

November 14, 2011

Good afternoon:

By now, you may have seen the Performance Index (PI) rankings of Ohio's districts and schools that were released by ODE on Thursday. The rankings include city, local and exempted village school districts, as well as joint vocational school districts, community schools and STEM schools. To see the PI rankings and an explanation of how PI scores are calculated, click [here](#).

Releasing school PI rankings is an important step in achieving full transparency about school performance. This year's ranking system allows educators, parents and the public to see how their local schools compare to schools in other communities around the state and to schools with similar characteristics. Next year, the PI ranking will be coupled with financial data on each school to show which schools are delivering the best return on their community's educational investment. In addition, ODE will soon develop an alternate student performance ranking system for schools that do not administer the types of assessments that yield PI scores.

Both the Performance Index and the alternate ranking system are required by House Bill 153. As Ohio shifts from a minimum-competency education system to a college- and career-ready system, Ohio's school accountability system will need to undergo changes as well.

Thank you for your continuing hard work on behalf of Ohio's students. Make it a great week.

Sincerely,



Stan Heffner

Note: Below are news items of interest to all superintendents and principals. Please share these items as appropriate with other suggested educators who will benefit from the information.

For school superintendents and treasurers – Allocation calculations for USDoE supplemental Ed Jobs are complete

For curriculum directors, administrators and teachers – Providing IRN number may speed ODE response time to inquiries; Free workshop on Dec. 14 to focus on new Ohio physical education standards; Revised World Language Standards and Arts Standards available for public comment

Good news for everyone – Columbiana High School recognized as one nation's most tech-savvy

For school superintendents and treasurers

Allocation calculations for USDoE supplemental Ed Jobs are complete

ODE has completed its calculation of the amounts that districts will receive in an upcoming reallocation of Ed Jobs funds. The \$9.5 million to be reallocated includes a \$5.3 million supplemental Ed Jobs award from the U.S. Department of Education and funds forfeited by LEAs from the original Ed Jobs allocations. Districts must obligate their reallocated funds by Sept. 30, 2012. For more information, contact Wendy Cantrell at wendy.cantrell@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 728-5002.

For curriculum directors, administrators and teachers

Providing IRN number may speed ODE response time to inquiries

ODE continually strives to streamline its response time to local education agencies. One way to help ensure faster service is for school and district personnel to provide their district or school IRN number when contacting us. When school personnel provide an IRN, ODE staff can research a request more quickly and can avoid confusion, since districts and schools often have the same or similar names.

Free workshop on Dec. 14 to focus on new Ohio Physical Education Standards

A Dec. 14 workshop at the Hamilton County Education Service Center is designed to help teachers align their own physical education curriculum to the Ohio K-12 physical education academic content standards and assessments. Participants will learn to use the Ohio standards, indicators and benchmarks in curriculum development; employ best practices in teaching K-12 physical education; and develop strategies to establish active, supportive learning environments. The session is free, but space is limited and [registration](#) is required by Dec. 12. For more information, contact Heather Vilvens, Buckeye Healthy Schools Alliance, at hvilvens.bhsa@gmail.com or (937) 725-2787.

Revised World Language Standards and draft Arts Standards available for public comment

Ohio's Revised K-12 Academic Content Standards for World Languages and Ohio's Arts Academic Content Standards, which also are under revision, have been posted on ODE's Web site for general public review and comment. Click [here](#) to access a short, explanatory PowerPoint introduction, the draft standards document, and the survey that will be used to collect feedback on the revised Content Standards for World Languages. The revised drafts of Arts Content Standards also are available for comment. The deadline for feedback on both sets of standards is Jan. 6, 2012. Click [here](#) for supplemental information and the current draft standards for dance, drama/theatre, music or visual art. After reviewing any one of the four drafts, complete the survey to provide your feedback.

Please help us by disseminating this announcement widely. ODE greatly values the input of world language and arts educators, as well as other stakeholders interested in these projects.

Keynotes announced, registration open for fifth annual Ohio Economic-Education Summit

Rick Malir, City Barbeque cofounder and president, and Rhonda Reda, executive director of Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education, will be keynote speakers at Ohio Economic-Education Summit V on March 7, 2012, in Columbus. [Registration](#) for this fifth annual conference is open now. Traditionally targeted to secondary education leaders and college faculty, the conference this year will offer information for high school and career center teachers, as well. The summit will focus on bringing education together with

business and industry to improve the state's economy, emphasizing 10 current and future career areas. Click [here](#) for more information.

Good news for everyone

Columbiana High School recognized as one of the nation's most tech-savvy



Columbiana High School in Columbiana has been ranked seventh in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2011 *Top 10 Most Connected Classrooms*. The ranking is based on a connectivity index that measures student-to-computer ratio, Internet access and speed, and technical support. All students receive a netbook at no cost for accessing online tutorials, wikis and other learning tools. The school also uses interactive SMART boards in each classroom, electronic student response systems and wireless slates. Every class has a teacher website and a means of submitting papers and student-teacher communication securely.

ODE is interested in your thoughts about how EdConnection fulfills your information needs. Please send any comments or suggestions to superintendent@ode.state.oh.us.

Follow our new Facebook page for Ohio families by clicking [here](#).

Follow ODE's Twitter feed by clicking [here](#).