs designed to increase student achievement and engagement, improve student wellness, and prepare students for the workforce and post-secondary education. The Department must:

1. Provide technical assistance and support to districts and schools in designing and implementing innovative ideas for education;

⁴ R.C. 3301.0730(A)(2) and (E).

⁵ R.C. 3317.25(D).

⁶ R.C. 3302.07(A). Also see R.C. 3313.6028.

2. Publicize model projects of educational innovation, including projects that use artificial intelligence in instruction; and
3. Promote the availability of waivers from education laws and rules to implement innovative educational programs.⁷

Districts and schools

American History and American Government exams

The bill eliminates the administration of American History and American Government end-of-course exams for students who enter the ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2025 (the Class of 2029). Under current law, each public school, and chartered nonpublic school that elects to administer the end-of-course exams, must administer the American History and American Government end-of-course exams to each high school student who is not enrolled in an appropriate alternative course under an advanced standing program. While a student may use those end-of-course exams to help qualify for a high school diploma, they are not required for graduation.⁸

School policy to promote parental involvement

Sexuality content

The bill modifies the law regarding public schools' parental involvement policies. Under continuing law, the policies must permit parents to request that their student be excused from instruction that includes sexuality content and require schools, prior to providing such instruction, to give parents the opportunity to review its content. The bill applies those requirements more specifically to *planned* academic instruction that includes *human* sexuality content. The bill also requires schools, while providing notice of such instruction, to give parents the opportunity to review the *content of the instruction* instead of review *instructional material that includes sexuality*, as under current law.

The bill also clarifies that "sexuality content" is any oral, *visual*, or written instruction *on sexual or gender orientation or identity* provided in a classroom, instead of any oral or written instruction, presentation, image, or description of sexual concepts or gender ideology provided in a classroom setting.⁹

Changes to services

The bill requires each public school to promptly notify a student's parent of *the initiation or termination of services* related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being. Current law instead requires a school to promptly notify a student's parent of "any substantial change in the student's services, including counseling services, or monitoring related to the student's health or well-being."

⁷ R.C. 3302.07(D).

⁸ R.C. 3301.0712(B); conforming changes in R.C. 3302.01(A)(2) and 3313.6114.

⁹ R.C. 3313.473(B)(1)(b) and (G)(5).

Continuing law identifies a list of minimum occurrences that are considered part of a “student’s mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being.” The bill removes from that list any “other mental health issues” beyond exhibition of suicidal ideation or persistent symptoms of depression or severe anxiety. The bill also eliminates the requirement for a school to notify a parent of any substantial change in the school’s ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment.

The bill creates an exception to the prohibition against public school personnel discouraging or prohibiting parental notification of and involvement in decisions affecting a student’s mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being. Specifically, if school personnel have a reasonable belief that parental notification or involvement will place the child in imminent harm, they are exempt from the prohibition and instead must report the situation to child protective services or law enforcement.

Lastly, the bill requires public schools to adopt a procedure regarding the provision of any type of health care services to a student, rather than a procedure to obtain authorization from parents prior to providing those services.¹⁰

Definition of “parent”

The bill aligns the definition of “parent” under the law regarding public schools’ parental involvement policies with the definition of “parent” in the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.¹¹

Required postings

The bill permits a district to post the following notices on its website instead of physically doing so in its schools:

- The student code of conduct (applies to community schools and STEM schools as well);¹²
- If the district adopts one, its policy requiring parents of a student suspended, expelled, truant, or habitually truant to attend an education or training program;¹³
- If the district adopts one, its policy authorizing the district superintendent, other district administrative personnel, or personnel employed by the district to direct, supervise, or coach a pupil activity program to prohibit a student from participating in any or all extracurricular activities;¹⁴

¹⁰ R.C. 3313.473(B)(2) to (4) and (G)(6).

¹¹ R.C. 3313.473(G)(4).

¹² R.C. 3313.661(A).

¹³ R.C. 3313.663.

¹⁴ R.C. 3313.664.

- If the district adopts one, its policy prohibiting students from carrying an electronic communications device in any school building or on any school grounds or premises of the district.¹⁵
- If the district adopts one, its policy regarding the suspension of a student's school bus riding privileges.¹⁶

City civil service commission exemption

The bill permits a city school district and a city to enter a written agreement that exempts the district, in whole or in part, from the jurisdiction of the city's civil service commission.¹⁷

Education records commission

The bill permits the members of a school district's or ESC's education records commission to appoint designees to serve in their place. Under continuing law, the members of an education records commission are the district's board of education president, treasurer, and superintendent.¹⁸

Board of education vacancies

The bill revises the period within which a school district board of education must vote on whether to declare a board member's reason for a 90-day absence as insufficient. The board must vote not *more* than 30 days after such absence, instead of not *less* than 30 days after, as under current law.

The bill also requires a board to fill a vacancy at any regular or special meeting held within 30 days of the vacancy. Current law requires the vacancy be filled at the next meeting held.¹⁹

School district of attendance

The bill entitles a child whose parents have never been married to attend the school district in which the child's residential parent and legal custodian resides.²⁰

Suspension of school employees

The bill prohibits a school district or chartered nonpublic school from providing pay or benefits to an employee who, in accordance with continuing law, is suspended from duties that require the care, custody, or control of a child due to a pending criminal case against that employee for certain offenses.²¹

¹⁵ R.C. 3313.753(B).

¹⁶ R.C. 3327.014.

¹⁷ R.C. 124.011(D).

¹⁸ R.C. 149.41.

¹⁹ R.C. 3313.11.

²⁰ R.C. 3313.64.

²¹ R.C. 3319.40(B).

Other

Early Childhood Education Grant Program

The bill requires an early learning and development program, in consultation with the county department of job and family services, to determine if a preschool-aged child is eligible to participate in the Early Childhood Education Grant Program. Current law requires just the county department to determine a child's eligibility. The bill also expressly permits the family of an eligible child to elect to use the Early Childhood Education Grant Program instead of another source of state funding for childcare.

Lastly, the bill requires an early learning and development program that utilized EMIS to track a child's attendance for the Early Childhood Education Grant Program prior to the bill's effective date to continue to use that system for attendance.²²

License revocation for domestic violence offenders

The bill requires the State Board of Education to automatically revoke or deny the renewal of any certificate, license, permit, or registration it has issued to an individual who pleads guilty to, is found guilty of, or is convicted of domestic violence.²³

Eliminated programs or requirements

The table below lists a series of programs, requirements, and other provisions related to public and chartered nonpublic schools and the Department of Education and Workforce that the bill eliminates.

Eliminated programs and requirements		
Topic	Summary	Sections
School districts of innovation	Eliminates all laws regarding school district of innovation designations.	R.C. 3302.06, 3302.061, 3302.062, 3302.063, 3302.064, 3302.065, 3302.066, 3302.067, and 3302.068 (all repealed).
Diabetes reporting	Eliminates annual reporting requirements for public and chartered nonpublic schools and the Department regarding students with diabetes.	R.C. 3313.7112(K).
School district report on investment of	Eliminates the requirement for the district treasurer to annually report	R.C. 135.142(C).

²² R.C. 5104.53 (D), (E), and (F).

²³ R.C. 3319.31(C). See also R.C. 2919.25.

Eliminated programs and requirements		
Topic	Summary	Sections
interim moneys to the Department	to the Department on the investment of interim moneys. Maintains reporting requirements to the board of education and the Auditor of State.	
Department's physical education coordinator	Eliminates the requirement that the Department employ a full-time physical education coordinator.	R.C. 3301.079.
Department's ranking on school performance growth	Eliminates the requirement that the Department annually rank public schools by student performance growth using the value-added progress dimension or other related measures.	R.C. 3302.21(A)(2).
Preliminary state report card data	Eliminates the requirement that the Department annually submit preliminary state report card data for overall academic performance and for each separate performance measure for each public school.	R.C. 3302.03, 3314.017(F), and 3314.354 (repealed); conforming changes in R.C. 3314.016(E) and 3314.351(F).
Community school sponsor annual expenditures report	Eliminates the requirement that each community school sponsor annually report to the Department describing its expenditures for providing monitoring, oversight, and technical assistance to the schools it sponsors.	R.C. 3314.025 (repealed).
Compliance with state mandates annual report	Eliminates the requirement that school districts annually submit a report to the Department indicating their compliance with various state mandates.	R.C. 3301.68 (repealed); conforming change in R.C. 3313.814.
Physical education and BMI reporting on report cards	Eliminates the requirement for the Department to include in each district and school report card a report on students' success in meeting state physical education benchmarks; compliance with federal Women, Infant, and Children (WIC)	R.C. 3302.032 (repealed).

Eliminated programs and requirements		
Topic	Summary	Sections
	health and nutrition policies; and participation in a physical activity pilot program.	
Columbus Pilot Program	Eliminates the Columbus Pilot Program, under which parents may petition the board of education to restructure a poorly performing school.	R.C. 3302.042 (repealed); conforming changes in R.C. 3302.12(C) and 3302.14.
Tutor Ohio Kids Program	Eliminates the tutoring and remedial education program (commonly called the Tutor Ohio Kids Program), under which participating ESCs provided tutoring and remedial education services to students in participating public and chartered nonpublic schools.	R.C. 3301.28 (repealed); conforming changes in R.C. 3313.7118, 3309.01, and 3307.01.
Contracts between community schools and operators	Eliminates the requirement for the Department to establish the format and minimum information to be included in a community school's annual budget.	R.C. 3314.032(C).
Certification of a community school sponsor's compliance with conditions to initiate operations	Replaces the requirement that the Department provide the Auditor of State with the sponsor of a new community school's certification that the school meets all legal requirements to initiate operations with a requirement that the Department notify the Auditor that the sponsor has made that certification.	R.C. 3314.50.
Internet- or computer-based community school students who miss state testing for two consecutive years	Eliminates the requirement for each district-operated online school and internet- or computer-based community school to disenroll and report to the Department any student who fails to participate in state assessments for two consecutive years.	R.C. 3313.6410, 3313.6412, 3314.26, and 3314.262 (all repealed); conforming changes in R.C. 3314.08 and 3317.03.

Eliminated programs and requirements		
Topic	Summary	Sections
	Eliminates the related requirement that the Department maintain a list of such students and withhold state funding for them.	
Annual report to reduce academic remediation and developmental courses at state institutions	Eliminates the requirement that the Chancellor of Higher Education and the Department annually report recommended policies and strategies to reduce the need for academic remediation and developmental courses at state institutions of higher education.	R.C. 3345.061(H).
Annual report on the Department's activities and education in the state	Eliminates the requirement that the Department prepare an annual report on its activities and the status, problems, and needs of education in the state.	R.C. 3301.12(A)(4).
College-preparatory boarding schools	Eliminates college-preparatory boarding schools, of which none exist in the state. Eliminates all related provisions regarding college-preparatory boarding schools.	Chapter 3328 (repealed); conforming changes in numerous sections.

Obsolete provisions

The bill eliminates various obsolete provisions regarding the state report card and state assessments and makes conforming changes. The table below summarizes those changes.

Elimination of obsolete provisions		
Topic	Summary	Sections
State report cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates obsolete law that prescribes the state report card for the 2012-2013 through 2020-2021 school years. Eliminates provisions of law contingent on letter grades 	R.C. 3302.03, 3302.02, and 3302.05; R.C. 3302.036 (repealed); conforming changes in R.C. 3301.0714, 3301.0715, 3301.52, 3302.01, 3302.021, 3302.036, 3302.04, 3302.10, 3302.12, 3302.13, 3302.151, 3302.21, 3311.741, 3311.80, 3313.6028, 3313.6113, 3314.02,

Elimination of obsolete provisions		
Topic	Summary	Sections
	<p>assigned under the former state report card.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eliminates the March 31, 2022, deadline for the Department of Education and Workforce to adopt rules to implement the current state report card. ▪ Eliminates a safe harbor that prohibited the Department from assigning an overall letter grade under the state report card to a school district or building for the 2014-2015 through 2016-2017 school years. ▪ Eliminates an obsolete provision that maintained the College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness component as report-only data if the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) disapproved the Department's method to assign a performance rating to it. JCARR approved the method for state report cards for the 2024-2025 school year. 	3314.034, 3314.05, 3314.35, 3314.353, 3333.041, and 3333.048.
Ohio Graduation Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eliminates obsolete law related to the establishment and administration of the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGTs). ▪ Eliminates obsolete provisions of law related to the use of the OGTS to meet high school graduation requirements and receive a diploma. ▪ Eliminates obsolete law related to the phase-in of the end-of-course exams that replaced the OGTS. 	R.C. 3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3313.61, 3313.611, and 3313.612, 3313.614, 3313.615 (repealed), 3314.017, 3325.08, and 3328.25; conforming changes in R.C. 3301.079, 3301.0716, 3301.16, 3302.01, 3302.03, 3310.03, 3310.14, 3310.522, 3313.603, 3313.813, 3313.976, 3314.017, 3314.18, and 3326.11.

Elimination of obsolete provisions		
Topic	Summary	Sections
End-of-course exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates an exemption from end-of-course exams for students who earned high school credit prior to July 1, 2015. Eliminates a provision that permitted the class of 2018 to take either the physical science or biology end-of-course exam. 	R.C. 3301.0712; conforming changes in R.C. 3313.61 and 3313.618.
Challenged school districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates an obsolete definition of “challenged school district,” which under prior law was used to determine where a start-up community school could be established. 	R.C. 3314.02; conforming changes in 3314.031, 3314.05, 3314.05, and 3314.353.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	09-17-25